

Events for Your Calendar

April 11-12 - Shearwater Hobby Show – To take part in the HARC's display & demos contact Craig, VE1JMA, at cjmackinnon@gmail.com or by phone at 902-463-8517.

April 25-26 – Geequinox

May 24 - The MS Walk 

June 6 – The Down East Flea Market

June (the last full weekend) – The ARRL Field Day – A test of emergency preparedness

July MS Bike Tour

July - Islands On The Air Contest sponsored by the RSGB (Radio Society of Great Britain

the Basic Amateur Radio Course will be held starting in September
Coordinator – Scott, VE1SRV

To: Radioamateurs / Club's / Group's - CANADA !
Less than 15 days to the start of the CQMM DX CONTEST.

Your participation is very important for all of us.

Hope to meet you in the bands on 18 and 19 April

Your valuable presence will give more brightness in our contest.

We are the biggest CW group in Brazil. Our page has been visited by more than 1,5 million hams in six continents.

For results, logs, and rules, please visit our website at:

www.cwjf.com.br

Pse : QSY ... QSY ... QSY ...

73's, Ed - PY4WAS
CWJF Group, President

Sign at a Chicago Radiator Shop:

Best place in town
to take a leak.

MS Walk 2015

It's that time of year again and we are winding up to provide communications and other things for MS Atlantic and the MS Walk. This year, it is scheduled for

When: Sunday May 24 2015,

Where: starting at the Canada Games Center.

Checkin and registration will be starting at 11:30 with the walk starting at 1:00.

You will need a handheld 2 meter rig and a fold up chair you can set up at your designated station. If you've never done any community activities like this, it will be a great way to learn, and if you require volunteer hours, you can get them here too (just ask for a letter and the MS folks will be glad to fix you up).

If you are interested in helping out this year please send me an email.

Terry, VE1TRB

Terry R. Bigelow CD CPO2 Ret'd
email ve1trb@eastlink.ca



Bane of towers, antennas & feed lines, (and tree branches, ships at sea, the person trying to get their car de-iced ...) Radial ice invalidates your careful tower loading calculations for weight and wind and has caused spectacular damage to many installations especially when aided by winds.

**HARC Educational Events
Winter/Spring 2015**

If interested in attending, please email scott@ve1srv.net at least a week before. (If Scott doesn't hear from people planning to attend he will NOT hold the course. -ed)

April 11 Prepper & Ham – an invitation to the Prepper community to learn how to properly integrate Ham Radio into their preparedness.

May 09 Learn to Solder – learn how to solder various connectors commonly used by Ham operators. (If interested in attending, please email scott@ve1srv.net by May 2nd)

Everyone is welcome at all classes. Please email me if you are interested, All classes start at 10:00 AM.

If any member is interested in taking part in an **ADVANCED RADIO COURSE**, please email scott@ve1srv.net

to let me know. If there is enough interest, I will put an **ADVANCED** course on. I **AM ALSO LOOKING FOR ANY ADDITIONAL COURSE IDEAS** MEMBERS MAY DESIRE.

Scott Verge, VE1SRV

Congratulations to Michael Leblanc who wrote and passed the Basic Amateur Radio exam with honors on March 27. His call sign - VE1LEB. Examiner – Jim, VE1JIM



The Maritime Amateur

Ham Radio
for Maritimers by Maritimers
www.maritimeamateur.ca

Did you hear about the Buddhist who refused Novocain during a root canal? His goal was to transcend dental medication.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for April, 2015

CQ DX: CQDX: CQDX- HERE IS..... This is what was happening at my station last weekend as the WPX contest was on and once again I stayed on to work many new wpx entities. Band conditions were not too bad and there were so many new wpx's to work... I hope everyone did really well in the contest or just for your own benefit. Pick up a cell phone and try to do this eh (?) ... no contest.

Is the snow over yet??? It's time to look at our antennas and see how they survived the winter storms of which we had many. It will be so good to work mobile again since I will be moving the car to the out doors and placing my mag mount on the roof and putting an antenna there to work all this good dx that is on. Since we will be travelling this summer to Ontario, operating mobile is a lot of fun and versatile since I don't want to lay on a hot sunny beach every day, not that we don't deserve it after this winter. Oh well..

It was really good to hear all the compliments we received over our recent event at the Museum of the Atlantic. It seems the management team at the Museum was really impressed with our approach and that over 200 kids got to send cw from the deck of the Titanic. Special thanks to Erik Hein who spear headed this event and scheduled all the participants. At his side was Jane, who was there every day that the Museum was open and to Win who spent so much time with the kids and posed for the odd picture as well.

As a note, we have many exciting up-coming events that will appeal to our members enabling them to pick and choose which ones they would like to participate in depending on their interests. Such events include our annual Flea Market: Field Day: MS Walk-athon, bike -athon: Museum Ships weekend on the Acadia: Shearwater and Geekuinox. Something for every one.

This is the EASTER weekend and I would like to wish every one a very HAPPY EASTER from my family to yours.

73' Brian Allen- VA1CC, President- H.A.R.C.

World Amateur Radio Day

On Saturday, April 18, radio amateurs worldwide will take to the airwaves to celebrate

"<http://www.iaru.org/world-amateur-radio-day.html>"

World Amateur Radio Day.

It was on April 18, 1925, that the International Amateur Radio Union <http://www.iaru.org>

(IARU) was founded in Paris. The primary purpose of World Amateur Radio Day is to highlight Amateur Radio and its benefits to countries and communities. The IARU said World Amateur Radio Day is an opportunity for IARU member-societies to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the public and make friends with other amateurs around the world. Special event stations will be on the air over the April 18-19 weekend to highlight World Amateur Radio Day and the IARU's 90th anniversary. "Since its founding, the IARU has worked tirelessly to defend and expand the frequency allocations for Amateur Radio," the IARU said in announcing World Amateur Radio Day. "Thanks to the support of enlightened administrations in every part of the globe, radio amateurs are now able to experiment and communicate in frequency bands strategically located throughout the radio spectrum. "The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of Amateur Radio. Amateur Radio is more popular than ever today, with

more than 3 million enthusiasts around the world, the IARU has estimated. As 2015 also will mark the 150th anniversary of the ITU, the IARU has adopted the theme, ITU & IARU: Celebrating 150 years of Advancing the Telecommunication Art for World Amateur Radio Day 2015. From 25 countries in 1925, the IARU has grown to include more than 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Northern Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas. Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia. "April 18 is the day for all of Amateur Radio to celebrate and tell the world about the science we can help teach, the community service we can provide, and the fun we have," the IARU said. On the Air Activity World Amateur Radio Day special event stations on April 18 will include A43WARD in Oman — 0500-1700 UTC; KP4FD in Puerto Rico — 0000-2359 UTC, and World Radio Network on IRLP, 1600-1730 UTC via the World Conference Server (IRLP Node 9251) and the Hi-Gate Server (IRLP Node 9250). The IARU encourages groups to promote their World Amateur Radio Day activities on social media, using the hash tag

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/ward2015>

on Twitter & Facebook. HARC members are encouraged to contact the special event stations

Adapted from the IARU Website Announcement.

K. Scott Wood, VE1QD

Fascinating Error in Judgement: *"So we are absolutely confident that 25 megs is going to be enough, more than enough, for the average household." - Tony Abbott 2013*

March Break at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic

The HARC was requested to set up and man a radio and Morse code display at the Museum of the Atlantic as an activity for their March Break Program. This ran from the 14-22 March with three days cancelled due to bad weather. Our display was located on the second floor on the deck of the Titanic Display.



We had two of these signs

Over the period of the March Break seventeen members of our club manned the display. Both children and adults visited us. 206 children, one as young as 2 years old, learned to send their names in Morse code and received a certificate for doing so. It was also exciting to have 6 groups of Cadets from across the Province visit our display as well.



Jayne; Byron, VE1NFD; Win, VE1WIN; Erik, VE1JEH (who spearheaded the ham radio effort); & Sheldon, VE1GPY, paused long enough for a photo



A proud 4 year old holding his Morse code certificate



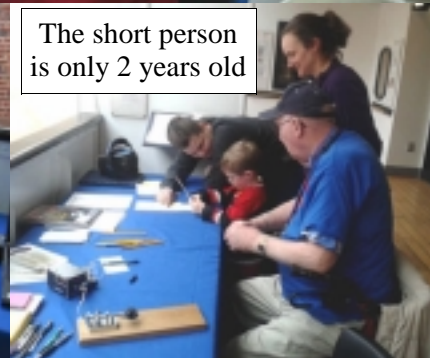
Setting up inside the Museum building was much warmer & more spacious than doing so in a dock-side museum ship during a snowy week in March.



We drew a line-up!

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

Sheldon, VE1GPY, on voice



The short person is only 2 years old

The Museum staff were impressed with the contacts we made by radio, especially when Dick, VE1AI, made connection to the Western Sahara on CW (while the Museum staff are unable to make wifi connections to parts of their own building).

This venture proved to be a huge success. The children were excited to learn about the history of commutations and the code to send their own secret messages.

We hope to have more opportunities such as this in the future to promote HARC.

Jayne Young



Dick, VE1AI, looks pleased with his successful Western Sahara CW contact.



Tom, VE1GTC, making a voice contact

According to the Museum's Lee Schuette, we are to have a permanent home at the Museum. Dick, VE1AI and Fred, VE1FA have advised the Museum as to what equipment they will need to purchase, i.e. Radio, antenna, tuner, coax, etc.

Post-Museum-Event correspondence between Erik & Lee

From: Erik Hein To: Lee Schuette

Hi Lee, Last week sure went by at a fast clip and that was because we had fun doing what we like to do. We had total of 206 kids receiving certificates; not bad for a week's work that included 3 snow days. We did not do a total body count, but taking 2 adults per kid, both the museum and the HARC got a lot of exposure. I will look you up on Tuesday when I come in to re move the antenna & coax. If you have the time then I would like to talk about future collaboration and your permanent installation. On behalf of HARC I would like to thank you and your management team for all the help and support.

From: Lee Schuette To: Erik Hein

Hi Erik, I'm glad that you and your team had a successful experience! Due to the busyness of March Break, I only sporadically visited your setup but every once in a while I would hear the buzz of dots & dashes that immediately made me listen in a more focused way to make sure I was not hearing an S-O-S ... just kidding. The sounds of your communications through our upper galleries is a real added dimension and contributes to the look, sound & feel that we intend to build with our communications area. Now that you have had a chance to work with the public, we can meet again to fine tune the design of your new headquarters. We will be sure to include access & egress as essential elements. ...on Tuesday, around 1:30 is the only window of time that I could meet with you. ... Going forward with the design of your new space, Gerry is comman-deering the design of your new headquarters so we will be sure to meet and refine plans for your new home. Thank you to you and all of your team for being so inventive & resourceful in the setup of you're antenna, cable & radio configuration to provide the public with a deeper experience. We all look forward to working with you and HARC.



Answer to Puzzler on pg 1

Ganymede, discovered in 1610 by the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei, is the largest moon in our solar system. It has a diameter of 5,263 km and is slightly bigger than the planet Mercury.

Ganymede orbits the planet Jupiter and is one of that planet's 67 confirmed moons..

Thursday, March 12, 2015, NASA said that Ganymede has a salty ocean beneath its 150 km. thick ice layer. Latest evidence is from the Hubble Space Telescope which observed Ganymede's magnetic field for a glimpse of its interior. Results add to evidence that Ganymede has even more water than does planet Earth. Other solar system moons where evidence of underground oceans has been discovered in recent years include Jupiter's Europa and Saturn's Titan & Enceladus.

Ganymede's salt ocean is nearly 100 km deep and lies between the surface ice crust and a deep dense layer of sub-ocean ice. Beneath that is the mantle of silicate rock and then Ganymede's core of liquid iron & sulphur

From the Montreal Gazette, March 14, 2015

On Saturday March 28th we met at the club rooms to learn how to run a station without ever needing commercial line power from the Power Company ever again!!!! Off the grid and loving it!

Our goal was to find out what it would take to run an Icom 3200A dual frequency VHF/UHF radio forever on renewable energy.

Might it be possible to run the Icom 3200A 24/7 365 on solar power? What are the questions we need to ask and find answers to? What does the math tell us? We started with the draw of the radio; took into account the number of useful light hours in December, the month with the least to offer for solar energy transfer. How much power can we expect out of what size solar panel?

What duty cycle should we plan for? How much battery storage? What should our low battery cut-off be?

At the end of the class we came away knowing that to run our rig 24/7, 365 we would need a solar panel capable of at least 60 watts. We calculated that the battery size at 12 volts would have to have a capacity of 120 amp hours.

To make our system complete we will need to have properly sized copper wires, a charge controller and a DC to AC power inverter.

Starting early summer Scott VE1SRV will be putting the above solar system together to test the sizing of the system. He will report his findings a year after starting his solar station.

Estimated Cost of solar:

60 Watt solar panel \$120.00

120 Amp hr deep cycle battery \$250.00 (life of 8 – 10 years)

Charge controller \$60.00

Balance of system \$100.00

Total cost \$530.00



Cost of running this equipment using line power

Get ready..... \$5.00 per year!! Yes that's five dollars per year!

73, Scott VE1SRV



The fall 2015 Basic Amateur Radio Course is still looking (and hoping) for donations of two "working" 2m or 2m/70 cm radio sets, complete with power supplies, mic's and antennas. Radio sets can be new or used, but MUST be in good working order. These will be awarded once again to two students who demonstrate perfect attendance during the 2015 course. It proved quite an incentive for last year's students!

-Scott Verge, VE1SRV

Do you have a radio-related story, technical article, picture, news, comment, etc. that you would like to see in the HARC Reflector? Please send it (or them) to Reflector editor Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT by E-mail at bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca or snail-mail at: 15 Lakeland St Beaverbank, NS B4G 1A6

Examples of inadequate proof-reading (*with snarky commentary*).

Something Went Wrong
in Jet Crash, Expert Says
Really? Ya think?

Police Begin Campaign
to Run Down Jaywalkers
Now that's taking things a bit far!

Man Struck By Lightning: Faces Battery
Charge
He probably IS the battery charge!

War Dims Hope for Peace
I can see where it might have that effect!

Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
Who would have thought it!

Man Kills Self Before Shooting Wife and
Daughter

From the ARRL Letter **Two More Radio Amateurs Join International Space Station Crew**

The ISS ham radio population expanded to three, following the arrival of NASA astronaut Scott Kelly and Russian cosmonauts Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, and Gennady Padalka, RN3DT, on March 28 (UTC). Kelly, 51, and Kornienko, 54, will remain aboard the ISS for 1 year -- the longest space mission ever assigned to a NASA astronaut.

European Space Agency Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti, IZ0UDF, will head back to Earth in May, after Kjell Lindgren, KO5MOS; Oleg Kononenko, RN3DX, and Kimiya Yui arrive at the ISS as part of a scheduled crew rotation. Cristoforetti has conducted several Amateur Radio on the International Space Station school contacts during her ISS duty tour.

Listening to the world – WITHOUT a radio!

If time, travel or resources make it difficult to listen to radio frequencies, you can listen to your heart's content with just a PC or a smartphone, for free. Globaltuners.com is a free service which allows you to listen to radios around the world, tuning via the website and with the sound through your computer speakers direct from the remote radio. Free registration is required but it's quick and a Premium Level membership is available that offers more radios.

At VE1MDO in Boutilliers Point, I host a Globaltuners radio – using an Icom PCR1000 connected to a large delta loop antenna with a Clifford Labs low noise preamp. A 4 element FM broadcast band yagi is diplexed into the receiver as well, and the system works pretty well from 100kHz to about 500Mhz.

The direct link for my radio is:

<http://www.globaltuners.com/receiver/1289/>

No special software is needed for a PC or Mac and for Android users there is an app called "Global Tuners" at

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.amaslyuk.gt>.

One thought that has been raised is that we might consider using my Globaltuners radio to stream the various nets HARC is involved in so people could listen even if they don't have a radio or are traveling out of the area. The system supports many people tuned into the same radio, but of course, only one can tune. So – to make this happen, all someone needs to do is log into my radio a few minutes before the net and publicise the URL for anyone who wants to tune in.

Another use is to select a radio on the other side of the world and listen to your own ham transmitter as it sounds where the receiver is located. There are several seconds of delay in the system so you can talk and then hear yourself.

It's also technically possible to use a remote radio to listen to a DX station that interference is making it hard for you to hear from your station, although this is frowned on by many.

If you happen to be interested in listening to aircraft communications over HF, I also host receivers of most HF aviation frequencies at

<http://www.liveatc.net/feedindex.php?type=hf>.

There are 20 radios all streamed to this page located in Boutilliers Point. This is also a free service.

Enjoy! 73, Chuck, VE1MDO

One tequila, two tequila, three tequila, floor.

RAC is pleased to announce that Mr. William ("Bill") Bosswick (VE4BOZ/VE4IR) has accepted the position of **Chief Field Services Officer** (CFSO). This is an executive level position within RAC and reports to the President.

One of the significant roles within Field Services is the enabling of amateur emergency communications at the regional level. Amateur emergency communication (emcomm) has been involved in such crises as... floods and fires in Alberta and Manitoba and hurricanes in Newfoundland. Emergency disaster response is a provincial/municipal responsibility in Canada.

Bill comes to RAC with a significant leadership and communication background in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Bill is available at 204-436-3523, VE4BOZ@RAC.CA

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW
RAC President

From the ARRL Letter, April, 2015

Amateur Radio to Have a Presence, Special Event at Preparedness Summit 2015

Amateur Radio will be part of the program when Preparedness Summit 2015 convenes April 14-17 in Atlanta. Special event station N4P will also be on the air from the conference location. The theme of this 10th Preparedness Summit is "Global Health Security: Preparing a Nation for Emerging Threats."

"Global health security preparedness issues such as protecting against infectious disease, the health effects of climate change and extreme weather, and cybersecurity threats to critical infrastructure, impact all levels of governmental public health and healthcare agencies," a Preparedness Summit 2015 announcement explained. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) organizes the event, which attracted 1600 participants in 2014.

A ham radio demonstration, "When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio Gets Through," will take place on April 14 as well.

Special event station N4P will be on the air from the Preparedness Summit 2015 venue. Listen for N4P on or around 7.265, 14.265, 21.365, and 28.36 MHz. EchoLink activity using the Georgia Tech Radio Club's W4AQL call sign also will take place. A commemorative QSL card will be available for stations working N4P.

For more information see the conference's website.
-- Thanks to Chuck Motes, K1DFS

HARC has a stock of **Anderson Powerpole connectors** for sale at \$1.25 each (for a red and black connector for one complete end). To make a complete mating pair will require 2 connectors. If you have not already converted all your gear to Powerpole connectors you should consider doing so. Place orders with Tom Caithness, VE1GTC, by E-mail at tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

If you jumped off the bridge in Paris, you'd be in Seine.

From the Mail Bag

Hey Terry,

How are things going for you so far this winter? I am so looking forward to spring and, speaking of spring, I am looking to connect with you with regards to the MS Walk in Halifax this year.

The MS Walk is taking place on Sunday May 24th, at the Canada Games Centre, with check-in from 11:30am-1:00pm again this year, keeping the same route as the last couple of years. I haven't heard of any upcoming construction; however, I was told that there might be a new bus terminal being built there this spring. I will be keeping my eyes and ears open to learn more about that, but at this time, things are looking to run along the same route.

I am wondering if your team from HARC might be able to help us out with communications & route signing in 2015. I think Tim may have already firmed things up with you communications wise, but I certainly want to touch base to see if this might be possible again this year, and also to see if you have any questions.

If you could please connect back with me on this, I would greatly appreciate it. I hope all is well!

Talk soon, Whit

Whitney Machin, BSc | Coordinator, Development | Atlantic Division
MS Society of Canada | 1-109 Ilsley Avenue | Dartmouth, NS B3B 1S8
Ph: (902) 468-8230 ext. 1008
Email:

whitney.machin@mssociety.ca

Check out TeamMS on Facebook |
msbike.ca | mswalks.ca.

The ham repeater on the EMO trailer operates on 145.410-

Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "If an emergency, notify:" I put "DOCTOR".

Excellent DXpedition Videos by James Brooks 9V1YC...

James Brooks 9V1YC has published a collection of his excellent videos of various DXpeditions, including VK0IR, A52A, VP8GEO, VP8THU, FT5XO, ZL8R, K4M, VP8ORK, BS7H, and WRTC2014.

Any of these videos would make for a great club program and all are excellent ways to explain the excitement of DXing and contesting to new hams.

See these videos at:

<https://vimeo.com/user36455730/videos>

- Ken, VY2RU

A short documentary of the history of the subminiature vacuum tube from the MIT Museum:

<http://video.mit.edu/watch/the-subminiature-vacuum-tube-the-cycle-of-technology-2574/>

Enjoy - Ken, VY2RU

Impressive set up!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9fD1bIFhMs>

- Ken, VY2RU

Have you heard the sad news that Fr Lonc (of SMU and Sable Is) has passed on? It was just a few months ago, 27 Nov 2014.

I wasn't able to find any Silent Key sort of mention in The Reflector so I just wanted to make sure that the sad news wasn't missed by those members of HARC that knew him, or knew of him.

Ref.

<http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=William-Lonc&lc=3155&pid=173306349&mid=6213927>

Regards,
Jeff Harvey, VE1BLL

A quotation from the Ottawa Citizen. The Oct. 22 shootings on Parliament Hill jammed Ottawa's cellular & internet networks at a time when the federal government was switching from landlines to cheaper cellphone service.

Newly disclosed documents show severe communications problems hit emergency personnel as thousands of nervous public servants tried to contact families and others when police locked down core buildings in the capital for hours.

Michael Zehaf-Bibeau fatally shot Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, who was on sentry duty at the National War Memorial, before shooting his way into Centre Block on Parliament Hill, where he was shot & killed shortly after 10 a.m.

Warning messages were issued that day by the Treasury Board, Industry Canada & Shared Services Canada, among others, as it became clear the local wireless network was clogged, potentially impeding police & others.

"Our mobile service providers are experiencing network congestion and therefore ask that you inform your employees to refrain from using their mobile devices unless for emergency situations," said one urgent email widely distributed in the afternoon.

"We also would ask that you seek your employees' collaboration in avoiding use of the internet and email for non-essential work."

Another widely disseminated email from Shared Services Canada, flagged Wireless Network Congestion, said "At this time, there is no estimated time for resolution. Industry Canada strongly recommends to federal employees to avoid all non-essential wireless calls during the emergency event unfolding in Ottawa."

Joe, VE1CH

Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?

Getting on the air from 80° North

On February 10-26, 2015 as a part of a team performing scientific research, regular equipment maintenance as well as preparations for the annual Canadian Arctic ACE/OSIRIS Validation Campaign I had another great chance to visit Eureka, Nunavut and work at the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL). PEARL is a facility for atmospheric research in the High Arctic managed by the Canadian Network for the Detection of Atmospheric Change (CANDAC). It includes three labs: the zero-altitude PEARL auxiliary lab (ØPAL), the Surface and Atmospheric Flux, Irradiance and Radiation Extension (SAFIRE), and the Ridge Lab.



The Ridge lab: The C-band satellite communication dish (can be seen to the left of the lab) was our only connection to the rest of the world. Now we have HF radio as back up ;)

Operating continuously since 2005, the facility is a research-level station with a large complement of instrumentation for measuring atmospheric properties from the ground to around 100km to investigate scientific questions involving climate change, air quality, atmospheric chemistry & physics. It is located on Ellesmere Island at



At the 80° North sign. We cross the 80° North parallel several times a day on the way between the weather station and the Ridge lab

80° North, only about 1100km from the North Pole. A typical way to travel there is to by charter flight from Yellowknife, NWT with two stops at Cambridge Bay and Resolute Bay, NU for refueling. It takes about seven hours of total flight time on a Dornier 228 turboprop aircraft get there. The Eureka Weather Station is managed by Environment Canada and was established in 1947 as the

Joint Arctic Weather Station. It has grown into a large base since that time and keeps growing. A new main operations building was built in 2005. It is modern two storey facility which includes office, recreation area, kitchen, dining room, warehouse and TV room on the lower floor with many accommodation rooms on the second floor. About 8 to 10 people usually work in this remote place to provide weather observations and continuous operation of the station.

During the trip to Eureka my goal was to refurbish a Differential Absorption Lidar (DIAL) as well as perform other activities to support the operations of PEARL. When time permitted I was active as VY0/VE1RUS mostly in SSB. The propagation at that period of the year allowed me to work mainly on the 20m band. Two antennas a 20m inverted Vee (IVee) directed north-south and Cushcraft R5 vertical have been installed on the roof of the Ridge lab to cover

20m and higher frequencies. A battery powered Kenwood TS-480HS (200W) together with an MFJ-941E manual antenna tuner were used for communications. The geographical location of the radio was 80°03'12" N, 86°24'56" W 600m above sea level. QTH locator - ER60tb, which is 15km to the west from the weather station.



Cushcraft R5 vertical antenna at polar sunrise after surviving a 90 km/h wind storm.

Most of the time the radio was operated remotely from the weather station thanks to free Kenwood software which allows us to do VOIP communications with a very good quality via the local Ethernet network. At other times the radio was set as a Weak Signal Propagation Reporter (WSPR) beacon. During the trip the average temperature was -36°C. On February 20 there was a strong storm with winds gusting up to 90 km/h which tore down the IVee antenna. Luckily the R5 vertical survived the storm and served very well until the end of the trip. Both antennas in general showed similar results for TX for Europe, Asia and Americas on 20m, however R5 was about S1 noisier than the IVee for RX. On February 23 there was a geomagnetic storm which made the bands completely quiet, no station could be heard on any band for several hours. The 40m band was

open from time to time during the trip, but due to lack of an antenna and limited time to build it I could not get on the air on 40m. Quite often I observed situations when my signal was strong as reported by some stations but I could not hear other stations calling me. I tried my best to work everyone I could hear and thank you for nice reports. The trip was very successful in both science and fun on the air as well as raising interest in

(CANDAC principal investigator), Dr. Pierre Fogal (CANDAC/PEARL site manager, VE3KTB) and the CANDAC team for continuous financial, technical and all-round support of my research as well as letting me operate from the Ridge lab, Ronnie Smith (VE3NLS) for providing and delivering TS-480HX radio on time and in good working condition, Jim Flowers (VE1JIM) for the R5 antenna, Chuck Kelly (VE1MDO) for



Getting on the air after installing the antenna.

HAM community. I logged about 600 QSO from all over the globe. The most distant contacts I had (~14000 km) were VK2NSS and VK6LC.

I thank Prof. James Drummond

letting me into the secrets of WSPR, Ron Thompson (VE8RT) and David Chernenkoff (VE8VW) for a nice tour of the Buffalo Airways hangar in Yellowknife, and definitely the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and its members for great support and promotion of HAM radio.

Special thanks go to Environment Canada's weather station management and staff for hospitality, delicious food and very warm environment at Eureka.

73 de Alexey Tikhomirov, VE1RUS

View from the Ridge lab, waiting for a sunrise. Ellesmere Island has pretty hilly and magical terrain.



Greetings all "Maritime Amateur" members,

April has arrived and hopefully we have seen the end of the snow and pray for a slow melt. "No foolin"

We had 15 amateurs sign up for the site in March. I think this is our largest membership month so far. Thanks to all.

Just a reminder - I would like to see all members have their name and callsign on their members page. EXAMPLE: Jim VE1JBL

It is very easy to do this.

1. Go to the homepage and click on SIGN IN.
2. Put in your email address and password
This will bring you back to the homepage.
3. Click on EDIT PROFILE
4. Put your name and callsign in the NAME box.

You can also add a picture of yourself and add a profile if you wish.

5. Scroll down and click on SUBMIT.

You should now be on your members page and your name and callsign should be there. Any problems contact me and I will help you out.

If you use Twitter, you can follow the Maritime Amateur website @maritimeamateur and receive immediate updates and changes to the website as they happen. It also delivers news and information from other amateur radio operators and clubs using twitter.

Any questions, suggestions or comments on the site please send them along.

73, Jim VE1JBL
<http://www.maritimeamateur.ca/>

I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.
Will Rogers