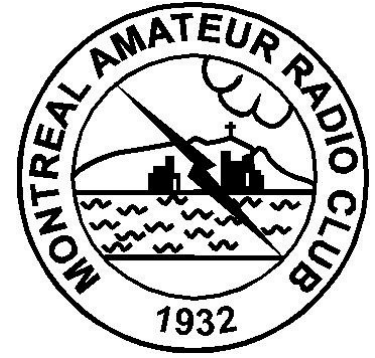


# marcOgram

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



Volume 69, Number 7

April 2023

## NEXT MEETING

# 25 April, 2023

### THIS MONTH:

Leo VE2SI: Electro-Magnetic Fields around a Dipole.  
Ever wanted to know where they are?  
Leo will show you.

Ragchew and general chit-chat: 19:30  
Club meeting: 20:00

St. Thomas' Anglican Church,  
6897 Somerled (corner of Rosedale) in N.D.G. - Montreal

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Our speaker this month comes equipped with nifty equipment and a whole lot of electro-magnetic theories which you may have read about, and seen on paper, but have never actually seen in person (so to speak.) With the help of years of hamfest gleanings and a few new instruments, Leo VE2SI proposes to show you what a dipole is actually doing.

The MARC hamfest took place on the 15th at the Lachine Legion Hall, and was a success. Many eager vendors brought excess equipment and many eager buyers were happy to take some of it home. Nine lucky ticket-holders won prizes, provided by RAQI, our provincial federation, and by RadioWorld, and an enjoyable time was had by all.

Hope to see you all at the General Meeting.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

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## MARC HAMFEST

The MARC annual hamfest was held on 15 April at the Legion Hall in Lachine. It was well attended, and the room was full of tables, loads of equipment changing hands, with money flowing in the opposite direction, and everyone with a ticket waiting with bated breath for the next drawing; nine winners took home RAQI baseball caps, RAQI coffee mugs (**many thanks RAQI!**), several RadioWorld \$25 gift cards (**many thanks RadioWorld!**) and one lucky ham, Dave VE2SC, took home the main prize, a hard-cover ARRL 100th anniversary Handbook and the ARRL Antenna Book.

Once the event was over and every buyer went home to play with his/her new toys, the crew cleaned up the room, put the tables back in their storage niche, stacked the chairs, picked up any stray litter or abandoned equipment and left the hall as clean as we found it. This is essential so that we maintain our good reputation with the Legion Powers-That-Be so we can return in coming years.

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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](mailto:ve2arc@marc.ca) for inclusion in the meeting agenda.

## Club Activities

### Monthly Meetings

(last Tuesday of the month)

25 Apr - Leo VE2SI on electro-magnetic fields around a dipole  
 30 May - Show and Tell

26 Sep - Tony VE2KM, on CWops Academy, a method of teaching CW, Continental code.

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

See page 3.

### Radio Classes

The 2023 January Basic level course have ended. If you know of anyone interested in taking the next course, please direct them to <https://marc.ca/course/> for more information. The next planned Basic course will start in January 2024.

### MARC Hamfest

#### The MARC flea market was successful!

The next MARC flea market will be held in April 2024. The venue we found for the last hamfest was a success, so we will probably return to the Royal Canadian Legion Hall in Lachine, 3015 Henri-Dunant,, Lachine.

Go to <http://marc.ca/fest/> for more information as the next hamfest is planned.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 available time.**



## UPCOMING FLEAS/EVENTS

### 2023

**What:** NEAR-Fest Fleamarket  
**Who:** New England Amateur Radio Festival Inc.  
**When:** 28-29 Apr 2023  
**Where:** Deerfield, NH.

**What:** 37th Annual Smith Falls Fleamarket  
**Who:** Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club  
**When:** Saturday, 3 Jun 2023  
**Where:** Smith Falls, ON

**What:** Ottawa/Carp Hamfest  
**Who:** Ottawa Amateur Radio Club  
**When:** Saturday, 9 Sep 2023  
**Where:** Carp, ON

**What:** Kingston Amateur Radio Club Hamfest  
**Who:** Kingston Amateur Radio Club  
**When:** Saturday, 14 Oct 2023  
**Where:** Kingston, ON

**What:** Montreal South Shore Hamfest  
**Who:** Club Radio Amateur Rive-Sud de Montreal  
**When:** Saturday, 21 Oct 2023  
**Where:** Longueuil, QC

Note from the editor.  
Due to remaining caution about COVID - 19, the list of hamfests and events is somewhat limited. Please check with the organizing authority before planning to attend as some may be cancelled.

## VE2RED WEDNESDAY 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](mailto:leo49@videotron.ca)

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### 2023-04-12 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 21:56

Check-ins: 16

Discussion: How can we encourage new ideas to keep amateur radio relevant in our modern world? Can amateur radio lead, or is it a follower that adopts and adapts new ideas?

### 2023-04-05 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

**Held during actual emergency conditions, a Montreal-wide power black-out.**

Net closed: 21:54

Check-ins: 17

Discussion: The ice storm has knocked out power for many households. Do you have power, how are you powering your equipment and, if you don't have power, how long do you think that you'll be able to keep your station on the air?

### 2023-03-29 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 21:12

Check-ins: 12

Discussion: What gives you the greatest enjoyment? Building, contesting, DX chasing?

### 2023-03-22 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 21:21

Check-ins: 11

Discussion: Has replacing home-brew with purchased equipment removed a challenge from amateur radio?

### 2023-03-15 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

Net closed: 20:58.

Check-ins: 8

Discussion: On-air etiquette and politeness procedures.





Lachine Legion Hall.



Above: Some of VA2ASS Andy's test equipment



## A LEGACY

By Leo, VE2SI  
Vice-President  
Montreal Amateur Radio Club

Over the last several years the Montreal Amateur Radio Club has been the recipient of equipment from the estates of deceased amateurs and others who were obliged by changing circumstances to give up what has often been an almost life-long interest in amateur radio. There is little doubt that this is a result of the ageing of the amateur population. A universal theme has been the desire to see the equipment passed on to the amateur community and in particular to new amateurs to help them get on the air. We're often told "to use it for the benefit of the Club."

What sort of equipment is involved? A typical amateur station might include an HF transceiver, maybe a VHF/UHF radio for local communication, power supplies, antennas,

cabling, test equipment, other station accessories and usually a stock of parts. The volume can be considerable and, since the Club has no permanent location, usually a Board member volunteers space in their home or garage for storage. We have dismantled antenna towers and larger antenna systems; large antennas and towers are often not reusable and exceed the capacity of any available free storage space.

Recently the Club became the beneficiary of a large amount of equipment from the Estate of André (Andy) Sipos VA2ASS. The amount exceeded the sum of everything that we had received over the previous several years. André's interest had developed decades ago when, as a youngster living in Tangiers, Morocco, he had been introduced to amateur radio and electronics by Jesus Martin De Cordova Barreda, the holder of CN2AO, EA4AO and many other call signs. A Google search for "Jesus Martin De Cordova EA4AO" re-

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veals someone who was dedicated to amateur radio and the March 1993 Spanish language version of CQ magazine describes his career. Under Jesus' guidance, André started his life in amateur radio circa 1953 with the callsign CN2AT. Jesus helped Andy to assemble his station and get on the air by giving him equipment, with the request that, in the future, Andy should do the same with his station.

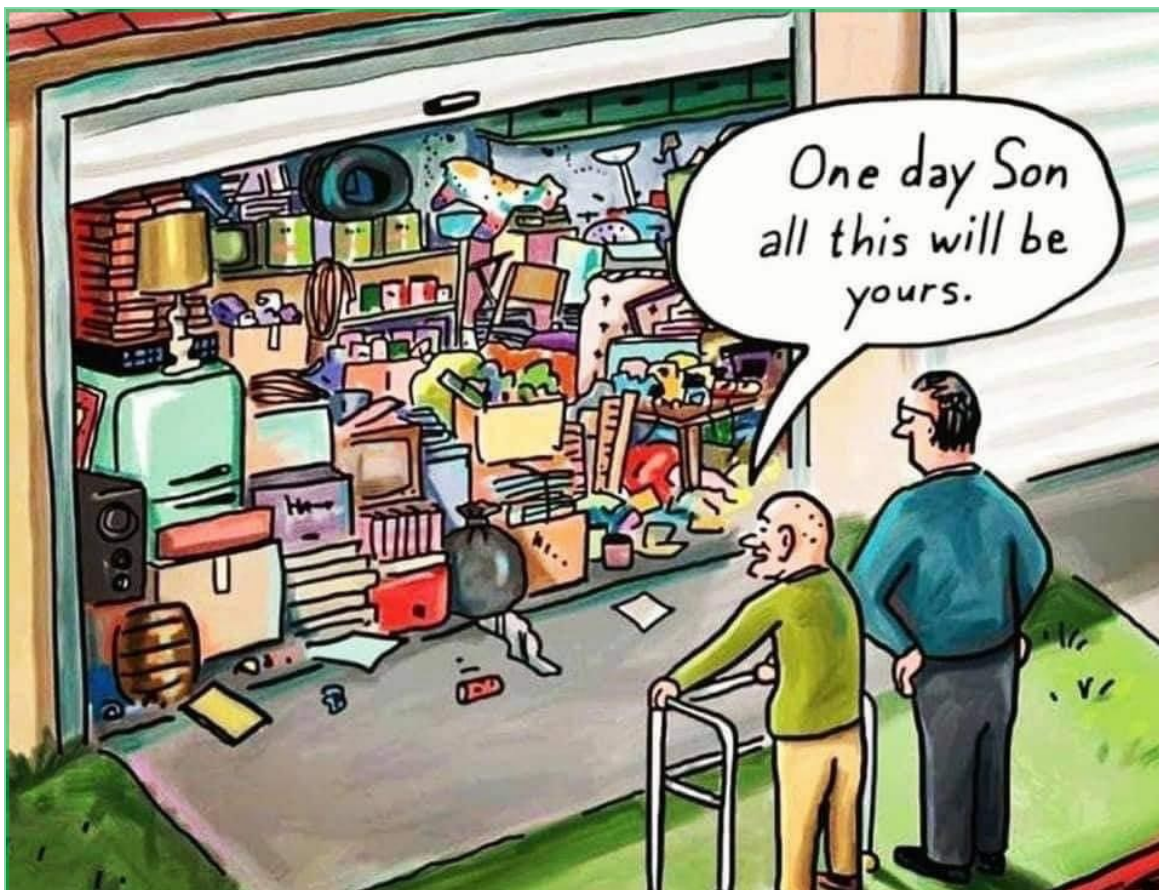
It was with an understanding of this legacy that, last summer, the Club's Board accepted André's equipment. A group, including Eamon VE2EVN, George VA2EN and I, visited the Sipos household to see what was involved. It is a considerable understatement to say that it was a complete amateur radio station. Over a few visits we managed to remove most of André's equipment.

The Board has been discussing the best method for distributing André's equipment and that of the other stations. The



Club's recent April 15 fleamarket provided an opportunity to begin the process by bringing along some of André's test equipment. I verified beforehand that everything was working, and the prices were set to make everything attractive. We wanted to see the equipment go back into the hands of amateurs and electronics enthusiasts, and, if possible, bring in a little income to help offset the Club's operating expenses.

Everything that was brought to the fleamarket was sold, but we are still left with a considerable quantity of transceivers, station accessories, test equipment, various parts and supplies. As an equitable way to distribute the remaining items to our membership and the local amateur radio community, we are thinking of holding a MARC fleamarket dedicated to the sale of this equipment. The objective is, again, to see it go to people who will use it and, if possible, to our newer amateurs who might find the cost of new equipment somewhat challenging. We hope to have more news on this in the early summer.



Courtesy Bob Eckstein via CartoonStock.





Cover page, April 1925. Hugo Gernsback editor, "The Experimenter."