

VE5AA

March 2004

The Feedline

SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



VE5HF

Terry (VE5HF) Station Setup:-My station is a Kenwood TS-440s and an old reliable TS-530s with a Mosley TA-33JR 3-Element Tri-band at 60 feet, and a G5RV with a homebrew tuner that amazingly is able to tune onto 160m. I have recently added a couple new homegrown antennas to my arsenal thanks to VE5KRB's superb antenna class (an 80/40m trap dipole and 40/20/15/10m vertical trap).



Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club

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

**Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club
Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday
of each month September til 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, March 15, 2003
7:00 P.M.
CITY HOSPITAL Rm. 8313**

**Emergency Website/IRLP
Operations**

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

NEXT CLUB MEETING

**Tuesday, March 9, 2004
7:30 PM**

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

BE THERE!

CONTESTS

Mar 2 AGCW YL-CW Party
Mar 6-7 ARRL Inter. DX Contest SSB
Mar 7 DARC 10 Metre Digital Contest
Mar 13-14 YL-ISSB QSO Party SSB
Mar 13-14 RSGB Commonwealth Contest
Mar 13-14 Oklahoma QSO Party
Mar 14 North American Sprint RTTY
Mar 14-15 Wisconsin QSO Party
Mar 20-21 Russian DX Contest
Mar 20-21 CLARA & Family HF Contest
Mar 22 Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint
Mar 27-28 CQ WW WPX Contest SSB
Mar 27 Spring Break RTTY Sprint

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

COFFEE

**Saturdays at 10 A.M.
Smiley's on 8th St.**

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!

Minutes
Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club
February 10, 2004

In the absence of President Ron, VE5RMS and Vice-President Gus, VE5SPI, Past President Ned, VE5NED opened the meeting at 7:33 P.M. One guest, a VE5-2B, Kathy Litwyn was welcomed. The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved as circulated in the FEEDLINE, on a motion by Eric, VE5HG, seconded by Jim, VE5JIM - carried. We were advised that GOTA, (Guides On The Air), would take place February 19-20, an overnight at our clubroom. (Note: we were later advised that the school would not permit us to use the school facility overnight and the event has been moved to the home of Ned, VE5NED).

The problem being caused by our transmitter getting into the school's PA system will be checked on February 12th.

The treasurer's report was presented by Al, VE5MDC and was accepted on a motion by Ken, VE5KRB seconded by John, VA5RJA - carried. (Filed with the minutes)

On a motion by Les, VE5LPP, seconded by Ken, VE5KRB, the SARC agreed to allot \$500.00 to the Hamfest 2005 committee as seed money for the event. This is being matched by MARS - carried.

Ken, VE5KRB discussed the possibility of having a writer do an article on ham radio for a national magazine which was not related to the hobby. All felt it a great idea to publicize ham radio and asked Ken to proceed as he has a connection to expedite the matter.

Bruce, VE5bnc reported that he was scheduled to meet with the MS society re their fund raisers and would report at the next meeting. GOTA is scheduled to February 19-20 as indicated earlier in the minutes. RFI committee: Ken, VE5KRB reported that VE5DN's problem seems to have resolved itself for the present time. VE5WG is still considering the matter of acquiring an HF transceiver. John, VA5RJA has purchased an MFJ device for searching out noise areas and has already made some interesting discoveries with the device.

Al, VE5MDC reported that Eric, VE5HG, had offered to purchase the club's old GE Exec repeater for \$100.00. Al, VE5MDC moved that the club sell the item to Eric for \$100.00, seconded by Ken, VE5KRB - carried.

Basic classes are winding down and should be complete in about three weeks. The antenna building class is complete and the CW class has been suspended due to lack of attendance but will be re-instituted if a sufficient number of individuals indicate an interest.

APRS - Bruce, VE5BNC reported on two demos he and Gus, VE5SPI had done for Search and Rescue groups in Yorkton and Saskatoon. He indicated that this might result in an improved relationship between amateur radio and search and rescue.

Les, VE5LPP was again thanked for his great work on THE FEEDLINE!

The 50/50 draw was again won by Bob, VE5NFG. Aha! That's why you weren't around to buy coffee on Saturday!

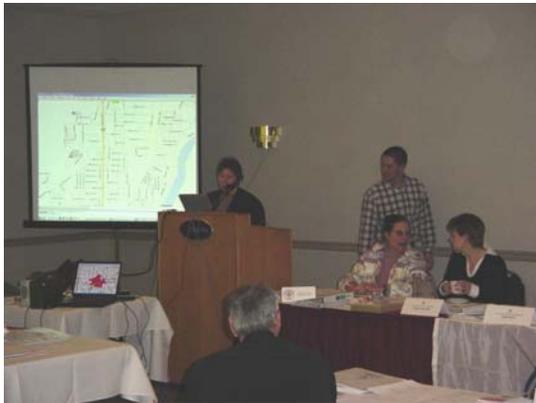
Before moving an adjournment of the meeting, Eric, VE5HG advised that his 448 repeater has been taken off the air for the time being due to interference.

Once again thanks to Colleen, VE5CMG for the delicious chocolate cake to go with the coffee provided by John, VA5RJA. What a team!

Herb Essenburg - VE5HE
Secretary



APRS Presentation for Civil Aviation Search & Rescue Association



I first demonstrated APRS for CASARA (The Civil Aviation Search and Rescue Association) last November. As a result of that demonstration, I was asked to do a formal presentation at the Saskatchewan Annual General Meeting of CASARA in Saskatoon on February 7.

The presentation was similar to the one I've used at the Club presentation but was updated to incorporate some of the data I collected during earlier demonstrations and to highlight how it could be used in a search. After the PowerPoint presentation, I sent Gus (VE5SPI) and Leigh (VE5LEE) out to drive around the area while we tracked them. As much as they tried,

they couldn't lose us and we saw their every move.

As always, the live demonstration did more to impress everyone than any PowerPoint presentation ever could. There was a collective gasp in the room as icons for Leigh and Gus turned onto Circle Drive and sped off in opposite directions. Several people had questions ranging from whether other clubs were using APRS to how much extra weight a tracker adds to an aircraft.



The entire presentation lasted a bit over an hour. I later heard from my contact from Humboldt who said that most of the people were impressed with the capabilities of APRS. Of course there were a few that were a bit tougher to convince. Several people also mentioned that they would be bringing up APRS with the hams in their area.

73, Bruce (VE5BNC)

CANADIAN PREFIXES

CF - CK,

CY

CY0 Sable Is
CY9 St-Paul Is

CZ

VA

VA2 Quebec
VA3 Ontario
VA4 Manitoba
VA5 Saskatchewan
VA6 Alberta
VA7 British Columbia

VD

VE

VE0 Stations at sea
VE1 New Brunswick,
Nova Scotia
VE2 Quebec
VE3 Ontario
VE4 Manitoba
VE5 Saskatchewan
VE6 Alberta
VE7 British Columbia
VE8 N.W.T.
VE9 New Brunswick

VF, VG

VO

VO1 Newfoundland
VO2 Labrador

VX

VY

VY0 Nunavut
VY1 Yukon
VY2 Prince Edward Is
VY9 Government of
Canada

XJ - XO

For every minute you exercise, you add one minute to your life. This enables you at 85 to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month.



RABC recommends 220-222 MHz be transferred to the Mobile service

Use it or lose it! We have all heard that story. Canadian Radio Amateurs make very little use of the two MHz at the bottom of the 220-225 MHz band. Industry Canada can monitor usage and is well aware of this fact. US Amateurs were forced to give up this spectrum in the early 1990s.

Spectrum in the VHF range is very congested outside the amateur bands, and mobile service users such as the RCMP and the Railway Association of Canada have well documented needs for this spectrum. Their justification is based on harmonization with the USA, with increased demands for public security communications, and on the unique propagation characteristics of the 220 MHz band. Other public safety bands in the 700-800 MHz range have entirely different propagation characteristics.

The Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC) has been studying the needs of various services over the past 18 months, and has decided to recommend to Industry Canada that:

1. The 220-222 MHz band be transferred from the amateur to the mobile service.
2. Amateur repeaters in this portion of the band be grand fathered to continue operation for a number of years, with the number to be decided by Industry Canada.
3. 150 kHz of spectrum in the 220-222 MHz band be designated as

public service spectrum to be shared by amateur and mobile services for special public safety and disaster communications applications.

4. The band 219-220 MHz be allocated on a secondary basis to the Amateur service in Canada, which would be in harmony with a similar allocation in the USA.

5. The band from 222-225 MHz remain as a primary exclusive amateur allocation.

Following consultation with Canadian amateurs in a survey conducted in July 2002, RAC as a member of the RABC, has vigorously opposed these proposed changes without success. In a recent RABC ballot, RAC was the only dissenting voice.

Here are RAC's comments to Industry Canada.

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) does not approve the response of the RABC in this ballot. RAC understands the increased spectrum requirements of the services represented by the other RABC sponsor members in the VHF portion of the spectrum. However, the Amateur Service also has spectrum requirements for expansion, and its 220 - 225 MHz band is the only primary allocation available to the amateur service between 148 MHz and 24 GHz. In

addition to relieving the pressures on the congested 144-148 MHz (Primary) and 430-450 MHz (Secondary) amateur bands, the 220-225 MHz band would be used for amateur service emergency communications, particularly as its propagation characteristics bridge those provided by the 144 and 430 MHz bands. Development of the 220 MHz band is growing as equipment for the amateur service at 220 MHz increasingly is becoming available.

Industry Canada must now take this advice, decide on a course of action, and in all likelihood conduct a public consultation before issuing a decision. The prospects do not look good.

This could be the first loss of amateur spectrum in Canada for many years. Canadian amateurs cannot complain. The spectrum is valuable, and we do not make good use of it. Those are the facts. In spite of all the good work we do in emergency and disaster communications, our case for retention is weak.

You've heard it before. USE it or LOSE IT!

Maybe this RABC recommendation will make us take the saying more seriously.



Click on the Logo to link to the AMSAT Echo Website for more information on the Echo Amateur Satellite.

We need YOUR help. Amsat-NA has not reached its goal to launch Echo. Please help fund Echo for all amateur radio operators to enjoy. See the Amsat Echo Website for information on donating to the launch of Echo.

Echo to be delayed

AMSAT - NA President Robin Haighton VE3FRH, reports that due to a delay in the delivery of the primary payload to the launch site, the Launch of ECHO has been delayed by some 3 months. The "official" launch date is now June 29 2004.

Robin believes that this new date is the start of the new launch window, which may last several weeks. As and when more information becomes available he will keep us informed.

(Thanks to AMSAT News Service)

FOR SALE

72FT. LB Heavy Duty Tower
(New) \$750.00

ICOM IC-2800 Dual FM
3in. LCD Display
Excellent condition \$250.00

3 – SC-400 Diamond
SWR/PWR meters
140-520megs. \$195.00 each

Richard (VE5RH)
244-3610



Radio Amateurs of Canada now offers a Certificate of Proficiency in Morse Code, to be administered by the RAC Awards Manager, to recognize voluntary candidate Morse code reception proficiency at speeds of 12, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 WPM. A new dated certificate will be issued with each new 'qualification' earned. The examination and certificate are also available in the French language. A charge of \$5 is assessed to cover printing, handling and postage costs.

Two new Hams



Diane Beaulieu VA5DSB

Diane passed her Basic exam a couple of weeks ago and is officially VA5DSB. Congratulations and welcome to the fold. By the way, Diane is Warren's (VA5WDB) XYL.



Per Jacobsen (VE5PJ)

Per passed his basic exam just recently and has applied for VE5PJ. Congratulations Per. Hope you enjoy the hobby.

"Middle age is when you have stopped growing at both ends and have started growing in the middle."