



REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

May 2011, Volume 72 Number 5
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



The DownEast Fleamarket will be held Saturday, May 14th 2011



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
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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

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Web page - Frank Smith, VE1FIS 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, 823-2024 dhickson@eastlink.ca

Field Day coordinator - Phil Bently VE1PB pbently@hfx.eastlink.ca

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 - Everett Price, VO1DK vo1dk@rac.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 has been changed to

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

*In a democracy
it's your vote that counts.
In feudalism
it's your count that votes.*

The **May Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM) in the club rooms in the Saint Andrews Rec Ctr.

Our speaker this month will be . Chuck Kelly, W9MDO. He is the Director of Sales for Nautel Ltd in Hackett's Cove, NS - a world class producer of AM/FM broadcast transmitters; navigational beacons; and rocket engines! Chuck will give us an introduction to this remarkable Nova Scotia company and to a project they are sponsoring in connection with the Maritime DX Forum this August, namely a webinar delivery of the MDF program around the world.

Guests are welcome.

Deadline for submissions to the June Reflector is Saturday, June 4, 2011

Puzzler - Do you know?

When and where was the first Amateur Radio DownEast Fleamarket held?



Answer is on pg. 9

Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We would like at least 1 more. **If you want to join**, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



May 15	David	VE1NN
May 22	Doug	VE1LDL
May 29	Bruce	VE1MLW
June 5	Emil	VE1ESP
June 12	Bob	VE1PQ
June 19	Win	VE1WIN

*Events for Your Calendar***May 14, - DownEast Fleamarket.**

Where: Halifax Forum Bingo Hall.
Time: 1930; Admission \$4 / person
Contact Chairman Tom, VE1BMJ, to
lend a hand. See April Reflector, p.9

May 29 – the **Halifax MS Walk** at
the Dalhousie Memorial Arena.

To help contact Terry, VE1TRB,
HARC MS Walk Coordinator, at
ve1trb@eastlink.ca

June 4 & 5 – Museum Ship Weekend

The H.A.R.C will be operating from
the Acadia. The main objective is to
have FUN while contacting other
Museum ships and amateurs. To par-
ticipate contact John, VE1CDD

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

July 8 – Come help celebrate the
birthday of the Maritime Museum of
the Atlantic. The H.A.R.C. will be
present for the party and have an HF
and a VHF station. Please support
your club and the Museum by pitch-
ing in. All help welcome!

Contact John VE1CDD

July & August – Pizza Nights

July– **MS Bike Tour**

Contact Rick Gardner, VE1RGG, to
help with communications

Last full weekend in July – the Radio
Society of Great Britain sponsored
Islands On The Air (**IOTA**) contest.

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

August 20 – Banquet in honour of
Moncton Area Amateur Radio Club's
75th Anniversary. See page 8 for
Where, When, & RSVP details

0001 UTC Aug.20 to 2359 UTC
Aug.21 – **International Light-
house / Lightship Weekend** (held
the 3rd full weekend in August)

For more information see

[http://www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/
events/intlighthouseaday.html](http://www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/events/intlighthouseaday.html)

October – Greenwood Flea Market

May 17 is International
Telecommunications Day

Amateur Radio Social

Friday May 13 at 1930 at the
Chebucto Inn, 6151 Lady
Hammond Rd

Saturday Pre-Market Breakfast

Time: 0730 at the Steak And Stein
Corner Young and Kempt

The HALIFAX MS WALK 2011

is taking place on Sunday May
29th at the Dalhousie Memorial
Arena. and I am seeking those who
are interested in taking part in this
"Club Sanctioned Event"

This year, I'd not only like to see
the regular volunteers come out, I'm
also soliciting our new members to
come out and help with this event.
If you have never taken part in this,
you will be sent out with someone
who has done it before. Our pri-
mary duties will be to provide com-
munications support to the Walk
Coordinators, and other volunteers.

Secondly, we have been asked to
provide support in helping set up
the arena and at the rest stops,
along with controlling of vehicle
access at the front of the Dal Arena.

Setup normally starts around 0900
and checking time for volunteers is
normally around 1100, with a com-
pletion time about mid afternoon. If
you are able to help out PLEASE
EMAIL ME indicating if you are;

1. able to help out with both com-
munications and set up, or
2. if you are only able to help out
with communications and not set
up, or
3. just set up.

However you can help will
surely be appreciated.



Once I have the team to-
gether, and we get closer to
the date of the event, I will pass on
more information.

Terry, VE1TRB, HARC MS Walk
Coordinator

email: trbigelow@eastlink.ca

email ve1trb@eastlink.ca



CANWARN at the
DownEast Fleamarket 
Bob Robichaud, VE1MBR,
will have a table set up at the Halifax
fleamarket May 14th to promote
CANWARN. He will bring his lap-
top and have a running slideshow on
CANWARN and will try to produce
some 1-page pamphlets to give out.
He will have a CANWARN registra-
tion sheet for amateurs who have not
signed up yet in hopes of boosting
the numbers a bit for the
upcoming summer and 
hurricane season.

Stop by the CANWARN table at the
Fleamarket and say hi to Bob.

Thanks, Jim Langille VE1JBL
RAC Section Manager: Maritimes
President: Westcumb Amateur Radio
Club Inc.

**Loyalist City Amateur Radio Club
Hamfest & Fleamarket**

Saturday May 28, 2011

New Brunswick Spring Hamfest &
Fleamarket (Admission \$3.00)
61 Elgin St. North End Saint John
Admission includes FREE ticket for
Grand Prize (a 2 meter Handheld) &
Door Prizes

On Site Features: Munro Electronics;
VE9/VY2 QSL Bureau;
Licence Code & Theory Exams;
OSCAR Satellite Demo & Contact
APRS Demo; R/C Aircraft & Model
Rocket Display; RAC Representa-
tives; DXCC Card Checking

Doors open: Vendors 7:30AM
Public 8:30AM

Talk-in : VE9SJM 147.27+
More info at www.lcarc.ca

Vendor Tables : FREE

To book a FREE vendor table email
Phil: ve1pgc@rac.ca or 633-1384 or
Sonny: ve9sw@rogers.com
Or call 672-8306

21st Century Words:

Greenwashing – an advertizing tech-
nique used by a manufacturer falsely
claiming environmental friendliness
for a product.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

May 2011

By the time this Reflector has been printed the Annual Down East Flea Market will have taken place. Thanks to Tom Gaum and his Team for organizing this event. All signs at this time indicate that we will have a successful Market .

The Halifax MS Walk will take place on May 29 at Dalhousie Memorial Arena. Terry VE1TRB is event co-ordinator. Please contact him if you are interested in helping; he is hoping to get new Amateurs involved this year.

Don't forget June 25 and 26; the ARRL Field Day will be at the Saint Andrews Center.

We will be operating 2F category. The co-ordinator is Phil Bently, VE1PB. He will be requiring help for this activity. Please contact him through the Club E-mail.

July 4th and July 5th will be Museum Ships weekend. The club will be operating from The Acadia for this event. Contact John VE1CDD for information.

Plans for the DX forum in August are progressing well. All the information as well as the Registration form is available on the Club Web Site www.harc-arc.org

The Club has been contacted by the Discovery Center on Barrington Street. They are interested in having an Amateur Radio Station set up and operating there this fall. The Executive has agreed to this request and plans are being made. The station will operate on one Saturday or Sunday per month for 4 hours. This will take place for four or five months. We will require a co-ordinator for this event.

The Club can be contacted at our E-Mail Address VE1FQ@RAC.CA

Fraser Mac Dougall VE1WO.

ARCHIVE COMMITTEE

If anyone has had the opportunity to go through our "library" at St. Andrew's or various ham shacks around the region, you may have realized there is an need to centralize this information.

These records form part of the history of HARC from its earliest days to the present time by giving us a window to the past. This window helps in finding a direction forward and provides us with examples of extraordinary efforts and the individuals who made them happen.

The executive explored the idea of finding a permanent and safe home for this information. The Halifax Regional Municipality Archives has indicated that they would be pleased to host the material.

It is the intent of HARC to form an "ARCHIVE COMMITTEE" to work with the Halifax Regional Municipality Archives, collect and review the material before submitting it them.

To this end, HARC is asking for any or all persons wishing to participate in this very prestigious committee to contact any member of the HARC executive at: exec@halifax-arc.org .

Brit Fader Scholarship Trust Announces Call for Applications

The Brit Fader Scholarship was established in 1993 by the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and endowed through the generosity of Club members and Radio Amateurs throughout the Maritime Provinces of Canada. This scholarship is intended exclusively for post-secondary educational use, to provide assistance with the cost of tuition, room, board, books and/or other fees essential to the advanced education of the recipient. The amount of the 2011 award will be \$1000.00.

Applicant must be a citizen of Canada, but without regard to gender, race, national origin, handicap status or any other factor and must be performing at a high academic level.

Applicant must, hold an active Basic Class or higher grade of Canadian Amateur Radio license.

This Scholarship will be provided for attendance at an accredited Canadian post-secondary technical school, college or university, with preference given to applicants who have been accepted into a program in the field of electronics or electrical engineering.

Application submissions must be postmarked no later than July 15th, 2011.

A zipped application package (Criteria; Application Form; Reference Form) is available for downloading from the HARC website at www.Halifax-arc.org.

Follow the link to the Brit Fader Scholarship from the Home Page under Education.

D. Howard Dickson – VE1DHD for the Brit Fader Scholarship Committee



The **RAC Annual General Meeting** (AGM) has been scheduled for

Date: Saturday, July 30, 2011

Time: 1:30 pm

Place: The **Annual General Meeting will be held in St. John's**, Newfoundland. The AGM is part of Hamfest NL 2011 which will be held at The Battery Hotel & Conference Center which is uniquely located on historic Signal Hill.

For the first time in RAC's history the AGM will be held in historic St. John's, Newfoundland and will be held in conjunction with Hamfest NL 2011 hosted by the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA).

All RAC members are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting.

Agenda items will include:

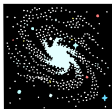
- * Report of the President
- * Review of the 2010 finances
- * Appointment of auditors for 2011
- * Question and Answer period

This is your opportunity to hear what your representatives have been doing over the past year, to raise questions, and to make suggestions about how RAC is managed and where it is going in the future.

The meeting will be attended by some of the members of the RAC Board of Directors and Executive and is open to all RAC members.

For more information on Hamfest NL 2011 please visit the SONRA website.

On March 11, 2011 Federal Environment Minister Peter Kent proclaimed Jasper National Park the world's largest dark-sky preserve. At 11,228 square kilometers, Jasper is 5 times larger than the combined total of the rest of the world's dark-sky preserves. Kent said the designation will not force any changes on the town of Jasper.



*Be careful reading the fine print.
There's no way you're going to like it.*

EIGHTH MARITIME DX FORUM

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

5 - 6 August 2011

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club invites DXers, contesters and HF enthusiasts to the 2011 MDF. It starts **Friday, 5 August at 4:00 pm** with a happy hour, followed by a Pizza Dinner and an opportunity to pickup registration materials and socialize at a reception. The **MDF program** on **Saturday, 6 August** runs from 8:30 am - 4:45 pm, followed at 5:00 pm by a reception and the MDF **banquet**.

Our **speakers** include:

- John Devoldere, ON4UN, **Low Band DXing for the 21st. Century**
- Scott Johns, W3TX, **Practical Options for Operating a Remote Station**
- Reg Beck, VE7IG, **Islands On the Air: RSGB's Top Contest and Awards Program**
- George Nicholson, N4GRN/VE1GRN & Wes Lamboley, W3WL, **The Antarctic Islands: Still a Challenge for Amateur Radio**
- Wes Lamboley, W3WL, **Why do we do it?**

The MDF will be held at Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax, where inexpensive accommodations are also available. Here is a chance to combine a great ham radio event with a tourist visit to Canada's Maritime Provinces!

NEW OPTION! If you live outside Canada's Maritime Provinces and are unable to join us in Halifax, there now is an option to participate in the MDF via the web. Webinar participants can enjoy the program from their home for half the regular registration fee – and still ask questions!

Details about the program, sponsors, prizes, costs and accommodations as well as registration instructions are available on our website (www.halifax-arc.org/mdf). If you have questions, contact MDF Chair, K. Scott Wood, VE1QD at: ve1qd@rac.ca or (902) 823-2761.

14th Annual International Lighthouse / Lightship Weekend

Will be held 0001 UTC August 20 to 2359 UTC August 21, 2011 UTC.

While not a contest, the ILLW is more of a QSO Party and Amateur Radio demonstration. The ILLW aims to raise public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and the need for their preservation and restoration, promote Amateur Radio and foster international goodwill. Stations at more than 40 US lights are expected to be on the air for the event, and several stations will identify with special event call signs. Participating lighthouse/lightship stations do not have to be inside the structure or on the vessel itself; a Field Day-type setup at or adjacent to the light is sufficient. More information about the event, is available on the ILLW Web site

http://illw.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=53

Museum Ship Weekend

Museum Ship Weekend will take place on June 4th and 5th. Once again, the club will be operating from the Acadia. The main objective is to have FUN while contacting other Museum ships and amateurs.



Assistance setting up and running the station would be appreciated. If you have something you would like to include or do, contact me. More information will be available next month. Please drop by and say hello!

Contact John VE1CDD

From the ARRL Letter, April 28, 2011
The ARRL is making all the final plans and preparations to bring its "show and tell" exposition -- known as ARRL EXPO -- to the Dayton Hamvention®. Hamvention, sponsored by Dayton Amateur Radio Association since 1952, will be held May 20-22 at the Hara Arena Conference and Exhibition Center in Trotwood, Ohio.

From the ARRL Letter, April 14, 2011
Providing a Way for Others to Communicate with the ISS

These Sacred Hearts students download information and confirm radio frequencies to prepare for a telebridge contact with the International Space Station.

Around the world, students use Amateur Radio to talk to astronauts on the International Space Station, orbiting high above the Earth -- and it's the students at an all-girls school in Honolulu, Hawaii who help make the connection. Sacred Hearts Academy is a telebridge station for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program (ARISS). ARISS is a NASA-sponsored education activity where astronauts and cosmonauts use Amateur Radio equipment aboard the ISS to talk with students around the world. Telebridge stations, like the one at Sacred Hearts, connect schools, museums and others without their own Amateur Radio equipment to astronauts in space.

Items from the April 2011 RAC President's Report +

New RAC Honorary Legal Counsel - Marcel Mongeon, VA3DDD, has agreed to be RAC's Honorary Legal Counsel. His appointment commenced on March 31, 2011.

Marcel's bio can be found at www.linkedin.com/in/mmongeon.

New Manager for the Canadian Forces Affiliate Radio System (CFARS) - Major D.J.W. (Dan) Bergeron has taken on the position of Manager for the CFARS as of April 1, 2011. CFARS will be holding a joint CFARS and Amateur Radio communication event to Commemorate Canadian Armed Forces Day and to honour our Canadian Forces. This event is expected to take place on June 4, 2011 and will involve CFARS members, CF reserve communication units and Amateur Radio operators. The official instructions on how to communicate in this event may be found on the CFARS website at www.cfars.ca.

From the Director's Report for Alberta, NWT, Nunavut
J. T. Mitchell, VE6OH – RAC Director, Alberta/NWT/NU Region (ve6oh@rac.ca)

The SaskAlta Radio Club, located in Lloydminster, Alberta, says those travelling through the area on the Yellowhead Highway are welcome to use their wide area repeater on 146.940-. It is Echolinked with Camrose, Alberta and western Manitoba with an open node to the rest of the EchoLink world. Preface the usual codes with "A" for access and connection. One of their club members operates a Winlink gateway into the Internet email system and there are two stations on CFARS. (Bill Till, VE5FN)



If you find you do not mind playing golf in the rain, the snow, even during a hurricane, here's a valuable tip: your life is in trouble.

From the Director's Report for Quebec James Keep, VE2KHC – RAC Director, Quebec Region (ve2khc@rac.ca)

Quebec and Antenna Towers

There have been serious conflicts against our hobby with regards to the application of the provincial laws and municipal bylaws. RAC has provided noteworthy information addressing the issue of towers in Canada on their website.

At the municipal level, "City Planning and Urban Beautification Departments" are impeding our privilege to erect towers higher than 45 feet in height.

The Quebec Government has granted the municipalities the "right" to direct their agendas. It will be a continuous battle for everyone wishing to install or modify a radio tower in our province. The Municipal Powers Act (RSQ, c. C-47.1) establishes the powers of "local municipalities" in terms of culture, recreation and telecommunications as well as those powers exercised by Regional county municipalities (RCMs) concurrently with the local municipalities and those which are exclusive to them. This Act allows Quebec cities and towns to "supersede" Federal jurisdiction. The individual Amateur Radio operator might ... legally contest any judgement and mount an appeal.

Is that a DTMF in Your Hand?

The Sûreté du Québec (SQ), Quebec's Provincial Police, has been fining mobile Amateur Radio operators under the Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) and the Highway Safety Code.

"Any device that has a telephone function such as a wireless information device (e.g. BlackBerry), is deemed to be a cellphone and is therefore prohibited when it is held in the hand." (SAAQ). Any microphone with a DTMF capability (pad) may be considered illegal so our options might include switching to a no-frills microphone or upgrading to a "hands-free" Bluetooth radio.

(Continued on page 7)

**The Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Monthly General Meeting
April 20, 2011
MINUTES**

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

Silent Keys – VE1KX – Charlie Conley in Riverview, NB; VE1ZR – Bud Kingsbury in Portuguese Cove, Halifax.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion – THAT the agenda as presented with additions be adopted.

Moved by: Dave (VE1DDC); Seconded by: Barry (VE1TRI).
Motion carried.

Introduction of guests – Non guests this evening.

Approval of Minutes of March 16th 2011 monthly:

Motion – THAT the minutes of the March 16th, 2011 monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club as published in the April 2011 edition of the *Reflector* be approved.

Moved by: Tom (VE1BMJ); Seconded by: Jim (VE1JIM).
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

John Goodwin (VE1CDD) reported that the end of March the balance was \$8,611.73, expenses for the month of March January were \$2,195.80, income was \$887.70, outstanding cheques \$1,871.73 for a net bank account balance of \$9,175.365. Full report is attached to the formal copy of the April Executive minutes.

Motion – THAT the report of the treasurer be approved.

Moved by: John (VE1CDD); Seconded by: Win (VE1WIN).
Motion carried.

Executive Reports:

1st Vice-President – Bill reported that he had been contacted by Scott (VE1QD) to inform him that Nova Communications were willing to donate five used repeaters to the Club. Bill has those in hand and the plan is to use one to replace the ailing repeater on VE1PSR; another will be installed in the Club repeater trailer.

2nd Vice-President – Rod was absent but Jim (VE1JIM) reported that the door prize will be a choice of a socket set or a multipurpose tool.

Station Manager – Wayne was absent. John (VE1CDD) indicated that some minor changes have been made in the radio room (nothing major) and that plans have been approved by the Executive to cordon off one end of the Club station with drapes to create a storage area. John also indicated that there will be a need to organize an “antenna party” to get the vertical antenna back up and installed on the roof.

President – Fraser had nothing specific to report other than several agenda items to follow.

Committee Reports:

Basic Course – Barry Diggins (VE1TRI) reported that two of our “self-study” course members had recently written and passed their basic exam and are awaiting the allocation of callsigns by Industry Canada. Barry also informed the meeting that he has ordered study guides for the upcoming fall 2011 basic course. He indicated as well that HARC's presence at the Shearwater Hobby Show this month had generated significant interest in our hobby by 24 attendees and several he expects will followup and take the basic course this fall.

EMO – David (VE1EDA) reported that work is underway in the new Comms Room in the EOC to get our radio gear installed and re-programmed.

Callbook – Howard (VE1DHDO) indicated that Frank Smith (VE1FIS) has agreed to take on the task of re-doing the provincial repeater maps and other graphics projects, and that Scott (VE1QD) is beginning to track down potential advertisers. However, he indicated that the majority of the work on the callbook will commence in earnest in the fall.

Field Day – Phil Bentley (VE1PB) the Field Day chair was absent.

Membership – Frank (VE1FHW) reported that the cost of production and mailing of the April *Reflector* came to \$62. There are currently 77 full members; 4 life members and 18 associate members for a total of 99. However, of the full members in 2010, 48 have not renewed to this point.

Old Business:

Surplus Equipment for Sale – Fraser drew the list of surplus equipment that had been advertised in the April *Reflector* and indicated that following the Club policy, this equipment will be made available to Club members first. If no interest comes in the next two weeks, this equipment will be taken to the Flea Market in May to sell, or will be advertised on the Swap Shop.

DX Forum – Scott showed the new DX Forum logo that has been developed by Frank (VE1FIS). Scott acknowledged the generosity of Gary (VE1RGB) and Fred (VE1FA) who donated a restored Eddystone general coverage communication receiver that will be raffled off at the 2011 DX Forum. Scott also indicated that Nautel has agreed to support the DX Forum by providing us with access to their Webinar service so that the DX Forum can be made available to anyone outside the Maritime region for half the normal registration price. The DX Forum will take place on August 5 – 6; information and registration materials are available on the Club website.

Hobby Show – John (VE1CDD) reported that the Club's participation at the Shearwater Hobby Show this year was a success. The club had demonstrations of PSK-31 that was of particular interest to the young people in attendance, as well as HF. Given the positive experience this year, the Club plans on participating again in 2012.

(Continued on page 7)

If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?

(Continued from page 6)

Exercise Handshake – Emil (VE1ESP) reported on the participation of Halifax Radio Amateurs as net controller for the March exercise.

Flea Market – Tom (VE1BMJ) reported that approximately 60 tables have been booked so far. However, he still needs volunteers to assist with ticket sales and security. Anyone who can help should contact Bob Petitpas (VE1RHP). Finally, Tom indicated that several of the commercial suppliers that we had been expecting to participate will not be present this year. However, ICOM will be present (Murray Lycan – VA1CQ) and will have new equipment to demonstrate; they have also donated a new ICOM HT to be given as a door prize.

New Business:

Brit Fader Scholarship – Howard (VE1DHD) reported that there are sufficient funds in the account to support a \$1000 scholarship in 2011. He indicated that he has placed an advertisement in the upcoming TCA, and that he sent a notice to all of the Maritime Clubs. Detailed information and an application package is available on the HARC website.

Club Archive Materials – Fraser reported that he has contacted people at the HRM Archive facility in Dartmouth and they are happy to take possession of any of our club's historical materials. Fraser indicated that we will need to go through the materials that remain in storage at the Bloomfield Centre as well as those in the Club Station to assess their suitability for archiving. It will be necessary for the Club to sign a formal deed of transfer of all materials to be archived; they will become the property of HRM and as such will be available to anyone wishing to review them.

Museum Ships Weekend – will be held over the June 4-5 weekend. John (VE1CDD) indicated that he has contacted the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic and they are happy to have us set up and operate from the CSS Acadia.

MS Walk – Terry (VE1TRB) reminded members that the Club is committed to providing communication assistance for the upcoming (May 29th) walk. A number of our members have already agreed to assist, but there remains a need for several more volunteers.

MS Bike Tour – Terry (VE1TRB) reported for Rick (VE1RGG) that plans are underway for the 2011 MS Bike Tour (July 23 - 24) and they need a commitment that the HARC repeater trailer will be available for their use if the EMO trailer can not be procured.

Terms of Reference for Executive – after some discussion, it became clear that few had taken the time to review the drafts that had been placed on the Club website and that it would be wise to email copies to all members for review prior to the May meeting.

On a motion by Terry (VE1TRB) the meeting adjourned at 8:51pm

Door Prize was won by Nigel (VE1NPS)

50:50 Draw - \$27.00 was won by Tom (VE1BMJ)

Respectfully submitted
Howard Dickson (VE1DHD)
Acting Secretary

Amateur Radio trans-Atlantic balloon attempt

Information about the program, including the latest projected flight path, can be found at <http://www.projectbluehorizon.com/>

Latest attempt was launched from Oswego, NY around midnight Thursday April 20.. Ham radio operators in the USA and world-wide were asked to listen on 7.1023 & 10.1466 MHz CW and to email readings of the balloon's progress to PBH15.data@gmail.com

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/PBH5>

It also had an APRS GPS tracker on 144.390 MHz [FM] with the callsign KC2ZJH.

RAC Report (Continued from page 5)

From the Director's Report for Ontario North/East – Bill Unger, VE3XT – RAC Director, Ontario North/East Region (ve3xt@rac.ca)

Distracted Driving Update

After January 2013, Amateurs in Ontario will not be allowed to operate while mobile unless they have a hands free set up. Ontario Amateurs want to know about RAC's efforts to obtain a permanent exemption for Amateurs from Bill 118, the Distracted Driving Law.

We need to be our own advocates and, at present, as providers of communications for various events in our communities we simply do not do it enough. We need to start now if we want to obtain that exemption.

I have several letters from local groups, but we need them from all regions of Ontario. If you are in Ontario and your club assists an organization to stage an event would you please consider contacting them and asking for support? When we get endorsements from across the province we will be prepared to press our case to allow Amateurs to obtain a permanent exemption. If you obtain a letter please send me a copy and I will forward it with all the other letters of support that are received. They will be sent to Kathleen Wynn, Minister of Transportation.

Upcoming **hamfests & fleamarkets** that will be held **in Ontario**:

The Smiths Falls Fleamarket, sponsored by the Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club, will be held on Saturday, May 14 in Smiths Falls, Ontario. For more information on the event visit <http://ve3rlr.dyndns.org/fleamarket27th.html>.

The Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket, sponsored by the Guelph ARC & Kitchener-Waterloo ARC, will be held on Sunday, June 5 in Cambridge, Ontario. For more information on the event visit <http://www.hamfest.on.ca/>.

(Continued on page 8)

RAC's web site is **www.rac.ca**

From the Mail Bag



Greetings all,
Thanks to all who took part in Exercise Handshake for April 2011.
A recap for TMR and Amateur Radio can be found at

<http://www.freewebs.com/ve1jbl/exercisehandshake.htm>

Next exercise will be May 31, 2011

Thanks,
James (Jim) Langille, VE1JBL
RAC Section Manager

I am looking for a morse code key (manual brass pounder type) in functioning condition.

Byron Mullett, VE1NFD
Phone # 434-4118
bmullett@accesswave.ca

New US 4-meter band beacon

70MHz is not an amateur band in the USA, but European stations may try to listen for a new 4-Meter Band Radio Science E-skip Trans-Atlantic propagation beacon from the East Coast of the US.

Its operating frequency is 70.005 MHz, QTH is FM07fm, CW emissions.


The callsign of the beacon is WE9XUP.

Any and all QSL/SWL reports are welcome via email to: WA1ZMS@ARRL.NET.

The beacon is scheduled to run 24 hours a day until 1 Sept, 2011.

Ken, VY2RU

Answer to Puzzler on page 1

 The first Amateur Radio DownEast FleaMarket was held : What year – 1983
Where – St. Ignatius church hall in Bedford, NS

Ever wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges?

Hi, For those who wish to participate in the upcoming Banquet in honour of Moncton Area Amateur Radio Club 's 75th Anniversary.

You are invited to take part in this event and show your support to the members past and present who have made a difference in Amateur Radio.

The banquet will be held at the Moncton Dart Club, 28 Eaton street, Moncton, NB at 5:30pm on Saturday August 20th. Cost is only \$14.00 each.

We will have a Very Special Guest Speaker and also door prizes.

To reserve seats for you and your guest or guests, please write names as below and email to Jean-Guy Levesque, Chairman MAARC 75th Anniversary, Medals2@gmail.com

Please reply asap. Thank You.

Hope you can be part of the fun 73's VE9LEV, Jean-Guy Levesque Chairman MAARC 75th Anniversary 506-854-6634

Please reply using this format
MAARC 's 75th Anniversary Banquet, August 20th - 5:30pm
We want to be part of the Guest List

I want to participate : CALLSIGN and Name: _____

My guest will be : Name: ____

My other guest: ____

My other guest: ____

For more information on ICOM's D-Star go to

<http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/dstar/dstar/default.aspx>

Do you have pictures, ideas, an interesting or funny radio-related story, an article or a question you would like to share via the HARC Reflector? Please send it/them to Lynn, VE1ENT, ve1ent@rac.ca or bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

RAC Report (Continued from page 7)

London Vintage Radio Club Flea-market, sponsored by the London Vintage Radio Club, will be held on Saturday, June 11 in Guelph, Ontario. For more information on the event visit <http://lvrc.homestead.com/fleamarket.html>.

For more current information on these and other events visit <http://rac.eton.ca/events/upcoming.php>.

Report from RAC VP Industrial Liaison Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC – RAC Vice-President Industrial Liaison)

Plasma Screen Television Interference – The following RAC Bulletin was posted on February 25, 2011:

“According to members of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, noise and signals originating from Plasma Screen digital television sets are causing considerable interference to their HF activities and they have asked RAC for help. Complaints of this nature require specific and detailed information before RAC can consider taking this matter to Industry Canada.

To gather this information, RAC invites its members that own a Plasma Screen television to report their experiences of interference from such products. Specifically, reports should describe the make and model of TV, a description of their HF station and antenna system and the exact nature of the interference (what bands, what sound etc).

Remedies should also be tried and reported such as using ferrite chokes on power lines cords and signal cables if interference is detected. Amateurs with advanced instrumentation such as spectrum analyzers & calibrated antennas should measure signal intensity levels at given distances; these measurements will add credibility to our investigation.

We also want to know from Amateurs that can attest that operation of their own Plasma TV causes no noticeable interference to their Amateur Radio operations. All digital domes-

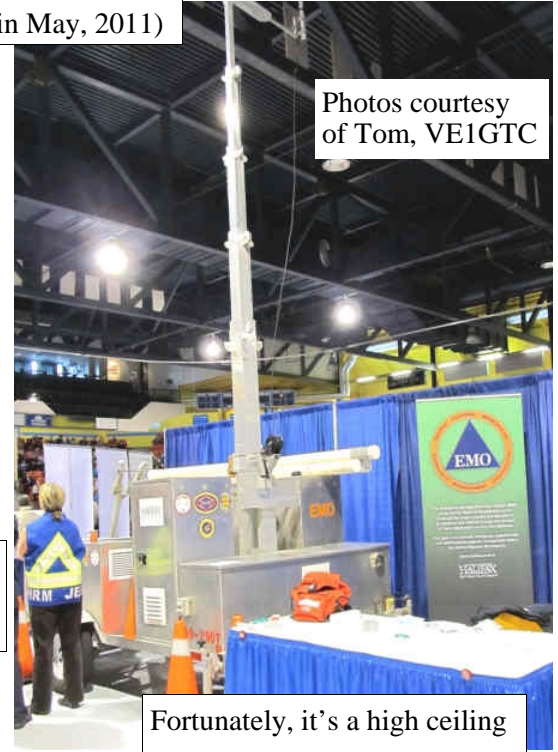
(Continued on page 9)

At the Police Week Expo (first week in May, 2011)



Tom, VE1GTC, & John, VE1WZ, beside the EMO trailer

Photos courtesy of Tom, VE1GTC



Fortunately, it's a high ceiling



That's David, VE1EDA, working on equipment in the EMO trailer

for interference appears to be the big screen display that works as an un-shielded radiator. John also authored an article published in RadCom magazine detailing the results of a survey about Plasma TV interference in the United Kingdom. I will seek permission from the editor of RadCom to allow us to reprint this article.

Some Amateurs reported that their Plasma TVs don't cause them any grief; there seems to be some difference based on make, model and perhaps the age of the set.

From a regulatory perspective, TV sets sold in Canada must be compliant with "Interference Causing Equipment Standard" (ICES-003) and/or the standard for TVs with tuners being BETS-7. Both of these Industry Canada standards make use of the international standard "CISPR 22" to set the criteria & method of the interference measurements. Unfortunately, the "CISPR 22" standard does not deal with radiated interference less than 30 MHz mainly due to the belief that consistent measurements of HF field intensity are unattainable. According to John, however, this premise is now being challenged and will be investigated by CISPR committee members. If something comes of this, there may be developed a basis whereby Industry Canada can mandate a wider frequency range for their domestic interference standards that includes HF spectrum. Meantime, we wish to obtain as many Canadian reports on Plasma TV interference as possible.

(Continued on page 10)

RAC Report (Continued from page 8)

tic equipment, including Plasma and LCD television sets, must comply with Industry Canada standard ICES-003 (Interference Causing Equipment Standard for Digital Equipment) to be marketed in Canada.

Alternately, TV sets with tuners may be certified under the Industry Canada BETS-7 standard. Please indicate in any report submitted that a label on the TV or notation in the manual indicates it is indeed certified & compliant under current issues of ICES-003 and/or the BETS-7 standards."

Some replies went into detail and told a story involving a local Industry Canada investigation. Unfortunately, most problems were not satisfactorily resolved. Of particular interest was the reply from John Pink, G8MM. John, a member of the RSGB EMC committee, has been studying the subject of HF interference from Plasma TV's for some time. John suggests the main mechanism

If you have something to report, please contact me at <ve3lc@rac.ca>. We wish to register this as a general interference complaint to Industry Canada at the upcoming meeting of the Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board (CARAB). We will also raise the issue with the Radio Advisory Board of Canada's (RABC) EMC Committee on which RAC has membership and representation.

Report from RAC VP Industrial Liaison Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC – RAC Vice-President Industrial Liaison

70 cm Amateur Spectrum Under Threat?

The ARRL is instructing their members to write to their Congressperson opposing sections of House Bill HR 607. Tune-in on URL <http://www.arrl.org/hr-607>. This proposed legislation Congressman Peter King, Chairperson of the House Homeland Security Committee, calls for changes of the new 700 MHz public safety band to include devoting exclusively the so-called "D" block of 10 + 10 MHz for a national public safety broadband network. Currently, part of this spectrum is held by an AT&T licence acquired previously by FCC auction. The ARRL has no argument with this part of the legislation, but, in compensation to the carriers and for raising money for the proposed 700 MHz broadband network, the HR 607 Bill as written, also mandates the auctioning of spectrum, 420 to 440 MHz paired with 450 to 470 MHz, within 10 years of enactment. If this comes to pass, the Amateur 70 cm band would be reduced considerably and would impact the current band planning of the Amateur Satellite Service as well as weak signal activity or leave much fewer channels for 70 cm repeaters.

Beyond the effects on Amateur spectrum, the changes would also seriously upset current licensees in the range 450 to 470 MHz for which considerable compensation would be necessary for incumbents to relocate to other bands of operation. Also bear in mind, this spectrum includes the current FRS and GMRS services used

for consumer portable radios.

It also appears that the authors of this legislation don't appreciate that the reallocation of spectrum, as proposed in HR 607, cannot be done in a unilateral manner as it must be coordinated with Canada within the area of the US/Canadian border "coordination zone". Furthermore, 420 to 430 MHz in Canada is not Amateur spectrum, but instead allocated to the land-mobile service with frequencies assigned to major national Federal licensees who operate mainly in the coordination zone; any imposed changes to the assignments of these Canadian incumbents would likely not be taken lightly.

It is my opinion that the aspect of Bill HR 607 involving 70 cm spectrum is not reasonable and will not proceed as drafted. Fortunately the ARRL in Region II is a staunch defender of Amateur spectrum. Nevertheless, existing Amateur allocations should not be taken for granted and the progress of this US legislation will be followed carefully by RAC. RAC intends to put this subject on the agendas of the upcoming CARAB and RABC meetings in May to obtain feedback from Industry Canada on the matter.

Dateline Manitoba, April 10, 2011 in the Red River Valley.

RAC/ARES volunteers have come out in force to assist municipal and provincial authorities in combating the flooding Red River.

Development of a Canadian Field Organization: Doug Mercer, VOIDTM, CEC – RAC Vice-President Field Services (vo1dtm@rac.ca)

During the March 24, 2011 RAC Board of Directors teleconference, a motion was unanimously passed for the implementation of a "new" RAC Field Organization. Under my direction, and with the guidance of Special Advisor Ian Snow, VA3QT, our Section Managers – as part of the newly created Vice-President Field Service Council (VPFSC) – and various volunteers from across the country will begin the work that will see a different RAC in the future. Our look will be consistent with the RAC Vision Statement of November 14, 2010, when we committed to the "education and elmering of new Hams" and supporting "the training and coaching of RAC volunteers to achieve exemplary results, at the municipal, provincial and national levels. The new RAC Field Training program is the recognized tool leveraged by our ARES groups."

The VPFSC is committed to the development of the Canadian Field Organization, and a key component is the existing Field Service that provides service to the public and the Amateur Radio Community. It will also incorporate new functions to better represent our interests to governments at the provincial and municipal levels, provide a strengthened public relations capability, expand the affiliated club program with a view to improving the input of Canadian Amateurs with respect to RAC policy development, and bring focus to promoting technical developments.

This process began in November 2010 and it currently has three working groups, a secretary, advisors from provincial Emergency Management agencies and a host of volunteers from each Section. Our key individuals are:

- * Ian Snow, VA3QT - Special Advisor to the VPFS
- * Allan Boyd, VE3AJB - Chair Training Specification Working Group
- * Nelson Jenking, VA3NDJ - Chair Mission/Vision Working Group
- * James King, VE3ETZ - Chair Census Working Group
- * Peter Wetton, VA3PRW - Secretary

If reading the above article sets off an urge to "lend a hand", please drop me a note. We currently need 3 individuals to take on the following projects:

- * Document custodian to begin to review and update the CEC Exam
- * Document custodian to review the SM Survival Guide
- * Leader for the 70cm project

If you have expertise in any of these areas please contact me at vo1dtm@rac.ca