



From the Gavel,

Our constitution, "Bylaw #1" has as our first objective,

"To provide an informal forum in Mississauga for people interested in Amateur Radio to meet socially and discuss areas of mutual interest."

It goes on to mention education, ARES and assets like FSV, the repeater and the station, all of which keep reminding us of how we are continually impressing other clubs and folks outside or membership, that we, the members, spend so much of our time on these activities, but it is indeed the "areas of mutual interest" that sum it all up.

A club can be a tenuous proposition. Our finances are underpinned by our member fees and significantly bolstered by the continued success of Ham-Ex every spring. Our membership numbers are comparable to any major club, likewise, we find ourselves allocating resources with caution.

To pursue a path of innovation in ham radio, our Education classes keep drawing in new faces, and graduating new amateurs - and with this addition we are getting new people on the air faster using resources like our club station and other activities that are tailored to integrate new licensed amateurs. We have some people dedicated to public service, and ARES is organized. Dedicated educators, contesters, VHF rag-chewers and packet, IRLP/Echolink aficionados who keep their respective sections humming along. These are indeed some very powerful "areas of mutual interest".

To pursue ongoing improvements to existing activities and add other 'new' technologies, which is an inevitable progression in our hobby, testing HSMM and digital modes by some members has been ongoing. The next progression of radio, SDR technology, is on the anvil of thrusting itself upon us, just like SSB and FM penetrated the AM days. We need to introduce this at the club level. However, that will need additional financial commitment.

To fulfill some of our existing commitments to members and to provide for new introducing technologies, the executive passed a motion for a new membership fee structure starting from next September (2014). It was detailed in our last general meeting to the members and will be voted on in the subsequent general meeting. It was proposed that the membership categories be reassigned as follows:

Regular (\$40 - \$35 if you are a RAC member)
Honorary
Life (*Subject to Board review*)

This will help in minimizing the present membership category from 5 to 3 assisting in leaner administration and simplifying the present membership fee structure.

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From the Gavel,

Continued...

A Software defined radio (SDR) project is in the early stages of being started. The proposal is to provide over the Internet, a SDR receiver that would be accessible by anyone who has Internet access. In the short term, the intent is to reach out to the next generation of future hams that are more internet savvy. This would be a way to provide a front-end 'GUI', for a lack of better term, to attract them to radio. One thing to remember is that nuance is all too easily lost when we have text only group so used to non-voice modes of communication. We should be extra careful on how what we say will be read.

To borrow a quote that our past president once used, from a quote by a famous Canadian:
"Remember, I'm pulling for you, we're all in this together."

Let's make it happen.
Asim VE3XAP

MARC Regular First Sunday of the Month Breakfast

First Sunday of the month: **08:30 at Bobbie's Hideaway Restaurant,**

20 Queen St North in Streetsville. (NW corner of Britannia Rd/Queen St. N in Street

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“The Communicator”

This is the October 2013 edition of the Editors Column

Web definitions: Editor in chief

Editor: a person responsible for the editorial aspects of publication; the person who determines the final content of a text (especially of a newspaper or magazine).

The reason I started my Column this month will become quite clear very shortly. We all, and I do mean all have very, very busy lives. If you be among the working masses or those retired from their careers, all are very busy. To this point it has become the de-facto excuse for not doing something or getting involved, I'm sorry I'm too busy. I myself find now that back in the working world, not getting home most times till nearly 8pm with just enough energy to eat supper. Yet I have volunteered my services to the club that I would spend some hours on one weekend a month to assemble the content for our club newsletter “The Communicator”. This is where the definition that started the editorial comes in, to be an editor in chief of a publication, to be able to determine which content goes in that months edition, and layout the information in a somewhat pleasing and readable manner, requires three things, a) a computer, b) a person to use that computer to assemble the newsletter, and c) content. Oh dear, there is that word, content. Last weekend I was going to sit down and do the task of being editor in chief of the “The communicator”, and that is when it struck me, not only did I not have the presidents contribution, (although this is normal, but a little prodding usually coughs up something), but I did have any other content, at least this made the determining what content to include, since when you have nothing the task goes quite quickly. Nothing plus nothing equals nothing, or we could for the more mathematically inclined say $0 + 0 = 0$.

Now it is not place, nor would I ever tell anyone that they are not busy with all the aspects of their lives, but I am suggesting, just suggesting, that if I am willing to spend some of my time putting together the newsletter, then some or all of you could spend “some” time to produce some content, VE3MDX, after some prompting managed to cobble together some word that where quite well done, I was pointed to where I might find some picture appropriate, and hence we have content, that has been determined adequate to crank out a small newsletter, as apposed to is single sheet flyer called the gavel. So I put to you in summary to this soapbox, do you people of this club want a monthly newsletter? Not a newsletter that one person magically makes out of thin air for you read pleasure, but something that the club makes, the club contributes, and yes puts content in the pipeline. If not then these keys will fall silent, if you do what one, then in the words of our president, “Let's make it happen!”

Regular club meetings have resumed, and all times and events are posted on the club website:

➔ WWW.MARC.ON.CA ←

Valentine Stubbs, **VE3VVS**.
Editor in Chief of the “Communicator”



FIELD DAY 2013

For most of us, ham radio means sitting in a warm, dry shack at home with reliable power and an antenna that's been in place for a few years. Everything is in its place, the kitchen and bathroom are close by and there's a warm comfortable bed waiting for us when we finally pull the plug at the end of the night. Some of us operate mobile. Most likely the rig and antenna have been installed for some time and



once you've got the alternator whine sufficiently suppressed, things are pretty routine. And regardless of whether we are at home or in the car; and regardless of the fact that our whole purpose is to communicate, in most cases it's something we do alone.



Field Day is a very different animal. For one thing it's fleeting. A weekend event, early on Saturday morning there's no sign of what's to come. And by the middle of Sunday afternoon, there's no sign we were ever there. But

in the meantime, we've built a dozen individual radio stations. Twelve antennas all positioned to cause minimal interference to the other stations. A wireless LAN connects every station with a central server keeping the score and allowing every operator to see what the others are doing. We've communicated with almost 2,000 other stations across North America. We've served thirty dinners and thirty breakfasts. Countless cups of coffee. And we've promoted the Amateur Radio Service through various public relations activities.





There are varying degrees of home comforts. Visit the Field Day site and you may see exhausted operators sleeping in their cars. You may also catch site of the espresso machine that is so useful when the urge to sleep interferes with just a few more



contacts before the band closes for the night.

Field Day is teamwork. Everyone and anyone can make a contribution, whether it's pounding the virtual key to serving the food; from hauling on an antenna guy line to creating and distributing a press release.

And above all, Field Day is FUN! My first exposure to MARC was at Field Day 2010 where I showed up at the Meadowvale Conservation Area and found myself helping erect antennas, making runs to Timmy's and anything else I could do to be useful. Everyone I met that weekend made me so welcome that I came back the following September and joined the club. Somehow I found myself volunteering to co-ordinate the 2011 event, and 2013 was my third time as coordinator.



This year we ran 12 stations, which between them managed 562 CW, 209 digital and 1111 SSB QSO's for a claimed QSO score of 5,306 points. Adding the 2,190 bonus points for things such as 100% running off emergency power, creating a press release, running one station on solar power, takes us to a total of 7,496 points. Field Day may not be a contest, but many of us are waiting for ARRL to publish the scores in a month or two.

Field Day 2014? Well that's up to you. The kick-off meeting will be early in the new year and that's your chance to join us and tell us what you'd like to do the following June. If you've taken part in the past, you'll know what to expect. If you've never been to Field Day before then why not come along and see for yourself? Find out how you can have fun with radio in a park on a mid-summer weekend.

73's,
VE3MDX



Amateur Radio Classes Schedule

Classes: held each **Monday**, at 07:00 PM.

Location: Red Cross OZone, 5700 Cancross Court,, Mississauga - Peel Training Room

| Date | Week | Subject | RAC Guide Chapter | Instructors |
|---------|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Oct. 21 | 6 | Antennas | 8 | Michael VE3TKI |
| Oct. 28 | 7 | Transmitters & Modulation | 13 | Barry VE3LBL |
| Nov. 04 | 8 | Receivers | 14 | Barry VE3LBL |
| Nov. 11 | 9 | Set-up, Operations & Regulations | 11, 12 17, RBR-4 RIC-3 | Barry VE3LBL |
| Nov. 18 | 10 | Repeaters | | Barry VE3LBL |
| Nov. 25 | 11 | Interference & Safety | 15, 16 | Barry VE3LBL |
| Dec. 02 | 12 | Review | All RIC-2 RIC-3 | Barry VE3LBL |
| Dec. 09 | 13 | Basic IC Examination: 7 PM Red Cross OZone Peel Training Room. Please bring photo id. | - All RBR-4 RIC-3 | Basil VE3JEB Barry VE3LBL |

MARC Members Yahoo Group

The MARC Members Yahoo Group is the primary way
 To disseminate club information about upcoming events

Join the MARC Members Yahoo Group

To receive club related communications and to contact other club members

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/marc_members/



Club Note's and information:

- 1) Club meetings start 7:30PM at St. Thomas A Becket Church Hall, 3535 South Common Court unless otherwise noted.
- 2) Sunday brunch is held at 8:30AM on the first Sunday of each month at Bobbie's Hideaway Restaurant, 20 Queen St, Streetsville (NW corner of Britannia Rd/Queen St in Streetsville)
- 3) ARES Meetings start at 7:30PM at the Red Cross, Ontario Zone Office (OZONE), 5700 Cancross Court, Mississauga, ON.
- 4) Executive meetings start 7:30PM at the Club Station, Danmax Electronics, 2311 Anderson Drive Unit B, Mississauga.
- 5) The Basic Classes start at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross OZONE, 5700 Cancross Court, Mississauga - Peel Training Room

Visit our website: <http://www.marc.on.ca> for the up to date calendar of events.

MARC Project Nights

The MARC Project Nights check our club calendar in October



RAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/TCA SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

For two- or three-year memberships or renewals please contact the RAC Office given at bottom of this page.

Please enter applicable choice(s) _____

| Please indicate New or Renewal: | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1 year RAC membership; @\$52.00 plus GST or HST as applicable Total \$54.60 in AB, MB, NT, NU, MB, PE, QC, SK, YT (5%) Total \$58.76 in NB, NL, ON (13%). Total \$59.80 in NS (15%) | |
| 1 year RAC membership only; for a blind person <u>NO MAGAZINE</u> @\$25.00 plus GST or HST as applicable Total \$26.25 in AB, MB, NT, NU, MB, PE, QC, SK, YT (5%) Total \$28.25 in NB, NL, ON (13%). Total \$28.75 in NS (15%) | |
| Family membership; price per extra family member @ \$25.00 plus GST or HST as applicable per year (one TCA per family) (Does not apply to simple subscriptions.) Total \$26.25 per person in AB, MB, NT, NU, MB, PE, QC, SK, YT (5%) Total \$28.25 per person in NB, NL, ON (13%). Total \$28.75 per person in NS (15%).. | |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Donation to the RAC Foundation enclosed | \$ |
| Donation to the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund enclosed | \$ |
| Donation to the Youth Education Programme enclosed | \$ |
| Donation to the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Programme enclosed | \$ |
| Grand Total: | \$ |

| | |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Visa/MasterCard No: | Card Expiry Date (MM/YY): |
| Security code on back of card (CVV2): | |
| Name of person credit card is issued to: | |

Mail to:
Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.
720 Belfast Road, Suite 217
Ottawa, ON, K1G 0Z5
Telephone #: 614-244-4367 or 877-273-8304, Fax: 613-244-4369
Email: rachq@rac.ca

