



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

February 2011, Volume 72 Number 2

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



Hope to See You at Breakfast – Feb. 26 at Tom's Family Restaurant



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

Executive

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| President - Fraser MacDougal, VE1WO | 865-4198 | fmac@ns.sympatico.ca |
| First V.P. - Bill Elliott, VE1MR | 865-8567 | ve1mr@rac.ca |
| 2nd V.P. - Rod Padmore, VE1BSK | 443-7181 | rodpadmore@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Secretary - Betty Caithness, VE1BSW | 477-7081 | betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Treasurer - John Goddwin, VE1CDD | 865-5731 | ve1cdd@rac.ca |
| Director-at-Large: - Sheldon Harling, VE1GPY | | hartling@netpathinc.com |
| Club Station Mgr. - Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH | 835-4865 | wayneph@eastlink.ca |
| Past President - Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ | | bob_swinwood@hotmail.com |

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government liaison – VACANT

QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca

EMO Trailer coordinator – David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 ve1eda@rac.ca

Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 ve1ent@rac.ca

Reflector Dist. - Frank Wilson, VE1FHW fhcb.wilson@ns.sympatico.ca

Membership - Frank Wilson, VE1FHW fhcb.wilson@ns.sympatico.ca

Web page – Frank Smith frankiansmith@gmail.com

Basic ham course - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca

2010 Flea market Chair – Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ445-8103 tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca

Callbook Editor – Howard Dickson, VE1DHD,

Field Day coordinator – VACANT

Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca

NSARA Director - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca

Honorary Legal Counsel – Paul Radford, VE1ARH

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Len Morgan, VE9MY 506-696-5279 morgakl@nb.sympatico.ca

RAC Section Manager – Jim Langille, VE1JBL (902) 667-1485 ve1jbl@ns.sympatico.ca

RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:
VE1PSR/VHF - 147.270 MHz +
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -
access tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5
PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz
LAN NODE

Please note that the club mailing address will be changing to

P.O. Box 8895
Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M5
We will share the QSL bureau PO Box which is more convenient for mail pick up.

**Deadline for submissions to the
March Reflector is
Saturday, March 5, 2011**

The **February Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM) in the club rooms in the Saint Andrews Rec Ctr.

The February meeting will be followed by Social time.

Guests are welcome.

NOTICE of MOTION

Club Station improvements
SEE PAGE 9

SPECIAL PREFIX

For the month of February, to commemorate the Canada Winter Games held in Halifax and Nova Scotia, all VE1 and VA1 calls can use a special prefix - CK1 for VE1 and CJ1 for VA1.

Depending on demand the club may print some generic cards for the special prefixes. If you use this prefix and are interested in QSL cards please let the executive know how many you may want. If demand is not high enough for the club to economically do a printing then we may be able to point you in the direction of a small quantity printer.

Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation.

We have a new net controllers and would like at least 1 more. **If you want to join**, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



| | | |
|----------|-------|--------|
| Feb. 13 | Win | VE1WIN |
| Feb. 20 | David | VE1NN |
| Feb. 27 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| March 6 | Bruce | VE1MLW |
| March 13 | Emil | VE1ESP |
| March 20 | Bob | VE1PQ |

Events for Your Calendar

February 19 & 20 — Guides On The Air (GOTA) -At the request of local Guide leaders several HARC members will be introducing local Guides to our hobby at the Club station.

February 26 – Ham Breakfast – at Tom's Family Restaurant, 565 Sackville Dr., Lwr. Sackville. See the website with breakfast menu: www.tomsfamilyrestaurant.ca

March 5 – Basic EMO Communications course. Contact Tom Caithness, VE1GTC or Dave Musgrave, VE1EDA

March 13, Sunday– NSARA Contest

April – the Annual Hobby Show the first week of April at the Shearwater Museum - We plan to set up several radio demonstrations. Arrangements for space have been made and several people have said they'll help with equipment and time but we need a coordinator.

May 14 - 2011 DownEast Fleamarket. Contact Chairman Tom, VE1BMJ, to lend a hand.

June 25-26, 2011 - the 2011 ARRL Field Day.

August 5 & 6, - 8th Maritime DX Forum – Registration is now open, For more information, check out the MDF page on the HARC website www.halifax-arc.org

The NSARA Contest takes place each year on the second Sunday in March. That's March 13, 2011

Book the CLUB STATION Durng FEBRUARY

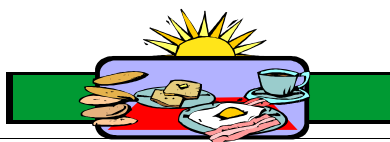
A way to publicize the Canada Winter Games, Halifax and the Halifax ARC is to book the club station to operate it with the special prefix as CK1FQ. Contact John, VE1CDD.

Feb. 26 **Breakfast** at Tom's Family Restaurant is to be ordered from Tom's menu. Selections include: Fresh omelettes \$7.99 Eggs with ham, bacon & sausage \$7.99

Pancake platter with bacon or ham or sausage \$7.99

Also available are the usual sorts of breakfast fare such as cereal, toast, fruit plate, coffee, tea, etc.

See complete menu at Tom's website www.tomsfamilyrestaurant.ca

*Silent Key*

Charles LeBlanc, VE1SEX, became a silent key - of an apparent heart attack on Friday, January 21, although he was also being treated for advanced prostate cancer.

He was a member of both the Shelburne and Yarmouth ARC's. He was a relatively new amateur. He lived in East Pubnico.

From the ARRL Letter, Sept.16, 2010

USA to Host 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship

In 1986, Ted Turner -- in reaction to the political troubles surrounding the Olympic Games of the 1980s -- created an international sports competition that he called the Goodwill Games. The first Games were held in Moscow with more than 3000 athletes from 79 countries competing. Four years later, the Games moved to Seattle, Washington and it was at those Games that the first-ever World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) took place.

Besides athletics, the Goodwill Games focused on areas of cultural exchange, arts and other unique subjects, one of these being Amateur Radio -- and WRTC was born. Radio amateurs from around the world gathered in Seattle for an Olympic-style event, joining in competition and camaraderie. In 1996, WRTC moved to San Francisco, then Slovenia in 2000, Finland in 2002, Brazil in 2006 and Russia in 2010.

RAC Bulletin - 2010-038E - RAC Maple Leaf Operators Membership and changes to International Membership fees- 2010-12-06

The RAC Board is currently looking at the RAC membership rate structure. Among the changes to be made is the introduction of a new membership class and the adjustment of international rates..

Many members have told us that they place a high value on RAC activities and have asked for a premium membership. RAC is pleased to announce the new Radio Amateurs of Canada Maple Leaf Operators Membership. Members in the first year will receive a signed RAC Maple Leaf Operators Certificate, be listed in TCA, be recognized on the RAC website, and receive a RAC pin with their call sign and more. The RAC Maple Leaf Operators Membership is \$100 per year and is available on automatic renewal. Members who want to can top up. their existing multi-year memberships at \$50/yr. Our RAC office will be happy to help out members who want to upgrade their membership.

The cost of mailing TCA to the US is roughly equal to the current annual membership fee. The new rate for US memberships is \$90 which now covers the mailing costs associated with sending TCA to the US.

The cost of international mailing other than to the US considerably exceeds the current annual membership fee. The new rate for International memberships is \$130 which now covers the mailing costs associated with sending TCA Internationally [other than to the United States].

These two rate increases apply only where TCA is mailed. Memberships without TCA are not effected.

Stay tuned for more membership developments!

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW, President - Radio Amateurs of Canada

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - February 2011

Here we are in the second week of February, the days are getting longer, hopefully everyone has had no problems dealing with our snowfalls.

We now have a Project Manager for the 2012 Maritime Call Book. Howard Dickson, VE1DHD, has taken on this important task. A number of Club Members have volunteered to assist him in various tasks. The committee has held one planning meeting

Plans for the 2011 DX Forum are well underway. Scott Wood, has a full slate of presenters. Information is available on the HARC website; follow the links for the DX Forum. The registration form will also be available on the website.

The Club still requires a co-ordinator for the 2011 Field Day. We will be operating in the 2F Class from the Club Station at Saint Andrews . Please contact the Executive if you have an interest in this.

The Club is planning on attending the Annual Hobby Show the first week of April at the Shearwater Museum. We plan to set up several radio demonstrations using one of our Communication Trailers. Most of the plans have been finalized but we require a Co-ordinator for this project. Please contact the Executive.

If anyone wishes to contact the Executive, we are monitoring the Club E-mail , VE1FQ@rac.ca . Please feel free to use this .

Fraser Mac Dougall, VE1WO



Dan K1TO and George K5KG with Gary VE1RGB and Bob VE1PQ of Halifax, NS, at the Applebees in Ellenton, FL, Jan.13, 2011, on the occasion of establishing formal diplomatic relations between Florida Contest Group, Halifax ARC, and the Maritime Contest Club.



One day the pilot of a Cherokee 180 was told by the tower to hold short of the active runway while a DC-8 landed. The DC-8 landed, rolled out, turned around, and taxied back past the Cherokee. Some quick-witted comedian in the DC-8 crew got on the radio and said, _"WHAT A CUTE LITTLE PLANE. DID YOU MAKE IT ALL BY YOURSELF?" _ The Cherokee pilot, not about to let the insult go by, came back with a real zinger: _ "I MADE IT OUT OF DC-8 PARTS. ANOTHER LANDING LIKE YOURS AND I'LL HAVE ENOUGH PARTS FOR ANOTHER ONE." _

REMINDER

Have renewed your membership for 2010? Have you changed your mailing address? Your E-mail address? Got a new call sign?

We need to know your correct address to get the newsletter to you.

Please inform Membership chairman Frank Wilson, VE1FHW of any address changes at fhcb.wilson@ns.sympatico.ca

Is your address correct in Industry Canada's database? It is important that you inform Industry Canada of any change to your address.

The quickest way for a parent to get a child's attention is to sit down and look comfortable

Are you up to date with your HARC membership dues?

Yearly rates are:

Full = \$25

Associate = \$15

Family (2 members) = \$35 + \$10 for each additional family member at the same address (only 1 newsletter)

Contact Membership Chair Frank Wilson, VE1FHW

The Incoming QSL Bureau

may have cards for you. If you want them, you must have a little money deposited with the Bureau to cover the cost of envelopes, labels, postage & handling; and of course your correct mailing address. Send to

the Brit Fader Memorial

QSL Bureau

P.O. Box 8895

Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M5

The Maritime Contest Club

The Maritime Contest Club (MCC) was founded in 2005 to advance the sport of amateur radio contesting in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. John VE1JS proposed the concept, researched the requirements and developed the necessary documents. Its first officers were Jim VE1JF (President), John VE1JS (Secretary) and Roger VE1SKY (Vice-President). Most of the original members were veterans of VE1JF contest teams. NY1S developed the MCC Reflector and was its first moderator. Despite the intensity of its individual members, the club started life as a fairly casual group where members shared information, helped each other with projects, and submitted scores listed as MCC.

In 2008 at the original President's suggestion a new slate of officers was elected with the mandate to grow the size of the club and to become more proactive in generating local interest in radiosport. By 2010 the club membership had grown to 32 men and women from the three Maritime Provinces and the State of Maine with a combined total contesting experience of upwards of 750 person-years. Growth in size and experience level has now generated an aggressiveness that regularly shows MCC as punching way about its weight in all forms and modes of contesting. The MCC Web site (see below) is a one-stopping-shopping source of a wealth of information about contesting and shows records held by MCC and MCC members in a wide range of contests.

Besides contributing to the furtherance of contesting within the area, MCC has chosen to make a contribution to contesting within Canada by taking on the role of collecting contest results for publication in Canada's national amateur radio magazine, TCA.

In 2010, the MCC began two activities to encourage the Sport of Radio Contesting in the Maritime Provinces. 1) sponsor an Award program to encourage and promote Contest activity by MAR area stations by recognizing those who participate. 2) sponsor a QSO Party contest to promote local activity

Present executive:

President – Scott, VE1OP

Vice-President-General – John, VE1JS

Vice-President Contests & Awards – Bruce, VE1NB

Secretary/Treasurer – Gary, VE1RGB

Email: ve1rgb@rac.ca

Web site: <http://www.maritimecontestclub.com/>

Full details on the Acadia – New Scotland Contester of the Year Award Program and Maritime QSO Party Contest may be found by following link from the Maritime Contest Club website.

QSL cards by HARC

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club has negotiated a special price on the printing of high-quality QSL cards with our Callbook printer. Cards are printed in full-colour front with black text on the back of white card stock. Card orders (1000 minimum) will be process as they are submitted and the usual turnaround time is 2 to 3 weeks. The cost for 1000 cards is our printing cost, and delivery is FOB the Halifax Club. A one-time only \$25.00 donation to HARC is expected on each new order or on subsequent orders where significant changes in the card design are required. This donation provides a small additional revenue stream for HARC. Support your club and have your QSL cards printed by HARC.

For information on current pricing and card design options, contact Howard at: VE1DHD@RAC.ca

From the ARRL Letter, Jan.20,2011

Logbook of the World Now Supports VUCC

ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) -- an online system for amateurs to confirm two-way contacts that can be used for various ARRL awards -- has been upgraded to support awards based on Maidenhead grid squares, such as VUCC and the Fred Fish Memorial Award. To take advantage of the new features, you need to log in to your LoTW account. VUCC is an open-ended award in that hams can work on throughout their lifetime, just like DXCC. But, like the Worked All States award, the VUCC rules require all the contacts to be made from a defined area. For VHF and UHF QSOs on 1296 MHz & below, this distance must be within 200 km. For SHF awards, contacts must be made from a single location, defined as within a 300 meter diameter circle. As such, the VUCC support in LoTW allows you to make the rule -- or rules -- necessary to find the QSLs in LoTW that satisfy the VUCC rules. Don't have an LoTW account? It's easy to sign up.

DARWIN AWARDS NOMINEE: *Police said a lawyer demonstrating the safety of windows in a downtown Toronto skyscraper crashed through a pane with his shoulder and plunged 24 floors to his death. A police spokesman said Garry Hoy, 39, fell into the courtyard of the Toronto Dominion Bank Tower early Friday evening as he was explaining the strength of the buildings' windows to visiting law students. Hoy previously has conducted demonstrations of window strength according to police reports.*

Peter Lawson, managing partner of the firm Holden Day Wilson, told the Toronto Sun newspaper that Hoy was "one of the best and brightest" (Ed note: ????) members of the 200-man association.

ARRL Field Day: 2011 Field Day Packet Available

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 25-26, 2011! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun.

Field Day packets are now available for download and include the complete rules (including a change for 2011), as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press.

There is one rule change for 2011. Starting this year, all stations operating in Class A may use a free VHF station without increasing their operating category. This is designed to encourage more activity on the VHF bands, especially 6 and 2 meters, during the best sporadic-E season of the year.

We have also included in the FD packet a brief one-page flier with basic "What is Field Day" information that may be reproduced as a handout for your information table.

Complete rules for all ARRL-sponsored operating events are available on the ARRL Web site

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/>

For more information, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, n1nd@arrl.org.

FIRST AID TRAINING

There is some money in the budget to pay for first aid training. Depending on how many would like to take training will determine how much the club will reimburse each individual.

Someone needs to come forward to organize this or each person must let the executive know when they will be taking the training and costs.

"Remembering Radio"

The objective of the remembering radio project is to record and save early memories of radio in the lives of everyday Canadians. The hope is to discover more about the role of radio in the homes and lives of ordinary Canadians from its inception. This phase of the project is centred on listeners' memories from the 1930s. Studies of the audience, its members' opinions, likes and dislikes, program preferences, and the role of Canadian radio are rare.

The information that the listeners from that time period have to share is very valuable to this project. Individuals who have time to spend with an interviewer can help to shed some light on this long neglected area of broadcasting history. We are looking for Canadians to interview who were born in 1932 or earlier so 78 years old or older to interview about their memories of radio during the 1930s in Canada. We can conduct the interview by telephone and will assume the costs of the telephone call. You can set up an interview and a time by talking to someone at 416-736-2100 ext. 33857 or send email to amaclenn@yorku.ca to let us know your phone number."

from: <http://amaclenn.apps01.yorku.ca/radio/>

This item appeared in the November 2010 issue of the CWL Monthly E-Newsletter Be League. November 18, 2010
November 2010 E-Newsletter: Nine Decades of the League - The 1930s

<http://www.cwl.ca/enewsletter/November%202010/2010%20November.pdf>

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak, Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen"
- Winston Churchill

RAC Bulletin 2011-002E New National Affiliated Club Coordinator Appointed; Robert Critch VE3QTH joins RAC Team.

Geoff Bawden Announces The appointment of Robert Critch, VE3QTH as National Affiliated Club Coordinator.

Robert Theo Critch VE3QTH

BIO: Born in Montreal Quebec 1961 and lived there as a young boy. Then moved to St. Jean, Que. Years later moved to Nova Scotia for a while before trekking to the Island of Newfoundland. As many young Newfoundlanders do, he moved and settled in Toronto. But the attraction of Barrie, Ontario called out to him. So he packed up the family and radio gear to land in the beautiful south-end of Lake Simcoe in Barrie, Ontario Canada that he now calls home.

Robert has had a long and outstanding career in Voice and Data Communications Technology. He has worked for both large and small organizations over the years and has run several business. His current accomplishments include being the current President of Barrie Amateur Radio Club Inc.(BARC), and being owner & President of a small Telecommunications company. He is active on VHF, UHF, and HF on several Phone and Digital modes. He is also very active in CANWARN, ARES, and BARC activities & Club events. He holds a Basic + license.

Robert will be joining the RAC team, taking over as RAC's National Affiliated Club Coordinator.

"We live in a time of huge accomplishments in Science & Technology and Radio Amateurs have been at the forefront of so many of the advances. Amateur Radio is at it's best when we work together. It is my personal goal to help bring local clubs together under RAC on a national scale, to share in their knowledge, ability & passion for Amateur Radio."

**The Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Monthly General Meeting
January 19, 2011
MINUTES**

President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Silent Keys – Janice Harris (VE1LDY) Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

Approval of Agenda

Motion – THAT the agenda be adopted as displayed.

Moved by: Terry Bigelow (VE1TRB); Seconded by: Dave Charbonneau (VE1DDC).
Motion carried.

Introduction of guests –
Michael Gillie - Student

Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2010 monthly meeting.

Motion – THAT the minutes of the November 17, 2010 monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club as published in the January, 2011 edition of the *Reflector* be approved with one change.

Moved by: Howard Dickson (VE1DHD); Seconded by: Jim Flowers (VE1JIM). Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: John Goodwin (VE1CDD) reported that the opening balance was \$9,050.15, expenses for the month of December were \$539.37, income was \$310.00, petty cash \$135.51, outstanding cheques \$592.48, \$547.54 owing to Estate which results in a net bank account balance of \$8,882.58. Full report is attached to the *filed* minutes.

Motion – THAT the report of the treasurer be approved.

Moved by: John Goodwin (VE1CDD); Seconded by: Scott Wood (VE1QD). Motion carried.

Executive Reports:

1st Vice President – Bill Elliott (VE1MR) reported that he is working on upgrading the PSR repeater and will be looking for help with this.

2nd Vice President – Rod Padmore (VE1BSK) reported that there are 41 in attendance at tonight's meeting and that \$58 was taken in for the sale of tickets. The winner of tonight's

door prize will have his or her choice from 3 items.

Station Manager – Wayne Harasimovitch (VE1WPH) was absent from the meeting. Discussion on the use of station equipment. Bill Elliott (VE1MR) reported that Wayne wants to upgrade the club's satellite equipment by selling certain current items owned by the club and purchasing certain upgraded items from Bill and John Goodwin (VE1CDD). Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) has a list of equipment that will be for sale and is in the process of pricing the items. He reports that he estimates that the items for sale will bring in approximately \$800. The upgrade will probably cost more and will likely be more than the Executive is authorized to spend on its own. Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) pointed out that Wayne was to make a presentation at this meeting but is absent. It was therefore decided to defer this whole matter to the next general meeting so that the membership may hear Wayne's report before making any decisions.

President – Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) passed on information from Jim Langille (VE1JBL) regarding Exercise Handshake to be held on Tuesday, January 25 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Jim is hoping that as many people as possible take part. (E-mail from Jim attached to *filed* minutes).

Fraser reports that RAC has changed insurance companies. Detailed information is on the RAC website. Fraser has looked into whether or not this would be better insurance for us than our current insurance. After some number crunching it was determined that RAC insurance would cost us approximately \$1,687 per annum with no coverage on the trailer nor any tenant insurance. Our current local insurance company covers everything RAC covers plus the trailer and tenant insurance for less than \$1,500 per annum. We will stick with the local insurance.

Fraser also reported that the club

now has two e-mail addresses which are VE1FO@rac.ca and VE1FQ@rac.ca. Members of the Executive will be checking these regularly to pick up any messages sent to the club via these addresses.

Committee Reports:

Basic Course – Barry Diggins (VE1TRI) reported that out of 12 students who began the course, 3 did not complete it. Of the 9 who remain, 5 wrote their test on December 11, 2010 and all passed with honours. Their picture, names and call signs are all documented in the January, 2011 *Reflector*. One of the graduates, Carol Wood is now helping with the QSL Bureau. The remaining 3 students are expected to take their test on January 22, 2011. Barry thanked all the instructors who took part in this course.

Search and Rescue – David George (VE1AJP) reported a successful conclusion in the search for a 3-year old special needs child near Rawdon before Christmas.

Dave also reported that Search and Rescue will be receiving a grant for \$1.3 million.

EMO – David George (VE1AJP) reported that there will be a Basic EMO Communication Course held on March 5, 2011, probably at the club. If you are interested, please let either Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) or David Musgrave (VE1EDA) know. Information on a recertification course to follow.

Dave pointed out that EMO wants to put together a Damage Assessment Team. This Team would be tasked with reporting to EMO on local conditions during a storm incident. They would be checking in on 727 to report. Barry Manuel sees this as very important information.

Old Business:

List of Surplus Equipment – Deferred to February, 2011 meeting.

Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported that Frank Wilson (VE1FHW)

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

is the new Membership Chairman and Reflector Distribution Manager. Frank thanked Sheldon Hartling (VE1GPY) for all his help in getting him set up for these tasks. Frank reported that 49 copies of the last Reflector were mailed out. It costs \$1.50 to mail each copy. Frank pointed out that if more people could have their Reflector e-mailed to them rather than mailed, it would save the club on postage. Frank also reported on membership numbers current before tonight's meeting and on Reflector expenses (Report attached to the *filed* copy of these minutes). Frank pointed out that many people paid their 2011 membership dues this evening so the numbers in his February report will be more accurate.

New Business:

Scott Wood (VE1QD) reported that the 2011 DX Forum to be held on August 5 and 6, 2011 is on track. He gave details of what is to take place over the two-day event (his report is attached to the *filed* Minutes). Scott also mentioned that he is now the RAC Assistant Director for HRM. He encouraged RAC members to check out the RAC website for TCA bimonthly reports.

Betty Caithness (VE1BSW) asked that if anyone has keys to either post office box to please return them to an executive member or at least let us know that you have these keys. When PO Box 663 is finished in March, two sets of keys are supposed to be returned to the post office. At the moment we only have one set. It was pointed out that there are also a number of sets of keys for the communication trailer and the generator. Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) will check with Murray MacDonald (VE1MMD) to see if he knows where any of these keys are.

Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported that he received an e-mail from George Nicholson, who is a member of our club, asking for a monetary donation to a DExpedition in which he is taking part. The Executive had discussed this and con-

cluded that the club does not give monetary donations to events of this type that are not club sponsored but sometimes offers physical support. Fraser has replied to George letting him know what the club policy is on this. However, Fraser encouraged any individual members of the club to make a personal donation should they be so inclined. Information about this event is on our website.

John Goodwin (VE1CDD) has obtained for the club two special call sign prefixes (CK1 for VE1 and CJ1 for VA1) for use during the month of February for the Canada Winter Games. If the membership finds that they would like to have some generic QSL cards noting these prefixes, the club will order them and sell them to members who wish to use them. Members are encouraged to book some time at the club station during February to get the club call sign CK1FQ on the air. Arrangements for a time can be made with either Wayne Harasimovitch (VE1WPH) or John Goodwin (VE1CDD).

Barry Diggins (VE1TRI) moved that the club reimburse John Goodwin (VE1CDD) \$60.00 for the cost of the application for the Canada Games special prefixes. Seconded by Jim Flowers (VE1JIM)
Motion Carried.

Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) asked for a volunteer to be Chairman of the Field Day Committee for 2011. Field Day will be held on June 25 and 26, 2011, in the 2F class and will be held at the St. Andrew's Centre. If no one volunteers for this position it is very likely that we will not participate in Field Day this year. No volunteer was forthcoming. Fraser asked that if anyone decides they would like to do this to be in touch with any member of the executive by phone or e-mail.

Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) asked for a volunteer to become the Call Book Manager and Editor for 2012. There are lots of people to help with this project but it still

needs a leader. This project brings in about \$8,000 in total and finances our club for about 4 years. Work on this needs to start immediately as the book goes to the publisher in February-March, 2012. After some discussion, Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) volunteered to head up this committee. The club will buy Microsoft Editor for Howard to use, if necessary.

Terry Bigelow (VE1TRB) is organizing Fall Protection Training and Recertification. This is required training for anyone working on government land. Terry has a trainer who will provide the necessary training at a fixed cost regardless of the number in the class. This course will be held for the full day on Saturday, February 12. Terry has five people right now and has room for three more in the class. Terry will be e-mailing final details about this this week. Terry pointed out that people who take this course paid for by the club are expected to take part in club projects when asked. If payment is offered, the money goes to the Brit Fader Scholarship Fund. Climbers buy their own equipment.

Tom Gaum (VE1BMJ) reported that the Flea Market will be held on May 14, 2011 at the Halifax Forum.

Tom also reported that he really doesn't have time to take care of the tube bank any more. He feels that if someone with enough time took it over, they would be able to advertise and sell more tubes thus making money for the club. Does anyone want to take this over?

50/50 Draw - \$25.00 was won by Sheldon Hartling (VE1GPY)

Door prize - was won by David Nimmo (VE1NN).

There being no further business, on a motion by Dick Grantham (VE1AI) the meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm

Guest Speaker: Fred Archibald, VE1FA

Respectfully submitted
Betty Caithness, VE1BSW, Secretary
H.A.R.C.

Nostalgia isn't what it used to be

From the Mail Bag



Hi All,
 Please be advised that a new live web cam has been placed in Halifax showing the Armdale Rotary – great for viewing Traffic and Road Conditions.
<http://www.novascotiawebcams.com/halifax/armdale-rotary.html#axzz1AmMziRUo>
 John, VE1WZ

Following the Feb.2 snow fall
 Greetings all,
 I would like to take this time to thank each and everyone who took part in the CANWARN net yesterday. Over six hours and 180+ reports this turned out to be a great success for CANWARN. I receive a notice of thanks from the Atlantic Storm Prediction Center for all these reports from all three Maritime provinces. Bob Robichaud VE1MBR will be giving a recap of the net later today and I will post it on The Maritime Amateur website in CANWARN.
 The following Net Controllers would also like to give their thanks for the reports. Mike VE1MWJ, Sterling VE9SK, Mike VE1XDT, Brad VE1ZX and Emile VE1ESP.
 If I missed anyone, please let me know.
 Thanks, James (Jim) Langille, VE1JBL
 RAC Section Manager: Maritimes
 President: Westcumb Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Sunday Feb. 6 regarding the Take-15 Net Bob, VE1PQ, who had performed as Net Control e-mailed
 Good Evening all,
 I'd like to thank Bill (MR) and Dave (NN) for their assistance today in helping make it possible for me to host the Net tonight.
 Once the links were established between VE1HNS and VE1PSR, it was as if I was at home at my home station conducting the net. It went extremely well and I hope we can do it again the next time my turn comes around.
 We had 13 check ins to the net which ran 45 minutes including some technical issues being dealt with. Not bad considering the NCS was 1500 miles SW of Halifax for the event!
 I enjoyed it ... hope you did too.
 73, Bob (VE1PQ/W4)

A simple but twisted home remedy: Avoid cutting yourself when slicing vegetables by getting someone else to hold the vegetables while you chop.

Meteor Showers February

| Shower | Activity Period | Maximum Date | km/s |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------|------|
| alpha-Centaurids | Jan 28-Feb 2 | Feb 08 | 56 |
| delta-Leonids | Feb 15-Mar 10 | Feb 25 | 23 |
| gamma-Normids | Feb 25-Mar 22 | Mar 13 | 56 |

73, John VE1CDD

Subject: [RAC-Bulletin] RAC News 2010-01-10
 The YASME Foundation supports the development and promotion of Amateur Radio around the world.

The <<http://www.yasme.org/excellence.html>> YASME Excellence Awards are given to individuals who through their own service, creativity, effort & dedication have made a significant contribution to the cause of Amateur Radio. The contribution may be in recognition of technical, operating, or organizational achievement as all 3 are necessary for amateur radio to grow & prosper. With the 2010 Excellence Awards, YASME recognizes the following individuals in order to recognize them and inspire others on behalf of Amateur Radio now and in the future.

(VIA the IARU Bulletin)
 Canadian Amateur wins YASME award
 Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA, for developing DX Atlas, Morse Runner, HAM-CAP, CW Skimmer, Rocky and other innovative software. Alex's products are making a remarkable impact on the competitive HF operating environment. Making this software available to the amateur community at little or no cost demonstrates excellent ham spirit.
 <<http://www.dxatlas.com/>>

(VIA the IARU Bulletin)
 Hi, Noel Donawa, 9Y4NED, Area E Director of IARU Region 2, has reported; that Caribbean Emergency & Weather Net (CEWN), has built their new Web page.
 This CEWN'S Web page has been built by the Webmaster, Waine J73WA.

The purpose of the CEWN is to handle all forms of Amateur Radio traffic, pass weather information & emergency traffic.

The CEWN is doing meetings twice daily at 10:30 & 22:30 UTC on frequency 3.815 MHz. During emergencies, extended their sessions, and will be conducted on 7.162 as conditions dictate.

Please follow the link for more information:
http://dominicapsn.freeyellow.com/Joomla/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=71

73, Cesar Pío Santos A. HR2P
 Emergency Coordinator of IARU Region 2
 * * * * *

Vernon Erle Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ
 RAC E-News/Web News Bulletin Editor

Fellow HARC Members,

During the past 3 months much thought and discussion has been given to the operational capabilities of the Club Station's VHF/UHF operating position. This effort has resulted in a cost effective plan that will not only expand operational (all mode) capabilities but provide the Clubs membership with exposure to a larger portion of the existing radio spectrum than ever before. This proposal will be put to Motion during the next Club General Meeting, Wednesday, February 16, 2011. In preparation for any discussion I provide the following overview.

At the present time the Club Station supports relatively limited operational capabilities that are limited to the 2m and 70cm portions of the amateur radio spectrum. Since relocating to the St. Andrews location very little attention has been given to these bands modes other than 2m FM (local repeater use). This is in sharp contrast to the level of VHF/UHF satellite operations that took place while residing at the Bloomfield Center despite having any automation of radios or antennas.

Under the suggested plan operational capabilities would expand from 6 m (50 MHz.) through to 23 cm (1269 MHz.) - with the exception of 33 cm (902MHz) - supporting all -modes. A fully automated Azimuth/Elevation antenna tracking system would be in place freeing the need for the operator to manually track satellites during those contacts. In addition a pair of 23 cm (1296 MHz) 42 element Yagi's would be added to the existing antenna array.

Equally as important as providing the benefit of an expanded operational capability is the need to make this plan financially responsible and cost effective. With equipment being somewhat specialized establishing a station that would provide the capabilities as described would be too expensive to purchase new. We are fortunate to have the assistance of 50 MHz + enthusiasts and long-time HARC members Bill, VE1MR and John, VE1CDD, who have audited their own equipment resources and are willing to sell to the Club the following required items:

from Bill, VE1MR

- * Yaesu G-5600 Az/El Rotator and Controller \$375.00
- * Tracking Interface (Satellite Tracker Jr.) 125.00

from John, VE1CDD

- * Yaesu FT-736R (4 modules: 144 MHz, 220 MHz, 440 MHz and 1.2 GHz.)
- * Hand Mic, Instruction and Service Manuals for above
- * FIF-232C CAT Interface with Instruction Manual and cabling
- * 2 - 1.2 GHz, 42 element (loop) Yagis

Package Price \$700.00

In addition to being well below market value, it has been agreed that payment for this equipment will be deferred until such time that funds are collected from the sale of existing equipment that is currently part of the existing VHF/ UHF operating position as well other items deemed as surplus. The list of this potentially surplus equipment as well their appraised market value (based on Frasers, VE1WO, findings) follows:

| <u>Equipment</u> | <u>Appraised Value</u> |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| * Yaesu FT-790R | \$250.00 |
| * Icom IC-735 | \$500.00 |
| * Icom IC-275H (Radio # 1) | \$475.00 |
| * Icom IC-275H (Radio # 2) | \$475.00 |
| * Yaesu G-550 Elevation Rotator / Control | \$225.00 |
| * HYGAIN Azimuth Rotator / Control | \$200.00 |
| * Hi Mound BK 100 "Bug" | \$ 75.00 |
| * MFJ 557 Code Practice Oscillator / Key | \$ 50.00 |

Given the output power of the Yaesu FT-736R an additional power amplified would have to be purchased at an estimated cost of \$350.00. Other incidental costs would include the normal expenditures for coaxial cable, connectors, etc.

In closing, these changes/additions would provide the opportunity for HARC members to enjoy operating the various VHF/UHF/Microwave propagation modes, aurora, meteor scatter, weak signal, EME as well as enhanced amateur radio satellite operations all for the price of membership. While reasonable effort has been made to cover the financial aspects of this proposal there will be opportunity to discuss aspects that may have been missed. Please give this proposal consideration and in doing so consider your own desire to have this level of operational capability established in our facility.

Thank You & 73, - Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH / VE1ISS

HARC, Station Manager

From the ARRL Letter, Dec.2, 2010

Hams Invited to Listen for New Satellites

TAGS: amateur radio, amateur radio frequencies, automatic packet reporting system, baud, hams, orbit, satellite 11/20/2010

5 research satellites were carried to orbit Friday evening aboard a Minotaur V rocket from Kodiak Island, Alaska. All the satellites use Amateur Radio frequencies and hams have been invited to participate in their missions by monitoring & collecting data.

The FASTRACs are two relatively small “nanosatellites” built by students at the University of Texas-Austin. They enter orbit as a single spacecraft, but then separate into FASTRAC 1, known as “Sara Lily,” and FASTRAC 2, referred to as “Emma.” Both satellites use 1200 or 9600 baud AX.25 digital communication and transmit at 1 W output, so they should be receivable with omnidirectional VHF or UHF antennas and decodable by ordinary packet radio hardware and software.

| | FASTRAC 1 | FASTRAC 2 |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Downlink(1200/9600 Baud) | 437.345 MHz | 145.825 MHz |
| Beacon (1200 Baud) | 437.345 MHz | 145.825 MHz |
| Uplink (1200 Baud) | 145.980 MHz | 435.025 MHz |
| Uplink (9600 Baud) | 145.825 MHz | 437.345 MHz |
| Satellite Call Sign | FAST1 | FAST2 |

After their scientific missions are complete, the satellites will be reconfigured to function as digipeater relays for Amateur Radio use as part of the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS).

Hams are invited to create a free account at the FASTRAC Web page and begin uploading telemetry data. Mission status information is also available via the FASTRAC Facebook page.

The third satellite in the group is the University of Michigan's Radio Aurora Explorer (RAX) CubeSat. RAX was designed and built by University of Michigan students and faculty in cooperation with SRI International. The primary objective of the mission is to use an onboard radar receiver in conjunction with a powerful radar station in Alaska to study the formation of a plasma anomaly known for causing the scintillation of radio signals in the UHF and higher bands. RAX carries a 9600 baud UHF digital transceiver. Using the call sign RAX-1, the satellite will send telemetry at 437.505 MHz. Amateurs are invited to download the free telemetry decoding software (for Windows, Mac OS X, or Linux) and submit reports at the mission Web site.

The Organism/Organic Exposure to Orbital Stresses satellite, better known as O/OREOS is a nanosatellite designed to study the growth, activity, health and ability of microorganisms to adapt to the stresses of space. It will also monitor changes in four classes of organic molecules as they are exposed to space conditions. O/OREOS transmits digital telemetry 437.305 MHz and hams are invited to submit raw telemetry data at the O/OREOS Web site.

NanoSail-D2 is a solar sail experiment with an expected lifetime of about 100 days. It carries a data beacon transmitting at 437.275 MHz. Amateurs are asked to submit reports at the NanoSail-D2 Web site. Although NanoSail-D2 was developed by NASA, mission control for this satellite, as well as O/ORES, is being handled by students at Santa Clara University.

From the ARRL Letter, Jan.20,2011

Amateur Radio in Space: NASA Seeks Amateur Radio Operators' Aid to Listen for Nanosatellite's Beacon Signal

On Wednesday, January 19 at 1630 UTC, engineers at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama confirmed that the NanoSail-D nanosatellite ejected from Fast Affordable Scientific and Technology Satellite (FASTSAT). According to NASA, the ejection event occurred spontaneously; the ejection of NanoSail-D also has been confirmed by ground-based satellite tracking assets. NASA is asking radio amateurs to listen on 437.270 MHz for the signal and verify NanoSail-D is operating. Hams should send information to the NanoSail-D dashboard. As of Thursday, January 20, the NanoSail-D dashboard website is reporting that beacon data has been received, but NASA still wants amateurs to track and report the signals.

Candy Powers Car

Fritz Grobe and Stephen Voltz who Popularized deploying the explosive power of Mentos candies when dropped into a bottle of diet soda pop have debuted the world's first Mentos-powered automobile.

Essentially an extended 3-wheeler, the Mentos-mobile was rigged with 108 full-sized bottles of Coke Zero, activated by the simultaneous insertion of 648 Mentos.

Each plastic bottle was fitted with a 2-meter-long propulsion tube which directed the explosive force against a concrete wall. Taking off like rocket, test pilot Grobe accompanied the vehicle more than 61 meters before coming to a safe stop outside the Coke & candy research facility..

The initial thrust —all released during the first 2 meters of the trip — is so significant that children should not try this.

Source – The Montreal Gazette

To check road conditions before you drive New Brunswick Highway Cams:

<http://www.gnb.ca/0113/cameras/allcams-e.asp>

Nova Scotia Highway Cams:

<http://gov.ns.ca/tran/cameras/camera.asp>

PEI Highway Cams:

<http://www.gov.pe.ca/tpwpei/index.php3?number=1016836&lang=E>

A simple but twisted home remedy
A mouse trap placed on top of your
alarm clock will prevent you from
rolling over and going back to sleep
after you hit the snooze button.

