



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 663
HALIFAX NS
B3J 2T3

September 2009, Volume 70 Number 7

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org

This Year Consider Sharing Your Talents as a Member of the HARC Executive



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 dhcdickson@eastlink.ca
Membership - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD 823-2024 dhcdickson@eastlink.ca
Web page - Rob Ewert, VE1KS, 826-1705 ewertr@hfx.eastlink.ca
Basic ham course - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca
2009 Flea market Chair - Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ 445-8103 tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca
Field Day coordinator - Dick Grantham, VE1AI 434-8046 ve1ai@rac.ca
Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca
NSARA Director - 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

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.

| | | |
|------------|---------|--------|
| Sept. 13 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| Sept. 20 | Bruce | VE1MLW |
| Sept. 27 | Win | VE1WIN |
| October 4 | Charles | VE1MCR |
| October 11 | Doug | VE1LDL |
| October 18 | Bruce | VE1MLW |
| October 25 | Charles | VE1MCR |



Tools Explained:

WISE-GRIPS: Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.



Photos in this issue are by
Doug, VE1LDL,
Rick, VE1RGG, and
John, VE1CDD

The Monthly General Meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM) in the **Saint Andrews Recreation Center**.

Guests are welcome

**Deadline for submissions
to the October Reflector is
Saturday, Oct.11, 2009**

NOTICE OF MOTION

There will be a motion to purchase 2 radio cards and 2 audio delay modules for the VE1PSR controller.

One will be used to support Echolink and the other for a spare.

MOTION:

That 2 radio cards and 2 audio delay modules be purchased for the RLC3 controller at VE1PSR. The cost not to exceed \$1000.

*A penny saved is a
government oversight.*

GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:

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

CLUB REPEATERS:

VE1PSR/VHF - 147.270 MHz +
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -
access tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz -

PACKET:

VE1NSD 145.050 MHz LAN NODE

Up-Coming Events

Thursday, the 17th September at 7:00 PM (1900 hours) – the 2009 Basic Amateur Radio Licence Course begins. Course coordinator is Barry Diggins, VE1TRI by phone at 861-3719 or email ve1tri@rac.ca

October – JOTA (Jamboree on the Air)

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

ADVANCED QUALIFICATION

There are some people looking to start an Advanced Amateur session. Jeff, VE1ZAC will conduct this class.

If you are interested please contact Tom, VE1GTC

Phone: 477-7081 or by e-mail: tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca

Safety Note from HARC Safety Officer Terry, VE1TRB,

This is for all of you who have children, grand children, or have anything to do with kids. Please not.... this video can be very disturbing, but certainly gets the message across.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DGE8LzRaySk>

JOTA 2009 will be the 52nd Jamboree on the Air

Puzzler - Do you know?

A 4 liter pail of water filled to the brim is placed on one pan of a balance. On the other pan another 4 liter pail is placed also filled to the brim with water but this one has a piece of wood floating in it. Is the second pail lighter or heavier than the first?

Answer is on pg. 8

**QSL Cards by HARC**

The Halifax Amateur Radio Club has an ongoing commitment from our Callbook printers to produce high-quality -- full-colour offset print on the front, with black & white text on back -- QSL cards for a very reasonable and competitive price. Turnaround time from submission to our printer to receipt of cards is generally from two to three weeks, depending on the throughput of our printer. If you would like to have personalized QSL cards produced to confirm you Amateur Radio contacts, please contact Howard - VE1DHD@rac.ca - for details and samples of cards already produced for happy Hams.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 26
WHAT'S NEW AT DAYTON 2009 -- UNABRIDGED VERSION

The July 2009 issue of QST had a one page overview of some of the major pieces of equipment introduced at the Dayton Hamvention. There is no way a single person can track down everything on display that's new in the time available, but QST Technical Editor Joel Hallas, W1ZR, did find quite a bit more -- much more than can be squeezed into the available QST page.

"We reported on many other categories of interest, including new VHF and antenna-related equipment, as well as many categories of accessories," he said. "When you click on the link, you'll find a description of the rest of the new items I tracked down during a very busy three days at Dayton."

Check it out on the ARRL Web site
<http://www.arrl.org/files/qst-binaries/QS0709NewatDayton.pdf>

Words with two Meanings COMMITMENT

(ko-mit-ment) n.

Female..... A desire to get married and raise a family.!

Male..... Trying not to hit on other women while out with this one.

**QSLers Take Note**

This is a "heads up" to all Dxers. If you do a lot of QSLing and regularly use IRCs (International Reply Coupons) you should be aware that the old-style IRC – the Michelangelo two fingers about to touch – has recently been replaced (as of July 1st 2009) by a new coupon – the Nairobi model IRC.

The old Michelangelo style IRC will be accepted for redemption at post offices around the world until December 31st 2009. However, if you have a stockpile of this older IRC version you should make plans to use those up ASAP – i.e. cash them in for international stamps for your outgoing QSLs, and if you plan on including one of these older IRCs in a request for a return QSL, you really should get those off in the mail before the end of September so that the recipient has time to cash them in at their end for return postage.

Just in case you are interested, there are other ways of sending return postage with your US and/or International QSL requests other than IRCs. There is that old standby, the US one dollar bill – you will want to include one of these for a US QSL request and two for international requests, and for those rare DX stations you may want to increase it to three to be sure that they return a card.

The other way to go is to purchase US and/or international (country-specific) stamps from a supplier, and there is a chap by the name of James E. MacKey- K3FN - in West Hartford, CT (860-521-7254). You can visit his website to get pricing and to place an order at: www.net1plus.com/users/ryoung/index.htm. Jim can provide you with international stamps for almost any country. Dick (VE1AI) tells me that he has used Jim and found the service and prices to be excellent.

73 Howard – VE1DHD / VE1ZD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – September

To paraphrase the late John F. Kennedy: Ask not what HARC can do for you; ask what you can do for HARC. November is coming soon and with it comes our Annual General Meeting on November 18th. The Annual General Meeting is an important one in the life of HARC for at that meeting elections are held to fill vacancies for the coming year. Step up and be prepared to stand for election to one of the Executive positions, or be prepared to serve on a Committee. Let the Nomination Chair (Dave (VE1NN) has agreed to serve as Chair), Committee Members, or one of the current executives know of your interest.

As we near the end of our fiscal year, I am pleased to report that our financial status is in good shape, that we now have one hundred and fifty-six (156) members, that the Brit Fader Scholarship Fund is in good standing and that a \$1000.00 scholarship was recently awarded.

It has been a successful summer with the “Daily Double” being a huge success. Thanks to Dick (VE1AI) and his Committee – Field Day was again a success. Numerous contacts and great food were the norm. As for the Maritime DX Forum – one word describes it – “WOW”. Those who were in attendance were treated to a world-class presentation. Kudos to Scott (VE1QD) and his Committee! We can't wait for next year.

73, Murray, VE1MMD

2009 HARC Executive Elections

I have been approached by the HARC President to take on the responsibilities of Chair of the Nominating Committee for the upcoming election of the 2010 Club Executive. I have accepted.

Time is short. My first task is to select a couple of club members to join me on the Nominating Committee. This will probably be completed by the time this Reflector is published. Unfortunately, this information was not available for this Reflector's deadline (today) !

Our aim will be to canvass as many Club Members as possible with a view to providing a complete list of candidates for the elections; ideally we will have two or more candidates for each position.

I solicit all Club Members to give this matter some thought. It is important to introduce all members to the responsibilities of their Executive. It is also important for continuity that some current Executive Members remain on the team.

Your ideas and suggestions are solicited, but I would ask that if you are going to offer the Committee any suggestions as to candidates, that you contact said candidate before doing so. The Committee will contact all proposed candidates prior to including them on the list.

A review of the Club rules covering the elections may be of value as a reference. They are available at www.halifax-arc.org

Select MEETINGS then select BYLAWS

Suggestions as to possible Candidates should be forwarded to David, VE1NN, at ve1nn@rac.ca as soon as practical.

Silent Key

Donald Victor Watters, VE1BN died peacefully in the Halifax Infirmary, QEII on August 9, 2009, at the age of 85. Born in Saint John, N.B., son of the late Victor Roy and Bertha Muriel (Ackerley) Watters, Don grew up in Dartmouth. He was a graduate of Dalhousie School of Engineering and was employed by CBC in 1956 as an electrical engineer until his retirement as Senior Engineer in 1980. After residing in both Quebec and Ontario for many years, he retired to Halifax to follow his dream of sailing. He obtained his captain's papers in 1980 and skippered his schooner, The William Moir, until 1987; operating Sea Sailing Charters out of Toronto Harbour before returning to the Northwest Arm and Maritime coast. Ham radio was his passion. He was an accomplished lifelong Amateur Radio Operator and an active member of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club, as well as the distinguished FOC (First Class Operators' Club). His enthusiasm for learning never diminished and he thoroughly enjoyed teaching, designing and publishing articles. His remarkable knowledge of electronics was highly respected worldwide and his humility and infectious sense of humour made him a friend to all who met him. He was an accomplished violinist, having graduated from University of Toronto Conservatory of Music. In addition, he enjoyed playing the saxophone and clarinet with fellow musicians. His love of travel took him far and wide and he taught himself to speak German and Spanish fluently. He was a deeply devoted husband, father and grandfather and will be profoundly missed by his wife of 59 years, Maxine Watters; 2 daughters, and 5 grandchildren. For the advancement of science, Don has donated his body to Dalhousie University. We know Don would appreciate donations to Canadian Cancer Society: www.cancer.ca or Heart and Stroke Foundation:

www.heartandstroke.ns.ca
in lieu of flowers.

"VE1BN has signed off".

Silent Key

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 29

WALTER CRONKITE, KB2GSD

Legendary CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, who held the title of "Most Trusted Man in America," passed away Friday, July 17 after a long illness. He was 92. The avuncular Cronkite anchored the CBS Evening News for 19 years until 1981 when he retired. During that time, he reported on such subjects as the Kennedy assassinations, the Civil Rights movement, the Apollo 11 lunar landing, Vietnam and the Vietnam-era protests, the Arab-Israeli Six Day War, Watergate and the Begin-Sadat peace accords.

This item from the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, #26 reminds us all that Safety can never be ignored when pursuing activities in our hobby. -ed.

Michigan Ham Dies in Tower Accident: A tower accident during Field Day preparations around 11 AM EDT on Saturday, June 27 claimed the life of Larry Prelog, KE4PM, of Niles, Michigan. Prelog, a member of the Blossomland Amateur Radio Association (BARA) was airlifted from Watervliet to a Kalamazoo hospital where he died early Sunday morning. He was 57. BARA's Matt Severin, N8MS, told the ARRL that Prelog "...was very passionate about Amateur Radio and was very involved in club activities. He was the driving force behind the first high altitude balloon launch for our club. Larry was the kind of guy who would give you the shirt off his back. He will be dearly missed."

ARISS Here is a link to a web page that will let you access the video of the space station contact we did Saturday Aug.22 morning. This contact was also filmed on board the space station as it happened. There will be a second video available later that will incorporate the other end of the contact.

<http://exclusive.bellaliant.net/spacestation>

See photos on page 9, this Reflector

The Maritime Net is on 3.750 Friday evenings.

Note that this memo is printed here for info only as the deadline for comments was August 31, 2009. -ed.

RAC Bulletin 2009-024E: Canadian RTTY/Digital Operators - Request for comments Memo to: Canadian RTTY/Digital Operators
FROM: John Scott, VE1JS, RAC representative, DXAC

The DX Advisory Committee (DXAC) has been asked by the Programs & Services Committee (PSC) of the ARRL to comment on how DXCC might be updated to accommodate digital modes other than RTTY.

Presently, there exists an RTTY DXCC which is endorsable for bands. This came into existence in 1976, became endorsable in 1984, and became an Honour Roll award in 1993. Modes other than RTTY, such as PSK31, presently feed into the RTTY Award.

The PSC has asked the DXAC to comment on how the newer digital awards might be accommodated within the DXCC program. (There is at this time no consideration being given to doing away with the present RTTY DXCC; RTTY is too popular for that to happen.)

Some possible questions to answer follow:

- Should there be a separated DXCC award for digital modes other than RTTY?

- Should a separate award be a general award for Digital Modes or should there be multiple awards be available?

- Should such awards to be endorsable by band?

- Should the status quo be retained, i.e. all digital modes feeding into the RTTY DXCC?

Any Canadian Amateur who wishes to comment on "RAC Bulletin 2009-024E: Canadian RTTY/Digital Operators - Request for comments" above is asked to send me an email at:

ve1js@ns.sympatico.ca

Please do not use this email address for anything except comments on the DXCC RTTY issue. Please forward this message to anyone who may be interested.

The DXAC is to report to PSC at its next meeting,

John Scott, VE1JS, RAC representative - DXAC-

The ARRL Newsletter Vol. 28, No. 34, notes that 5 Canadian hams put in much effort and long hours relaying reports during hurricane Bill: They are Martin Thomas, VE1AUZ; Joseph Wilson, VE1GW; Frank Leslie, VE1FWL; James Hannon, VE1EMX, and Fredrick Snow, VO1FJS."

The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) - <<http://www.hwn.org/>>

Customer: My keyboard is not working anymore.

Tech support: Are you sure it's plugged into the computer?

Customer: No. I can't get behind the computer.

Tech support: Pick up your keyboard and walk 10 paces back.

Customer: OK

Tech support: Did the keyboard come with you?

Customer: Yes

Tech support: That means the keyboard is not plugged in. Is there another keyboard?

Customer: Yes, there's another one here. Ah ... that one does work



2009 MS Bike Tour – 20th Anniversary

By Rick VE1RGG

This year marked the 20th Anniversary of the MS Bike Tour in Nova Scotia. Volunteers from the Halifax Amateur Radio Club have been providing communications for this event for the past 17 of those years. When we were first asked to assist in 1993 we were not quite sure what our role would be. Our instructions were "Do what you normally do for this kind of event". We had 7 volunteer radio operators that year. There was one First Aid vehicle and one Bike Repair vehicle to provide assistance to the cyclists. We had a ham operator in each of those vehicles, 4 driving their own cars on patrol, and 1 at the start/finish point so we could keep in contact with the MS Staff. This was a one-day event with a start/finish line in Milford. The route was split into 3 directions to provide a variety of distances for the cyclists to travel (50/75/100 km) depending on their ability. Once we got on the road it was clear how we could help. There was a parade in Lantz that blocked the tour so we had to detour around the planned route. The ease with which we were able to handle the situation with ham radio contributed to having us being invited back to help again the following year.

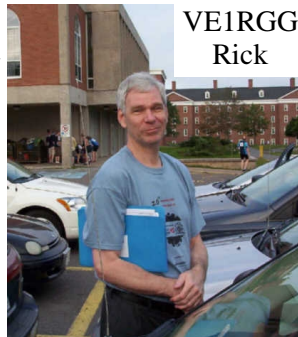
Stats from 1993 provided by the MS Society showed that there was \$30,000 funds raised with 95 cyclists participating. The interest and participation in the bike tour has increased dramatically over the years. In 2009 there were about 450 cyclists participating along with over 100 volunteers providing support for the event. Over \$400,000 has been raised with more funds likely to come. We had over a dozen service vehicles on the road with 14 radio operators providing communications.

Providing voice communications for the bike tour has become relatively easy. Ten years ago we added the support of having a dedicated digipeater setup on a nearby hill. Over the years we have also expanded our operation to include APRS. This enables us to track the location of most of the service vehicles on the route. This helps the dispatch operator know what vehicle is closest to an incident and allows us to provide the quickest support when needed. This event is the only event supported by HARC that helps fine tune our ability in using APRS. We are able to experiment with a variety of equipment and

try different techniques and settings to help improve the use of APRS.

Providing communications for the MS Bike Tour and the MS Walk have become regular events for members of HARC each year. In 2005 a few HARC members also helped to get the bike tour started in New Brunswick with the aid of local ham volunteers from Saint John. I, along with most of the other ham volunteers, look forward to helping the MS Society again with these events for many more years.

Operators not pictured VE1DDC, Dave ; VE1SIP, Sheldon; VE1WRG, Derek
More info (ham volunteers, maps, rest stops, etc.) at <http://pccatlantic.ca/rg/msbt09/>



VE1RGG
Rick



VE1EDA,
David



VE1WIN
Win



VE1FA
Fred



VA1YL
Helen



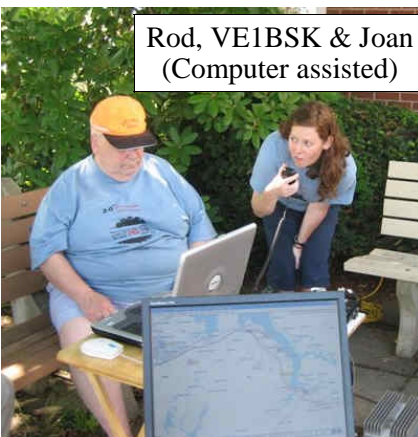
Tom,
VE1GTC;
Terry,
VE1TRB
& Rod,
VE1BSK
at the fin-
ish line



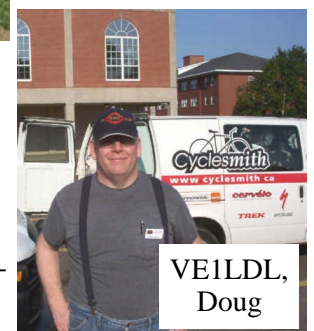
The EMO trailer,
(tended by David,
VE1EDA) served
as a repeater



VE1DHD, Howard



Rod, VE1BSK & Joan
(Computer assisted)



VE1LDL,
Doug

Halifax Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the General Meeting June 17, 2009

Welcome: President Murray MacDonald, VE1MMD opened the meeting at 1930 hours.

Silent keys: Murray reported that Larry Zwicker, VE1AKS, died recently. Fraser, VE1WO spoke to Larry's memory. Tom, VE1GTC, reported that Bruce Smith, VE1ABC, and Harvey Winter, VE1HDW, died in May and June, respectively. A moment of silence was observed.

Approval of the Agenda: Add to reports: NSARA, Bob Petipas, VE1RHP, will report.

Motion: THAT the agenda be accepted with addition noted above.

Moved by Scott, VE1QD. Seconded by Brian, VE1AZV. Motion carried.

Guests/visitors: Joe, VO1BQ, of St. John's, NL, is brought to Halifax with his work on naval dive team. Joe attended the Flea Market and, if not working, will attend Field Day.

Membership self-introduction followed.

Minutes:

Motion: THAT the minutes of the May regular meeting be approved as printed in the June Reflector. Moved by Doug, VE1LDL. Seconded by Scott, VE1QD. Motion carried.

Treasurer:

Rod, VE1BSK, reported June to be the first month for reporting petty cash (as a category), with a Starting Balance of \$ 10,546.67. Income for the month was \$ 2,831.91, expenses totalled \$ 455.49. The ending balance is \$12,830.43. See the attached report for details.

Motion: THAT the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Moved by Fraser, VE1WO, Seconded by Tom, VE1GTC. Motion carried.

President's Report:

Murray, VE1MMD, thanked Terry, VE1TRB, and his crew for a great job providing communications for the MS Walk. Terry reported that the

crew included Murray VE1MMD, Brian VE1AZV, Rod VE1BSK, Doug VE1LDL, Dave VE1DDC, Peter VE1PJM, Tom VE1GTC and Win, VE1WIN, who injured his hand but returned to continue after his trip to the ER for care. Murray introduced "use of club call sign" form for members to document whenever, i.e., there is intent to use HARC call sign(s) when on DX-peditions. This will help ensure duplication of usage on same dates at different sites does not occur.

Committee Reports

Safety Officer: Terry advised members that the executive want to impress upon all members participating on Field Day the importance of ensuring no safety issues arise. The safety officer and his crew do have the authority of the executive to shut down the site should any unsafe issue arise.

Membership: Howard, VE1DHD, sent regrets. He forwarded a report of 4 Life, 125 Full and 21 Associate for a total of 150 members.

Basic Course: Barry, VE1TRI, reported that another person has contacted him about studying for licensing. Barry noted that there is a need to have study books available. One candidate, Pierre Murray, borrowed a book for self-study, wrote the exams and recently attained his call sign, VE1JBM. He plans to attend Field Day. An anticipated 12-14 people will start the course. An advertisement will be placed in the Metro publication, Opportunities for Learning. All 2009 graduates will be invited to attend Field Day. Scott, VE1QD, will conduct a GOTA briefing on Saturday morning, an hour before the event onset.

QSL Bureau – Tom, VE1GTC, asked anyone in contact with VE1CJB to let Tom know as there are over 800 QSL cards to get to him. Tom did attempt contact through a neighbour without results.

Basic EMO training - Tom, VE1GTC, advised there will be a basic EMO communications course

this Saturday. Ten amateurs have enrolled. There is space for another 10.

Advanced Course - Tom, VE1GTC, reported 10 members have contacted him regarding the advanced course (date to be set). If interested, contact Tom.

EMO: David, VE1EDA, away. No report.

SAR: David, VE1AJP, away. No report.

RAC: Scott, VE1QD, reported that he continues to be in contact with RAC regarding the 2010 AGM to be hosted by HARC. Scott hopes a number of national executive will be available to attend the 2009 DX Forum during which time preliminary preparations could be discussed.

DX Forum: Scott, VE1QD, reported registrations continue to come in, with 35 currently, 2 being from Japan. There is an increase in sponsorship this year from Cushcraft, Icom and Jentronix. Scott recommends members ensure their registrations are forwarded soon.

NSARA – Bob Petipas, VE1RHP, announced that the NSARA job is open as he will be stepping down. The next NSARA meeting will be held during the Greenwood Flea Market in October. The repeater coordinating group revitalization continues to be active; VE1TL and VE1MR are involved.

Old Business:

1. Antenna Course – Brian, VE1AZV & Bill, VE1MR – Antennas are here and may be paid for and picked up: cost is \$42 for the 20 m. \$65 for the 80 m. kit.

2. FT1000D – Brian, VE1AZV, has received no update.

3. HARC Trailer Project – Fraser, VE1WO, advised that the decals/ lettering for each side of the trailer have been ordered. Lettering includes "Halifax Amateur Radio Club", the club web address and crest. Elsewhere a NSARA crest will be placed. At the rear, the call sign will be

(Continued on page 7)

June Minutes (Continued from page 6)

placed in red reflective tape. Decals should be in within a few days. Also, HRM decals will be going on and one for Dartmouth Surplus, the supplier. The crank on the tower is off; the winch has been put on to raise the mast and another temporary winch for raising the mast to the vertical position is in place. More work is needed to finalize settings, including a wish to mount the winch at an angle to attain better lift. A temporary box for the batteries along with two 12-volt truck batteries will be in place for Field Day. The rotor, beam, and generator will be available. It will be necessary to test the raising of the mast prior to Field Day.

4. August, Royal Astronomical Society (RAS) – Bill, VE1MR, has received no new information. August 21st is the expected, tentative date, which will be altered per astronauts' schedule.

New Business:

1. Museum Ships – HARC on-site participation cancelled. Brian, VE1AVZ, advised this to be due to the piers not being ready.

2. St. Andrews summer hours – Murray, VE1MMD, advised that on Saturdays, Brian, Tom or Murray will be here around 0800, but there will be no staff scheduled. For members coming to the club, 147.270 will be monitored.

3. Radio Room protocol – Brian, VE1AZV advised that on more than one occasion, radios and power supplies have been left on and the antenna not turned to the dummy power position when the radio room has been vacated. Members must be responsible for leaving the premises in good order; specifically, radio room protocol is to be followed to protect equipment. A posting of "vetted" members (knowledgeable with HARC equipment and given a coded entry pass to the room) will be placed in the Reflector – any one of whom may be tasked with radio room closure. For members needing card access to club facilities, see Brian or

Murray. For clearance on radio room equipment, contact Brian, VE1AZV.

4. Club apparel – Murray, VE1MMD, showed 3 sample jackets from Chandlers in Bayer's Park. Chandler's will make up jackets with the HARC crest in small lots, i.e., 6-12. If interested, sign up on the sheet provided (club) and/or contact VE1MMD. Murray will inquire what the cost would be for members to request their call signs added.

- North End Techno Light – Shell (wind breaker) jacket - \$30 includes crest +tax.

- StormTech - \$45 includes crest +tax.

- Cruise Polar Fleece jacket - \$42 includes crest +tax

Reports or announcements of general interest:

2009 Lazer Worlds (Sailing): Scott, VE1QD, told members that Lynn, VE1ENT, had alerted him to the fact that Nova Scotia is hosting the 2009 Nautel Lazer World Championships on St. Margaret's Bay this summer <http://can09.laserinternational.org/> (Nautel is the major sponsor.) Don, VE1DTR, is providing technical consultation so Nautel can provide use of a 50 watt transmitter. Information will be available by cell and will be streamed around the world. Broadcaster George Jordan will help with programming, i.e., information for participants and crew interviews at start and finish of races. Dave McCafferty, VE1ADH, met Chuck Kelly, an American amateur working with Nautel, who will be applying for a VE1 callsign.

Tall Ships – HARC offered to assist but the organizing committee has not asked for our services. Doug, VE1UY, who is working with them on Security preparations, will make a follow up inquiry. Dick, VE1AI, suggested that if any DX enthusiasts arrive in Halifax, HARC could invite them to the club.

Equipment Storage: Dick, VE1AI, noted that each year during Field

Day, the issue of equipment storage comes up. HARC needs space to store towers, equipment, generators and the trailer. Dick proposed that a committee of 3 members investigate the cost of purchasing a storage container with a view to placing it on site at Cowie Hill. Likewise, the possibility of obtaining a grant to help underwrite cost of creating a storage area could be explored. Metro Storage charges \$150 per month. MLA Jerry Blumenthol, who is also the HRM EMO Committee representative, has been invited to Field Day.

Motion: THAT a committee of 3 be struck to explore possibilities for acquiring or purchasing a facility to store equipment and to report back to members at the September meeting with options and recommendations. Moved by Dick, VE1AI. Seconded by Rod, VE1BSK. Motion carried. Committee members are Dick, VE1AI, Brian VE1AVZ, and Rod, VE1BSK. Bill, VE1MR will be available as consultant.

MS Walk: Terry, VE1TRB, thanked members who volunteered their time – Murray VE1MMD, Brian VE1AZV, Rod VE1BSK, Win VE1WIN, Doug VE1LDL, Pierre VE1PJW and Tom VE1GTC. This year another milestone was reached with over 800 walkers participating and raised \$265,000. The MS Society asked HARC members to return next year and the invitation was accepted. Terry received a very nice card of thanks from the society.

Safety: Terry, VE1TRB, told members that he appreciated the executive/membership's backing for safety criteria at Field Day. They are in place to ensure member and guest safety, as well as to comply with HRM/Provincial rules and regulations. Beginning September, either Terry or Dave will be placing safety items in the Reflector. Contact Terry via email: trb@eastlink.ca

2010 MS Bike Tour – Terry, VE1TRB, advised that enough communicators have already affirmed their availability for 2010. For those taking part, he advised there could be

From the Mail Bag

Good morning everyone,
You may find this site useful.

73, Al, VO1NO / VE3

Subject: Pinouts wilkie for making
and checking cables

http://www.allpinouts.org/index.php/Main_Page

AllPinouts is a Web-based free content project to collect and list all known pinouts. Pinout or pin-out is a term used in electronics to describe how an electrical cable is wired, or the function of each wire (pin) in a connector. AllPinouts collects information about hardware interfaces of modern and obsolete hardware, including pinouts of ports, expansion slots, and other connectors of computers and different digital devices (i. e. Cellular Phones, GPS, PDA, Game Consoles, etc.). This website is a Wiki, a website which the users (you) easily can contribute to and improve. All text is available under the GNU Free Documentation License (GFDL) and may be distributed or linked accordingly.

Content of this site is a result of collective work. Something left uncovered? You are welcome to add information, correct existing documents, add explanations and fix errors, simply by clicking the edit link that appears on top of pages when you are logged in.

Ron, VE1AIC, sent this reference –ed

Add a DIGI to your club's 2M Repeater Antenna: N3PX reports it is trivial to add a digipeater to an existing 147 or high-146 repeater to share existing antennas and hardline using an extra duplexer. See how via this link:

<http://www.n3px.com/digiduplexing.pdf>

ARISS is an international educational outreach program with US participation from ARRL, NASA & AMSAT. <http://www.rac.ca/ariss>



I would like all members to be aware that the tower climbing protocol, is now formally named "SAFE WORK PRACTICE, AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WORKING AT HEIGHT" which includes a "job check list" that can be used as a tool to ensure all necessary steps are being taken prior to and upon completion of any work above ground. I have also requested this safe work practice be put on the secure document exchange (*EMO website*) and the previous document be removed.

VE1TRB

Terry R. Bigelow CD CPO2 Ret'd

John Brady, VE1WZ, brought my attention to this site which starts with video clip "Fox 4 News Coverage of ARRL Field Day 2009 With "K0GQ" Raytown Missouri"

From there you can select many other ham radio film clips. –ed
Start at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDPO8vnDZ-s>

**Answer to Puzzler on page 2**

Answer: They weigh the same. Archimedes' Principle states that a body immersed in a fluid displaces with its immersed part as much fluid by weight as the total weight of the body.

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

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

June Minutes (Continued from page 7)

a route change due to the bridge may be closed down. The event will start from Exhibition Park rather than from the school. He will also be looking at APRS coverage and a remote APRS dig-repeater will be set up.

50/50 Draw:: Brian, VE1AZV, won the 50/50 draw of \$20.

Door Prize: Tom, VE1GTC, won the door prize of a \$10 gift certificate for Tim Horton's.

Informal pizza nights will be held at the club on the third Wednesday of July and August.

There being no further business, Doug, VE1LDL, moved the meeting be adjourned at 2030 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen MacRae, VE1HMR,
HARC Secretary

RAC Bulletin 2009-022E - New RAC Vice-President Field Services. 2009-06-30

Effective July 1, 2009, Doug Mercer, VO1DTM, has assumed the post of Radio Amateurs of Canada Vice President for Field Services (VPFS). Doug replaces Sue Cooke VE3SUH, who was appointed by the RAC Board of Directors to temporarily fill the position when former VPFS Bob Cooke, VE3BDB, resigned to accept appointment as RAC president on February 24, 2009. Doug's appointment as VPFS will continue until December 31, 2009, which is the end of the current executive term. He may be contacted by email at vo1dtm@hotmail.com. RAC greatly appreciates Sue's efforts and is grateful to her and to Doug for ensuring that this important RAC position remains filled.

Bob Cooke VE3BDB, President,
Radio Amateurs of Canada

Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend.

Inside of a dog it's too dark to read.

–Groucho Marx

Successful ARISS contact for the Royal Astronomical Society during their 2009 Nova East Star Party at Smiley's Provincial Park



The ARISS contact with Dr. Thirsk on the ISS was a success with time for 18 of the 20 prepared questions to be answered. AOS was as expected at 12:53:08 UTC. Dr. Thirsk replied after the 3rd call to station by VE1MR. Signal quality from station was excellent throughout the duration of the pass.

Dr. Thirsk's answers were considered by all to be thoughtful and "friendly". They were certainly appreciated by the participants and assembled audience of approximately 400. Amateur Radio and ARISS were both well represented.

One participant was absent due to illness but his 3 questions were presented by 3 alternate individuals. Dr. Thirsk never skipped a beat in responding to the reassigned names.

We had planned to allow Dr. Thirsk to make closing comments but time simply ran out. It is likely however that he heard our collective good bye (and cheer of appreciation).

I would like to extend thanks for the support and efforts of ARISS Operations, the Canadian Space Agency for promotional items, Csaba Domokos of Bell Aliant, Province of Nova Scotia Parks (DNR), Shelley Emmerson of Province of Nova Scotia EMO, Barry Manual of the Halifax Regional Municipality EMO, members of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club; Bill Elliott, VE1MR; Dave Nimmo, VE1NN; John Goodwin, VE1CDD; Doug LeBlanc, VE1LDL and sound technician Eric "I can't hear you" Thibodeau.

There was no webcast available as planned due to confusion regarding the time of the actual contact (ADT or UTC). Even though the Province of Nova Scotia EMO teams were busy preparing for Hurricane Bill's expected brush by the Atlantic coast (or perhaps land fall), the Provincial EMO trailer arrived on scene in time for a 12:53 ADT contact but alas, about 15 minutes after the 09:53 contact had concluded. I appreciate the efforts of the Province of Nova Scotia's EMO Office. Though faced with the probability of additional long days with little



Wayne, VE1WPH;
Bill, VE1MR;
David, VE1NN;
John, VE1CDD and
Doug, VE1LDL
set up at Smiley's
Prov. Park with the
HRM EMO trailer
and radio equipment
for the Star Party's
ARRISS contact



rest, they chose to take what little free time that might be available to travel for a few hours to support an ARISS contact.

To those who were looking forward to watching the webcast I can only say that your disappointment is not as great as ours in not being able to provide it to you. We'll keep trying!

73 Wayne, VE1WPH, ARISS Mentor for the Nova East Star Party 2009

P.S. The afternoon portion of the Nova East Star Party had to be cancelled. Anticipating the storm all Provincial Parks were ordered closed (emptied) by 5 PM ADT Saturday. (Gale force (75 knots) winds were expected to begin sometime around Sunday noon.)

Read about ARISS at <http://www.rac.ca/ariss>

RAC Bulletin 2009-023E -

Garry Jacobs elected Alberta SM.

Alberta Section has a new Section Manager in the person of Garry Jacobs, VE6CIA. Garry ran unopposed and therefore no balloted election was necessary. He began a two-year term on July 1, succeeding past Section Manager Tom Martens, VE6TRM. RAC extends congratulations to Garry and sincere thanks to Tom for the sense of responsibility and dedication displayed by both.

Doug Mercer VO1DTM
Vice President Field Services, Radio Amateurs of Canada

2009 Brit Fader Scholarship

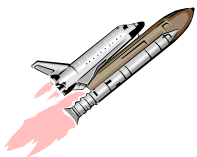
The selection committee met Tuesday, September 1 and chose the winner of this year's scholarship.

Come to the HARC September meeting for details.

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

W1AW to Add New Digital Modes to Transmission Schedule: Effective Aug. 17, W1AW will replace its AMTOR & ASCII transmissions with PSK31 & MFSK16, respectively. RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be the first digital mode used in the transmission schedule. The frequencies used by W1AW for all its digital transmissions will remain the same. "All regular 6 PM and 9 PM (Eastern Time) digital transmissions will begin with RTTY," said W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. "PSK31 and MFSK16 will be sent as time allows. The Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will be sent using RTTY & PSK31." The W1AW operating schedule -- complete with times and frequencies -- can be found on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>>

More photos from the ARISS contact at Smiley's Provincial Park can be seen



at http://picasaweb.google.com/lh/sredir?uname=VE9NPS&target=ALBUM&id=5376665942799967377&authkey=Gv1sRgCIjkw4f6_Z_v1wE&invite=CM94P8E&feat=email

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 25, June 26, 2009

ARRL Introduces Second Edition of "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs": Through a technique called Internet linking, ham radio operators are harnessing the immediacy & portability of radio communication to the global reach of the Internet. Today's radio amateurs are using the Internet as the relay between their radio base stations, handhelds and mobile transceivers for long-distance communication, spanning thousands of miles. The ARRL has released a second edition of "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs", the complete guide to several of the most widely used Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) systems used by today's radio amateurs, with particular attention to EchoLink and the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP). The book is designed for beginners as well as those hams who are long-time VoIP users. If you're new to VoIP, you'll discover information on how to get started, set up and use these systems. The more advanced ham will find plenty of technical "meat" to dig deeper into VoIP applications and discover how they actually work. Written by EchoLink creator Jonathan Taylor, K1RFD, "VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs" is available for \$21.95 from the ARRL Web site. Order your copy today <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=1431>>.

From the ARRL Letter, Vol. 28, No. 29 July 24, 2009

THE DOCTOR IS IN from the ARRL Letter

The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Question -- Jeff Freedman, K7JF, of Gig Harbor, Washington, asks: I am setting up my beam antenna for the first time. I understand there is a true north and a magnetic north (or south for the Southern Hemisphere). What is the difference between true and magnetic? For which of the two should my beam be initially calibrated? If magnetic north, how do I know where to set the beam?

The Doctor Answers -- Magnetic north is the direction a compass needle points to, while true north is the direction to the Earth's northerly rotational axis point. They are indeed different in most places, and the difference is different for each spot on Earth. It also changes over time. The difference is referred to as magnetic variation on nautical charts and as magnetic declination in some other venues.

NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center provides information on the nature of this phenomenon as well as maps showing the correction <<http://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/declination.shtml>>. For example, at my station location in Connecticut, in 1981 the magnetic variation was 13 degrees west with an annual increase of 4 minutes. That means in 2009, it should be a bit less than 16 degrees. If you look at the US map on the above Web site you will see that they have it near the -15 degrees line.

In addition to the Web site, you can find your variation on any nautical chart of a location near your station, on any coast and geodetic survey map or call your town engineer. To convert magnetic north readings from your compass to true north, subtract if the variation is westerly (negative on the NOAA map), add if easterly.

Conceptually, either a true or magnetic reference could be used, as long as you keep track and convert everything to the same basis. All propagation programs that I am aware of give bearings with respect to true north, so I would suggest using true bearings on your rotator controller.

Look for "The Doctor Is IN" every month in QST magazine.