



REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

May 2007 Volume 68 Number 5
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org

The 2007 Downeast Flea Market is May 12 The 2008 Callbook Needs Your Help (pg.3)



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

See the HARC Web site at: <http://www.halifax-arc.org>

Our executive and committees.

| Position Name & Call Sign | Phone # | E-Mail |
|---|----------|-------------------------------|
| President - Bill Elliott, VE1MR | 865-8567 | ve1mr@rac.ca |
| First V.P. - Dick Grantham, VE1AI | 434-8046 | ve1ai@rac.ca |
| 2nd V.P. - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC | 477-7081 | tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Secretary - Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD | 876-0661 | twomacds@ns.sympatico.ca |
| Treasurer - Fraser MacDougall VE1WO | 865-4198 | ve1wo@rac.ca |
| Director-at-Large: - Doug LeBlanc, VE1LDL | 465-4665 | leblanc@accesscable.net |
| Club Station Mgr. - Brian Allan, VE1AZV | 489-4656 | basailor@eastlink.ca |
| Past President - Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ | 860-4454 | bob_swinwood@hotmail.com |

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

75th Anniversary Chair - **VACANT**

Brit Fader Memorial QSL Bureau Manager - **VACANT**

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

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

Reflector Dist. - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD 823-2024 dhddickson@hfx.eastlink.ca

Membership - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD 823-2024 dhddickson@hfx.eastlink.ca

Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS, 826-1705 ewertr@hfx.eastlink.ca

Basic ham course - Scott Wood, VE1QD 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

EMO Trailer Assembly coord - David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 ve1eda@rac.ca

2007 Flea market Chair - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI bdiggin@chebucto.ns.ca

Field Day coordinator - **VACANT**

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

RAC Asst Director - Wayne Marchand, VE1WJM, 860-1580

RAC Atlantic Dir. (acting) - Len, VE9MY (506) 847-5656 lmorgan@nbnet.nb.ca

NSARA Director - Scott Wood, VE1QD 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

The **General Monthly Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, May 16, 2007 at 1930 hr (7:30 PM) at the former Bloom-fiel d School building (corner of Almon and Agricola Streets). The meeting, will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room. The evening's entertainment will be a night of electronic music with David George, VE1AJP, Guests are welcome.

Life is sexually transmitted.

The **Club station** is a good space for ham radio activities. **Please reserve your date & time** with Station Manager Brian Allen, VE1AZV E-mail basailor@eastlink.ca

Attention new Amateurs

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

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
VE1BBS - Local packet BBS
accessible through the LAN

Take-15 Net Controllers

NOTE: There have been some changes.

This will be the rotation.

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.



| | | | |
|------|----|---------|--------|
| May | 13 | Wayne | VE1WPH |
| May | 20 | Win | VE1WIN |
| May | 27 | Emil | VE1ESP |
| June | 3 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| June | 17 | Charles | VE1MCR |
| June | 24 | Chris | VA1CDB |

Puzzler - Do you know

What is the rate of rotation of Earth's moon?

Answer on page 7




Variation Law: If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will start to move faster than the one you are in now. (Works every time)

Deadline for submissions to the June Reflector is Saturday, June 9, 2007

Events for Your Calendar

All year – **Work 40 YLs Challenge**

2007 Downeast Flea Market –  At the Halifax Forum Saturday, May 12.; Social get together Friday evening. Barry, VE1TRI, is chairing this event. Contact Barry to help.

June 23, 24 – **The ARRL Field Day**
We need a co-ordinator this year, volunteer your help with the organizing.

July & August – Pizza Nights

July 9 & 10 – **International Museum Ships Weekend** – Why not schedule some time to come down to the Museum of the Atlantic to operate from Acadia and/or Sackville. If you are interested contact Brian, VE1AZV, or Murray, VE1MMD

July 28 & 29 - **IOTA**

July 28 & 29 - The **MS Bike Tour** participants need amateur radio operators with our gear and skills for safety and “logistical” purposes. The HARC has been asked to continue our tradition of providing communications for the 2007 NS RONA MS (Multiple Sclerosis) Bike Tour. Emil, VE1ESP & David, VE1EDA will co-liase for this event. If you wish to help out, please contact them.

For more information visit www.mssociety.ca/atlantic

August 19, 2007 (Sunday) - The sixth **International Lighthouse Day** promoting our maritime heritage; raising the profile of lighthouses, lightvessels and other navigational aids.

See www.illw.net/2007_list.htm
And the Association of Lighthouse Keepers website www.alk.org.uk

August 4 - **DX forum** at the St. Margaret’s Bay Recreation Complex. (Same location as last year)

August – NSARA Picnic

August – Lunenburg Steak & Salmon Supper

A **Basic Radio Licensing Course** starts Thursday, September 13. Anyone interested should get in touch with Scott, VE1QD

The 24th Down East Flea Market

When: May 12th
Where: at the Halifax Forum Complex (Multi Purpose Room).
Doors open at: 0630 for sellers
0900 for buyers

Admission: \$4.00 per person
Tables will be free for sellers.
Reserve tables via Dave, VE1NN

Both ALQ and Durham Radio have promised to be there.

The QSL Bureau will be there.

Joining us from Industry Canada:
Phil Amirault & George Hastings .

There will be talks as follows:
At 1015 – Scanners and Emergency Communications by David George, VE1AJP; & Matt Boyle, VE1BSG
At 1115 - Geocaching by Carolyn Sparling, VE1FRG; and Jim Cyr, VA1CYR

The **NSARA meeting** will take place at the end of the fleamarket

A social event will be held on Friday evening at the Chebucto Inn Restaurant/Bar at 1930 hours.

Join fellow hams for breakfast on Saturday morning at the Steak & Stein Restaurant at 0730 hours.

Volunteer to help out by contacting Barry (VE1TRI).

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

P.O. Box 8895

Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M5


Or drop by the Bureau’s table at the Flea Market on May 12.

HARC membership dues


Yearly rates are as follows:
Full = \$25 Associate = \$15
Family (2 members) = \$35 + \$10 for each additional family member at same address (only 1 newsletter)

Silent Key -

Fred Benjamin, VE1BSY, died on April 18, 2007.

HARC 75th Anniversary Planning Committee needs **your help** 

Spud (VE1BC) is putting together a Club history and would like each member of HARC to provide him with the following:

- 1) a copy of your QSL card (current and any past cards)
- 2) a photograph of you (ideally a head and neck shot) 
- 3) any other photographs that you might have of Club members and/or Club activities in the past

If you want your pictures and/or QSL cards returned to you, please let Spud know and then provide him with an address so he can mail them back after he has scanned them into digital files.

Thanks in advance for your help with this project.

Howard, VE1DHD

Nametags bearing the club logo are available for \$5.00. If interested, please contact Dave, VE1NN

Summerside Flea Market

Date: July 21, 2007 Starting:at 9AM

Location: Wilmot Community Center, Summerside, PEI.

Cost: Entry - \$2.00

Breakfast - \$3.00

Tables - FREE.

The Summerside Clubwebsite is: <http://www.summersidearc.com/>



Understanding Engineers - Take Three

The graduate with a science degree asks, "Why does it work?"

The graduate with an engineering degree asks, "How does it work?"

The graduate with an accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?"

The graduate with an arts degree asks, "Do you want fries with that?"

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in desperate need of a Field Day co-ordinator. John, VE1HMH has had to drop this task due to family commitments. Some preliminary work has been done but we need a co-ordinator to over see this annual event.

We also need a chairman for the 75th Anniversary committee. Bob, VE1PQ has had to step down due to personal commitments. A lot of work and planning have been done and a chairman is needed to make sure things stay on track. As was stated at the beginning, all club members are needed to make this task easier. Please consider stepping up to help out.

Also please look over the upcoming events on page 2 and see what you can help out with.

We have been offered new space for the club station and the executive has tentatively accepted the offer. We hope to officially move in September but things may begin earlier. There will be some renovations needed as well as setting up antennas and other gear beforehand. There may be more news by the meeting this month.

A project which has been in the works for the past two years needs someone to spearhead it. This is the refurbishing and enlargement of the repeater building at Cowie Hill which houses the VE1PSR repeaters, linking radios and several packet nodes. Some preliminary estimates and planning has been done, but we need someone with some time to get this project going.

This coming year is shaping up very busy, We will need membership participation in many of the events and happenings. Don't wait to be contacted, this takes a lot of time for executive members, please step forward when you see or hear of something you can help out with.

73 - Bill, VE1MR

Sunday 06 May 2007 was an early morning for a group of Hams who provided communications support for this year's **MS Super Cities Walk** in Halifax. The first group arrived at the Dalhousie Arena at about 0630 to help set up tables and chairs, and unload the delivery van. The remainder were on location and ready to go before the 0800 registration time. All operators, equipped with portables and mobiles were given their areas of responsibilities, and were able to provide an excellent level of support to the event. The walk was completed by 1300 with over 800 registered walkers. Contributing to this once again successful event were VE1PJW Peter at the start/ finish point, VE1LDL Doug MS Support Vehicle, VE1WPH Wayne MS Support Vehicle, VE1PHK Pat First Aid Vehicle, VE1EDA Dave Rest Stop 1, VE1NTB Neil Rest Stop 2, and myself VE1TRB Terry Coordinator. At the end of the event, the MS coordinator came to me and really summed it up nicely in saying "You guys were awesome" and I couldn't agree with her more, well done to all, and I thank you all for a job well done.

VE1TRB Terry

Go to URL <http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/morse.htm>

That link will take one to absolutely everything -- EVERYTHING! a person would ever want to know about CW, including formats for typical messages, etc. Gary, VE1RGB

**The 2008 Callbook
Needs Your Help**

The 2008 Callbook is going to be a special, "collector's edition" and will most certainly cost us more to print that in previous years. In order to keep the selling cost down, it is going to be necessary for the Club to solicit much more commercial advertising than in previous years. This is where you can help.

If you have any personal connection with a business that you think you can convince to place an advertisement in the 2008 Maritime Provinces Amateur Radio Callbook, PLEASE let Howard (VE1DHD) know as soon as possible. We are not necessarily looking for companies that provide services directly related to Amateur Radio; any company that provides "generic" services – like taxi cabs; motels; eating establishments, etc. would be welcomed additions to our advertising pool.

I can not stress how important it is going to be to secure additional advertisers for 2008.

E-mail ve1dhd@rac.ca. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Howard – VE1DHD,
Editor, 2008 Maritime Callbook.

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

(TECH SUPPORT)

Customer: *Hi, good afternoon, this is Martha, I can't print. Every time I try, it says 'Can't find printer'. I've even lifted the printer and placed it in front of the monitor but the computer still says he can't find it*



The CQ Web site
<http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/>

About Black Holes ...

From an article in the Jan.13/07 Montreal Gazette by Marc Kaufman

Albert Einstein posited the existence of objects in the universe so dense that even light could not escape them. Researchers now believe that millions of black holes exist; some just a few kilometers across some as wide as our solar system. Astronomers now detect them by the extremely bright light and other radiation that emanates from around a hole as it swallows a nearby star or galactic gases. Detectable bursts of gamma rays also shoot out as a star explodes and collapses into a black hole

When a massive star runs out of fuel it collapses under its own gravity into a black hole. At the core is an extremely small point called a singularity, with gravity so strong that not even light can escape.

Black holes accumulate matter which spirals in on an accretion disc. As the material approaches the black hole, friction heats it to several million degrees which stimulates the radiation of x-rays. Interaction between the magnetic field and the accretion disc creates magnetic winds that blow some of the disc's material back into space at 480 kilometers per second. Black holes can spin as fast as 950 times per second creating powerful magnetic fields. Such a field from a supermassive black hole – with a mass of perhaps a billion suns – can send a jet of particles at almost the speed of light far beyond the center of a galaxy.

The event horizon of a black hole is the point beyond which gravity is infinitely strong and all matter & light plunge at the speed of light toward the singularity. The diameter of the event horizon, in kilometers, is equal to 6 times the number of solar masses that have accumulated.

TEACHER: Now, Sam, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?

SAM: No sir, I don't have to, my Mom is a good cook.

If you have First Aid Training you could save someone's life! Go to <http://stjohnambulance.ns.ca> to find out what courses St. John Ambulance offer.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 11

Field Day 2007 is Saturday and Sunday, June 23-24. Field Day is an ideal time for new hams to become more proficient. Last June, more than 32,500 operators took part in ARRL Field Day. The League saw some 2200 Field Day log — nearly 1.24 million completed contacts.

Morse code remains a popular Field Day operating mode, perhaps because CW QSOs are worth twice as much as phone contacts. Last year some 56% of Field Day contacts took place on SSB; nearly 42% were on CW; 2% were digital.

ARRL's Dan Henderson, N1ND, points out 2 small **changes in the Field Day rules** this year:

1/ participating stations may only complete 1 satellite contact for bonus points via a single-channel FM-mode spacecraft (Rule 7.3.7.1), and it must be an Earth-satellite-Earth contact. "To allow more stations to access this very limited resource," he says.

2/ an individual Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) station operators will earn 20 points for each 20 contacts, up to a maximum of 100 per GOTA operator. No partial point credit is available, and **GOTA operators may not "pool" contacts** toward any 20-QSO GOTA station bonus.

Complete information on Field Day 2007 packet is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>>.

Visit the DXCC Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>>.

"DXCC Frequently Asked Questions" can answer most questions about the **DXCC program**.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, # 11 The editors of CQ Amateur Radio magazine have prepared an HF Operator's Survival Guide, a 16-page getting-started guide for newcomers to high-frequency (shortwave) Amateur Radio communications. Written by CQ editors John Dorr, K1AR, Gordon West, WB6NOA, & Rich Moseson, W2VU, the booklet is a practical, hands-on guide to success in HF ham radio. Among other topics, the book discusses the characteristics of each HF ham band, explains which is best & when, basic HF operating practices, choosing your first HF transceiver, antenna basics, and various HF modes & operating activities. There's also an HF band chart. Price: \$2 plus shipping. To order or for more info contact CQ Communications Inc, 800-853-9797 toll-free weekdays 9AM to 5PM E.T.

DX-peditioning for IOTA 2006 to the Magdalen Islands (NA-038) with temporary call sign VC2W went: Gary, VE1RGB; Howard, VE1DHD, Rich, VA1CHP, Helen, VA1YL, Fred, VE1FA, Bill, VE1MR, Lynn, VE1ENT, Al, VO1NO, Shelly, VE1NOS, Reg, VE2AYU.

Not in the same class of challenge as the Peter I Island DX-pedition but fun was had by all and thanks to Al, the group had the experience of raising & lowering the towers using the "falling derrick" method. This tower handling method worked so well from the perspectives of ease, control and safety that other HARC members may wish to become familiar with it and use it ... How about for tower handling next Field Day?

Several of us took the opportunity to put a few lighthouse and some of the other Islands of the interconnected group of 5 on the air during the week we spent on les Isles de Madeleine. But pursuing the subject of tower raising...

There are a number of ways to raise a

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DX-peditioning for IOTA (continued from page 4) tower for temporary or permanent use. There are pros and cons and other considerations for each method (tower size, safety, money, time, terrain, available people, available equipment, etc.) The standard Field Day method has long been to get the heaviest person to stand on the base of the tower so it doesn't kick out, station people to make sure the side and back guys don't get either too tight or too loose as the tower goes up, lift the tower by brute-force until everyone runs out of height at which point the tower should have gained enough elevation that you can raise it the rest of the way by heaving on the "opposite" guy.

In 2006 when a group of us were planning to go to the Magdalen Islands for the IOTA contest AI, VO1NO, insisted that we use the Falling Derrick method for raising the towers we would be setting up for the contest. He insisted it would be easier, safer and could be done safely by fewer people than our customary "brute force method". And he said he would bring the derrick equipment which he had been using to raise his towers at his home near Ottawa. He was right.

The Falling Derrick method requires a bit of careful, but not difficult, thought, preparation and work.

A flat setup area makes it easier but it's not essential. It is essential that you drive stakes into the earth where the base of the tower will rest and that these stakes hold securely there.



The base is firmly staked to the ground and the bottom of the tower rotates around the piece of pipe



The top of the derrick is wire-roped to a point part way up the tower

Four guys are needed. The length of the back and side guys are calculated and measured and their stakes are positioned so that there is no adjustment required as the tower rises; the side guys keep the tower stable from side to side as it rises and when the back guy tightens, the tower should be vertical. Your derrick gives



The tower lies down while AI steadies the derrick and Helen checks guys & stakes



Tower going up; derrick coming down



Providing some extra lift

you improved mechanical advantage for raising and lowering the tower; being always at 90 degrees from the tower. Add a pulley or 2 and maybe a brake and a single person, with care, actually could have raised this tower (but it wouldn't have been as fast or as much fun) And lowering the tower by reversing the procedure works beautifully.



With the tower standing, the derrick and its rigging lie on the ground

For information on the IOTA program see the IOTA Web site <http://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php4>

There is a fine line between genius and insanity.

Lynn, VE1ENT

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the Monthly General
Meeting
Wednesday, April 18, 2007**

President Bill (VE1MR) called the meeting to order at 1941 with 41 members and guests in attendance.

Silent Keys: There were no silent keys to report.

Guests / Visitors. There were no guests or visitors to report.

Executive in attendance:

Bill Elliott (VE1MR) President; Murray Mac Donald (VE1MMD) Secretary; Fraser Mac Dougall (VE1WO) Treasurer; Doug Leblanc (VE1LDL) Director-at-Large and Bob Swinwood (VE1PQ) Past President.

Regrets: Regrets were received from Dick Grantham, (VE1AI) 1st Vice-President and Brian Allan (VE1AZV), Station Manager.

Minutes of the March 21, 2007 monthly general meeting: It was moved by Howard (VE1DHD) and seconded by Tom (VE1GTC) that the minutes of the March 21, 2007 meeting, as printed in the April 2007 edition of the Reflector, be adopted. Motion was carried.

Executive Reports:

Treasurer's report: Fraser (VE1WO) reported that income for the month was \$ 1,436.02 and expenses were \$144.13. The bank balance at the end of March was \$12,594.51.

It was moved by Doug (VE1LDL) and seconded by John (VE1HMH) that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Motion was carried.

Secretary's report: Murray (VE1MMD) reported on the status of the current negotiations with the HRM concerning our tentative move to a new location. He reported that negotiations are going well and it is anticipated that a decision will be reached shortly.

President's report: Bill (VE1MR) reported that a coordinator for the Britt Fader QSL Bureau is required and invited anyone interested in taking on

the running of the Bureau to contact him. He advised that a number of members have come forward indicating their willingness to assist the coordinator.

He reported that members were required to "man" the QSL Bureau tables at the Down East Flea market. If anyone is interested, please let Bill know.

Bill advised that due to work commitments, Peter (VE1PJW), had decided to step down as 2nd Vice President and that an election to fill the vacancy would be held later on during the meeting.

1st Vice President's report: Dick (VE1AI) sent his regrets and advised that he had nothing to report.

2nd Vice President's report: No report. Bill (VE1MR) reported that the door prize for the evening was a ratchet screwdriver set.

Station Manager's report: Brian (VE1AZV) sent his regrets and through the secretary, reminded members of the upcoming Museum Ships Weekend (June 9/10). This year we will be operating from both the Acadia and the Sackville. If anyone is interested in operating from either ship, please advise Brian (VE1AZV) or Murray (VE1MMD).

Member at Large: Doug (VE1LDL) advised that he had nothing to report.

Past President: Bob (VE1PQ) advised that he had nothing to report.

Committee reports:

Membership: Howard (VE1DHD) reported that currently there are two (2) Life Members, twenty seven (27) Associate Members and one hundred and seventeen (117) Full Members for a total 2007 membership of one hundred forty six (146).

Search and Rescue: Dave (VE1AJP) reported that the Halifax Regional Search and Rescue would be hosting a major worldwide Eco - Endurance Challenge scheduled for April 28th and 29th. Teams from various parts of the world are expected to attend.

He further announced that the

logistics vehicle had "given up the ghost" and needs to be replaced. As a result, a new \$240,000.00 vehicle has been ordered and they are expecting to take possession of the vehicle in October.

EMO: Dave (VE1AJP) reported that they are currently putting together three (3) complete portable radio kits for rural hospitals and that an additional three kits will be assembled for placement in the local hospital system.

Tom (VE1GTC) reported that he would be conducting an "emergency communication" course on April 21st in Chezzetcook. Interested persons are requested to advise Sheldon (VE1SJP) if they wish to attend.

75th Anniversary: Bob (VE1PQ) reported that plans for the 75th Anniversary are proceeding well. He introduced & acknowledged the contributions of his committee. The Committee was currently looking at a number of possible locations in which to hold the various events and that a decision would be made shortly and communicated to the membership as soon as possible. He reiterated the need for all members to participate in order to make the Anniversary celebrations a success. Bob reported that Spud (VE1BC) is the archivist and club historian on the committee and is constantly seeking out club memorabilia and is anxious to receive any pictures, documents or experiences members may have. (Note: non-members having any items of interest are also invited to contact Spud)

Field Day: Nothing to report at this time.

Flea Market: Barry (VE1TRI) reminded those present that the Down East Flea Market would be held on May 12th at the Halifax Forum Complex (Multi Purpose Room). Doors will open at 0630 for sellers and 0900 for buyers. The talk-in frequency will be 147.270. Tables will again be free for sellers and the admission for buyers will remain at

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Minutes (Continued from page 6)

\$4.00. Two commercial vendors have confirmed their attendance, ALQ Electronics and Durham Radio. He confirmed that two presentations of interest have been scheduled during the Flea Market – at 1015 Scanners & Emergency Communications by Dave George (VE1AJP) and Matt Boyle (VE1BSG) and at 1115 Geocaching by Carolyn Sparling (VE1FRG) and Jim Cyr (VE1CYR)

Barry reported that the major door prize would be an Icom handheld. The social event will be held on Friday evening at the Chebucto Inn and a breakfast held on Saturday morning at the Steak and Stein prior to the opening of the Flea Market. Anyone seeking tables are invited to contact

Dave (VE1NN). Volunteers are required to assist in setting up the tables on Friday evening at 1730 and interested members are asked to contact Barry (VE1TRI).

Old Business: There was no old business requiring attention.

New Business: Call for nominations for 2nd Vice President. It was moved by Murray (VE1MMD) and seconded by Howard (VE1DHD) that Tom (VE1GTC) be nominated to fill the vacancy for 2nd Vice President. There being no additional nominations, the motion was put to a vote and carried unanimously.

Reports / Announcements: Dave (VE1EDA) reminded those present of the need for volunteers for the

MS Bike Tour. If interested, members are requested to contact either Emile (VE1ESP) or Dave (VE1EDA).

DX Forum: Scott (VE1QD) reported that this year's edition of the DX Forum has been scheduled for August 4, 2007 at the St. Margaret's Bay Recreation Complex. (The same location as last year) He announced that program for this year is shaping up to be one of the best and encouraged those interested to book the day.

Basic Course: Scott (VE1QD) reported that the next basic course is scheduled to commence in September and will cover a fourteen (14) week period. Anyone interested in attending is requested to contact Scott.

IRLP Reflector: Rob (VE1KS) advised that contact had been made with Chris Hadfield (Canadian Astronaut) and reported that he has agreed to provide a voice greeting for the IRLP reflector.

50/50: Sam (VE1VYN) won the 50/50 draw in the amount of \$25.00.

Door Prize: George (VE1CAW) won the ratchet screwdriver set.

It was moved by Doug (VE1LDL) that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 2024.

Respectfully submitted,
Murray Mac Donald, VE1MMD
Secretary, H.A.R.C.

NSARA CONTEST RESULTS



The following is the official result off the 9th annual NSARA contest held March 11TH, 2007

The contest committee again congratulates Merle Taylor VE1VCI on her win in the 2007 NSARA contest. Merle was the 2005 and 2006 winner.

Results of the 9th annual NSARA contest.

| | |
|--|---|
| 1 ST VE1VCI- CS -2754 *MERLE | 20 TH VE1RCF----748 *BRIAN |
| 2 ND VE1CTW- CS -2070 *MICHAEL | 21 ST VE1TXL- CS -720 *ROBERT |
| 3 RD VE1DFG- CS -1782 *DOUG | 22 ND VE1RR- CS -684 *WAYNE |
| 3 RD VE1KY- CS -1782 *BASIL | 23 RD VE1DH- CS -648 *DONALD |
| 4 TH VE1MC- CS -1656 *BRIAN | 23 RD VE1WSM- CS -648 *WAYNE |
| 5 TH VE1TL- CS -1638 *CLARENCE | 24 TH VE9JT----608 *JIM |
| 6 TH VE1AN- CS -1512 *ART | 25 TH VE1NL----578 *WILLIAM |
| 7 TH VE1RHP----1428 *ROBERT | 26 TH VE9WN----561 *WELDON |
| 8 TH VE1JOT- CS -1404 *JOHN | 27 TH VE9ALX----600 *ALEXIS |
| 8 TH VE1FWL- CS -1404 *FRANK | 28 TH VE9REB----570 *ED |
| 09 TH VE1AUZ- CS -1332 *MARTIN | 29 TH VE1IM----435 *AL |
| 09 TH VE1RAR- CS -1332 *RALPH | 30 TH VE1WO-406 *FRASER |
| 10 TH VE1KLR- CS -1314 *MARTIN | 31 ST VE9WGS----396 *WADE |
| | 32 ND V E 9 W M - - |
| 378* L LEWELLYN | |
| 11 TH VE1AAC- CS -1206 *GERALD | 33 RD VE1DY----306 *PAUL |
| 12 TH VE1SD- CS -1170 *STEVE | 34 TH VE1VN----225 *FRANK |
| 13 TH VE9HC- CS -1168 *HUGH | 35 TH VE1JBL----200 *JIM |
| 14 TH VE1DO- CS -1080 *BARRY | 36 TH VE1GBD----208 *GLEN |
| 15 TH VE1PJS- CS -1062 *PETER | 37 TH VE1CEL----180 *ARCHIE |
| 16 TH VE1AUI----1056 *ROY | 38 TH VE9BMA----117 *ROBERT |
| 17 TH VE1GLW- CS -1008 *GERALD | 39 TH VE9SAB----40 *HARVEY |
| 18 TH VE1ARG----952 *SHELDON | |
| 19 TH VE9CX----867 *HINSON | |



The NSARA would like to thank all amateur radio operators that made this a great event and will be looking forward to the 2008 contest.

Martin (VE1AUZ)

Why do people keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give the vacuum one more chance?



Answer to Puzzler on page 1



Our moon rotates once every 27 (standard earth) days, 7 hours, 43 minutes and 11.5 seconds. The moon orbits in what astronomers call a 1:1 resonance with Earth; its orbital period is equal to its rotation time so the same side of the moon always faces Earth

From the Mail Bag



the fall **Basic Amateur Radio Certification Course** will begin on Thursday, 13 September 2007. It will be held each week from 7:00 - 9:30PM at Knightsridge Fire Service Training Centre at the corner of Dunbrack and Knightsridge Streets. The course will end on Saturday, 15 December 2007 when the official exam will be administered.

73, Scott, VE1QD

I was up to Saint John this weekend and went up to briefly help VE9GFI and VE9NPS at a new repeater sit. Should be able to hit Kegi from its height! The Loyalist City club will have more info on its website coming but this is what I picked up:

Name VE9SJW
 443.600 with possible 141.3 tone being used---not set in yet
 144.390 Digi
 145.010 Packet
 Cross band Rx 147.870
 System voting Tx 434.625
 73, VE1NPS Nigel

NOAA NEWS RELEASE

Posted: April 29, 2007

The next 11-year cycle of solar storms will most likely start next March and peak in late 2011 or mid-2012 (up to a year later than expected) according to a forecast issued by the NOAA Space Environment Center in coordination with an international panel of solar experts. The NOAA Space Environment Center led the prediction panel and issued the forecast at its annual Space Weather Workshop in Boulder, Col. NASA sponsored the panel.

See website <http://spaceflightnow.com/news/n0704/29solarcycle/> for the entire article.

Passed along by Wayne, VE1WPH

See the Scarborough Reef (BS7H) DXpedition web site at <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/>.

Passed along by Brad Ross, VE1ZX
 Subject: Certificate of Appreciation for Ham Radio Operators

From Nov.26 to Nov.29, 2006, the Province of Newfoundland & Labrador activated a contingency plan while repairs were carried out to Aliant equipment which was damaged during a fire at one of the St. John's hubs. There was a possibility that the Aliant Network might fail during these repairs, so Amateur Radio Operators were on standby to provide emergency communications throughout the province and across the Cabot Strait.

To support Newfoundland and Labrador during this emergency communications event, I issued a call for volunteers to set up and operate an emergency HF net in the Maritimes, with at least one station in Ontario to cover changes in propagation. The following Ham Radio operators responded to my call and volunteer their services in support of their brothers and sisters in Newfoundland and Labrador:

| | | | |
|--------|---------|--------|----------|
| VE1AFH | Jim | VE1AKT | AL |
| VE1ASE | Mike | VE1JBL | Jim |
| VE1ZX | Brad | VE9BP | Art |
| VE9CQ | Ken | VE9EMH | Hugh |
| VE9FK | Dave | VE9GUS | Gus |
| VE9HAM | Charles | | |
| VE9IZ | Doug | VE9NC | Paul |
| VE9NP | Peter | VE9SK | Sterling |
| VE9WGS | Wade | VA3AAG | Gerry |
| VY2GM | George | | |

This event was not an exercise. It was a real emergency event and Ham Radio Operators lived up to their reputation as dedicated & proficient Emergency Communicators.

I have received a letter of thanks from the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs and NL EMO (text below). Also received Certificates of Appreciation for the Hams listed above, which I will distribute by hand or by mail in the next 2 weeks.

You are the best !

Donald Courcy - VE2DM / VE9
 Regional Emergency Telecommunications Officer - Atlantic Region
 Industry Canada

Donald, ... During the Aliant repairs, there was no real threat that anyone could measure, as they had never gone down that road before. Because Aliant could not guarantee no loss in service, it was decided that a contingency plan was needed, and 2 of my Committee members Paul VO1PRB and Merv VO1TSA were the actual creators of the plan.

We activated the EOC station VO1EMO during the event, deployed Hams to Fire Halls and Community Centers where needed, deployed Sat phones to remote Towns and activated hub HF & VHF Hams in Swift Current, Placentia, Gander & Clarenville.

I must say that with your help and that of Hams in the Maritimes and even Ontario, the operation was absolutely seamless. Had the phone service failed on either of these three nights, we were ready.

Donald, on behalf of Fred Hollett, Director of NL Fire and Emergency Services (EMO) and his staff, members of the 8 Newfoundland Amateur Radio Clubs who participated, and from me personally, a very big thank you!! We will certainly be there for you folks if needed in the future.

Yours in Ham Radio
 Doug Mercer, VO1DTM,
 Station Manager VO1EMO;
 President, SONRA

The Red Cross Telecom Center

All stations all stations An invitation is extended for all operators interested in viewing our new facilities of the Red Cross Telecom Center.

As I'm a member of the Red Cross Telecom Group, you can give me a call on any of the local frequencies or send me an email at .ve1esp@rac.ca or crshfx@email.com. I would be more than happy to walk you through our new station. A bit limited in size, but can become very effective when the need arises.

73, Emil VE1ESP

You cannot hurt your eyesight by looking on the bright side.

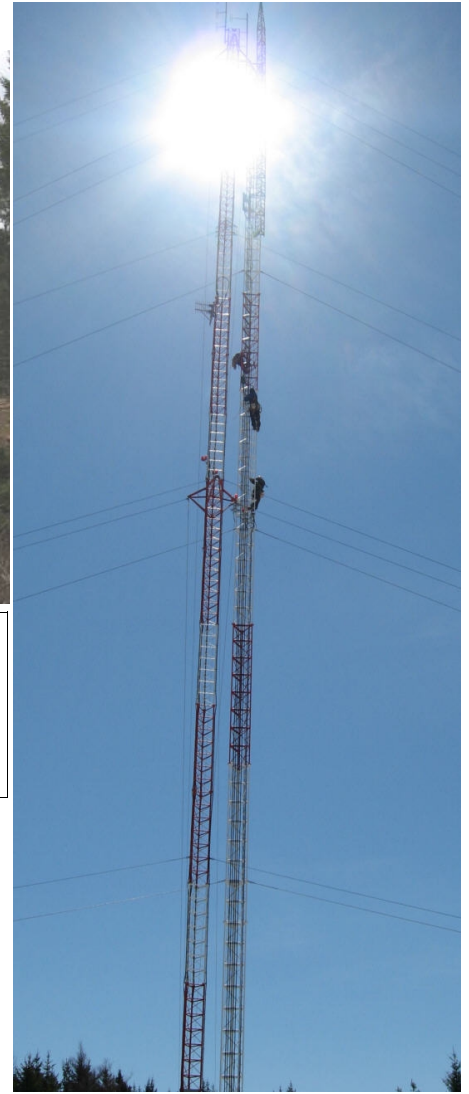




Now this is
Tower Work!



March-April, 2007 - replacement of the Salem tower which is home to the Amherst Repeater VE1WRC and IRLP link radio. Node 2060 VE1WRC 147.285 Photos sent by Jim VE1JBL and Brad, VE1ZX. More at www.westcumb.ca



Fom the ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 17
April 27, 2007
Monitoring System/Intruder Watch Liaison Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, confirms reports that a **clandestine broadcaster and a jamming station** again are competing on 18.160 MHz. The 17-meter band is a worldwide exclusive Amateur Radio allocation. Following up on reports, Skolaut says he's able to hear the "Sound of Hope" broadcast station from Taiwan as well as the so-called "Fire Dragon" jammer, broadcasting music from Hainan, Peoples' Republic of China, at ARRL Headquarters station WIHQ. The Sound of Hope transmits news unfavourable to the PRC, while the Hainan music transmissions attempt to block the transmission, pausing for 4 minutes each hour, apparently to check the frequency. Skolaut has received reports about both sources from all over the US as well as Europe, Africa & the UK. IARU Monitoring System Region 1 Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM (Germany) has documented the intruders on 18.160 MHz (and others) on his Web site <<http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/latest.pdf>>

All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

I was asked by several readers of the March Reflector (nervously) "What is Spotted Dick?" As I was not 100% sure, I asked Chris, VA1CDB. Here's her answer. -ed.

SPOTTED DICK

(as Chris, VA1CDB, makes it)

- Ingredients:
4 ounces self raising flour
a pinch of salt
3 ounces breadcrumbs
2 ounces sugar
6 ounces currants
Grated rind of 1 lemon
about 5 tablespoons of milk.



Mix first ingredients in a mixing bowl. Stir in the milk to form a Soft Dough.
Grease a pudding basin with a bit of margarine. Put the dough in the basin. (Make sure there is about 1/2 to 1 inch space)
Make a "PLEAT" in a piece of wax paper large enough to cover the

bowl + 3 inches all around, and put that over the bowl. Then get a piece of clean cotton about the size of a man's hankie. Place that over the wax paper; tie a piece of string around the pudding basin (under the lip); bring up opposite ends and tie them. (Makes a good handle for lifting the pudding basin)
Bring the water to boil - about 3 inches in the pot - keep hot water handy to top it up.
Steam for about 90 minutes
Serve with Hot Custard Sauce. (Use either Birds Custard Powder or Royal Cooked Vanilla Pie filling and add extra milk to make it a sauce rather than a pudding.)
Other recipes for Spotted Dick can be found on the Internet. -ed.

CANWARN

by Emil Pineau, VE1ESP

CANWARN is a volunteer organization of ham radio operators who report severe weather to Environment Canada. A CANWARN member who spots severe weather sends a report to the CANWARN network controller who forwards it to Environment Canada's severe weather office via a special phone line. At the weather office, the severe weather meteorologist combines the data from the satellites & radar with the information from the operators on the ground to refine the forecast or prepare a severe weather watch or warning.

TRAINING Operators on Identifying Clouds

If you have an interest in learning more about cloud formation please check out their web site <http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/canwarn/clouds-e.html>

Communications procedures for the CANWARN NET may be challenging. The report of a direct lightning hit and its location may be useful to Environment Canada (E.C.). Of particular help is when CANWARN station notes Hail or the sighting of a funnel cloud. Associated temperature, wind speed and exact grid location are also very helpful for net controller to report. To become a CANWARN operator, one needs to strive for efficient and accurate information. NCS will then forward pertinent weather data & times to E.C.

TYPES OF ALERTS:

CONDITION GREEN – A severe weather watch issued by E.C.

CONDITION YELLOW – A Severe Weather Warning, Severe Thunderstorm Warning or a Tornado Watch issued by Environment Canada.

CONDITION RED – A Tornado Warning issued for the affected area by E.C.

Severe summer weather can sneak up unexpectedly, but in many cases there are clues. Days that are forecast to have extremely high temperatures and high humidity can be days when pulse thunderstorms will develop. These are tough situations for you and the forecaster. These are days when the forecaster knows that the air mass can explode into clusters of small to medium thunderstorm cells which develop individually but at times merge into larger storms. Where they pop up is the big question. The following analogy describes this situation. Imagine putting a pot of water on the stove and turning the burner to high. We know that eventually the pot will begin to bubble but determining where the first bubble will occur in the pot is almost impossible. Watches for these types of storms have short lead times 1 to 3 hours. In other situations the clues are much more definite. These might be days where we know areas upstream, have had severe weather outbreaks. They quite often are associated with low pressure systems that move across our region. In some cases we may see lengthy outbreaks of thunderstorms ahead, along and behind the warm front. Following in many cases is the cold front which often produces more thunderstorms. These systems are usually easier to track using satellite, radar, spotters and weather watchers. Once again, pay attention to forecasts, special statements and watches and warnings. On days like these, watches are usually issued with a lead time of 1 to 6 hours giving most people ample time to prepare. There is a wealth of reading material about severe weather days available to the spotter. One such book is "Under the Whirlwind" written by Arjen and Jerrine Verkaik

If you take any great pictures of cloud formation please send them to canwarn@mail.com

Decisions by Committee are reached only when the possibilities of doing nothing whatsoever about the matter in question have been exhausted.

Decisions reached by everyone are decisions reached by no-one which therefore precludes any possibility of blame.

From "Thief of Time" by Terry Pratchett

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 25, #42 AMSAT-NA has designated Hokkaido Institute of Technology's HIT-SAT satellite <<http://www.hit.ac.jp/~satori/hitsat/index-e.html>> as **HIT-SAT-OSCAR-59** or HO-59. The 12-cm, 2.2 kg. CubeSat was launched successfully Sept.23/06. Its 100 mW CW telemetry downlink on 437.275 MHz has been copied around the world. HIT-SAT has a 1200bps FM packet downlink on 437.425MHz. The HO-59 team is seeking reception reports, including audio files. Once fully operational, HO-59 (call sign JR8YJT) will permit Earth station operators to request certain parameters by transmitting DTMF commands on the 145.980 MHz uplink. HO-59 is in a sun synchronous orbit with an orbital altitude of 250 km at perigee, 600 km at apogee; inclination 97.79 degrees.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 16 **Four CubeSats** containing payloads operating on Amateur Radio frequencies were launched April 17 from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan. A Dnepr rocket deployed 7 CubeSats plus 7 other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit. Signals from at least 2 of the 4 CubeSats have been copied on Earth. The CubeSats are: CalPoly's PolySats CP3 and CP4, 436.845 MHz & 437.325 MHz respectively, 1200 bps FM AFSK, AX.25, 1W; University of Louisiana CAPE-1 435.245 MHz, 9600 bps FM FSK AX.25 and CW telemetry during opposing 30-second intervals, 1W, call sign K5USL; Universidad Sergio Arboleda, Colombia, Libertad-1, 437.405 MHz, 1200 bps FM AFSK AX.25, 400mW, call sign 5K3L. CP4 will transmit a "sensor snapshot" at 1200bps every 2 minutes on 437.325 MHz FSK, AX.25. FSK must use SSB mode for reception. A 6-second CW preamble precedes this transmission. Keplerian elements for the new ham radio birds and additional information will be posted on Cal Poly's CubeSat Web page <<http://www.cubesat.org/>>

RAC's web site is www.rac.ca