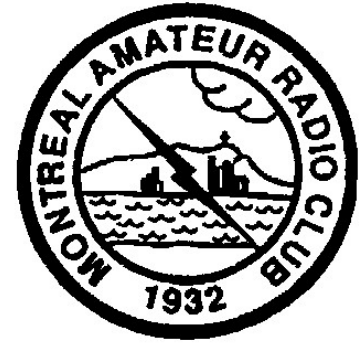


marcOgram

Official Publication of The Montreal Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Box 53047 - RPO Dorval, Dorval Quebec H9S 5W4



Volume 64, Number 9

Summer 2018

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 25 September 2018

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30
Club meeting: 20:00

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

4455 West Broadway (corner of Terrebonne) in N.D.G. - Montreal

**** NEW SEASON! ****

TO BE CONFIRMED: Claude VE2YI, all you ever wanted to know about digital voice modes.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Remember! All General meetings are held on the last **Tuesday** of the month, at St. Ignatius of Loyola lounge in the basement.

Certainly has been a dry and hot summer. The ARRL Field Day event occupied a great new site suggested by one of our recent graduates, Birgit VA2TEI.

I'm enjoying operating from a practically noise-free area, down river where it's cooler, in the Gaspesie.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

- . . . -

ARRL Field Day 2018

By George VE2NGH / VA2EN

This year we had the two clubs operate separately with their own callsigns, both operating under the category of 1A (one -Alpha) so there were two submissions to the ARRL.

The West Island Amateur Radio Club operated the main contest station for experienced contesters under VE2CWI and the Montreal Amateur Radio Club operated a beginner-style station for "newbies" under VE2ARC.

VE2ARC:

Operators: VE2OTA, VA2XZA, VA2EN, VE2QA, VE2EGN, VA2AN, VA2XE, VE2RFI.

VE2CWI:

Operators: VE2QA, VA2AN, VA2EW, VE2AXO, VA2EN, VE2EGN, VE2RFI, VA2XZA, VE2HS, VA2XE.

[See Page 3]

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Club Call Sign: VE2ARC

Club Website: <http://www.marc.qc.ca>

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)

Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located on the Pointe Claire water tower.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+) 103.5

On the air from Ridgewood Ave. in Montreal; CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz for access. Thanks to Claude Everton, the VE2RMP group and Metrocom for making this possible.

The repeaters are open to all amateurs.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any member to attend. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (Aug to June) at 19:30 in the Wardens' Room, St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish, 4455 West Broadway. Should you wish to attend one of the meetings you are welcome; just speak to one of the directors before-hand to make certain that the meeting has neither been cancelled, nor the location changed.

Club Activities

Monthly Meetings

(last Tuesday of the month)

25 Sept 2018 - TBC: Claude VE2YI on digital voice modes.

30 Oct - Annual General Meeting.

27 Nov - George VA2EN on how repeaters work.

Dec - Christmas Party, details TBA.

Radio Classes

A basic level course is held starting in January of each year. If you know of anyone interested in taking the course they should send a message to:

classes@marc.ca

MARC Hamfest

The 2018 flea market was held at the LaSalle Legion on 7 April. Plans are afoot for next year's fest.

Go to

<http://www.marc.ca/fest/fest.html>

for more information as it happens.

Incoming QSL card service

As has been mentioned in previous MarcOgrams, we are resuming the club's service of having incoming QSL cards sent to the club for members to pick up at meetings. This is a service which we are offering to our members which both saves the individual members money as well as makes more efficient use of our collective resources.

If you would like to avail yourself of this service please send an e-mail to qsl@marc.ca and we will add you to the list of cards that the incoming bureau sends to the club and bring them to the monthly meetings.



UPCOMING FLEAS

2018

What: 10th annual Junk In The Trunk

Who: Ontario Swap Shop

When: Saturday, 25 Aug, 2018

Where: Newmarket, ON

What: Carp 22nd Annual Hamfest

Who: Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

When: Saturday, 08 Sep, 2018

Where: Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds,
Carp, ON

What: Drummondville hamfest

Who: VE2CRD Club radio amateur de
Drummondville

When: Samedi, 22 Sep, 2018

Where: Centre Claude-Nault,
Drummondville, QC

What: VHARA Swap Meet

Who: Victoria Haliburton Amateur
Radio Ass.

When: Saturday, 15 Sep, 2018

Where: Bobcaygeon Legion,
Bobcaygeon, ON

What: Moncton Area Amateur Radio
Flea Market

Who: Moncton Area Amateur Radio
Club

When: Saturday, 15 Sep, 2018

Where: Riverview Lions Club,
Riverview, NB

What: London Amateur Radio Club
41st Hamfest

Who: London Amateur Radio Club

When: Sunday, 16 Sep, 2018

Where: Dorchester, ON

What: HARC Hamfest

Who: Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

When: Saturday, 13 Oct, 2018

Where: Ancaster Fair Grounds,
Ancaster, ON

We received permission to operate at Pointe-Theoret on Ile -Bizard, which was ideal since it was surrounded by water but far from the general public. This did not bring in many visitors but we had no complaints from neighbours either. We have to thank Birgit VA2TEI from WIARC for finding this jewel of a site and Gilles for pulling off the operating permits from the city.

We could not obtain permission for our usual places in the West Island due to the parks being used for St. Jean Baptiste celebrations which this year fell on the Sunday of Field Day.

With the main station VE2CWI, we made many more CW contacts than SSB which was great since a Field Day CW contact counts double that of a SSB contact.

As you can see by the stats, the "CW machines" Vlad B. VA2AN, Vlad Z. VE2QA, and Gilles VA2EW made the most of our points using the West Island station.

We had the free VHF station operating on 6m under VE2CWI.

Antennas used were a multi-band HF dipole horizontally polarized, 40m and 80m sloping verticals all set up strategically in the trees, and a 5-element Yagi for 6 meters on a 20 ft mast turned by hand. Luckily we had some nice tall trees not far from the operating tent.

We had quite a few beginner operators who operated the VE2ARC station which was dedicated to the beginner operators and thus created a peaceful existence between beginners and seasoned contesters. Both stations were located in the same tent which saved the power distribution problem and gave the beginners a chance to learn from the experienced operators. There was no satellite station this year because our satellite op, Malcolm VE2DDZ was unavailable due to medical reasons.

Power was supplied by ten 100-Ah batteries which again this year were generously provided by **Batteries Experts** and which was enough to power the two 100W stations, computers and lights for 24 hours. This is the fourth year we have operated Field Day entirely with battery power and we have become so used to the tranquility that we would never go back to a generator again.

Surprisingly we did not have too much RF interference between the two stations. Having antennas carefully placed and polarized, using band-pass filters, and operating on

bands not harmonically related avoided much of the interference.

Conditions were not so good at the bottom of this solar cycle and we only made a handful of contacts on 6 and 10 meters. In fact, two hours before the contest started, 6 meters was really open but when the start time of 14:00 rolled around, the band went mostly dead. The majority of our contacts were made on 20 and 40 meters and were mostly CW due to these bands being very crowded; and they were the only two good bands which were decently open. We had a good showing on 80 meters because of a few brave operators who stayed the entire night in the rain.

Talking about the rain, we were fortunate to have nice weather for the setup, but by around 17:00 just as we were serving the BBQ hamburgers, the rain started and continued, heavy at times, all night long. Fortunately we had three good tents, one for operating, one for the "kitchen" and BBQ and one for storage.

It finally cleared up Sunday morning which turned out nice and sunny. After the contest finished at 14:00 Sunday, we were able to pack everything up in 1.5 hours, just before a big storm hit.





All-in-all we did quite well with a total of 1160 contacts made for both stations. We had a total of 20 to 25 participants, some who even showed up during the night to operate.

73' de
George VE2NGH/VA2EN

- . . . -

MUSEE DES ONDES EMILE BERLINER Emile Berliner Museum of the Airwaves

By Matt Salenius VE2MTA

It came to my attention recently that there is a radio and recording museum in Montreal that of which I and many other radio personnel seem unaware.

It is not a "big fancy facility" however, I found their collection of antique equipment fascinating. They are still in formative stages and its future depends on donations from you, the public. They also seek larger display site.

They have radio and record playing equipment dating from the early days of radio and sound recording to the 60s and 70s.

If you have any antique radios, AM/FM/SW or old 78 records, or related gear to contribute, then may I suggest you consider donating it to them as I did.

This place does not look fancy as it is located in the old industrial district of Montreal, (Saint Henri), in a very run-down looking building which was the original recording studio of RCA Victor Company. But don't let the building facade scare you. It's a lot nicer inside. It is an old stone building over 100 years old and it looks like it will stand for many more centuries to come.

If you have interest in radios and audio recording then I suggest you consider paying them a visit someday. The museum has rather limited operating hours:

Musee des Ondes Emile Berliner MOEB (Museum of the Airwaves)

1001 Lenoir, just off Saint Antoine West



Wednesday to Sunday, 14:00 to 17:00
Tel: 514-932-9663, Web site: <http://moeb.ca/>

I was told that Wednesdays PM is when the "technical group" meets so that may be of interest to our readers.

Parking is very limited and risky on the street and I saw one of those city parking ticket writers repeatedly driving around the block. I'm sure they work on a good commission to be so eager. He gave me an intense stare as we met the second time around the block.

I suggest you use the free parking lot of Home Depot on Saint Antoine Street around the corner. Just pretend you are going shopping there, go in the front door and then out the back door, like I did, and walk around the block to 1001 Lenoir entrance.

To be fair to Home Depot I did make some purchases there later and you could do the same for their kindness!!

Personal addendum and historical note by your Editor:

My Dad worked for Victor Talking machines in the Lenoir Street building. He graduated from McGill about 1923 as an electrical engineer, and devised an improved transcription amplifier for the recording process. To test it, the group made a test 78 RPM record, with grooves only on one side of the disk. The recording consists of an introduction by one of the staff, and two recordings played by my father by ear on the studio piano, "Something to Remember You By" and "Little White Lies". The record is not dated but the introduction mentioned "this past winter's show, Three's A Crowd", which is a Broadway musical and seems to have played in Montreal in 1930-31.

Here's the introduction from the test 78:

"It is indeed a pleasure for me to take part in the recording of the first test record which we are making this afternoon made on the new recording machine we have recently obtained from the RCA Victor Company of Camden, New Jersey. This equipment has just been installed in our studio and I believe it will prove to be a great improvement over our old equipment. Very

shortly we hope to try out our new recording amplifier which has been so ably designed by our engineer Mr. Edward Hague, who has also supervised its construction. With it we hope to be able to make bigger and better electrical transcriptions. Mr. Hague is now all ready at the piano and is going to favour us with a few choruses of the very popular song "Something to Remember You By", the hit number from this past winter's show, "Three's A Crowd". Mr. Hague."

The recording was made in the Lenoir Street building. Victor Talking Machines was bought by an American company, RCA, becoming RCA Victor, and the Canadian staff in Montreal were treated so badly by their new American bosses that my Dad quit.

The Emile Berliner Musée des Ondes is named after Emile Berliner (1851-1929). When Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, he used Berliner's patented microphone, and Berliner invented recording onto zinc disks, and the master-duplicate system of mass production of recordings.

In 1900, a branch of the Berliner Gramophone Company opened its first store in Montreal. Six years later, the company moved to a new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility on Lenoir Street in the St. Henri district of the city. Over the years, this plant was enlarged several times.

In 1924, the Victor Talking Machine Company purchased Berliner Gramophone and in 1929 it in turn merged with RCA to become RCA Victor. In 1996, the Musée des Ondes Emile Berliner was established in this former industrial complex.
(Courtesy Musée des Ondes Emile Berliner, web page)

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