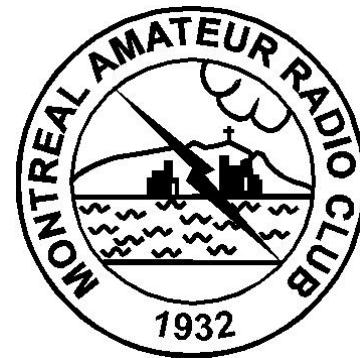


marcOgram

Official Publication of The Montreal Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Box 53047 - RPO Dorval, Dorval Quebec H9S 5W4



Volume 68, Number 6

March 2022

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 29 March 2022 at 20:00 via ZOOM.

THIS MONTH:

Barbaros WB2CBA, on a uSDX multi-band all-mode QRP transceiver radio project.

General meetings are being held via the Zoom platform. Below are the details you need to join the meeting. A rag-chew session starts at 19:30 with the formal meeting starting at 20:00.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83309071097?pwd=ZmVWUjNyZkZjZVhNZjUxclRBNiRhZz09>

Meeting ID: 833 0907 1097 Passcode: 308989 Or by phone 438-809-7799 using the above meeting ID and passcode.

Important: Please use a headset or headphones and make sure to test your mic/camera ahead of the meeting.

We hope to see you there.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Two good news flashes! Our hamfest appears to be taking form, and we may be holding our April and May general meetings IN PERSON!

The ham fest will (hopefully) be held in person on Sunday 5th June from 09:00 to 12:00 at the Canadian Legion Hall in Lachine, See p. 5 for details. The address is 3015 Henri-Dunant, in Lachine. There is ample parking, and the 191 bus from Metro Lionel-Groulx or EXO train station Dorval, and there's a ramp to facilitate boat-anchor transport.

The general meetings for April 26 and May 31 will be held in St. Thomas' church meeting hall, 6897 Somerled, corner Rosedale, IN PERSON with coffee and doughnuts/cookies! Parking is on the surrounding streets, and bus access via #51 on Fielding (shorter walk south) and #162 on Monkland (longer walk north). The entrance is at the back of the north side of the church.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

- . . . -

New Feature!

On the last two pages of this issue of MARCOgram, you will find something we have lacked for years - a contest calendar. George VE2NHG, an avid contester, has compiled a great list of the best contests to be held in the next two months, the remainder of March and the whole of April.

To make it easier to use without destroying your copy of MARCOgram, the list is on its own page, easily detachable and ready to use. As it will be subject to much wear and tear due to use, I suggest you keep it in one of those plastic pocket pages to keep the smudges off it, and maintain its readability.

Good luck!

LIFE IS SIMPLE



The MARCOgram is published nine times per year on the second to last Wednesday of September through June, excepting December by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Advertising and copy deadline is one week prior to publication.

Annual fees are:
General Members \$30.00
Family Member \$35.00
per additional family member ... \$ 3.00
Postal delivery of MARCOgram ... \$10.00

The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Memberships received on or after June 1 commence immediately and extend through the subsequent membership year - covering a period of up to fifteen months.

Articles published in the MARCOgram may be reproduced providing credit is given to the original author and the Montreal Amateur Radio Club as the source.

The opinions expressed herein are, unless otherwise stated, solely those of the authors concerned, and not those of the Club, the Directors or members and do not represent the policy of the Club.

Directors

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Eamon Egan, VE2EGN ve2egn@marc.ca
Martin Charbonneau, VA2HKR..... ve2hkr@marc.ca

Club Call Sign: VE2ARC

Club Website: <http://www.marc.ca>

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+) 103.5

Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Back on the air but still looking for a new location..

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+) 103.5

On the air from Ridgewood Ave. in Montreal; CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz for access. Thanks to Claude Everton, the VE2RMP group and Metrocom for making this possible.

The repeaters are open to all amateurs.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors are held on the first Tuesday of the month (Aug to June) at 19:30 on-line using the Zoom platform. The club no longer holds in-person board meetings. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions for the Board to discuss, please send an email to ve2arc@marc.ca for inclusion in the meeting agenda.

Club Activities

Monthly Meetings are by ZOOM

(last Tuesday of the month)

March - Barbaros WB2CBA, uSDX multi-band QRP transceiver radio project.

April - Tino VE2GCE, on Award hunting.

May - Show and Tell

Every Wednesday, @ 20:00 (00:00Z), go to the net on VE2RED. See page 3.

Radio Classes

The 2022 January Basic level course has ended. If you know of anyone interested in taking the course, please direct them to <https://marc.ca/course/> for more information. The next planned Basic course will start in January 2023.

MARC Hamfest

The 2022 MARC flea market is back!

We've found a good venue to hold the 2022 MARC hamfest! The date has changed: 5 June 2022, **Sunday** (not Saturday). The locale is the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Lachine, 3015 Henri-Dunant, from 09:00 to 12:00. Go to <http://marc.ca/fest/> for more information as it happens.

Incoming QSL card service

As has been mentioned in previous MARCOgrams, we are resuming the club's service of having incoming QSL cards sent to the club for members to pick up at meetings. This is a service which we are offering to our members which both saves the individual members money as well as makes more efficient use of our collective resources.

If you would like to avail yourself of this service please send an e-mail to qsl@marc.ca and we will add you to the list of cards that the incoming bureau sends to the club and we will get them to you somehow.

SolderSpot

Group build Power Supply Project - By Leo VE2SI

If you're interested and even if you've spoken with me before, please send an email to VE2ARC@marc.ca and indicate your level of interest.

Participation is open to everyone and MARC membership is not a requirement. Due to COVID-19, SolderSpot is temporarily on hold. Other options are being considered.

This project is standing by due to COVID-19.



UPCOMING FLEAS/EVENTS

2022

What: NEAR-Fest XXX
Who: New England Amateur Festival, Inc.

When: Fri & Sat, 29 & 30 Apr, 2022
Where: Deerfield Fairgrounds
Deerfield, NH

What: Montreal Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

Who: Montreal Amateur Radio Club
When: Sunday, 5 Jun, 2022
Where: Legion Hall, Lachine, QC

What: London Vintage Radio Club Flea Market

Who: London Vintage Radio Club
When: Saturday, 11 Jun, 2022
Where: Guelph, ON

What: 36th Annual Smiths Falls Flea Market

Who: Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club
When: Saturday, 18 Jun, 2022
Where: Smiths Falls, ON

What: Carp 24th Annual Hamfest
Who: Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
When: Saturday, 10 Sep, 2022
Where: Carp Agricultural Fair Grounds,
Carp, ON

2023

What: Iroquois ARC Fleamarket
Who: Iroquois Amateur Radio Club
When: Saturday, 1 Apr 2023
Where: Iroquois ON

Note from the editor.

Due to COVID -19, the list of hamfests and events is severely limited. Please check with the organizing authority before planning to attend as some may be cancelled.

VE2RED TUESDAY NET REPORT

Any discrepancies, please inform Leo, VE2SI

Please join us every **Wednesday** evening at 20:00 local on VE2RED on 2m output frequency of 147.270 MHz (+600 kHz input offset) CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz. Everyone is welcome. If you have something to sell, or are looking to buy, feel free to mention it.

We have a few Net operators hosting it, but

we're looking for more net operators!

We're always interested in adding to this team if you're interested. Send me an email if you would like to try out Net Operations for an evening.

Leo, VE2SI
leo49@videotron.ca

2022-02-09 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 20:45
Check-ins: 7

Discussion: Once virus precautions are lifted, what are you going to do: Meetings? Hamfests? Field Day?

2022-02-16 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 20:54
Check-ins: 8

Discussion: Are we spending too much time looking at screens rather than communicating?

2022-02-23 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 20:23
Check-ins: 4

Discussion: Have you organized your electronic workspace or did it grow organically?

2022-03-02 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 20:39
Check-ins: 7

Discussion: Forego usual discussion due to Ukrainian-Russian war; thoughts on how lucky we are.

2022-03-09 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 21:18
Check-ins: 9

Discussion: Does using our radios or playing with our electronic toys keep our minds active?

2022-03-16 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)
Net closed: 20:46
Check-ins: 6

Discussion: Does any other activity bridge international borders like amateur radio?

UKRAINE IMPOSES STATE OF EMERGENCY

Courtesy The Kyiv Independent, 14 Mar 2022

Ukraine has declared a state of emergency in all of Ukraine except for eastern Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts starting on 24 Feb 2022.

The parliament approved the decree introduced by President Volodymyr Zelensky on Feb. 23, as the threat of Russia's all-out invasion of Ukraine continued to grow.

Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts already have a special legal status because of Russia's ongoing occupation since 2014. Restrictions introduced by the state of emergency are due to last 30 days and will vary depending on the region. The state of emergency allows the authorities to limit temporarily the public's constitutional rights.

The decree green-lights the following measures:

- Increased public order protection and security;
- Checks of identification documents of civilians and frisking if necessary;
- Ban on protests;
- Temporary or permanent evacuation of people from dangerous areas and providing them with accommodation;
- Ban on relocation of conscripts and reservists without notice;
- Ban on producing and spreading information that may "destabilize the situation";
- Ban on amateur radio transmitting devices.**

Other measures that may be implemented "if necessary" include:

- A curfew;
- A special regime of entry and exit;
- Ban on mass events;
- "Special rules" for spreading information online.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE ABOVE FOR CANADIAN AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS.

The above state of emergency enacted by the Ukrainian government specifically places a ban on all Ukrainian amateur radio stations from using their equipment. As you all remember from your amateur radio courses, this means that you may not communicate with a station heard on the air and claiming to be Ukrainian, as the above edict states that there are none.

It seems that radio amateurs in Ukraine are complying with the provision of the state of emergency, and maintaining radio silence while the Russian invasion of their country continues. The Ukrainian Amateur Radio League (UARL/LRU) has been receiving messages of support and encouragement from the global amateur radio community.

The IARU is a strictly non-political organization, and is maintaining its neutral stance, monitoring the situation and expects all amateur radio operators to follow their own country's rules and regulations.

IARU Region 1 has re-posted an advisory from the

DARC (Deutscher Amateur Radio Club) pointing out that any Ukrainian amateur radio operator who is still transmitting is risking his life, as any mention of his location, name, callsign or frequency on the air or in social media could have dire results. They recommend that we listen but do not contact such a station.

This edict does not apply to a sub-region of Ukraine, the Donbas, which includes Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, as an exception was made for them. These regions were declared by Russian president Putin to be independent states. In cooperation with the invading Russian forces, they are conducting operations in the south-eastern area of Ukraine. As the emergency edict is likely to be ignored in those states, there may be amateur radio stations with Ukrainian callsigns still operating.

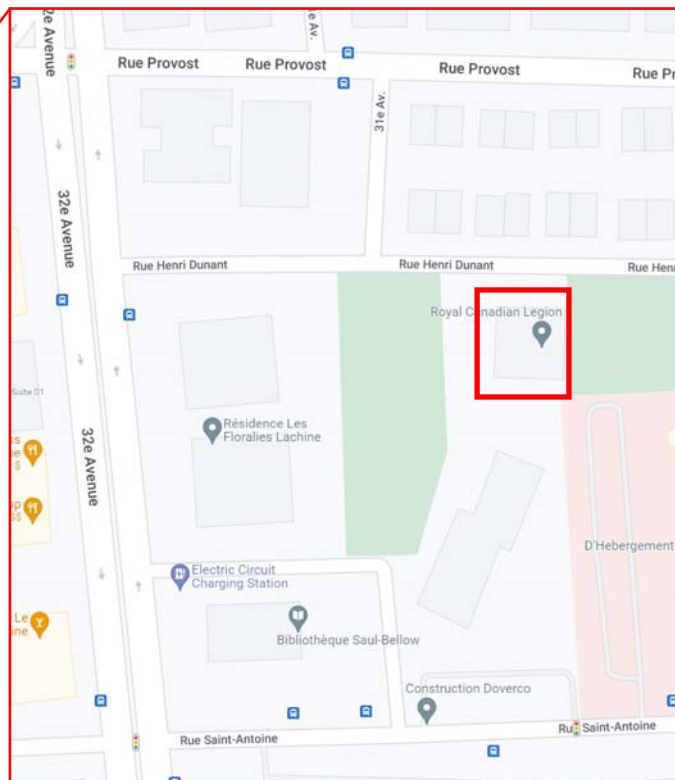
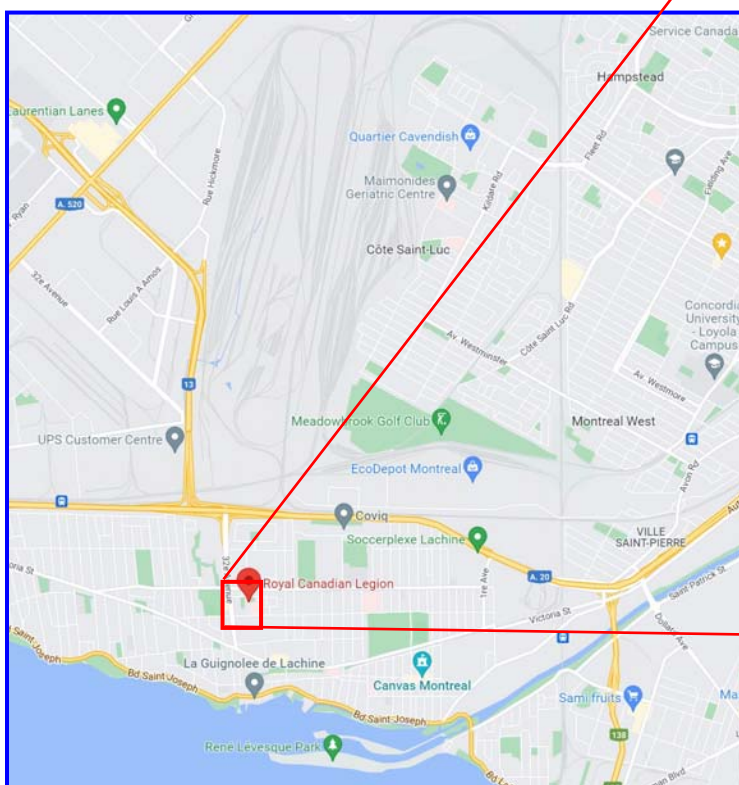
Many amateur radio operators have family and friends in Ukraine, and are greatly concerned for their safety.

It would be advisable to maintain radio silence with Ukraine until this man-made disaster ends.

IT'S BAACK!

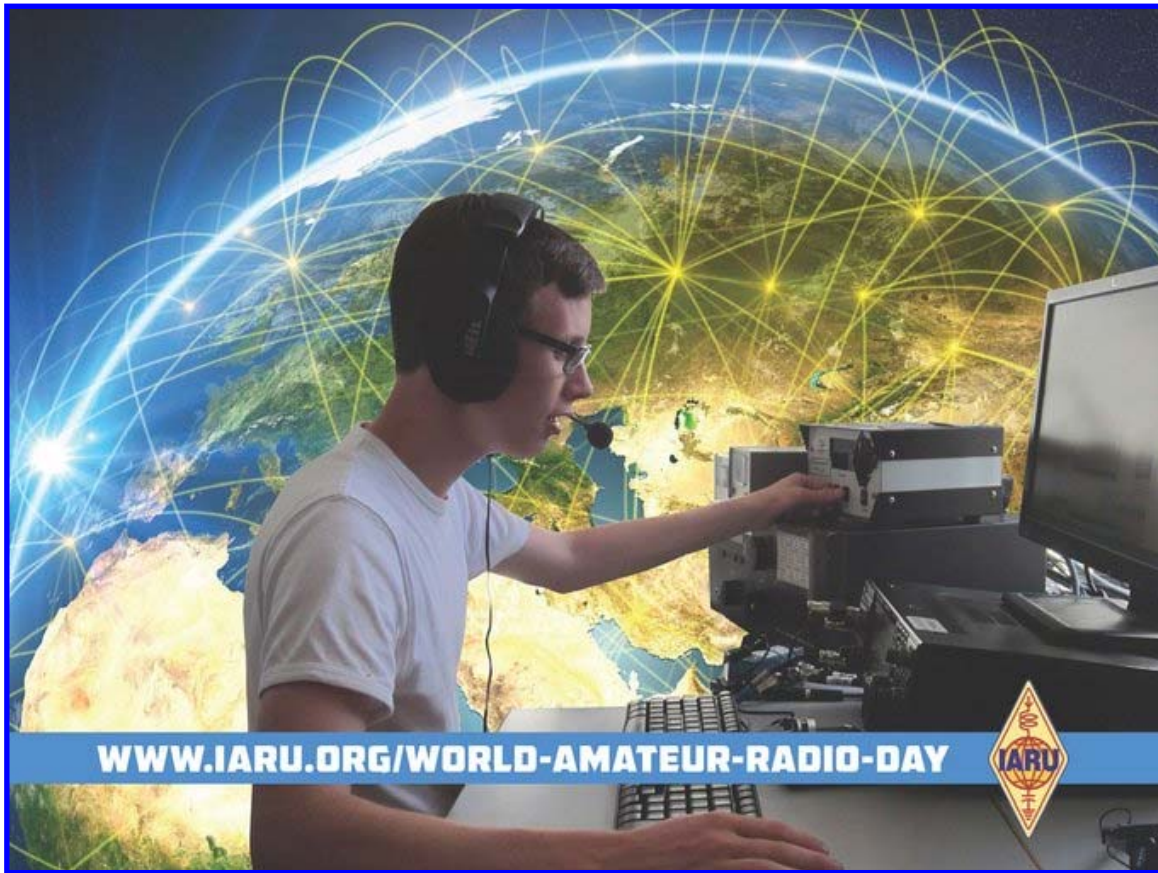
THE MONTREAL AMATEUR RADIO HAMFEST !!

The Royal Canadian Legion Hall
3015 Rue Henri-Dunant,
Lachine, QC, H8S 1R5



New locale, same event, with all the good stuff you're used to seeing at our hamfest. The date is a little later in the year than our usual April fest; it's on 5 June 2022, from 09:00 to 12:00 EDT.

NOTE: This fest is on a **SUNDAY**, not Saturday.



WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY: APRIL 18

RAC “Get on the Air on **World Amateur Radio Day**” special event

On Monday, April 18, 2022, Radio Amateurs of Canada is once again organizing a special on-air event to celebrate **World Amateur Radio Day**. Every year on April 18, Radio Amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of Amateur Radio and to commemorate the formation of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) on April 18, 1925.

Radio Amateurs of Canada is once again holding a “Get on the Air on **World Amateur Radio Day**” special event in which we encourage as many Amateurs as possible to get on the air and contact as many RAC stations as possible.

RAC official stations will operate across Canada from 0000Z to 2359Z on April 18. The RAC official station call signs are VA2RAC, VA3RAC, VE1RAC, VE4RAC, VE5RAC, VE6RAC, VE7RAC, VE8RAC, VE9RAC, VO1RAC, VO2RAC, VY0RAC, VY1RAC and VY2RAC. Those contacting one or more of these stations will be eligible for a special commemorative certificate noting their participation in RAC's Get on the Air on **World Amateur Radio Day** Event.

Participants simply need to complete one or more contacts, on any band and mode, with RAC official stations to earn their certificates. No logs need to be submitted; simply check back on the RAC website when instructed and enter your call sign to download your certificate.

Thank you for your continuing support and understanding during this time of crisis. As with many of our Amateur Radio activities, overcoming challenges is a great way to learn. Please take care of yourself and your loved ones, stay safe and have fun while celebrating **World Amateur Radio Day**.

Phil McBride, VA3QR, President, Radio Amateurs of Canada

ATTENTION FOLKS!

Sam, VE2LJV is spring cleaning, and selling a selection of walkie-talkies, various makes, various condition. Contact Sam, email: samuel.galet@outlook.com

Two iCOM W2A dual band transceivers each \$35. Both power up.
with 6 battery cases \$5 each, for rebuilding;
One iCOM # BP-84, large double-size battery pack, also for rebuilding, \$10;
Slow charger, working, \$10;
Drop-in fast charger, working, \$30;
One iCOM IC-28SE VHF transceiver, in working condition, \$10;
Instruction Manuals and some service manuals for the iCOM radios are on the web.
One HM-159L speaker microphone, \$15;
One HM -65 speaker microphone, \$10;
Six model PB-32 Kenwood battery packs, for rebuilding, \$5 each.

Grand total for all of the above asking \$150.00

Also as previously listed: Model FM-2016a/e 2-meter transceiver, with power cord and DTMF microphone.
Great winter project for a new ham. Spec sheet. Asking \$15 or best offer.



ÇAĞLAR VA2AKG'S REFERENCES FOR HIS LOOP ANTENNAE

There has been a certain amount of interest in the sources for Çağlar VA2AKG's presentation on loop antennae. He has kindly provided them.

1. YATES, S., Small Transmitting Loop Antennas (Magnetic Loop Antennas), https://www.k4vrc.com/uploads/1/0/1/5/10156032/small_transmitting_loop_antennas.pdf, last accessed on 01 Feb. 2022
2. BOSWELL, A., TYLER, A.J. and WHITE, A., "Performance of a Small Loop Antenna in the 3-10 MHz band". Antennas and Propagation Magazine, Vol. 47, Issue 2 (April 2005), pp. 51-56.
3. De CORALIS, A., "K1FM Magnetic Loop: 2020 Edition", <https://k1fm.us/2020/07/k1fm-magnetic-loop-2020-edition/>, last accessed on 01 Feb. 2022
4. MARDLING J.J., "Feedback-Based Optimising Automatic Tuner", <http://www.ve1zac.com/Simple%20Loop%20Automatic%20Tuner.pdf>, last accessed 01 Feb. 2022
5. DORENBERG, F., "My Small 'Transmitting' Loops for 80-20 Meters", https://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_antenna_magloop.htm#top-of-page, last accessed 13 Feb. 2022
6. De CORALIS, A., 3D print parts for the K1FM Loop, <https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:4542481>, last accessed 13 Feb. 2022
7. SCOTT, I., "Introduction to Magnetic Loop Antennas", <https://vaedrah.angelfire.com/antenna.htm>, last accessed 12 Feb. 2022
8. LEVY, B., "Small Magnetic Loop Antenna FAQ", <http://www.webclass.org/k5ijb/antennas/Small-magnetic-loops-FAQ.htm>, last accessed 12 Feb. 2022.

The calculator that Eamon VE2EGN referred to can be found here:

<https://miguelvaca.github.io/vk3cpu/magloop.html>

CONTEST CALENDAR

By George, VA2EN / VE2NGH

Welcome to the MARC Contest Calendar. As you are most probably aware, you can participate in a contest practically every weekend but I will list only the major and most popular contests scheduled for the upcoming month. The most popular contests are **highlighted in bold**. You can check out the list of all the various contests on the "Contest Corral" available on the ARRL website.

For all contests, remember to carefully read over the rules, study the entry categories, and familiarize yourself with the exchange. Make sure you have proper contest logging software installed as all contest submissions are now done electronically. N1MM+ is the most popular contest logging software and is available free for download. It can interface to almost any radio, is fully supported, and can handle most contest exchanges. Rules for all contests can be found on the various sponsors' websites. Another very useful resource is to subscribe to the ARRL Contest Update which you can receive via e-mail every two weeks and is available to ARRL members. You can also find third-party contest listings for free on the internet.

All dates and times are in UTC (Zulu time). The first two contest dates on the list are in the month of March, the rest are in April.

Have fun and CU on the air!

73' de George VA2EN/VE2NGH

Editor's note:

George's Contest Calendar was so informative it deserved more space than that afforded by a vertical layout. On the next page please find a list of challenges for March-April, 2022.

March - April 2022

Date - Time				Bands	Contest Name	Mode	Exchange	Sponsor's Website
Start	Finish							
24	2000	24	2130	3.5	RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf
26	0000	27	2359	1.8-28	CQ WW WPX, SSB	Ph	RS, serial	https://cqwpw.com/rules.htm
2	0800	2	2000	1.8-28	RSGB FT4 International Activity Day	Dig	Signal report, 4-char grid square	https://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/
2	1200	3	1200	3.5-28	EA RTTY Contest	Dig	RSQ, EA province or serial	https://concursos.ure.es/en/
2	1500	3	1500	1.8-28	SP DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), SP province or serial	https://spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl/2021/
9	2100	10	2100	1.8-28	Yuri Gararin International DX Contes	CW	RST, ITU zone	http://gc.qst.ru/en/section/32
10	1800	10	2359	3.5-28	ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Ph	Name, year first licensed, state/province, area/DX	http://www.arrrl.org/rookie-roundup
11	1900	11	2300	144	144 MHz spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	https://sites.google.com/site/springvhfu/psprints
15	2100	16	2100	1.8-28	Holyland DX Contest	CW Ph	RS(T), 4X area or serial	https://iarc.org/iarc/#HolylandContest
17	2300	18	0100	1.8-28	Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	CW	RST, SPC, mbr or power	https://qrcontest.com/pigrun/
19	1900	19	2300	222	222 MHz spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	https://sites.google.com/site/springvhfu/psprints
23	0001	24	2359	28	10-10 International Spring Contest, Digital	Dig	Name, mbr or "0", SPC	http://www.ten-ten.org
23	1300	24	1259	1.8-28	Helvetia Contest	CW Ph Dig	RS(T), HB canton or serial	http://www.uska.ch/en/contest/
24	0000	24	0400	3.5-14	North American SSB Sprint	Ph	Other's call, your call, serial, name, SPC	https://ssbsprint.com/rules/
24	1700	24	2059	3.5-28	BARTG Sprint 75	Dig	Serial	http://bartg.org.uk/wp/
27	1900	27	2300	432	432 MHz Spring Sprint	CW Ph Dig	4-char grid square	https://sites.google.com/site/springvhfu/psprints

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