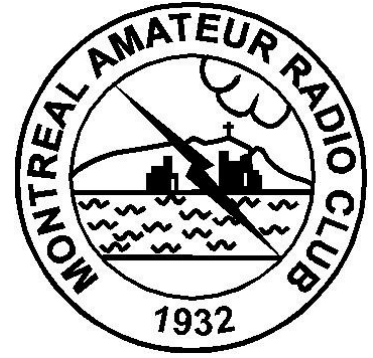


marcOgram

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



Volume 68, Number 8

May 2022

NEXT MEETING

IN PERSON!

Ragchew and getting used to physical people: 19:30
Club meeting: 20:00

Tuesday 31 May at St. Thomas' Anglican Church

6897 Somerled (corner of Rosedale) in N.D.G. - Montreal

**** SHOW and TELL ****

Projects, working, non-working, proposed, attempted
Whatever state your project/idea is in, show us!

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

So far, so good! We continue with general meetings held **IN PERSON** with the 31 May meeting, the last of the season.

**Bring out your projects –
it's SHOW & TELL time!**

**Working, non-working, merely an idea, whatever it is,
BRING IT IN, OR TELL US ABOUT IT!**

The General Meeting for 31 May will be held in St. Thomas' Anglican Church meeting hall, 6897 Somerled, corner Rosedale, **IN PERSON**, with coffee and cookies!

Parking is on the surrounding streets, and bus access via #51 on Fielding (short walk south) and #102 on Somerled (long walk north). The entrance is at the back of the north side of the church on Rosedale.

SEE YOU THERE!

73 de Nora, VA2NH

- . . . -

New Hamfest!

by Nora VA2NH

On 30th April we (Leo VE2SI and myself Nora VA2NH) decided to attend a new hamfest, being held in person by the Groupe Radioamateur Amical at the Centre Jean-Guy- Cardinal arena in Ste. Anne des Plaines. This was a new one for us dedicated hamfest chasers, so we headed out to the wilds of St. Anne des Plaines to see what this was all about.

The drive was enjoyable, through a part of Quebec that we hadn't been through before, and at the arena there was lots of parking space. We had rented a table, so we ferried our stuff into the hall, and deployed the now-out-of-date MARC banner. There was good attendance, and door prizes, and the club is sponsored by some big names like DX Engineering, MFJ, RadioWorld, Geochron, Alpha Antenna, and rtSystems.

The whole event was very well organized, with wrist strips to identify those entitled to entrance, instead of the traditional rubber stamp on the hand; entry cost \$10.00 per person and they charged \$20.00 per table (not including an entry).

(Continued on page 4)

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.

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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.

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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

(last Tuesday of the month)

31 May - Show and Tell

Bring out your ideas & projects!

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: Sorel-Tracy Hamfest
Who: Club Radio Amateur Sorel-Tracy
VE2CBS

When: Sunday, 29 May, 2022
Where: Club de Curling, Sorel-Tracy,
QC

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

2022-04-27 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control George, VE2ARC (VE2NGH)

Net closed: 21:02

Check-ins: 11

Discussion: What was your most memorable DX two-way contact (or
reception) since becoming a ham?

2022-05-04 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 21:17

Check-ins: 10

Discussion: Do you know how to access all the functions on all your
radios without using the manual?

2022-05-11 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 21:22

Check-ins: 11

Discussion: How do you rank amateur radio as a fun vs serious
activity? Do you have fun with your radio or are we too serious?

2022-05-18 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control George VE2ARC (VE2NGH)

Net closed: unrecorded

Check-ins: 10

Discussion: What was your most memorable QSO or reception on the
VHF/UHF bands?

2022-05-25 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 20:45

Check-ins: 8

Discussion: How stormproof is your station? Do you have sturdy
antennas and alternate power sources?

(Continued from page 1)

As usual, we sold some and bought some, retaining an equal balance of zero in our equipment, and it was enjoyable to meet all these hams in person, something we're still getting used to.

They had an ample supply of coffee, muffins, chips, water and soft drinks for \$1.00, and a novel idea of a packaged lunch available, consisting of a really tasty sandwich, macaroni salad, healthy veggies and fruits like cherry tomatoes, celery, grapes, and some cheese, with a small container of dip for an eminently reasonable \$5.00. Excellent idea!

We left the fest at about noon, when others had started packing up their fine goods, and headed home following our GPS through some scenic rural roads I have never seen before, and arrived home with our new purchases.

A few days later, I received a call from Eric Deschênes VA2WAW, vice-president of the Groupe Radioamateur Amical, calling to tell me I'd won a door prize!

! ! !

We have been to many a hamfest, starting with Rochester NY in the 1970s, and including Hosstraders (now NEAR-fest) in Deerfield, NH, and any other fest within 400 miles of the Montreal area, in a constant quest to keep Leo's test equipment current with our purchased radio equipment, and we have always been in the drawing for any door prizes offered. We have rarely won anything; I think I won a Hosstraders' door prize of a Heathkit microphone equalizer kit a loooooong time ago. This time there must have been a blue moon somewhere because I won a door prize! And one didn't need to be present to win!!

A few days later, Eric sent me my prize, a \$50.00 Award Certificate from one of their sponsors, DX Engineering, so I immediately went to their web page to explore the possibilities. Nice stuff!

I'm still trying to decide which goodie to buy.

So all in all, we expect to attend their next hamfest, and we would encourage other hamfest chasers to do the same; it was well worth the ride.



New Station on the air!

Jean VE2JVZ, a recent graduate from the MARC amateur radio course, has put his station on the air with a new radio, Xiegu G90 HF transceiver and a JPC-12 vertical antenna. Here are his experiences with the set-up, and some photographs of the rig and the set-up.

Jean wrote, "Since I am a new ham and I only received the radio about a week ago, I do not think I can give an opinion based on my limited knowledge. I am very pleased with the performance and all the extras the radio comes with. I made my first DX contact this weekend with the Indianapolis Raceway Amateur radio club 1,362 kilometers away on 15 watts."

"This radio is well built, and the case is fully metal. It comes with many built in features, and can be used for FT8 digital modes when connected to a computer with an interface module, which is extra. For a first-time HF rig I think this an excellent purchase; it is small, light weight and is packed with many features. It is not an ICOM or a Yaesu but it works very well and is adjustable from 1 watt to 20 watts. The only down-side I can say for now is that, when constantly transmitting at 20 watts, the radio tends to heat up so they sell a mounting stand with a built-in fan which I purchased for an extra \$65. There are many YouTube videos showing all the different aspects of this radio. Since this is a SDR radio, firmware is readily available and many new versions for new features are available online for download. This radio has been on the market for approximately three years, and is available at DXCANADA for \$600 Canadian dollars.

"I also bought a JPC-12 portable vertical quick assembly antenna with radials. It takes about 10 minutes assembly time, is rated for up to 100 watts, and covers the frequencies 7 to 50 MHz. It weighs 1.4 kg, the extended length is 410 cm, and it comes with a carrying case, four extension rods, a ground rod, an extendable telescopic antenna portion, a loading coil, and radial ribbon wires. The loading coil is a slide-select for the different bands. It is also available at DXCANADA for \$229 Canadian dollars.

"I have had great reception this weekend, listened to stations in Italy, Slovenia, Ireland, Florida, Wisconsin and, of course, I made my first DX contact with the Indianapolis Raceway Amateur Radio Club. Again, be-

ing a new ham I can't say this is the best, but for the price it works very well and is made of good quality aluminum and stainless steel, again made for portability."

It sounds as if Jean is happy with his station. I guess when the winter comes around again, Jean will have to find a new installation as the picnic bench might become a bit chilly and somewhat wet.

Specifications

General Parameters

Frequency range	RX	0.5MHz~30MHz
	TX	1.8~2.0MHz (*1)
		3.5~4.0MHz (*1)
		5.331-5.405MHz (*1)
		7.0~7.3MHz (*1)
		10.1~10.15MHz
		14.0~14.35MHz
		18.068-18.168MHz
		21.0~21.450MHz
24.89-24.99MHz		
28.0-29.7MHz		
Operating modes	USB/LSB/CW/CWR/AM/FM*	
Minimum step	10Hz	
Antenna impedance	50Ω	
Working temperature	0°C ~ +50°C	
Frequency stability	±1.5ppm in the 10~60min after startup @25°C: 1ppm/hour	
Power supply voltage	10.5~16.5VDC, negative ground	
Current consumption	Receive: 700mA@ Max	
	Transmit: 6A@ Max	
Frame size	120*45*210mm (W*H*L) (excluding protrusions)	
Weight	About 1.63kg (for main body)	

Transmitter Parameters

RF output power	20W(SSB/CW/FM)	
	5W (AM)	@13.8VDC
Spurious suppression	≥50dB	
Carrier suppression	≥40dB	
Microphone impedance	200~10k (600Ω in general)	

Receiver Parameters

Circuit type		Zero-IF (ZIF) direct conversion SDR	
Neighbor channel suppression		≥60dB	
Sideband suppression		≥60dB	
Sensitivity		SSB/CW	AM
	0.5~1.79999MHz	/	10uV
	1.8~1.99999MHz	0.35uV	10uV
	2.0~27.9999MHz	0.25uV	2uV
	28.0~30.0MHz	0.25uV	2uV

(Measurements made with PRE=on, ATT=off, NB=off, SSB/CW/AM=10dB S/N.)

Mirroring suppression: 70dB

Sideband suppression: 60dB

Audio output: 0.5W (8Ω, ≤10% THD)

Audio output impedance: 4~16Ω

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Here are some photographs of the equipment and the set-up, courtesy of Jean VE2JVZ.



Top left:
Xiegu G90 QRP SDR HF transceiver.

Top right:
JPC-12 portable vertical antenna.

Bottom left:
JPC-12 portable antenna case.

Bottom right:
Jean VE2JVZ's antenna set up.



IN-PERSON GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 31 MAY.

SHOW & TELL!!!

To be held in St. Thomas' Anglican church meeting hall, at 6897 Somerled, corner of Rosedale, in NDG. The MARC has held meetings in that hall previously.

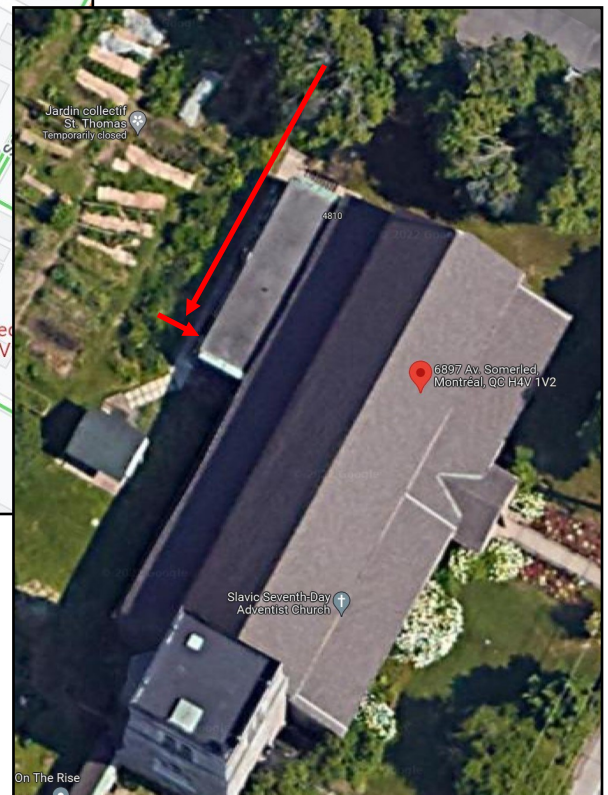
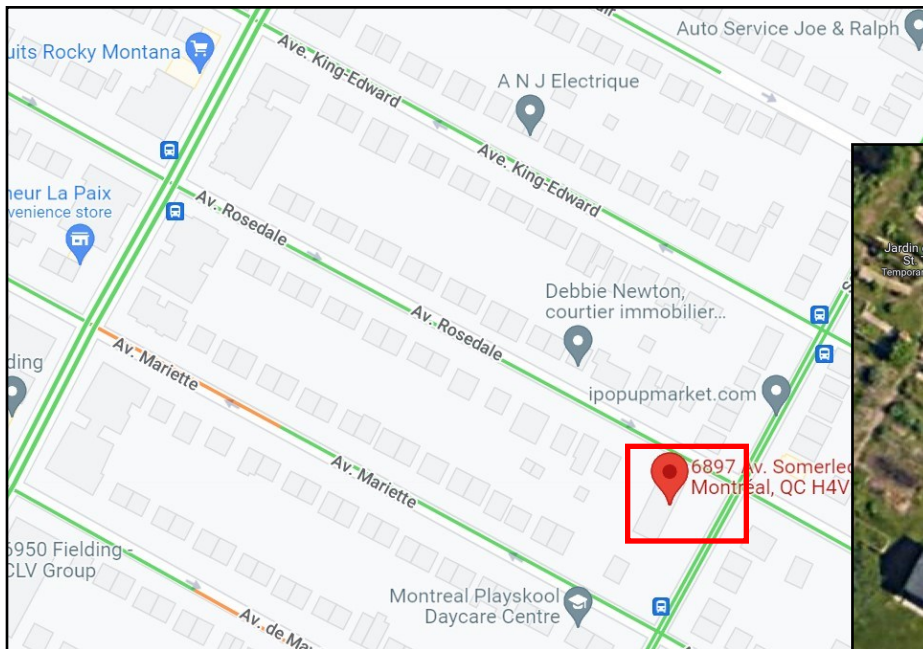
The best busses to get there are either the 102 along Somerled, or the 51 along Fielding. If you like exercise, there is also the 162 along Monkland.

We will provide **coffee and cookies**. The entrance is on the northerly side of the church, at the end of a pathway.

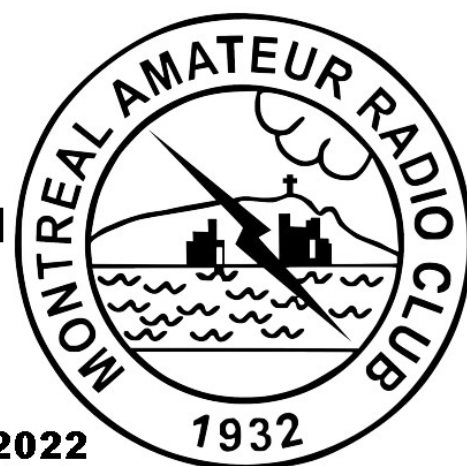
We hope to see a large turnout and everyone can practice actually being in a room with other physical people!

The presentation will be by any of our members who has built, or is building, or will be building, a device or project. Even if you're just pondering on possibly building something, air your plan at the meeting!

MASKS ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED



Montreal Amateur Radio Club
Marché aux Puces de Montréal
Montreal Fleamarket



dimanche le 5 juin, 2022
Sunday, June 5, 2022

Nouvel emplacement - New location

Royal Canadian Legion - Lachine
3015 Rue Henri Dunant

Autobus STM # 191 Arrêt au coin Provost/31e Ave.

Ouverture: Vendeurs 08h15, Public 09h00 - 12h00
Prix de Presence - Stationnement gratuit
Frais d'Admission 7.00\$
Tables 8.00\$ chacune, 15.00\$ pour deux
- Frais d'admission en sus

Toutes consignes de la Santé Publique en vigueur seront respectées.

STM Bus # 191 stops at corner Provost/31st Av.

Opening: Vendors 08:15 AM, Public 09:00 AM - Noon
Door Prizes - Free parking
General Admission \$7.00
Tables \$8.00 each, two for \$15.00
- Does not include price of admission

All current Public Health guidelines will be followed.

Reservations par courriel/by email fest@marc.ca
ou Boite vocale/or Voice mail: 514-316-7765



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

NEW ITEM: Kenwood HF transceiver, model TS-50 with automatic antenna tuner AT-50 with connecting cable, 160-10 meters. Asking \$400 for the HF rig and \$300 for the tuner with cable.

Previously listed:

- ♦ iCOM model W2A dual band transceiver \$35. Powers up. With 4 battery cases \$5 each, for rebuilding;
- ♦ iCOM model # BP-84, large double-size battery pack, also for rebuilding, \$10;
- ♦ Slow charger, working, \$10;
- ♦ Drop-in fast charger, working, \$30;
- ♦ iCOM model IC-28SE VHF transceiver, in working condition, \$10;
- ♦ iCOM model HM-159L speaker microphone, \$15;
- ♦ Six Kenwood model PB-32 battery packs, for rebuilding, \$5 each.
- ♦ KDK 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.

Instruction Manuals and some service manuals for the iCOM radios are on the web.

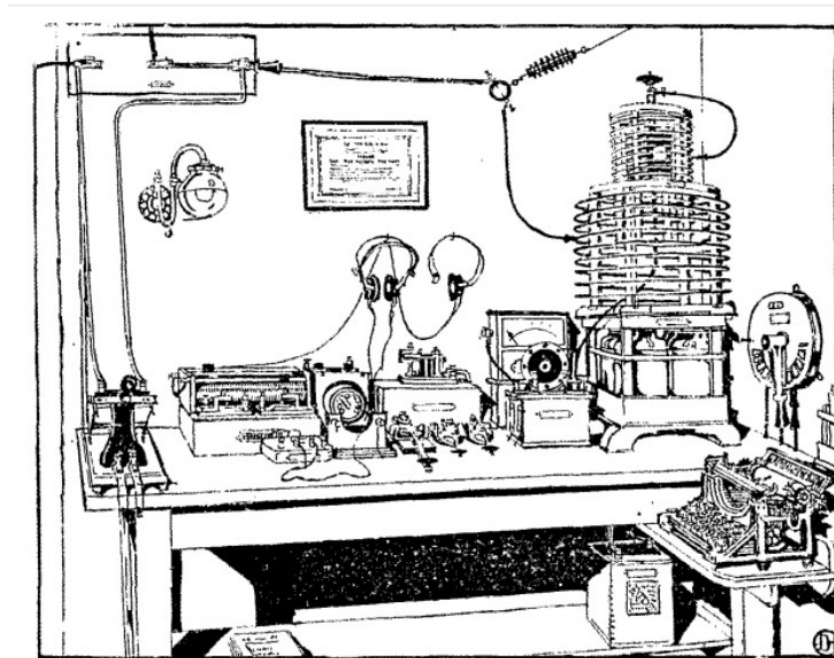


CONTEST CALENDAR

By George, VA2EN / VE2NGH

George's Contest Round-up will return in the next issue.

onetuberadio.com



This drawing of a well equipped amateur station of a century ago appeared in QST, May 1916. It shows the station of J. Donald Haig of Merchantville, N.J. The sketch, drawn by Mr. Haig, shows the sending set containing Leyden jar condensers, rotary spark gap, and large oscillation transformer. The receiver is shown to the left.

QST didn't give Mr. Haig's call sign, but according to the [1916 call book](#), the call was 3QF, and the station was located at [118 E. Maple Avenue](#) in Merchantville.