



REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

April 2009, Volume 70 Number 4
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



Each year on April 18 radio amateurs celebrate World Amateur Radio Day



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 - Rod Padmore, VE1BSK	443-7181	rodpadmore@ns.sympatico.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	dhickson@eastlink.ca
Membership - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhickson@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 - VACANT		
NSARA Director - Bob Petitpas, VE1RHP	876-1643	VIE@eastlink.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

The **Monthly General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM) in the club rooms in the **Saint Andrews Recreation Center**.

There will not be a speaker this evening. Instead there will be time to socialize.

Guests are welcome

Notice

At the April Monthly General Meeting, the Executive will be recommending the following for acceptance by the membership:

- 1) Policy #01-09 establishing an Impress Petty Cash Fund.

The **Club station** is a good space for ham radio activities. **Please reserve your date & time** with Station Manager Brian, VE1AZV, at 489-4656 or e-mail basailor@eastlink.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.



April	19	Doug	VE1LDL
April	26	Bruce	VE1MLW
May	3	Win	VE1WIN
May	10	Charles	VE1MCR
May	17	Chris	VA1CDB
May	24	Doug	VE1LDL

Deadline for submissions to the May Reflector is Saturday, May 9, 2009

Words with two Meanings

REMOTE CONTROL (*ri-moht kon-trohl*) n. **Female....** A device for changing from one TV channel to another. **Male...** A device for scanning through all 375 channels every 5 minutes.



GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:
EMO Net: at 7:30 PM on 147.270 +
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

Events Committee Report

The Events Committee is just getting started for 2009 and several people have volunteered to help out. I'm planning to have the first meeting a little later in March for the committee to get together and review the requirements for each of these events. The following list outlines the potential activities that the Club will participate in during 2009.

Downeast Flea Market	2009-05-09
MS Walk	2009-05-24
Museum Ships	2009-06-06 to 07
Field Day	2009-06-25 to 27
Northern Lights Lantern Festival	2009-07-11
Tall Ships 2009	2009-07-16 to 20
Waterfront Days	2009-07
MS Bike Tour	2009-07-25 to 26
Lighthouse Weekend	2009-08-15 to 16
JOTA – Jamboree on the Air	2009-10

If you are interested in helping out with event planning or participating in any of these events, please contact the Events Committee Chair, Don – VE1DTR at: ve1dtr@rac.ca or Home (902) 823-1888 or cell (902) 497-5244

ANTENNA PARTY??

On **Saturday April 18, 2009** there will be a workshop at the club station. We are working on a project to build simple mono band dipoles for the club and have several people who will make their own dipoles from kits. If you have not ordered a kit but wish to assemble a dipole you must supply your own materials

Probable start and finish times will be 0900 to when finished.

More details will be available at the club meeting.

THE HALIFAX MS WALK 2009

Sunday 24 May 2009 1130 - 1300--

Terry, VE1TRB, is representing HARC at all MS Society planning meetings to coordinate amateur radio communications for this event.

While Terry reported he has enough communications volunteers for this event, there is a need for people to come early to help set up tables & chairs and unload trucks at the Dalhousie Arena. If you are able to help with this it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Terry email if you want to and can help at: trbigelow@eastlink.ca

Baseball is wrong: man with four balls cannot walk.

DOWNEAST FLEAMARKET sponsored by the Halifax & Dartmouth Amateur Radio Clubs

Date: Saturday, May 9, 2009

Time: Vendors 7AM; Public 9AM

Place: Halifax Forum, corner of North & Windsor Sts.

Admission: \$4.00

Tables for vendors FREE.

* Pre-event social Friday 7:30 PM at the Chebucto Inn, 6151 Lady Hammond Rd., Tel 453-4330; .

* Saturday Morning Breakfast at Steak & Stein 7:30 AM, Young St., Halifax.

* Exciting Door Prizes including 1st prize 2M HT.

* Interesting Talks & Forums

* Commercial Amateur Radio Vendors

* HARC Emergency Communication Trailer, VE1ECT

Table Reservations: please contact Dave Nimmo -ve1nn@rac.ca

Accommodations: Special rates at Chbucto Inn, 6151 Lady

Hammond Rd., (\$65.00 single, \$75.00 double)

1-902-453-4330; 1-800268-4330;

Talk-in via VE1PSR 147.270+

INFO: contact Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ; tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca

Check out the HARC website www.halifax-arc.org



DX4Win Advanced Workshop

There will be an advanced, hands-on workshop on DX4Win on Thursday, May 7th starting at 7:00pm in the Club Station in the St. Andrews Community Centre on Bayers Rd.

This workshop is intended for anyone wishing to learn about the more advanced functions of DX4Win, such as setting up the program for Voice-, CW- and RTTY-keying; setting and using Group Names; searching the database, importing and exporting ADIF files and much more.

This workshop is intended for those who have taken the Introductory DX4Win seminar, and/or those who have some basic working knowledge of DX4Win.

If you have a laptop computer with DX4win loaded you are encouraged to bring it along to the workshop.

If you have any specific problems or issues that you want discussed, please send your questions to Howard (VE1DHD@RAC.ca) at least one week prior to the workshop (before May 1st, 2009).

PLEASE NOTE - there will be limited registration for this workshop so please email Howard (VE1DHD@RAC.ca) as soon as possible to register and ensure a spot in this workshop. There will be a \$2.00 charge at the door to cover the handout materials that will be provided only to those who register in advance.

Tools Explained - **PLIERS**: Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – April

Recently I, and I would guess many of you, have been asked what is amateur radio and why do we participate in the hobby. I would venture to guess that the answers are varied as we saw from the recent survey. What impressed me the most, and continues to impress me was the number of local hams who are active, and as the survey confirmed, maintain an interest in community work. (Community Service 47% and EMO 45%).

Over the years a large number of our members have been very active and continue to be in many activities including the MS Walk-a-Thon, the MS Ride-a-Thon, the Red Cross, EMO, Search and Rescue and the list goes on. Let us not forget our hobby's role in providing communications during the Swiss Air disaster and the 911 event. As members of this hobby we should be proud of our contributions to the community and the role we have played in their many successes. Quite often this part of the hobby goes unnoticed and we are seen as men and women with radios in our hands, in our cars with strange antennas on our roofs, or with antennas filling up our yards. Our members, and untold others participate not for the glory but as a way of giving back to the community. Kudos to you all!

73, Murray, VE1MMD

Executive News

At the April Monthly General Meeting, the Executive will be recommending the following for acceptance by the membership:

- 1) Policy #01-09 establishing an Impress Petty Cash Fund.

Also, for information;

Effective April 18th access to the Club Facilities will be by access code only. Access codes for the general meeting / training area and library may be obtained from Tom (VE1GTC), Murray (VE1MMD), or Brian (VE1AZV). Access codes for the Radio Room may be obtained from Brian (VE1AZV).

Tri-County Amateur radio club will be hosting a **flea market and CANWARN training** on May 02.

Limited tables available so reserve earlier then later.

Date: Saturday May 02, 2009
 Time: 09h00 to 12h00 Flea market
 13h00 to 15h00 CANWARN training by Environment Canada

- * 3\$ Entrance fee
- * 5\$ for Breakfast (2 eggs, bacon or ham or sausage with coffee or tea)

CONTACT INFORMATION

- * Reserve Tables by contacting: Danny King at midland50492@hotmail.com or Angus McDonald VE9MCD at angusmcdonald@rogers.com
- * Tube Bank inquiries and reservation by contacting: Eric Robichaud at mrbean@nbnet.nb.ca or Ola Bourgeois at olab@nbnet.nb.ca

Sponsors/Dealers: Durham radio and ALQ Electronics

Direction and Additional information available at: www.ve9tca.org

PEI AMATEUR RADIO FLEA MARKET

Where: Wilmot Community Centre, 110 Gillespie Ave, (Behind The Shell Station on Water Street East off Hwy 1A), Summerside, PE
 Sponsored by the Summerside Amateur Radio Club (SPARC).

When: **Saturday July 11, 2009**
 Doors open to the public at 9:00 AM

How Much: Price at the door is \$5.00 per person and includes breakfast.

Tables for sellers, both private and commercial are free.

Talk in repeater will be VE1CFR on 146.850 (-)

Please contact Rodney, VY2CGA, by email to reserve table space.

There will also be a social Friday evening July 10, 2009 at 8:00 PM at the Wilmot Community Centre.

Please visit website regularly for updates and special notices.

<http://www.summersidearc.com/fleamarket2009.htm>

Man with one chopstick go hungry.

Today, (*Sunday, April 5/09*) the club sponsored the **training** of 6 more HARC members in **Fall Protection**. The course was instructed by Mr John Logan, who had provided this training to club members twice before. The course was intended to train us in the correct usage of fall protection equipment, and safety procedures. The course was not intended to teach tower climbing techniques, which can only be learned by experience gained by working with someone who is competent in such work.

Up to date chart of Fall Protection trained members and their capabilities on page 10.

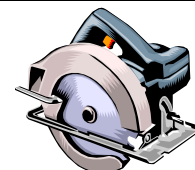
VE1TRB
 Terry R. Bigelow CD CPO2 Ret'd

Attention new Amateurs

Any new amateurs obtaining their call-signs please let Membership chairman Howard, VE1DHD, know by phone 823-2024 or e-mail dhdickson@hfx.eastlink.ca

Tools Explained – **SKILL SAW:**

A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.



SIXTH MARITIME DX FORUM Halifax, Nova Scotia 7 - 8 August 2009

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club (HARC) invites DXers, contesters and HF enthusiasts to the 2009 Maritime DX Forum. On **Friday**, 7 August, a **reception** and **registration** will begin at 7:00 pm. The **MDF program** on **Saturday**, 8 August will run from 8:30 am - 4:45 pm, followed by a reception and the DX **banquet** at 6:00 pm.

Location. The MDF will be held in the Rosaria Centre of Mount St. Vincent University on Seton Road, the entrance to MSVU off the Bedford Highway. Their general telephone number is (902) 457-6287. Please Google **Mount St. Vincent University Location** to see a map. Inexpensive accommodations are available at the University (details below).

Our **speakers** - active and outstanding members of our global ham radio community - include:

- MARTTI LAINE, OH2BH - Espoo, Finland
- JOE TAYLOR, K1JT - Princeton, New Jersey
- GEORGE NICHOLSON, N4GRN - Atlanta, George & Liverpool, Nova Scotia
- DOUG ZWIEBEL, KR2Q - Randolph, New Jersey

Background. Maritime DX Forum had its beginning in August 2004 with a gathering of twenty DX enthusiasts in the home of Scott Wood, VE1QD, on Moser's Island, near historic Peggy's Cove. It was an intimate gathering in Scott's living room with featured speaker Kim Mathiason, OZ1MAL. Kim arrived by sailboat, dropped anchor in front of Scott's home and captivated us with tales of operating DX from his 42-foot sloop. Also, Dick Grantham, VE1AI, recounted the 1993 Gambia (C51A) Dxpediton; John Scott, VE1JS, conducted the organizational meeting for the new Maritime Contest Club, and Scott Wood, VE1QD, led the discussion that formally organized the Maritime DX Forum. From this humble beginning in 2004 the DX Forum has grown steadily, increasing in attendance and attracting outstanding local, national and international participants.

Program. This year our program reaches new heights with four world-class speakers. DX Forum lineup includes:

- Our **keynote speaker**, **Martti Laine, OH2BH**, will talk about his recent experiences in helping develop amateur radio in various parts of the world under the title: **Turning New Stones: Building Passion for Amateur Radio**.
- Taking us in a more technical direction, **Joe Taylor, K1JT**, a Nobel Laureate in Astrophysics, and life long contributor to amateur radio, will talk about **Advances in Weak Signal Communication: WSJT and More**

- **Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q**, renowned for his low power contesting feats, will talk about **QRP Contesting from Home Stations**. This part of the program is being organized in partnership with the Maritime Contest Club, a new global competitor that is making its mark in contest circles.
- **George Nicholson, N4GRN**, will share with us the excitement and visual images of 2009's first significant DXpedition: **The 2009 Desecheo Island Dxpediton** that took place in February 2009. George is also a member of HARC.

There will be ample time to talk with each of our program presenters: first, at the reception on Friday night and then during the coffee breaks, lunch and DX banquet reception on Saturday. Cushcraft has been an MDF sponsor since 2005 and will again provide a nice antenna as a door prize. John David, KB1T, their manager of amateur sales, will be attending the MDF. John Scott, VE1JS, a volunteer ARRL QSL card checker will be on hand to confirm credits for DXCC, WAS & VUCC awards.

Cost and Registration. The cost of the MDF program, including the Friday reception and Saturday lunch, is \$45. The cost of Saturday evening's DX banquet is \$35. There will be a cash bar at the receptions on Friday and Saturday. **A copy of the MDF Registration Form is attached.** Scott would like to know of your intention to attend, and will gladly answer any questions. He can be contacted at: ve1qd@rac.ca or at (902) 823-2761.

Maritime DX Forum Foundation. To help augment the costs of operating and developing the MDF, we annually solicit donations. This money goes to provide travel support for speakers when needed and to cover developmental costs. Details about the Foundation are **attached**.

Accommodations. For those wishing inexpensive lodging, Mount St. Vincent University has comfortable dormitory rooms with a shared bath (\$41.63/day) and one bedroom apartments with bath (\$64.42/day). The price includes tax, breakfast and parking. Reservations can be made with Patricia Drake: telephone (902) 457-6355 or e-mail: patricia.drake@msvu.ca.

Tourism Opportunities. There are many reasons for visiting Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the Maritimes in the summer. The Nova Scotia **Tall Ships Festival** will take place this year from July 16th to the 29th. Ships will arrive in Halifax on Thursday, July 16 and following the magnificent **Parade of Sail** in Halifax Harbour on Mon-

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Handle every stressful situation like a dog. If you can't eat it or play with it, Just pee on it and walk away

DX Forum (Continued from page 4)

day, July 20 and then spread out around the province. Why not plan your summer vacation around a trip to the Maritimes. Visit Halifax. Get aboard a tall ship in Halifax Harbour. Tour the Nova Scotia mainland and Cape Breton Island. Visit the Alexander Graham Bell museum in Badeck. Hop the ferry or take a drive on the Confederation Bridge and visit our island province - PEI. **AND of course, take in the Maritime DX Forum on August 7th and 8th at Mt. Saint Vincent University.** If you wish tourism information for the Maritime Provinces, please note this on your registration form and a package will be mailed to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Beginning in June 1, a passport or enhanced driver's license/enhanced identification card will be required to cross into the USA. Thus returning Americans will also require this new level of documents. Ensure you have the right ID!

Finally. Let your friends know about the Maritime DX Forum. They can obtain registration materials either from the HARC website www.halifax-arc.org or from Scott Wood, VE1QD, and Chair of the MDF. Scott would like to know of your intention to attend, and will gladly answer any of your questions. He can be contacted at: ve1qd@rac.ca or at (902) 823-2761.

DRAFT
Sixth Annual MARITIME DX FORUM PROGRAM
7 - 8 August 2009

Friday, 7 August 2009

- 1730 Dinner for DX Forum Presenters in the Vincent Room, Rosaria Centre
- 1900 – 2130 Reception/Registration for MDF attendees at the Rosaria Centre, MSVU,

Saturday, 8 August 2009

- 0830 Registration and Coffee at the Rosaria Centre
- 0915 - 1030 **Keynote** Presentation: ***Turning New Stones: Building Passion for Amateur Radio***
Martti Laine OH2BH, Espoo, Finland
- 1030 - 1100 Coffee Break
- 1100– 1215 Presentation: ***Advances in Weak Signal Communications***
Joe Taylor, K1JT, Princeton, New Jersey
- 1215 – 1315 Lunch in the Rosaria Centre cafeteria
- 1315 – 1330 **Sponsors Corner**
John David, KB1T, Manager of Amateur Radio Sales, Laird Technologies, Cushcraft Division, Manchester, New Hampshire
- 1330 – 1445 Presentation: ***2009 Desecheo Island DXpetition: Dodging Unexploded Ordinance, Rats and QRM***
George Nicholson, N4GRN, Atlanta, Georgia
- 1445 – 1515 Coffee Break
- 1515– 1630 Presentation Co-Sponsored with the Maritime Contest Club:
QRP Contesting from Home Stations
Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q, Randolph, New Jersey
- 1630 Closing Words and Door Prize Draw
- 1715 Reception at Rosaria Hall Banquet Room, cash bar
- 1800 Maritime Forum DX Dinner After Dinner Speech: TBD

Greetings to all,

I thought I would put this notice out to all the clubs and please share it with your members. The [Maritime Amateur Website](#) has been updated and now has pages for RAC Appointments, ARES News, Photo Gallery, Maritime Fleamarkets and Packet Radio. I have also updated the Home page which now has the latest updates to the website. I am also going to add a page for [Exercise Handshake](#) very shortly which has become very popular here in the Maritimes. Any clubs or groups that would like to add information for their fellow hams to read here in the Maritimes including New Hams, Silent Keys, Nets, please let me know and I will get it on ASAP.

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

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 4

Online access to the QST archive <<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qqnsearch.html>> expanded. Beginning February 1, 2009, ARRL members will be able to search and view QST -- from Dec.1915 through Dec.2005 right from their computer. The online archive provides PDF copies of articles from the QST archive. Thousands of members have enjoyed searching, viewing and printing their favorite articles, projects and more. Access to the archive is free for ARRL members. QST is the official journal of ARRL ARRL membership is \$39 per year in the US. The ARRL Membership Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/join>>.

Man who drive like hell, bound to get there.

Halifax Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the General Meeting March 18, 2009

President Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD opened the meeting at 1935 hours.

Agenda: Motion THAT the evening's agenda be accepted with additional items as amended.

Moved by Win, VE1WIN. Seconded by Bill, VE1MR. Motion carried.

Silent Keys: No silent keys reported. The father of club member Sherry, VE1WST, father-in-law to David, VE1AJP and grandfather to Ian, died in March, after a long illness. Our condolences go out to Sherry, David and family.

There being no guests present, the members introduced themselves.

Regrets: Murray, VE1MMD advised that Howard, VE1DHD sent his regrets.

Minutes:

Motion THAT the minutes of February 18th be accepted as published in the Reflector, noting they were scribed by Don, VE1DTR, Acting Secretary.

Moved by Doug, VE1LDL. Seconded by Tom, VE1GTC. Motion carried.

Old Business

RAC AGM 2010 As per notice in the Reflector, Dave Goodwin stepped down as RAC's President. Scott, VE1QD spoke with Dave, who confirmed that the HARC invitation to host the meeting had been on the January Agenda and approved unanimously, at that time. Scott will follow up with the new president, who has yet to confirm that reported status for the AGM. Murray, VE1MMD received an email in response to his request for a link to the new RAC president denying that request for the present time. Murray reported the email further indicated the incoming president had no information about the AGM to be hosted by HARC. At present, we cannot move forward on this issue. Howard,

VE1DHD advised Murray he'd sent an email to submit information for the TCA and received a response that emails are read once a week by volunteers. If too many are received, they are read the following week.

Canada Winter Games 2011: Murray, VE1MMD reported three responses from various 2011 Committee members and a meeting will be set up a week from Friday.

Tall Ships 2009: There has been no response to an email offering our club's assistance.

HARC Trailer Project: Murray, VE1MMD reported the Honda generator has been ordered. The best price, and supplier, is based in Commeauville.

Club Access : Access codes are available for members and will be issued by Station Manager.

Radio purchase: Murray reported that the 746 Pro to be purchased for the station was budgeted at \$1800 plus. Thanks to negotiation with the Sales Manager we have a new radio on site that, with GST and shipping cost us \$990.00.

RCI Visit April 4th: Rob, VE1KS organized a tour for HARC members on Saturday, April 4th at 1100 hours. Members are to meet there. If anyone wants to carpool they were invited to take a copy of the sign up list of members planning to go to arrange drives. RCI can accommodate as many as 20. Ten is enough, but numbers must known by the end of the meeting.

Brit Fader Scholarship: Howard, VE1DHD submitted his report via email (see attached). Application forms have been updated and are posted on the club's website – take the link on the home page to the scholarship information and choose the application form link at the bottom of the page. An advertisement will be run in the May/June issue of TCA. RAC will issue a bulletin online in both official languages. The value of the 2009 Scholarship will

be \$1000. Club members who know of eligible candidates should encourage them to apply. Criteria (see details on line) include the applicants being a citizen of Canada, hold an active Basic Class or higher Canadian amateur radio license and be aware that the scholarship is for attendance at an accredited Canadian post-secondary technical school, college or university. *Preference will be given to applicants who have been accepted into a program in the field of electronics or electrical engineering. Submissions must be postmarked no later than July 15th 2009.*

Mobile D-STAR – Bill, VE1MR stated there is a Mobile D-STAR radio available for a member to use/test. Rob, VE1KS has one, and Don, VE1DTR has another. Three radios have been provided for members to borrow and use to test the D-Star repeater capability. Bill noted that the repeater is difficult to hit from outside Halifax. He asked that Murray, VE1MMD and/or Don, VE1DTR be advised as to who has these radios. The repeater will be at the club site until the end of April. The hope is that two or three amateurs will use a radio for a week and then pass it along to others for the next week, and so on. Bill reported that the gateway, which has crashed repeatedly, will be replaced by a new one on site that will be set up by Don, VE1DTR, after which it will be feasible to contact amateurs, i.e., in Toronto.

Treasurer's Report: Rod, VE1BSK reported a Starting Balance of \$12,749.80, Income of \$712.02, and Expenses of \$570.27. Outstanding cheques total \$ 61.10, and the End Balance is \$12,940.36.

Motion THAT Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

Moved by Peter, VE1PJW. Seconded by Terry, VE1TRB. Motion carried.

Executive Reports Nil

Committee Reports:

Membership – Howard, VE1DHD reported via email that we currently

(Continued on page 7)

Minutes (Continued from page 6)

have 14 Life, 20 Associate and 120 Full members for a total of 128. He sent and/or mailed messages to members who did not renew in 2007 or 2008. A few responses have come in, two reporting they weren't going to renew. Four members renewed this evening. Howard asked that those planning to renew to do so quickly to ensure they receive the Reflector.

Social – Nil

SAR/EMO – David, VE1AJP Nil

Training – VE1GTC Tom, VE1GTC reminded members that Gary, VE1RGB is available for CW code teaching and practice.

Other – Don, VE1DTR has convened the Events Committee. Don reported that the committee of five has met and that a listing of upcoming events has been published in the Reflector. The first scheduled is the MS Walk (see below).

New Business

Election – Station Manager This position is open as advertised in the Reflector. Brian, VE1AZV has filled the position during the interim. Nominations opened to the floor. _____ VE1____ nominated Brian, VE1AZV. Seconded by Terry, VE1TRB. Brian accepted the nomination. There being no further nominations, Murray, VE1MMD closed nomination. By acclamation, Brian, VE1AZV is Station Manager.

First Vice President: With Brian, VE1AZV vacating this position nominations were opened to the floor: Brian, VE1AZV nominated Dick, VE1AI. Rod, VE1BSK seconded. By acclamation, Dick, VE1AI is First Vice President.

Fall-Protection Training: Sunday, April 5 – Terry, VE1TRB is coordinating a Fall-Protection Training program to be held April 5th. This training is for any amateur willing to help the club with a prerequisite to be willing to work close to the edges of roofs, a defined danger zone. Five people have signed up and up to 7 more can be accommodated. This training is usually offered at \$115 per

person, but the qualified instructor is willing to train up to 12 people for an honorarium from the club. The program will be tailored to the HARC amateur community needs.

Tutorial – DX4WIN: Thursday, April 9 – Howard, VE1DHD forwarded information regarding the first of two DX4WIN tutorials he will give on April 9th in the club station. The first session will be pitched for those who either want to come in and use the Club Station radios and need to know about DX4Win basics in order to log, or, for those who plan on purchasing DX4Win and want to know a bit about the basics. We will start at 1900 and go to 2130 hours. Howard will produce a handout for people to take away at a cost of \$2.00 to cover photocopy costs. The next session will cover more advanced aspects of DX4Win and will likely be scheduled for early May. Registration will be limited by space in the Club Station and the number of laptops that we can get running with DX4Win. Howard wants everyone to have a "hands-on" experience. If you wish to attend, email Howard, ve1dhd@rac.ca to register. A detailed notice will be emailed to club members.

HARC Antenna Party – Saturday, April 18 – Brian, VE1 AZV and Bill, VE1MR will oversee an antenna party on April 18th and have circulated a sign-up list. *Maple Leaf Electronics* will provide supplies. (See breakdown of items and cost attached) Kits will be put together, i.e., dipoles will cost about \$40. During the workshop additional antennas will also be made for the club station. For anyone interested in learning good techniques for soldering, attaching connectors, measuring wire, twisting wire, etc., this will be an excellent opportunity. Brian has enough tools so bringing one's own is not necessary. The current issue of TCA has interesting article 259s connectors. Start time will be 0900 hours.

Flea Market: Saturday, May 9 –

Tom, VE1BMJ reported that clubs and RAC have been advised by email of the event date. Unfortunately, RAC's deadline for the spring issue was January so a notice was not placed. It is listed on their web site and on the Ontario Swap Shop. Information will be voiced advertising the event via the Maritime Net heard on 3750 daily at 1900, the Gore Noon Net and Pictou 2 meter Net. Also, will be the TransCanada at noon on Wednesday (146,640) and the Morning Net heard at 0900 daily will be contacted. *Durham Radio* will not be coming, but will send door prizes. *Maple Leaf* won't be in attendance as they are committed elsewhere. MacFarlane, if visiting Nova Scotia, will come. *RadioWorld* has not responded to our query. The event needs people to bring good used equipment for sale. We intend to have an HF station up and running on site using the new transceiver, the trailer and possibly a 20 m dipole. This year the Flea Market will be housed in the Super Bingo area accessed by the Almon Street entrance. Hopefully the new trailer could be outside with the beam up. Talk-in will be via VE1PSR. Tom will speak with Rod, VE1BSK about the feasibility of adding APRS. The grand prize will be a 2m handheld. Friday night's gathering will be hosted at the Chebucto Inn, and Saturday's breakfast at the Steak and Stein. No presentations are lined up, yet. Tom is waiting for confirmation that Industry Canada will be on site. NSARA will host their annual general meeting on site, in a small room off the Bingo Hall.

Halifax MS Walk: Sunday, May 24 – Terry, VE1TRB reported that while he has enough amateurs volunteering for communications headed by Tom, VE1GTC and himself, the MS society is always seeking volunteers for areas outside of our main agenda. Every year they ask us to join them at the arena to help set up chairs, tables, barbecues and route signs, etc. Terry and Brian will do

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Minutes (Continued from page 7)

route signs for the walk that begins at 1300 hours and goes until 1700. Our primary purpose is communications but helping in secondary areas will go a long way to its success.

MS Bike Tour – Rick, VE1RGG is coordinating for the July MS Bike Tour. Contact: ve1rgg@rac.ca

Field Day: June 26-27 – Dick, VE1AI reaffirmed the value of the DX4Win program tutorial that Howard will provide, noting the software costs about \$100 US. Field Day will be held the last full week-end in June. This year HARC has chosen to compete in the F Class from on site at the Dartmouth EOC. Barry Manual advised Dick that intensive renovations will be done on the EOC building during that week-end. It is probable that EOC will designate HARC to be the “back up EOC”. If so, we would operate from our own facilities further testing site realistic capability. Referencing club survey comments that members have little to do once Field Day operating stations are established, Dick proposed that the logs be placed on one computer and make wallpaper of results. He proposed that members could be writing out the QSL cards for mail out, track awards and other tasks that will be defined.

Sale of handhelds – Rob, VE1KS reported that due to putting the IRLP node in Kedgi, QCARC is upgrading radios and their search has found a group of radios offered out of Hong Kong that are very reasonably priced in the \$50 range. QCARC will be ordering 2 UHF radios for the Kedgi project but there is a price break for an order of 10 or more. The handhelds seem fairly robust and he recommends one for a door prize at the Flea Market. The company name is *WOXUN* and the model number KG669UHF. The price is currently \$82 C delivered. There will be some variation due to purchase-day exchange. Contact Rob, ve1ks@rac.ca before Friday, at which time he will place the order.

DX Forum – Scott, VE1QD reported that all speakers are now confirmed. Cushcraft will donate an antenna for a prize draw and John David, Manager of Sales, will be in attendance. He hopes to have an enrollment of 100 people for the event which will be held at Mount Saint Vincent University. There will be a Friday evening reception August 7th, prior to the DXFORUM on Saturday, August 8th.

Self-Study course: Rod, VE1BSK gave a report on behalf of Barry, VE1TRI. Three students were examined by VE1MR and VE1NN last week. Two passed, Graham Oldreive, VE1GCO of Dartmouth and Kenneth Perry, VE1KRP, Enfield. The third student will rewrite in the spring. (See attached)

Injured Amateur: Rod, VE1BSK receive an email from Steve, K4HG, who forwarded information on American amateur radio operator, Keith Sproul, W2UZ, who incurred multiple injuries in a plane accident last October. With severe bone fractures of legs, spine, and hips, puncture and collapse of both lungs, and the loss of recall of his first month of in the University of New Mexico Hospital's ICU, Keith has begun his long recovery and rehabilitation stage. Not yet walking, he has attained strength enough to stand for short periods of time. We wish Keith a speedy and full recovery.

50/50 Draw Sam, VE1YVN won the 50/50 draw.

Door Prize Draw A Weller torch for soldering, heat shrink was won by Brian, VE1AZV

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

After the break, the evening's program was a presentation on Basic Satellite Operation by Bill Elliott, VE1MR.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen MacRae, VE1HMR,
HARC Secretary

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 10 **US Coast Guard to Discontinue LORAN Stations**

The US Coast Guard <<http://www.uscg.mil/>> has announced that due to economic conditions, they would be closing down the 24 LORAN-C (Long Range Aid to Navigation) <<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/loran/default.htm>> stations operated under the auspices of the USCG. LORAN stations provide navigation, location & timing services for civil and military air, land & marine users. According to the USCG, LORAN-C is approved as an en route supplemental air navigation system for both Instrument Flight Rule (IFR) and Visual Flight Rule (VFR) operations. The LORAN-C system serves the 48 continental states, their coastal areas and parts of Alaska.

LORAN-A stations were developed beginning in World War II. Signals were transmitted on frequencies in and around our present-day 160 meter band. LORAN-A was responsible for reduced amateur radio operations, including frequency & power limitations, on 160 meters in the US. In 1979, the Coast Guard phased out the LORAN-A stations; they were replaced by LORAN-C stations. LORAN-C stations operate on 100 kHz, enabling the restrictions on the 160m amateur band due to LORAN functions, to be dropped.

According to the Coast Guard, they will continue to operate the current LORAN-C system through the end of fiscal year 2009.

-- Some information provided by Cliff Appel, W7CGA

*Cleaning Tips: Guests -
If unexpected company is coming,
pile everything unsightly into one
room and close the door. As you
show your guests through your tidy
home, rattle the door knob vigor-
ously, fake a growl and
say, "I'd love you to see
our den, but Fluffy hates
to be disturbed and the
shots are SO expensive."*



From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 10
HAMS to Activate Midway Atoll as
K4M in October 2009



Earlier this year, US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced that they would open Midway Atoll <<http://www.fws.gov/midway/>> to Amateur Radio operations for two weeks, from October 5-19, 2009 <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/01/27/10596/>>

Tom Harrell, N4XP, of Monroe, Georgia, & Dave Johnson, WB4JTT, of Aitkin, Minn., have put together a team of 19 operators from all over the world to activate Midway Atoll for a 10 day period as K4M <<http://www.midway2009.com/>>. This the first time that USFWS has allowed amateurs to operate from the wildlife refuge since 2002.

"Midway ranks as Number 24 worldwide and Number 13 in Europe on DX Magazine's Most Wanted List <<http://www.dxpub.com/>," Harrell & Johnson said. "Activity will be on 6-160 meters with 5 to 6 stations. At least one station will be active on 20m. around the clock for those who need it for a new country. Efforts will be made to meet the demand to the most needed geographical areas, the low bands & RTTY." The team has posted a list of planned frequencies on their Web site <http://www.midway2009.com/kh4freqs.html>>.

The co-leaders said that travel to the atoll is only allowed by chartered aircraft: "Because of the size of the aircraft, it will only be able to carry the team, requiring the equipment to be shipped by boat some months ahead."

In January, the USFWS started a program to encourage visitors to experience Midway's wildlife, history & culture, as well as non-wildlife-dependent activities. To ensure the safety of the wildlife on the Refuge Amateur Radio operations will be permitted for 2 weeks and only within a designated area on the north side of Sand Island. Midway Atoll Refuge Mng'r Matt D. Brown said that portable generators will not be permitted but there is 120V power available at the operation site.

Midway is located in the North Pacific Ocean, approximately 1250 miles northwest of Honolulu. Less than 150 miles east of the International Dateline, Midway Atoll is truly "midway" around the world from the Greenwich meridian. Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge which has international significance for its historic & natural resources is owned & administered by the USFWS.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 11

ARRL Releases Revision of "Experimental Methods in RF Design"

The revised first edition of "Experimental Methods in RF Design" is now available from the ARRL <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9239>>. Co-written and updated by Wes Hayward, W7ZOI, Rick Campbell, KK7B, and Bob Larkin, W7PUA, "Experimental Methods in RF Design" explores wide dynamic range, low distortion radio equipment, the use of direct conversion and phasing methods and digital signal processing. Use the models and discussion included in the book to design, build and measure equipment at both the circuit and the system level.

Readers are immersed in the communications experience by building equipment that contributes to understanding basic concepts and circuits. The updated version of "Experimental Methods in RF Design" is loaded with new, unpublished projects. Presented to illustrate the design process, the equipment is often simple, lacking the frills found in current commercial gear. The authors understand that measurement is a vital part of experimentation. Readers are encouraged to perform measurements on the gear as they build it. Techniques to determine performance and the measurement equipment needed for the evaluations are discussed in detail and include circuits that the reader can build.

Contents of "Experimental Methods in RF Design" include:

- * Basic Investigations in Electronics
- * Amplifiers, Filters, Oscillators and Mixers
- * Superheterodyne Transmitters and Receivers
- * Measurement Equipment
- * Direct Conversion Receivers
- * Phasing Receivers and Transmitters
- * DSP Components
- * DSP Applications in Communications
- * Field Operation, Portable Gear and Integrated Stations

A follow-up to the widely popular "Solid-State Design for the Radio Amateur" (published in 1977), "Experimental Methods in RF Design" includes a CD-ROM with design software, listings for DSP firmware and supplementary articles. It is available from the ARRL for \$49.95 US.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 10

GAREC-2009: Emergency Communications Across Borders

The Fifth Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC) -- hosted by the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) -- will be held in conjunction with the JARL Ham Fair <http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/4_Library/A-4-6_ham-fair/ham-fair.htm> at Tokyo Big Sight on August 24-25, 2009. Registration for GAREC-2009 will begin in early May.

According to GAREC 2009 Organizing Committee Member Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, this year's theme is "Emergency Communications across Borders." The program will include presentations about operations during disasters that have occurred since GAREC-2008 in Friedrichshafen, Germany, as well as discussions about new developments in technology and their application in emergency communications. Detailed program to be published in late April.

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All Amateur Radio operators interested in Emergency Communications are invited to participate in GAREC. The fifth GAREC continues the work of its 4 forerunners. The proceedings and the statements of the 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 conferences can be found at the GAREC Web site <<http://www.rientola.fi/oh3ag/garec/index.html>>.

Sisatto pointed out that the theme of GAREC-2009 mirrors the theme chosen by the IARU for World Amateur Radio Day <<http://www.iaru.org/worldAmRadioDay.html>> on April 18, "Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication."

Chart of those who are Fall Protection qualified as of April 5, 2009					
Name & Phone	Callsign	Fall Protection Expiry	Experienced	Has Own gear	Work on Roof
Brian Allen 404-4215	VE1AZV	Apr 2012	N	N	Y
Howard Dixon 823-2024	VE1DHD	Apr 2012	N	N	Y
Ed Grace 443-3435	VE1EGG	Apr 2012			Y
Phil Bentley 826-2861	VE1PB	Apr 2012	Y		Y
Neil Hughes 823-7605	VE1YZ	Apr 2012	Y	Y	Y
Terry Bigelow 864-4125	VE1TRB	Apr 2012	Y	Y	Y
Wayne Harasimovitch 835-4865	VE1WPH	Mar 2011	Y	Y	Y
Shelly Smith	VA1CAT	Mar 2011			
Tom Cohoon 624-8931	VE1TA	Mar 2011	Y		Y
Tim Smith	VE1VWV	Mar 2011			
Dave A. Charbonneau 453-4549	VE1DDC	Mar 2011	Y	Y	Y
Sheldon Page	VE1SJP	Mar 2011	N	N	Y
John Bartlett	VE1OZ	Mar 2011	Y	N	Y
Colleen Prentice	VE1PIE	Mar 2011	N	N	Y

NOTICE

If you are interested in getting fall arrest certification for tower climbing, please contact an executive member. Another course will not take place before next year.

*Life is simpler
when you plow
around the stump.*

*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
ve1ent@rac.ca*

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 11 Global Simulated Emergency Test Scheduled for April

IARU Region 1 has invited the HQ stations of IARU Member-Societies, as well as the EOCs of Emergency Communications Groups (ECGs), to participate in the 2009 Global Simulated Emergency Test (GlobalSET), on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 1100-1500 UTC <<http://www.arrl.org/news/files/2009GlobalSET.pdf>>.

The GlobalSET will take place on and near the emergency Center of Activity (CoA) frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters, \pm QRM.

The intent of the 2009 GlobalSET is for established IARU Headquarters stations and EOCs to test their capabilities. Usually held in May, the 2009 GlobalSET was moved to April to tie into World Amateur Radio Day. The theme of W.A.R.D. 2009 is "Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster & Emergency Communication."

For more information on the 2009 GlobalSET, including a list of CoA frequencies for Regions 1, 2 and 3, please see the GlobalSET announcement <<http://www.arrl.org/news/files/2009GlobalSET.pdf>>.

Tools Explained: UTILITY KNIFE: *Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door; works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund checks, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.*