

**VE5AA**

**April 2005**

# **The Feedline**

SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB





Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club

**P.O. BOX 751**

Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L7

[ve5aa@qsl.net](mailto:ve5aa@qsl.net)

<http://www.qsl.net/ve5aa>

**Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club  
Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday  
of each month September till  
June.**

**Our meeting location is Alvin  
Buckwold School  
715 East Drive – West entrance**

**Meeting is 0130Z (7:30PM local)**

**VISITORS AND GUESTS ARE  
ALWAYS WELCOME!**



**ARES  
Saskatoon**

**NEXT ARES  
MEETING**

**Monday April 18, 2005  
7:00 PM**

**No 9 Firehall  
870 Attridge Dr.  
Talk in 146.640-**

<http://www.ares-saskatoon.ca/>

## ***NEXT CLUB MEETING***

*Tues, April 12, 2005*

**7:30 PM**

**ALVIN BUCKWOLD SCHOOL  
715 East Drive  
West entrance**

**BE THERE!**

## **CONTESTS**

**Apr 2 SP DX Contest  
Apr 2 EA RTTY Contest  
Apr 2 QCWA Spring QSO Party  
Apr 9 ARCI QRP Spring CW  
Apr 13 YLRL DX to NA YL SSB  
Apr 16 Holyland DX Contest  
Apr 16 Ontario QSO Party  
Apr 23 Florida QSO Party  
Apr 23 DX Columbia Contest**

For further information on contests refer  
to TCA, CQ & QST magazines

# **COFFEE**

**Tomas Cook**

**Restaurant**

**Saturdays 9:00 AM  
Idylwyld & 24<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Everyone is welcome. Hams,  
non-Hams, it doesn't matter.  
Were there to have good  
conversation with good  
friends.**

**C'mon out and visit!**



## ***A letter from The Canadian National Institute for the Blind***

### **AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM**

Dear Fellow Amateurs:

Kelly Sapergia's (VE5KJS) hobbies as a child were music and computers. When he was 14, friends in his home town of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, introduced him to ham radio. He'd always been a radio listener, especially shortwave, so being able to chat to people over the radio had great appeal.

Blind since birth, Kelly found ham radio to be a great way to make friends all over the world. He remembers his first international calls, when he picked up signals from Italy and Hungary: "It's so exciting to get a contact from another country."

Getting his ham radio licence was a group effort. The CNIB provided training courses on cassette, and with coaching from other hams, he easily passed his exam. He then bought a radio through the CNIB, which he paid for through installments. "I still have that radio and it's a dandy," he says.

Kelly remembers certain conversations like they happened yesterday. One was the Moose Jaw flood in 1997. He remembers the chill of hearing another operator yell, "Oh my God, the bridge is going out!"

Kelly's been part of his local Amateur Radio Emergency Services since he was about 17. On Halloween, he sets up his command post at the local police station and other ham radio operators patrol the streets, radioing in any problems to Kelly, who notifies the police. Operators also sometimes help motorists in distress and pass messages in weather emergencies.

The article above will be made available to blind and visually impaired CNIB clients from across Canada in the Spring 2005 Vision magazine.

We count on clubs such as yours to support us in helping members such as Kelly. We are pleased to receive individual donations of money or equipment as well as your club's donation. We will provide income tax receipts and credit such donations to their Club for the Club award program. Donations of equipment and money are also welcome from estates.

Many thanks,

George Fanjoy VE3PEB  
Chairman CNIB Amateur Radio Program  
416 207 0797  
Internet: [ve3oeb~rac.ca](mailto:ve3oeb~rac.ca)



Canadian Light Source Inc.

### **Cyclotron tours part of Saskatchewan Centennial Hamfest 2005**

Tours of the Canadian Light Source at the U of S will be part of the Hamfest this summer. As the tours have to be given during the work week they will be on Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> and will consist of 2 groups of 20 persons. Anyone wanting to take the tour should let the organizers know as soon as possible at:

[saskhamfest2005@sarl.ca](mailto:saskhamfest2005@sarl.ca)

### **Hamfest volunteers wanted**

We still need volunteers to help with the Hamfest. Will require people for the doors, information booth, meetings, etc. Contact us at:

[saskhamfest2005@sarl.ca](mailto:saskhamfest2005@sarl.ca)

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### **Portable repeater going to #9 Firehall**

Because of the lack of access we have at the Space Club, the Club's portable repeater will be stored at #9 Firehall. This will give us access 24/7 and will be easily available for emergency use.

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The 2005 MS Walk is being held on Sunday, April 24. Set-up starts around 7:00 AM with the WALK starting around 10:00 and ending by 1:00 PM. As in other years we're planning to have people at rest stops, in vehicles, on bikes, walking, at the start/finish and anywhere else we can think of.



Voice communications will be on a temporary repeater on the University Arts Tower on 147.300(+). This year we'll also be demonstrating APRS using a temporary digipeater and using it in as many locations as we can.

To volunteer, contact Bruce at 373-5672 or [ve5aa@qsl.net](mailto:ve5aa@qsl.net). If you have a preference of where you'd like to be, just let me know.

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### **Congratulations to Marcy and Devon Racicot**

Devon (VE5DWR) and his wife Marcy are the proud parents of an 8lb 10oz baby boy. Drew Walter Racicot. Born on March 27, 4:11 PM.

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**MINUTES**  
**SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**March 8, 2005**

The meeting was opened at 7:30 pm by President Ron, VE5RMS. One guest was present - Kathy Litwin VE52B.

The minutes of the January meeting as circulated in The Feedline were discussed. A correction was made with regard to keynote speakers being approached, as the name Al Piche should have been recorded as Al Pippen VE5PK. The minutes were then approved on a motion by Don, VE5LQ, seconded by Jim, VE5JIM

**Financial Report:** Ron, VE5RMS gave the financial report in Al's absence. Motion that the report be accepted was made by Andy VE5ADP, and seconded by Per, VE5PER.

Motion to accept the new budget made by John VE5RJA. Seconded by Les, VE5LPP. When presented for a vote, one was opposed. Motion carried.

**Guide House discussion** by Ned, VE5NED and Kathy Litwin. The existing location of the SARC at the space club has been good with respect to antennas and room, but there have been issues with club access to the facility due to the alarm changes and in dealing with the current school/board administration. As it currently stands the club cannot provide access to the club equipment to members in hours outside those designated for when we have meetings, and it generally looks like our days are numbered at this location. Kathy has suggested that the Guide House near Preston and Main Street may be a viable alternative for our club location and she will be presenting that idea at the next Guides meeting in March. The club would need to pay for use of the basement, and perhaps work out an annual fee similar to what we currently provide the space club. With regards to the station, there is a storage area that could be converted to a shack that would have a locking door. Bruce, VE5ZN mentioned that while he has never had any problems with power line interference in the neighborhood, he suggested that there may be an issue with parking. The club would also need to ensure it had a tower, beam and rotor available if we were to move. Peter, VE5JZ suggested that the Albert Community Centre may be another good possibility, partially due to the height of the structure and the fact that there would be meeting rooms and quite possibly a cubby hole that could do for a radio shack. John, VE5RJA suggested another good location might be the Western Development Museum. A motion was made to pursue looking into alternative club locations by Don VE5LQ and seconded by Chris VE5QV. All were in favour. A committee was established to look into finding the new location and consisted of Ned VE5NED, Kathy, Andy VE5APD and Ron VE5RMS.

**HamFest Update.** Ron has ticket books for the membership to pick up and sell for the Radio Raffle for the Hamfest, of which the profits go to ARES. We are still waiting for a reply from SaskTel for a grant. The tour at the Light Source has been moved to Friday afternoon since there are no Saturday or

Sunday tours. The committee needs names and a count of people who plan to attend in order to determine if they have two groups of twenty people (the max allowed). A call went out for volunteers for Hamfest to help with the various duties. Herb volunteered to do the talk-in, but everyone is asked to just volunteer generally and they will be assigned duties as the needs are determined. The cost for the all inclusive package of lunch, the banquet, the Sunday breakfast, the callbook and CD of photos will be C\$65. Les, VE5LPP put out a call for old club photos to include in the package, specifically prior to 1948 or from 1960 to the late 90's. There was also a suggestion that a world map centered on Saskatoon would be a nice to have item in the package as well. Pre-registration qualifies you for the door prize. As a reminder the HamFest will be held July 22-24, 2005.

**Public Service Update.** GOTA (Guides On The Air) or Thinking Day event results were presented by Kathy L, VE52B. The results were better this year compared to last year. There were some contacts on HF, but a better station would help our signal be heard better. IRLP to England was very successful as we had many girls talking using this mode. Lastly, there was a great picture of Ned and Kathy in the Star Phoenix.

**MS Cities Walk** discussion was presented by Bruce, VE5BNC. The walk will likely be held Sunday April 24th at the Archibald Arena off Spadina, running from around nine in the morning until just after 12 noon. Last year there were approximately 15 volunteers and we are looking for a similar number this year. Bruce will put an ad in the next Feedline

**Repeater Update** by Derek, VE5SD. The 7K controllers have been upgraded, and in mid April the equipment will be tuned up. We are hoping to have the equipment on the air by the beginning of May this year. The frequencies will remain the same as to what Eric and MARS were currently using.

**Special NASA Event in Saskatoon:** Bruce, VE5BNC received an email from Andy Gonzales, KG6RWO who indicated that the AMES lab was planning a UAV test which involved tracking via APRS of a launch originating from Vanscoy sometime between August and October this year.

**Mount Everest Expedition:** There will be an upcoming event using IRLP where students will be able to talk to climbers located in the base camp on Mount Everest.

**Equipment Disposal.** AL, VE5MDC is continuing to work on the inventory and we will hopefully have something ready for the next meeting (especially if he gets some help).

**ARES Update** by Nathan, VE5NAT. Badges are apparently being processed; there is some activity on the Emergency Bus installations as well. The Simplex frequency for ARES will be 147.51 with a PL Tone of 127.3. This will be the main tactical frequency prior to using the 640 repeater. The room we were planning on using for the radio has been allocated to another group so we are looking at other options. There is a possibility of setting up a second temporary field day station at Fire Hall #9 in conjunction with the WDM field day station, and we could utilize the emergency generator during the event. A motion was raised to store SARC's portable repeater at Fire Hall #9 since we would be

guaranteed 24/7 access to it there. Moved by Nathan, VE5NAT and seconded by Derek, VE5SD. Motion passed, none opposed.

**Other Business.** Herb, VE5HE, was out of the hospital showed up to the meeting to thank everyone for their contacts and support. In particular, he wanted to thank Bruce, VE5BNC, for helping to take over the embossing work that Herb had been working on, and Peter, VE5JZ for the special hand made chip box brail card he created.

**Bob, VE5RGM** donated some QST magazines to the membership, and a set of Feedline magazines from 1992 to 1995 to the club.

**Peter, VE5JZ** mentioned that there was a CTV report on an ARES ham Paul, VE5PWO in Kamsack made by Yorkton TV. Perhaps we should see if we can get a copy of it?

**Little Bear Lake Reminder.** The Open House will be held on June 10-12, the weekend before Fathers day. Make reservations either at the Lark's Inn Motel (306-426-2491) or the campsite (<http://www.littlebearlake.ca/>)

**Ned, VE5NED** walked away much richer from the club meeting having won the 50/50 draw.

**Nominations** where held for the upcoming SARC elections next month. The first round of nominations made was:

President: three nomination made, but all declined.

Secretary: Terry, VE5HF nominated by Ned, VE5NED

Directors: Bob, VE5NFG nominated by John VE5RJA,  
Nathan, VE5NAT nominated by Per VE5PER, and  
Ned, VE5NED nominated by Chris, VE5QV

**Motion to adjourn** the meeting made by Les, VE5LPP, at 9:09 pm.

Terry Shuya VE5HF  
Acting Recording Secretary



## APRIL MEETING

ELECTION OF THE FOLLOWING:

PRESIDENT  
SECRETARY  
2 DIRECTORS

Further nominations will be  
accepted at the meeting with  
elections to follow immediately.

All swap and shop  
ads are free to  
Hams



The weekend of February 15th and 20th saw local Hams providing communications for Kathy Litwin, a VE52B, and a group of about 30 Girl Guides and Brownies along with their leaders on their annual "Thinking Day" exercise. The girls and their leaders try to communicate with other Guiding Groups all over the world, sharing experiences and living situations in their respective communities. This year we held the occasion at Guide House on Preston Avenue.



We erected Bob's (VE5NFG) Mystery Antenna along with my 20mtr Bazooka and my home-brew vertical. The Mystery antenna performed the best as the Bazooka is only one band and the Vertical was too close to the building. The only place the ground rod could be driven down was beside the chimney! We had both the Club's

Kenwood radios and my HTX242 for 2 meters.

Propagation was not the best, few contacts on HF so IRLP came to the rescue! It was working flawlessly and the girls enjoyed some contacts, mainly with England.



We had planned to go through the night but there was no activity on any frequency or mode so we went home about one in the morning and came back three hours later! A few more contacts were made then we packed up and went home about noon.



I would like to thank all those who helped make this outing a success. Specifically Terry (VE5HF), Bob (VE5NFG), John (VA5RJA), Eric (VE5HG), and Jim (VE5JIM). I hope I didn't miss anyone.

73, Ned (VE5NED)



## Dave Glass Award



This award is to be presented by the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club on a yearly basis (if warranted) in honour of Dave Glass (VE5MG), who became a silent key in 1988.

Dave was a true ham. Always helpful -- home brew was his approach to ham radio equipment, or modifying it to make it work properly. From tubes to semiconductors, his workmanship and designs were second to none, as many older hams can attest to. Even to this day a satellite is still flying with his one-of-a-kind power supply transformer that a high profile commercial aerospace company was unable to duplicate.

The Dave Glass Award nominees should have some of the following attributes that really make amateur radio a technical, fun hobby:

- Always helpful to other hams in Saskatchewan.
- Be able to construct, modify or design ham equipment such as receivers, transmitters, oscillators, antennas, (home brew). Some photos would be nice.
- The nominee shall be active in advanced and full privilege amateur radio service and hold a current VE5/VA5 call sign.
- Be an experimenter at heart in amateur radio technology.
- Be a resident of Saskatchewan.



On the right, Bill Dunster (VE5DN)  
2004 Award Winner

This award trophy has a keeper plaque that the individual will retain. This award can only be awarded once to an individual and shall be open to all qualifying hams in Saskatchewan.

Send nominations to either [ve5krb@rac.ca](mailto:ve5krb@rac.ca) or [ve5aa@qsl.net](mailto:ve5aa@qsl.net).

The nomination deadline is June 1.

Ken (VE5KRB)

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