

VE5AA

April 2009

The Feedline

SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Homebrew is alive and well!



Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club

P.O. BOX 751
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L7
ve5aa@rac.ca
<http://ve5aa.dyndns.org>

Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club
Meetings are held usually on the 2nd
Tuesday of each month September til
June unless otherwise noted.

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

Meeting is 01:30 UTC (7:30PM local)

**VISITORS AND GUESTS ARE
ALWAYS WELCOME!**

President	Gus Schmid VE5SPI
Past President	Ron Sather VE5RMS
Vice-President	Mike Mikytyshyn VE5MMG
Secretary	Lou Curti VE5LOU
Treasurer	Heather Punshon VE5HAP
Director	Ron Watson VA5RON
Director	Ken Bindle VE5KRB
Director	Mike Luciuk VE5MIK

Repeaters	Gus VE5SPI
Property and Assets Record	Al VE5MDC
Training Coordinator	Gus VE5SPI
Public Service	Executive
Sick and Visiting	Ron VE5RMS
Field Day	Executive and Volunteers
Elmer	Vacant
Trailer	John VA5RJA
Space Club	Mike VE5MIK
SARC Net	John VA5RJA
L.B.L. Rep	Ken VE5KRB
Coffee	John VA5RJA
50/50 Draw	Nate VE5NAT
Feedline	Les VE5LPP
Web-site	Al VE5MDC
	Bruce VE5BNC

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Tuesday, April 21st, 2009
7:30 PM

ALVIN BUCKWOLD SCHOOL
715 East Drive
West entrance

BE THERE!



**ARES
Saskatoon**

NEXT ARES MEETING

1st Tuesday of each Month
7:00 PM

Co-op cafeteria
on Attridge Drive

Call in: 146.640-

COFFEE

Peter D's Family Restaurant
Saturdays 9:00 AM
1301 8th St East

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

C'mon out and visit!

Saskatoon and Area Frequencies

April 2009

LOCAL AREA REPEATERS

VE5SK 146.640- Saskatoon SARC

VE5ZH 147.270- 2 MHz offset,
Saskatoon, Auto Patch

VE5CC 146.970- Sktn. MARS. Linked
to VE5SKN,VE5DNA and IRLP node 1360.
Link code 502*/503*

VE5SKN 145.940- Sktn MARS. 100Hz
tone on xmt only.Linked to VE5CC.
VE5DNA and IRLP node 1360. Link
code 500*/501* ARES SAME wx Rcvr.

VA5LLR 145.390- Lizard Lake

VA5SV 145.330- Ridge East of Sktn

VE5RPD 145.190- Elbow/Davidson

IRLP NODE 1360 Hard linked to
VE5CC UHF Hub (444.975 +5M) &
available to VE5CC, VE5SKN and
VE5DNA VHF repeaters when linked.

All the above repeaters are completely
open.

ATV

VE5ATV 439.250 in 1277.250 out
Saskatoon

APRS

VE5RHF 144.390 Saskatoon DIGI

VE5BNC-3 144.390 Saskatoon
IGATE & SATGATE

VE5HAN-4 144.390 Hanley DIGI

VE5YR-4 144.390 Davidson DIGI

VE5YMJ-4 144.390 Eyebrow DIGI

VE5ADR-4 144.390 Avonlea DIGI

PACKET

VE5BBS 145.010 Saskatoon BBS

VE5USR-3 145.010 U of S DIGI

VE5YR-7 145.010 Davidson DIGI

VE5HAN 145.010 Hanley DIGI

VE5TH 145.010 Regina BBS

VE5XXX 145.010 Prince Albert BBS

VE5MPK-2 145.010 Melfort Node

VE5MPK 145.010 Melfort BBS

VE5NEP-3 145.010 Minichinas DIGI

LOCAL AND REGIONAL NETS

Sask WX	80m	1400Z	3735 Khz
ARES (Sun.)	80m	1430Z	3735 Khz
Aurora	40m	2330Z	7055 Khz
		& 0200Z	
Manitoba	80m	0000Z	3747 Khz
Montana Tfc	80m	0030Z	3910 Khz
Sask.	80m	0100Z	3735 Khz
Alberta	80m	0130Z	3700 Khz
Local Area	2m	0200Z	146.640-
B.C.	80m	0200Z	3727 Khz
Sask.	2m	0300Z	146.970-
			linked net 146.940-
80m YL Net	80m	0315Z	3755 Khz
		Sundays	
Prince Albert	2m	0330Z	147.150+

(All nets are daily except where noted)
All qualified Hams are welcome to check
into any of these nets

MINUTES

SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB March 10th, 2009

Meeting Called to Order:

Meeting called to order by President Gus, VE5SPI at 19:35 CST.

Gus welcomed guest Steven VE5SSH.

President Gus VE5SPI called for a minutes silence to remember Herb VE5HE who became a silent key.

Motion to accept minutes as published in Feedline by Eric VE5HG and Seconded by Derek VE5JDP Carried.

Space Club – Communications

Workshop: President Gus VE5SPI presented a report on the Space Club event that club members had participated in by helping the students build code oscillators. Al VE5MDC gave a presentation on Ham radio to the students.

Call for Nominations:

President Gus VE5SPI called for nominations for President. Mike VE5MMG nominated Gus VE5SPI, Nomination accepted. Bob VA5BRT nominated Mike VE5MMG, nomination declined.

President Gus VE5SPI called for nominations for Secretary.

Ken VE5KRB nominated Lou VE5LOU Nomination accepted.

President Gus VE5SPI called for nominations for a Director.

No nominations at this time.

New Business:

SARC Proposed Budget 2009-2010:

Heather VE5HAP distributed to members the proposed budget for the 2009/2010 year and reviewed item by item.

There were questions and a discussion on the CD project and previously allocated funding.

Moved that the budget be accepted as proposed by: Bob VA5BRT Seconded by Ken VE5KRB

Field Day Committee Request:

President Gus VE5SPI called for volunteers to form a committee to organize the Field day which will be held on June 27, 28 2009.

Shaun VE5SMC volunteered to chair the Field Day committee.

The Treasurer's report: Treasurer's report filed and presented to members. Donations were made to the CNIB and to the Space Club.

Moved by Eric VE5HG Seconded by Nate VE5NAT

Public Service Events:

MS Walk: Bruce VE5BNC advised that the MS walk would be on April 26/09. There will be a call for volunteers.

Minutes continued ...

Other Business

Annual Dave Glass Award: Ken VE5KRB called for nominations for the "Dave Glass Award" which could be awarded at the next SARL meeting in Lanigan SK.

Annual Little Bear Trek:

Ken VE5KRB called for expressions of interest in the "Little Bear Lake" site in June of 2009.

50 / 50 Draw:

The 50/50 draw was won by President Gus VE5SPI.

Meeting Adjournment: President Gus VE5SPI called for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Eric VE5HG. Business Meeting adjourned at 20:30.

Evening Presentation: Show and Tell of various projects done by individual club members.



Executive Elections Notice

Nominations: held March 10th & April 21, 2009 at club meetings.

Elections: held on April 21, 2009 at club meeting at Alvin Buckwold School.

Positions Available:

President: 2 year
Secretary: 2 year
Director: 2 year

Silent Key



Herb Essenburg,
VE5HE



Recipient of the
Queen Elizabeth II
Golden Jubilee Medal

Essenburg, Herbert Erich (Herb) passed away peacefully the morning of Sunday March 8, 2009 at Parkridge Centre in Saskatoon, SK following a battle with cancer. Words cannot describe the extent to which he will be missed by family, friends and the many people whose lives he touched. Herb was born in Winnipeg MB, to Ludwig and Elsie Essenburg on June 16, 1932. At an early age his family learned that he had a severe visual impairment which eventually resulted in total blindness. He was always grateful for his family's support by involving him in all their activities including church participation, travel, learning to paddle a canoe, rollerskating and skiing. Herb was employed by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind from June 1950 to February, 1980. In 1981, he acted as the Saskatchewan Co-ordinator for the International Year of Disabled Persons and from 1982 to 1994 was employed by the Saskatchewan Public Service Commission as a Human Resources Consultant and Employee Assistance Program Referral Agent. In 1959, Herb married Vera Tschetter and together they had two sons, Bruce and Rob. Through the years, Vera was a tremendous help and support to Herb in ways too numerous to count and Herb was deeply grateful for this support and encouragement. In 1972, Herb became a licensed amateur radio operator with the callsign VE5HE and made many friends around the world with this hobby. He was always appreciative of the help other hams gave him in repairing antennas and doing other jobs he couldn't handle. Countless hours were spent in entertaining residents of nursing homes and seniors' facilities playing a variety of instruments, along with a variety of other groups of musicians. Although he enjoyed the toe tapping music of polkas etc., his favorite really was playing many of the old hymns and gospel songs with other musicians. He was a firm believer that his faith was a factor in helping him

to navigate through life with little or no sight as he truly believed that countless times, his prayers had been answered. In 1962, Herb became a chartered member of the Saskatoon Nutana Lions Club and participated in club projects where practical. In 2005, he was recognized by being presented with life memberships in the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club and the Saskatoon Nutana Lions Club. Through a period of several years, he was presented with several medals recognizing his service to the community. Herb was predeceased by a brother Edwin who was killed in action in the RCAF over Germany in 1945, his mother Elsie Essenburg in October of 1987, and his father Ludwig Essenburg in 1990. He is survived by his loving wife Vera of Saskatoon, SK, his son Bruce and wife Mellisa of San Diego, California, his son Rob, wife Naomi and four grandchildren of Kelowna, BC, brother August and wife Aida of Winnipeg, MB, and sister, Irma Sachvie and husband August of Lockport, MB, as well as a number of nieces and nephews. Herb's family would like to thank all of the home care aides and staff at City Hospital and Parkridge Centre who cared for Herb like he was a part of their family. In Herb's memory, contributions may be made to the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind, 1705 McKercher Drive Saskatoon, SK, S7H 5N6) or Therapeutic Recreation Department, Parkridge Centre (110 Gropper Cr. Saskatoon, SK, S7M 5N9). The Funeral Service for Herb will be held on Thursday March 12, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. from Rock of Ages Lutheran Brethren Church (130 Kingsmere Place Saskatoon, SK), officiated by Pastor Gene Grant and Pastor Art Hundebly. Interment will follow at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens. Condolences for the family may be sent to david.schurr@sci-us.com. Arrangements have been entrusted to David Schurr of ACADIA-MCKAGUE'S FUNERAL CENTRE 955-1600.

(Published in the Saskatoon Star Phoenix on 3/9/2009)

It's Your PIC!

Building things from scratch, known as 'Homebrewing' in the amateur world, almost became an obsolete pastime with the introduction of relatively inexpensive sophisticated radio/electronic equipment for the average ham shack. But all was not lost, amongst other things the introduction to modern programmable Integrated Circuits (ICs) such as PICs (Peripheral Interface Controllers), coupled with easy access to the World Wide Web resulted in the free exchange of technical ideas, projects and related information thus creating a new breed of 'homebrewers', exciting times for many modern day hams.

Mike VE5MMG caught the PIC homebrew bug a couple of years ago and jumped into this facet of the hobby in a big way once he entered his retirement years. Many of Mike's projects involve inexpensive PICs as the heart of the project.



Mike, VE5MMG working on a PIC circuit layout

Some projects Mike is currently working on are:

- Station digital frequency counter that works up to 50 to 60 MHz. Higher frequencies can be measured by adding a prescaler to the counter.
- CTCSS (Continuous Tone-Coded Squelch System) Tone generator that will be built into an older 2 meter handheld transceiver allowing the use of sub-audible tones.
- APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) Controller interface for VHF amateur radio equipment allowing



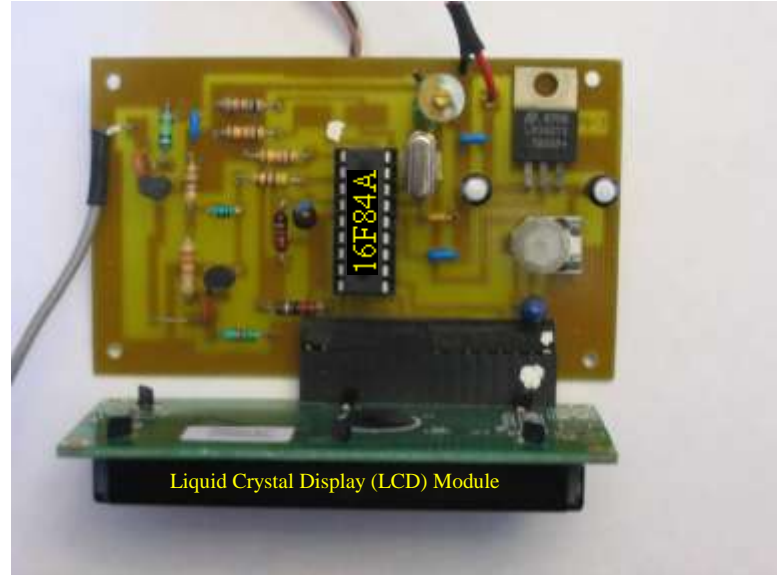
SARC April 21st Meeting Presentation

IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project)

Presenter: Nathan VE5NAT

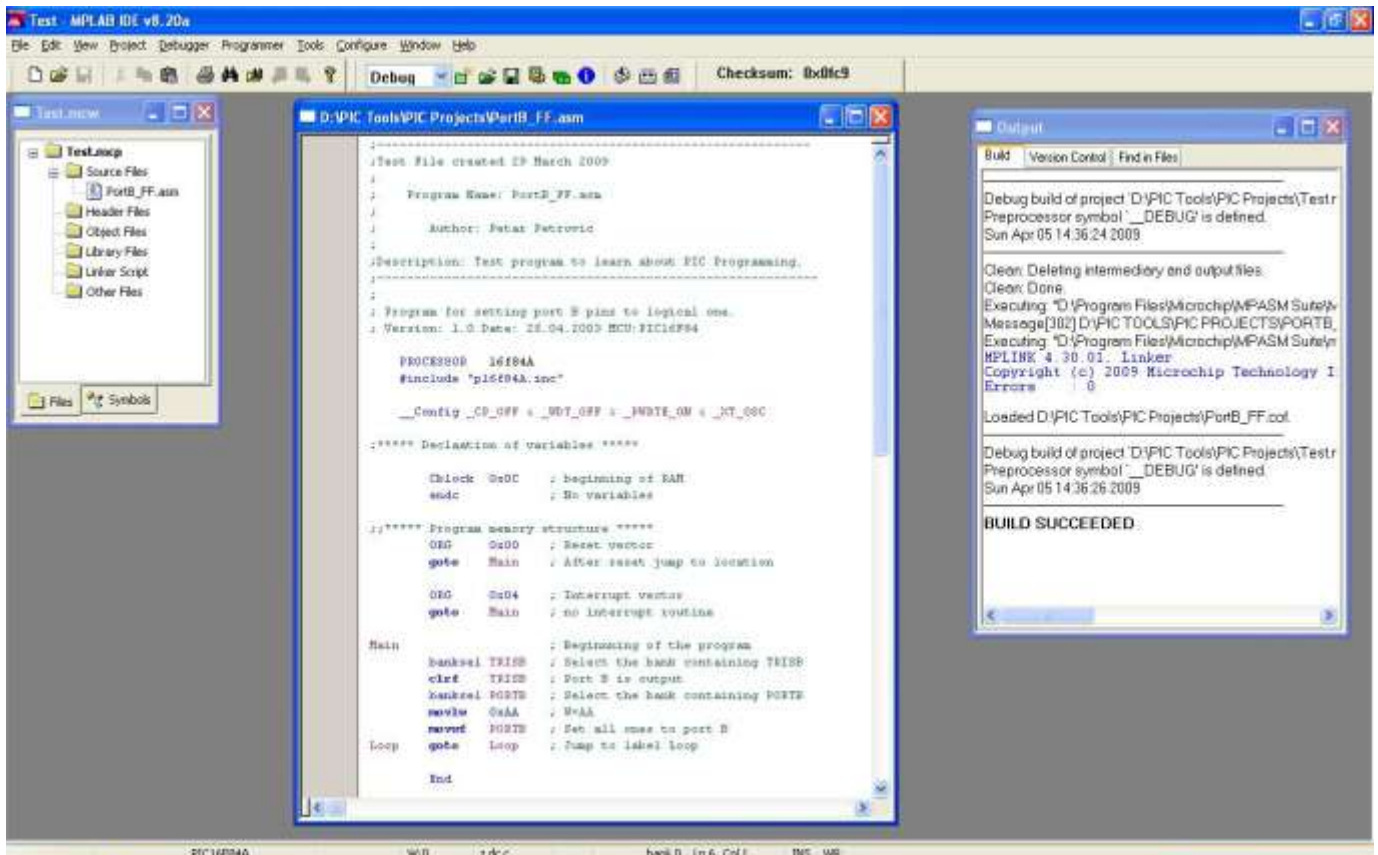
position tracking information to be sent over amateur radio frequencies.

Mike has obtained a lot of ready to build circuits via the internet which he modifies to his specific needs. A simple search on the internet will reveal a treasure trove of PIC development tools, circuit designs and inexpensive kits; for example, a PIC microcontroller Mike uses for his frequency counter (PIC 16F84A) costs under \$5 dollars! Many of the software tools are free from the manufacturer's website, downloadable over the internet. For instance, Microchip Technology Incorporated (www.microchip.com) has free programming and simulation tools available (MPLAB IDE). A person interested in investigating and wishing to experiment without an outlay of any money can play with the software and perform simulations on their own PC.



Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) Module

Mike's Frequency Counter - Circuit Card View with PIC Microcontroller 16F84A Installed



Example of a Simple Program Compiled (built) using MPLAB IDE Software from Microchip Technologies

Once one has advanced to the hardware level the experimenter would need to either build their own programmer interface (circuits available on the internet), checkout -

<http://foxdelta.com/products/programmer.htm>

<http://www.rentron.com/Myke4.htm>

or purchase one from the manufacturer or other commercial vendors.

The manufacturer also provides various evaluation kits designed to help the experimenter become more acquainted with microchip device capabilities.

The following is a list of equipment you would need to be able to perform PIC projects:

- PC, usually capable of running any windows operating system using windows 95/98/NT/2000/ME/XP.
- Hardware Tools:
 - o Prototype board.
 - o Device Programmer
 - o DC Power Supply(s).
- Software Development Tools
 - o <http://www.microchip.com>

Sample Prototype Boards:



Sample Prototype Board manufactured by E & L Instruments: <http://www.elinstruments.com/>



Prototype Board Manufactured by Vector Electronics <http://www.vectorelect.com/>

The following two sites provide excellent tutorials for the beginner PIC enthusiast.

<http://www.mstracey.btinternet.co.uk/pictutorial/picmain.htm>

http://www.mikroe.com/en/books/picbook/1_chapter.htm

Other useful sites:

<http://www.gsl.net/dl4yhf/>

http://www.gsl.net/yo5ofh/pic/pic_ham_projects.htm

<http://www.ic-prog.com/index1.htm>

<http://www.foxdelta.com/>

<http://www.njgrp.org/ham-pic/>

(Author: AI, VE5MDC)



RAC Bulletin 2009-011E

Renewed Memorandum of Understanding between RAC and Canadian Red Cross Society April 1, 2009

A renewed Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc. and the Canadian Red Cross Society.

Replacing the original 1994 agreement, the MOU updates details and clarifies the role played by Amateur Radio and in particular the RAC Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) in time of disaster or other events requiring emergency communications.

The MOU may be viewed in both official languages at <http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/download.htm> under the heading "ARES Documents".

All Radio Amateurs involved with emergency communications should become familiar with the document in order to facilitate cooperation between the two signing organizations.

R.D. (Bob) Cooke VE3BDB
President
Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.





Congratulations

Congratulations to Mark Bergen, Liam Bindle, Peter Coles, Ron McCann, Brad Taylor, Jen Taylor, Ricky Wen, for completing the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club's "Amateur Radio Basic Certificate Training Course", all achieving honours. Final exams were written on April 2nd at Alvin Buckwold School. All achieved greater than 80% on the exam thus obtaining for themselves the privilege of operating in the HF amateur bands.

Welcome to the great hobby of Amateur (HAM) Radio.