



REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

November 2009, Volume 70 Number 9

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



GENERAL & ANNUAL MEETINGS POSTPONED UNTIL JANUARY



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

Executive

President - Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD	826-7831	twomacds@ns.sympatico.ca
First V.P. - Dick, VE1AI	434-8046	ve1ai@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ	445-8103	tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca
Secretary - Helen MacRae, VE1HMR	422-7119	hmacrae@ns.sympatico.ca
Treasurer - Fraser MacDougall VE1WO	865-4198	ve1wo@rac.ca
Director-at-Large: - Don Trotter, VE1DTR		ve1dtr@rac.ca
Club Station Mgr. - Brian Allan, VE1AZV	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
Past President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	ve1mr@rac.ca

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government liaison - Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD	876-0661	twomacds@ns.sympatico.ca
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. - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhdickson@eastlink.ca
Membership - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhdickson@eastlink.ca
Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS,	826-1705	ewertr@hfx.eastlink.ca
Basic ham course - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI	861-3719	ve1tri@rac.ca
2009 Flea market Chair - Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ	445-8103	tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca
Field Day coordinator - Dick Grantham, VE1AI	434-8046	ve1ai@rac.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 - Len Morgan, VE9MY	(506) 847-5656	lmorgan@nbnet.nb.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

Take-15 Net Controllers

NOTE: There have been some changes.

If you cannot take the net on your particular evening get in touch with one of the others and trade places with them. If I have left any one off the list, **or you want to join**, please let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



Nov. 15	Bruce	VE1MLW	Dec. 27	Charles	VE1MCR
Nov. 22	Win	VE1WIN	Jan. 3	Doug	VE1LDL
Nov. 29	Charles	VE1MCR	Jan. 10	Bruce	VE1MLW
Dec. 6	Doug	VE1LDL	Jan. 17	Win	VE1WIN
Dec. 13	Bruce	VE1MLW	Jan. 24	Charles	VE1MCR
Dec. 20	Win	VE1WIN			

Photos in this issue are by
Brad Ross, VE1ZX

*'All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is
for good men to do nothing'. - Edmund Burke*

In light of the risks of H1N1 flu, against which few of us have yet been vaccinated, the **Monthly General Meeting and the AGM is postponed until the January meeting.**



Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Christmas Dinner

Mark your calendar for December 16 to be at the Steak and Stein, Young St. Halifax for the HARC Christmas Dinner. Details p.2

Tools Explained:

TWO-TON ENGINE HOIST *A tool for testing the maximum tensile strength of everything you forgot to disconnect.*



Deadline for submissions to the November Reflector is Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010

GENERAL INFORMATION




Sunday evenings:
EMO Net: **CANCELLED** for summer
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM on
147.270 + (VE1PSR/VHF)


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 -

PACKET:
VE1NSD 145.050 MHz LAN NODE

Up-Coming Events


Dec.16 – the **HARC Christmas Dinner** at the Steak and Stein, Young St. Halifax for Plan to arrive at 5:30 pm for drinks Our special Menu will be Starters: Salad (Caesar or garden) OR Seafood Chowder

ENTRÉE: Choice of  7 oz Delmonico rib steak platter.

or  8 oz Oven baked or Pan fried Haddock Platter

or  Oktoberfest Platter

or Twin 5 oz Chicken Breasts

Desert: pies, black forest cake, bread pudding, coffee, tea 

Cost per person including gratuity will be \$27.00

Please let Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ, know how many in your party.


ADVANCED QUALIFICATION

Jeff Smith, VE1ZAC, has agreed to run an advanced technical course. He has 5-6 already. If interested email him directly at jfsmith@ns.sympatico.ca Course capacity will be 6-8.

Antenna course – Brian, VE1AVZ, is willing to be available on a Saturday morning

Contact Brian at 489-4656 or basailor@eastlink.ca

Management and custody of the **Tube Bank** has been taken on by Tom Guam, VE1BMJ. *(Thanks Tom)*

Contact Tom at 445-8103 or email tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca If you are looking for a specific tube 

Law of the Telephone: *When you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal.*

HARC Needs You

HARC Nominating Committee The Nominating Committee is actively working on a slate of Officers for the 2010 Executive . The Offices of President : Secretary and Treasurer remain open . There has only been one response from the membership at this point . Please contact a Committee member if you have an interest or wish to nominate anyone for an Executive Position .

Tom Caithness VE1GTC 477-7081 VE1TOM@RAC>CA

Fraser Mac Dougall VE1WO 865-4198 VE1WO@RAC>CA

RAC Bulletin 2009-034E - Canadian Experiments at 500 kHz authorized

After months of negotiations between RAC and Industry Canada over the details of the licence applications and reporting conditions, the first two licences granted to Canadians for experiments at 504 – 509 kHz in preparation for WRC-12 have been issued by Industry Canada. See RAC Bulletin 2008-29

Jack Leahy, VE1ZZ, has been assigned call sign VX9PSO in the Developmental Service for his experimental transmissions. Joe Craig, VO1NA, has been assigned call sign VX9MRC. Both of these stations have been on the air already, with VX9PSO having been reported at 504.6 kHz and VX9MRC at 507.77 kHz. Signal reports can be addressed to the operators at their call book addresses.

Two more authorizations, in Ontario & British Columbia, are expected soon.

Richard Ferch, VE3KI Vice President, Regulatory Affairs - Radio Amateurs of Canada

Check into the Maritime Noon Net, week days at 12 noon on the Gore repeater, 146.640 – MHz

The NSARA (Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association) is the voice that speaks for Amateur Radio in Nova Scotia when we deal with government and corporations. Positions are available on the NSARA executive. Please consider offering to serve in one of these positions.

Contact Helen Archibald, VA1YL, for information about helping with GOTA (Guides on the Air). Helen is the CLARA (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) coordinator for GOTA for all of Canada.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, #34 South African Hams to Put ZS10WCS On the Air Before & During World Cup

With World Cup soccer coming to South Africa in 2010, hams in that country will commemorate the event starting in Sept. 2009 with a special call sign: ZS10WCS. According to the South African Radio League (SARL) <<http://www.sarl.org.za/>>, that country's IARU Member-Society, the call sign will be used in 2 ways: In the months leading up to the World Cup, to be held June 11-July 11, 2010, and for times during the event itself. SARL is requiring that clubs selected to use ZS10WCS before the event be on the air on weekends, Friday night through Sunday night. Clubs using the special call sign during the World Cup are expected to be on the air each day.

Requests for direct QSLs will be handled by the SARL QSL bureau. Direct QSLs must include a self-addressed envelope and one IRC or US \$1. Amateurs may also QSL via e-mail <wcs@sarl.org.za>, but those hams sending an e-mail QSL will only receive an e-mail QSL, and not the commemorative printed QSL.

Anderson Powerpole connectors are for sale through the HARC at \$1.25 each. Place orders with Tom Caithness, VE1GTC; tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – November

Just in – the results for the 2009 ARRL Field Day are in and VE1FO ranked #1 in the 2F class in North America and #2 high score in Canada. VE3QDR placed 74th overall, while VE1FO placed 82nd overall. Kudos to Dick (VE1AD), his Committee, and all those involved in any way - either setting up, tearing down, preparing food or operating – certainly a job well done by all.

Here I am again soliciting members to run for office. As of now, we have a total of 153 members and still a number of vacant positions. A number of interesting statistics showed up during the recent Club survey. A total number of 90 responded. Of that number only 7 indicated that they were interested in serving on the Club Executive – of those 7; all were either past or present Executive. It's your Club; it does not run by itself. It is time for some members to “step up to the plate” and serve.

73, Murray, VE1MMD

Puzzler - What do the Web-speak abbreviations HTML and URL stand for?



Answer is on pg. 9

LAST CHANCE

To order Club Jackets. If you have already placed your order, the supplier requires 50% of the price to accompany the order. If you have not yet ordered and would like to do so, please let Murray (VE1BB) know.

We have selected three (3) jackets as approved Club apparel - #1 – Stormtech \$45.00 plus tax. Jacket has a nylon outer shell and is fully lined. #2 – Stormtech Polar Fleece. \$42.00 plus tax. #3 – Techno Lite jacket. \$30.00 plus tax. Jacket has a polyester outer shell with water resistant finish and a hood which folds into the collar. All jackets include embroidered Club crest and call sign can be added for approximately \$3.00

Keep our Club Station Shipshape PLEASE!

We have a grand Club Station and I'm sure that everyone knows to clean up after yourself but also, PLEASE, any time you are the last person leaving the Club Station make sure that

- 1/ all windows are closed
- 2/ the air conditioners are off
- 3/ all radio equipment is turned off
- 4/ the lights are off
- 5/ the door is locked

Borrowing HARC Materials?

One of the many benefits of HARC membership is the privilege to borrow club assets. These can be any of the Amateur Radio related monthly publications, technical library literature or club equipment (see Station Manager for equipment loans).

For the information of those who borrow, a new "LOAN RECORD" binder will be available in the club Library. It's official introduction will be during the January General Meeting.

Before you borrow please read the instruction sheet at the front of the binder. Following that, entry of the requested information is made simple by filling in the anoted fields.

It's hoped that you take advantage of this valued feature of HARC membership.

NOVA SCOTIA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Serving Amateur Radio Since 1957

The NSARA does many things for Amateur Radio in Nova Scotia

Liase between ham radio and Provincial, Municipal Governments

Emergency Measures Preparedness & Communications Training

Amateur License Plate Program

Contesting to promote Amateur Radio

Worked all Nova Scotia Counties (WARC)

VHF Century Club (VHFCC)

The NSARA Contest

School Bursaries

Frequency Co-Ordination (VHF ~ UHF)

Assistance for Provincial linking

Sponsoring of the Nova Scotia Packet Internet Gateway (VE1NSG)

Co-Sponsoring the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) Voice over Internet World Wide

Yearly Hamfest & Picnic , CW Contest , Fox Hunt , Home Brew , Distress Message Copying

For More information on how you can become a Member and help promote your HOBBY please contact .

President : Tom Cohoon VE1TA

Vice-Pres: James Hannon VE1AFH

Secretary : Bruce Harvey, VE1II

Treasurer : Shirley Cohoon VE1JFG

Or any director from your club.....

The NSARA Website is

<http://users.eastlink.ca/~bdeathe/NSARA/>

to send email to all directors simultaneously nsara@yahogroups.com or use the RAC Mail Reflector ex:

ve1???@rac.ca

MEMBERSHIP \$10.00

Quote by Josh Freed regarding the barbecue-addicted modern man's quest for fire

“If they invented a way to vacuum the halls with a flame thrower men would take over the housework”



The 2009 Greenwood Fleamarket, Saturday, Oct.17
 A HARC contingent was there selling gear from the estates of John Doull, VE1WC and of Bertus Backer, VE1AGH. We also had callbooks, surplus HARC gear & HARC 75th hats for sale. The NSARA had their usual table and the QSL Bureau was there doing a brisk business.
 This year a youth group ran the barbecue which allowed the club's regular chef to enjoy the fleamarket



Brian DeAthe, VE1RCF, presenting Percy, VE1PLV, with the top prize of the FleaMarket, a two meter radio

Tools Explained:
OXYACETYLENE TORCH: *Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.*



The Fleamarket was followed by the NSARA meeting at which NSARA President Tom Cahoon, VE1TA, presented Jim Hannon, VE1AFH, with a plaque recognizing him for the great work he has done with Exercise Hand Shake and with EMO. Exercise Hand Shake is an ongoing emergency readiness practice with sessions happening on the last Tuesday of each month.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 38
 More CubeSats in Orbit: Sept.24, AM an Indian PSLV-C14 rocket carried the Oceansat-2 satellite

<<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceansat-2>>
 to orbit, along with 4 CubeSats and 2 RubinSats. The RubinSats are 8 kg research modules that will remain attached to the PSLV-C14 booster. CubeSats are very small satellites, typically only a few inches on each side. As they are a relatively inexpensive research spacecraft, they've become increasingly popular with university science programs. A number of CubeSats use Amateur Radio frequencies to downlink telemetry, as is the case with this latest group. Early reports indicate that all of the CubeSats are active. You can check out the frequencies & modes of the 4 satellites on the ARRL Web site

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/09/23/11090/?nc=1>>.

The HARC newsletter, the Reflector, is laid out using Microsoft Publisher, a PDF file is emailed to the Membership Chair, who in turns sends it electronically to the printer. The copies are picked up and mailed out to about 1/3rd of the Club's members (as of 2007). The remainder receive their copy electronically. Howard, VE1DHD

The Maritime Net is on 3.750 at 7 PM daily.

From the ARRL Letter October 22, 2009
Amateur Radio in Space:
SumbandilaSat Now OSCAR 67

The South African Amateur Radio satellite SumbandilaSat has been officially designated SumbandilaSat-OSCAR 67, or simply OSCAR 67. The satellite has been successfully activated and tested with a number of contacts made through its transponder, but it is not yet open for routine use. The satellite was launched from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on September 17. The main payload is a multi-spectral imager, but the satellite also carries an Amateur Radio component consisting of a 2 meter/70 cm FM repeater. After SumbandilaSat is fully commissioned, the repeater will be activated with an uplink at 145.880 MHz and a downlink at 435.350 MHz; there will also be a voice beacon at 435.300 MHz. The transponder mode will be controlled by a CTCSS tone on the uplink frequency. SumbandilaSat was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology and was built at SunSpace in cooperation with the Stellenbosch University. In addition to the SA-AMSAT amateur module, the satellite carries Stellenbosch University's radiation experiment and software defined radio (SDR) project, an experiment from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and a VLF radio module from the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

Safety Pancake Mixes, Cake Mixes & Mould Toxins

This one is confirmed on Snopes at:
<http://www.snopes.com/medical/toxins/pancake.asp>

A student at HBHigh School had pancakes that almost became fatal. His Mom made him pancakes for breakfast before she dropped him off at school. When her son phoned to say he was having trouble breathing she told him to go to the nurse immediately and proceeded to call the school and alert the nurse. The nurse called the paramedics. They were

Fall 2009 Amateur Radio Basic Course

A short note to let everyone know that we had 20 students register but due to various reasons four cannot attend and will challenge the exam through self study or retake the course at a more convenient time. Therefore we do have a nominal attendance of sixteen motivated students with the possibility of one more on Saturday's class. We have three future YL operators, one junior high student for GOTA and two returning upgrading students.

So far we have completed two technical units:

Fundamentals of Ohm's Law and Power Ch 2 and 3 with a practical Tom VE1GTC

Capacitors, Inductors and Reactance Ch 4 James VE1OES

Two non-technical units:

Radio standards regulations and rules Industry Canada Ch 17 by Howard VE1DHD

Radio Safety from Chapter 16 from Scott VE1QD

In addition to this we have had a talk on HF bands and learning CW from Gary VE1RGB along with an interesting Introduction to the many aspects of the Radio hobby on the first evening.

Please find below a list of the rest of the "BARL" Topics and related chapter from the study guide with the scheduled date.

- Thursday 22 OCT Waves, Frequency Wavelength Ch 5; Propagation Ch 6 Scott VE1QD

- Saturday 24 OCT Antennas, Feedlines, Tutorial Ch 7 & 8 Fred VE1FA

- Thursday 29 OCT 2-meter VHF/UHF operation & IRLP Ch 12 Rob VE1KS

- Thursday 5 NOV Active Devices: Diodes, Transistors, Tubes Ch 9 Carolyn VE1FRG

- Saturday 7 NOV Establishing & Equipping an Amateur Radio Station Ch 11 Routine Operations of an amateur station Ch 12 Howard VE1DHD, Dick VE1AI, Tom VE1GTC, Brian VE1AZV

- Thursday 12 NOV Power Supplies Ch 10 Frank VE1FHW

- Thursday 19 NOV Modulation and Transmitters Ch 13 Fred VE1FA

- Thursday 26 NOV Receivers Ch 14 Fred VE1FA plus Intro talk on CLARA and net operation by Helen Archibald VA1YL

- Thursday 3 DEC Radio Frequency Interference Ch 15 Dick VE1AI

- Thursday 10 DEC Review and practice Exam Barry VE1TRI

- Saturday 12 DEC Basic Exam at 10:00 am by VE1MR, VE1NN, VE1KS

I should be able to attend all of the classes except Saturday the 7th of November. I will be pouring wine in Moncton at the Coliseum for the "Festival du vins at gastronomie".

Best regards to all, Barry Diggins VE1TRI
861-3719 or email ve1tri@rac.ca

there in 3 minutes and worked on the boy all the way to the hospital. He came close to dying. The cause was found to be mould to which this boy had a severe allergic reaction.

Check the expiration dates on packages like pancakes and cake mixes Mix which are cocooned in unbleached waxed paper, plastic or foil The mold that forms in old mixes can be toxic which is why you should throw away ALL OUTDATED pancake mix, brownie mixes, Bisquick, cake & cookie mixes, etc., you have in your home.

I know it's not radio related but we all have to eat. -ed

I Work Hard Because Millions On Welfare Depend on Me!

Halifax Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the General Meeting October 22, 2009

President Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD, opened the meeting at 1932 hours.

No Silent Keys were reported.

Agenda: Motion – THAT the agenda be adopted as distributed. Moved by Bruce, VE1MLW. Seconded by Doug, VE1LDL. Motion carried.

No guests were in attendance. The members introduced themselves.

Regrets – Murray advised that Treasurer Fraser MacDougall, VE1WO, and 2nd Vice-President, Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ, forwarded regrets for this evening.

Minutes: Clarification on the report that the Dartmouth club will not be on HF indicates that Dartmouth will be on HF, but will not be using their beam antenna. The expenses not reported in print were \$2,657.87, per the Treasurer's Report dated Oct 6, 2009.

Motion – THAT the minutes of the September general meeting be accepted as published in the Reflector. Moved by Win, VE1WIN. Seconded by Jim, VE1JIM. Carried.

No Executive recommendations reported.

Treasurer's Report: Fraser, VE1WO's report to the executive October 6, 2009, lists September expenses to be \$5268.84; Income, \$36.92 and an overall balance of \$9,846.02. (See attached) Murray, VE1MMD, advised that expenses include payment of the DX Forum Venue of \$4417.81. He stated that the source of \$85 for the Scholarship fund was cash resulting from items donated for sale to generate funds for the fund.

Motion – THAT the Treasurer's report be accepted. Moved by Murray, VE1MMD. Seconded by Bill, VE1MR.

Exec Reports:

President: Murray, VE1MMD, stated

he has spoke with the area's HRM Councillor regarding HARC's need for a site for trailer storage. With regards to installation of an elevator within the facilities, Councillor Blumenthal advised that the area's Disability Committee is working with the city towards this. Thirdly, it may be feasible that HARC could apply for a \$2000 grant which would permit purchase of a Trunk Mobile Radio (TMR) for use during emergency incidents.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Howard, VE1DHD reported no change since September: 4 Life, 22 Associate & 130 Full memberships for a total of 156 for 2009. The current 19 basic course students will be added to 2010 year Associate membership count.

Maritime DX Forum (MDF): Scott, VE1QD, presented members with an overview of the DX Forum structure. He acknowledged David, VE1NN's, article (October Reflector). Openness and input is always welcomed. Scot verified that all MDF committee planners are club members who have been, or are currently on the club executive; many served on the 75th Anniversary Committee, as well. He was disappointed to read that David felt the MDF was not part of HARC, thus, not a HARC event.

For past 5 years MDF has been an important component of this club's activities; national and international attention has resulted due to the quality of the programs offered. Japanese issues of CQHAM Radio and QST have published 2 and 4 page reports with photos. Carl Smith (QRZDX Bulletin) published a 2 page spread. Copies of these articles were forwarded to Scott, who provided copies for HARC files. (See attached)

The Forum's program for 2010 is essentially in place, including an invitation to RAC that HARC host the 2010 RAC AGM. Scott noted that the 75th Anniversary Committee-style format ought to have been

maintained in order to spread the workload and utilize skills. To this end he will submit a listing of people who have agreed to work on a similarly-structured DXF committee for 2010. Internationally acclaimed speakers have agreed to participate next year. Scott advised that great networking avenues have been developed with organizations, their executives and amateurs having special interests around the world. This rapport between enthusiasts includes, i.e., Southeast AR Club in Atlanta, Georgia, a club that has expressed an interest to twinning with HARC.

Steps have been taken towards correcting MDF cost analysis. The banquet, program and Friday night party will be identified individually for cost efficacy. The RAC AGM will be held from 1530 - 1730 followed by the MDF reception, barbeque and, if affordable, live music. This offers a saving over past events as the MDF dinner was funded by the event and now will be itemized cost-wise. The price of the banquet will be set to cover costs. New for 2010 will be solicitation of support to underwrite the cost of coffee breaks, lunch costs and door prizes. We may conduct a raffle. As previously done, we will recruit voluntary donations. Garry Hammond was the first to donate and he started it by given a dollar for each year he has been a ham. In 2009, over \$1000 was donated.

Discussion of event cost overrun followed. Seed money totalling \$1500 was allocated at start-up in the 2009 HARC budget to be available for the DX Forum. Those funds were intended to flow-through as revenue neutral.

Notice of Motion: As published in the October 2009 Reflector, the required second vote on a motion "THAT the HARC cover the 2009 DX Forum's deficit of slightly more than \$900."

Discussion: A vote is required to ratify that we (HARC) did not receive the seed money back.

The club is seriously ensuring fiscal

(Continued on page 7)

October Minutes (Continued from page 6)

responsibility; much insight has resulted to help development.

Call for the vote: Motion carried.

Discussion Howard, VE1DHD, expressed concern that the newsletter goes to all members, every amateur radio club across the country and is posted on our website, thus, is read widely, and that a retraction by VE1NN, or the Editor, should be printed in the November Reflector recanting that the DX Forum had minimal input from HARC throughout planning and development of the program and questioning the value of holding a Forum in 2010 and scheduling it to partner with the RAC AGM. Members affirmed that the issue of HARC support of the RAC AGM has been discussed on the floor as documented in several months' minutes and will not be revisited. Howard will write the letter if necessary.

Motion: THAT a retraction be placed in the November Reflector of what was written (published) in the October Reflector. Moved by Howard, VE1DHD. Seconded by Bruce, VE1NB. Motion carried.

RAC – Scott, VE1QD, reported no additional update regarding RAC.

Basic Course: Barry, VE1TRI, reported the course is approaching halfway point – 3 technical and 3 non-technical classes have been held. Students feel good about the course and do not report feeling swamped. There are 19 students, not all of whom can attend on a regular basis. Usually 16 attend each class. Barry expressed thanks to all who have instructed and provided input.

Advanced Course: Howard, VE1DHD, reported on behalf of Tom, VE1GTC. Six members have met once and will meet tomorrow at Jeff's. The course is underway. Jeff has purchased CDs from Radio Canada for the advanced course. The first week was an overview of basic theory. It is not too late for members to join if wished.

QSL Bureau: Murray, VE1MMD,

reported on Tom, VE1GTC's behalf that over 1000 cards given to amateurs during the Greenwood Flea Market.

EMO – Dave George, VE1AJP, reported that as a result from the exercise, "Eastern Star", held last year, there has been an amateur radio antenna placed on the Halifax Infirmary Heli-port. It is a VHF antenna but he does not have the specifications.

SAR – Dave George, VE1AJP, reported on the liability issue as reported in newspapers. For over 30 years, SAR organizations and volunteers believed that any individual was covered in the event of an accident. Only recently this was learned not so. EMO NS reported the policy ran out but one had never been in place. Our own Halifax SAR team pays \$5000 for their own policy, but the provincial SAR organization gave the province an ultimatum of a 2-week timeline. The government wants copies of all policies that teams do have in place and will do a risk assessment and get back to SAR. The SARVAC policy \$400/team could serve well, if duplicated.

Question: Does the RAC policy cover? It is a personal liability there would be coverage if they were using amateur radio (own property/person) but believed not to cover members serving another body.

Nominating Committee: David, VE1NN, reported that the entire executive is not re-offering next year. Committee members have not received any phone calls of members volunteering. A number of members have been canvassed, and a number of may offer, but none have confirmed, yet. David hopes to have a list for publishing in the next Reflector. Contact him via ve1nn@rac.ca

Old Business:

FT1000 – Brian, VE1AZV, stated the FT1000 will be going to Neil Hughes, VE1YZ.

ACTION: VE1AZV

Trailer – Bill, VE1MR, work remains to be done.

ACTION: VE1MR, VE1WO

Equipment Storage – Dick, VE1AI, stated that we need the exact width of the trailer. Containers are 8 feet wide; however, the one Dick was watching has been sold. Two others are available. EMO see no problems with storage the trailer (i.e., in a container) at Cowie Hill. Preparation would require setting a gravel base and some sort of cribbing, if suitable. A report will go to the exec.

ACTION: VE1AI

Notice of Motion: As published in the October 2009 Reflector, the required second vote on a motion "THAT 2 radio cards and 2 audio delay modules be purchased for the RLC3 controller at VE1PSR, at a cost not to exceed \$1000.

Call for the vote: Motion carried.

One set will be used to support Echolink and the other will be held for a spare. ACTION: VE1MR

Auditor: Murray, VE1MMD, reported that during the executive meeting Murray Alary, VE1ALS, was accepted to serve as Auditor with his name now forwarded to the member for appointment.

Motion: That Murray, VE1ALS, be appointed Auditor for 2009. Moved by Doug, VE1LDL. Seconded by Scott, VE1QD. Motion carried.

Club apparel – Murray, VE1MMD, advised that the company requires a 50% deposit, so members who wish to order jackets must get their deposits in no later than the date of the November general meeting. Once ordered, delivery will be 2-3 weeks later. ACTION: VE1MMD

Equipment – Murray, VE1MMD, advised that the club brought in about \$700 on the sale of estate equipment (done at the request of 2 families).

Climbing Protocol – Murray, VE1MMD, reminded members to become familiar with the protocol. A number of people have been killed putting up a vertical. Also, during Field Day an amateur was reported to have been killed putting up a tower. Be aware and be safe.

(Continued on page 9)

From the Mail Bag



Response to: David Nimmo's letter (VE1NN) September 2009 Reflector "The Financial Saga of the DX Forum"

I could not let the above article go unchallenged. While I have no difficulty whatsoever supporting David Nimmo's right to question the significant deficit that occurred this year in running the DX Forum, I was incensed by the blatant misinformation that was included in his short piece and I want to see that corrected.

This was the sixth year for the Maritime DX Forum and the only time that this popular event has not either broken even or made a small profit for the Halifax Club. The event has grown steadily in size and stature over the years and this year attracted attendees from the across Canada, the United States and Japan. The significant over-run this year was unavoidable as our international keynote speaker came down with a life-threatening illness just weeks before the Forum, however we were fortunate to be able to have Roger Western (G3SXW) agree on extremely short notice to fill in. Unfortunately, the cost of airfare on short notice was expensive. That having been said, there was agreement within the Forum Planning Committee that this was an essential thing to do in order not to disappoint the many attendees who had pre-registered based on the published program. I don't believe that there will be any disagreement on the need to ensure that such a significant deficit is mitigated in the future, and plans are already underway toward that end.

What does however cause me concern is the very clear suggestion by David that the DX Forum is run by a group of Radio Amateurs with tenuous ties to the Halifax Club and that the Forum itself is/was not supported by the Club. Nothing could be fur-

ther from the truth. In fact, Dick Grantham (VE1AI) was on the planning committee and is First V-P of the Club. I am on the planning committee and I am the club Membership Chair. And, our Treasurer (Fraser MacDougall) was kept well informed as to the financial implications of the 2009 Forum. In fact, the HARC Executive included a \$1500 budget line item in the 2009 budget, earmarked for the DX Forum. To be fair, the expectation was that this money would, as in the past, be recovered. However, by including it in the budget, there was agreement as to the importance of the DX Forum to the Club and that it would be supported up to that amount should it become necessary. So to say that HARC has had "...minimal voice in the Forum's planning" is just complete nonsense.

The second point in David's letter that I wish to contest is "The matter of whether or not the upcoming 2010 RAC AGM should be scheduled with the 2010 DX Forum.....or with the Annual Downeast Fleamarket, should also enjoy full and detailed discussion....". Well... it is unfortunate that David's band practice conflicts with our monthly meeting night as he seems unaware that there has already been full discussion and a vote has been taken to invite RAC to hold its 2010 AGM in association with the DX Form next year. In fact, we held discussions with the former RAC President – David Goodwin – as to whether he/they would prefer to meet conjointly with the DX Forum or with the Flea Market, and it was RAC's decision that the Forum seemed to be a better fit for them. Interestingly many of us felt that by holding the Flea Market together with the DX Forum we could attract a larger attendance to both, but the Club voted down that suggestion and so these events are now held at different times in the year. The bottom line is that there was more than adequate discussion on this issue.

Respectfully submitted by:

D. Howard Dickson – VE1DHD
HARC Membership Chair and
Reflector Distribution

Hello all.

I have the following items for sale and will not be offering them on eBay or Kijiji until after I have canvassed the "local" Hams first.

- Yaesu FT-2500M 2M FM Transceiver, manual, mobile power cord, excellent condition, \$95.00
- Kenwood TH-27A HT with charger and "cigarette lighter" power cord, needs battery or will work with portable phone batteries properly configured, \$25.00
- (2) MFJ TNC-2 Packet Radios, Model MFJ-1274, \$40.00 each.
- AEA Model MK-1 Computerized Keyer & manual, \$20.00
- Kenwood TS-520S SSB Transceiver, SP-520 Speaker, Yaesu YD148 Desk Mic, manual, MINT condition, \$325.00
- Yaesu FT-890 Transceiver, mobile bracket, manual, service manual, service manual also on CD, new CAT cable. RX portion excellent; TX portion needs a couple of transistors as it is only putting out 1 watt at the moment. Excellent condition otherwise. (Thoroughly checked by Fred VE1FA). ... Accepting offers.

Please pass this information along to other local Hams you may know who might be interested in contacting me re any of these items.

73. John VE1ATT

902-582-3873 (Home)

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Sheffield Mills, NS B0P 1H0

If you want to tick off a farmer as he contemplates falling commodity prices, remind him how much an ounce of marijuana sells for.

October Minutes (Continued from page 7)

Web site – Don, VE1DTR, reported the new web site is under development. VE1FIS has the keys.

JOTA – Doug, VE1LDL, reported that there was no amateur radio this year as the building usually assigned was double booked. Space has been guaranteed for next year.

Catalogues – George, VE1CAW, distributed catalogues brought back from the Deerfield Flea Market.

DARC QST Collection: David McClafferty, VE1ADH, informed members that DARC is getting rid of its QST collection, which goes back to the 1920s, and asked if HARC is interested. HARC is missing some issues and a list is available. Murray, VE1MMD, will look into what is needed. ACTION: VE1MMD

Islands on the Air – Dick, VE1AI, advised that the Islands on the air program will be coming up and lots of detail needed. If interested in participating, call Dick who will help.

50/50 Draw - \$12 was won by Doug, VE1UG

Door prize – A micro screw driver set of 15 pieces was won by Ralph VE1RAR

There being no further business, Doug VE1LDL, moved the meeting be adjourned at 2040 hours.

In lieu of a speaker, the evening was opened to social interaction.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen MacRae, VE1HMR
Secretary of H.A.R.C.

World War II came closer to our shores than many realize as related (Nov.8, 2009) in a CBC TV program on the battle of Bell Island Newfoundland.

On Sept. 5, 1942, iron ore carriers Saganaga and Lord Strathcona were sunk by German U-boat U513. 29 died. Then in November U518 sank the Rose Castle and the French ship PLM27. 70 lives were lost.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 36
Oregon Hams Install
New Winlink System

September /09 Oregon ARES members completed the state-wide installation of Winlink <<http://www.winlink.org/>>, thanks to a \$250,000 grant from Governor Ted Kulongoski. In 2007, the governor was impressed by the hams' ability to handle emergency communications when severe winter storms wreaked havoc on Oregon's North Coast and flooded the City of Vernonia, knocking out 911 services, Internet and phone service for an extended period of time

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/12/05/100/>>

The Oregon Office of Emergency Management said that during the storms, the radio operators were "tireless in their efforts to keep the systems connected." When even state police had difficulty reaching some of their own troops, ham radio worked, setting up networks so emergency officials could communicate and relaying lists of supplies needed in stricken areas.

"I'm going to tell you who the heroes were from the very beginning of this...the ham radio operators," the governor said at the time. "These people just came in and actually provided a tremendous communication link to us." Because of the service rendered by Amateur Radio operators in providing communications support, the governor allocated funds for the installation of a Winlink system to integrate Amateur Radio with the Internet.

When Oregon's State Office of Emergency Management was activated on Dec.3, 2007 hams over the course of the next 4 days used Winlink to pass message traffic. "The Winlink system performed perfectly." said Marion County ARES Emergency Coordinator Dean Davis, N7XG. "The only mode of communications for several Oregon counties for the first 2 days of the storm was the Winlink system."

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, # 38
Preparations Underway for WRC-12

Approximately 200 participants came together in an ITU preliminary meeting that ended Sept.16/09 in Geneva, Switzerland to help African countries prepare for the 2012 World Radio-communication Conference.

<<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/index.asp?category=conferences&rlink=wrc-12%C3%83%C2%A2%C3%82%C5%92%C3%82%C2%A9=en>>.

The 6 regional telecommunications organizations -- APT (Asia-Pacific), ASMG (Arab States), ATU (Africa), CEPT (Europe), CITELE (the Americas) and RCC (independent states of the former Soviet Union) -- were represented at the meeting. This meeting was part of a series of ongoing international and regional preparatory meetings to allow government & industry to address the far-reaching and complex agenda of the WRC-12.

WRC-12, which will be held in Geneva from Jan.23 to Feb.17, 2012, will review the international treaty that governs radiocommunications -- the ITU Radio Regulations <<http://www.itu.int/publ/R-REG-RR-2008/en>>. The conference will be preceded by the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA-12), also to be held in Geneva, January 16-20, 2012.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 30
AMSAT-UK teams have provided hardware for more than 10 satellites over the past 35 years, including SSETI Express in 2005. They are presently involved with the development of hardware and software for a number of satellite projects, including the European Student Earth Orbiter (ESEO), P3E, SuitSat2 <<http://suitsat2.org/>>, the Columbus module on the International Space Station and also the GENSO Ground Station Network-- Information provided by Graham Shirville, G3VZV



Answer to Puzzler on page 3

HTML is the abbreviation for Hypertext Markup Language
URL is the abbreviation for Universal Resource Locator

The WARC Club News

The November issue of Westcumb Amateur Radio Club's newsletter The Tantramar is now on their web page www.westcumb.ca

Their new executive is President Rob Ireland, VE9KM Secretary Ron Bickle, VE1BIC Treasurer Kevin Burke, VE1KEV.

Peter Hebb, VE1SM, continues as Newsletter Editor and Jim Cleveland VE1CHI, continues as Webmaster.

The WARC Club will be putting on a Fall Amateur Radio Course for prospective amateurs over a number of nights starting about mid-October.

Exercise "Handshake" is an ongoing exercise held on various repeaters and held monthly on the last Tuesday of every month starting at 7 pm: November 24th and December 29th in 2009.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 37 Alpha Radio Products Now RF Concepts: On Sept. 15, Michael Seedman, AA6DY, announced that his company, RF Concepts <<http://www.rfconcepts.com/>>, have purchased Boulder, Colorado-based Alpha Radio Products <<http://www.alpharadioproducts.com/>>. Seedman said in a press release

<http://www.rfconcepts.com/dear_alpha_customers.asp> that working with Alpha Products president Molly Hardman, W0MOM, "we created a way to capitalize the company in order to put amplifiers in inventory for immediate availability. Customers will no longer have to wait weeks or months to add an Alpha product to their station." He said that RF Concepts "will honor our existing customer commitments -- including warranties, customer and technical support & repairs -- and keep our extensive parts inventories to support the more than 10,000 Alpha amplifiers in the market."

Definition of a teenager? God's punishment for enjoying sex.

Early Canadian radio clubs:

The Radio Society of Ontario, Inc. – On May 22, 1957 the Letters Patent incorporating the Ontario Amateur Radio Federation, Inc. was issued to Noel, B. Eaton, VE3CJ, D. Alan Page, VE3XZ & A.K. Meen, VE3DAR. The By-Laws provided for membership by recognized amateur radio clubs only. The clubs forming the original membership of the Federation were Oakville, North Shore, Metro, West Side, Wireless Association and Peterborough.

In 1962 the Radio Society of Ontario, Inc. and the Ontario Amateur radio Association amalgamated to form Radio Society of Ontario, Inc. Membership was converted to individuals in 1963.

Source – From Spark to Space

Do you have a radio-related story, question, answer, article, notice, picture or letter to the editor that you would like to share by having it published in the HARC Reflector? Get them to HARC Reflector editor, Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT velent@rac.ca

*I can't let 2009 end without acknowledging the **50th anniversary of the St. Lawrence Seaway** which was started in October 1954 and finished 4 years later at a cost of \$470million. Among those who shared the stage for the opening ceremonies on June 26, 1959 were Queen Elizabeth II, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker and President Dwight D. Eisenhower. By making it possible for large ships to sail (during a typical 280 day shipping season) from the Atlantic to Lake Superior and back, the Seaway has played a vital role in Canada's growth & prosperity over the last half century.*

Source: Canadian Geographic Magazine, July/August 2009 -ed

From http://cfnews13.com/News/Local/2009/10/12/family_shocked_while_installing_antenna_1_killed.html

Antenna Strikes Power Line, Electrocutes Family

Reported By Jacqueline Fell

PALM BAY -- Neighbors, friends and family are trying to understand what happened when 3 members of a family were electrocuted Monday night at a home on Alaska Avenue.

Melville Braham, his wife Anna and their son Anthony were killed around 8:40 p.m. while trying to put up a 50-foot tall ham radio antenna at the home of Melville's mother.

They were struck with 13,000 volts as the pole they were putting up fell on an overhead power line. All three were electrocuted.

Anna Braham was pronounced dead at the scene. Melville Braham and the couple's 15-year-old son, Anthony, were taken to area hospitals where they were later pronounced dead. A 17-year-old boy, who was also on the roof, was not injured. The daughter who was in the house was not injured.

Neighbors said they saw bursts of light and tried to help. Many are wondering why they didn't stop working when the sun went down.

"I guess they were working through, and night came and they still continued," said Shawn Douglas, a neighbor.

Power was shut off in the neighborhood for several hours so workers from Palm Bay Fire Rescue could get to the people who were hurt.

Palm Bay Fire Marshal Mike Couture said night was not the best time to be attempting to put up an antenna.

"Obviously, in darkness, trying to do something like this and not being keenly aware of where the power line is in the backyard, [was not a good idea]," Couture said.