

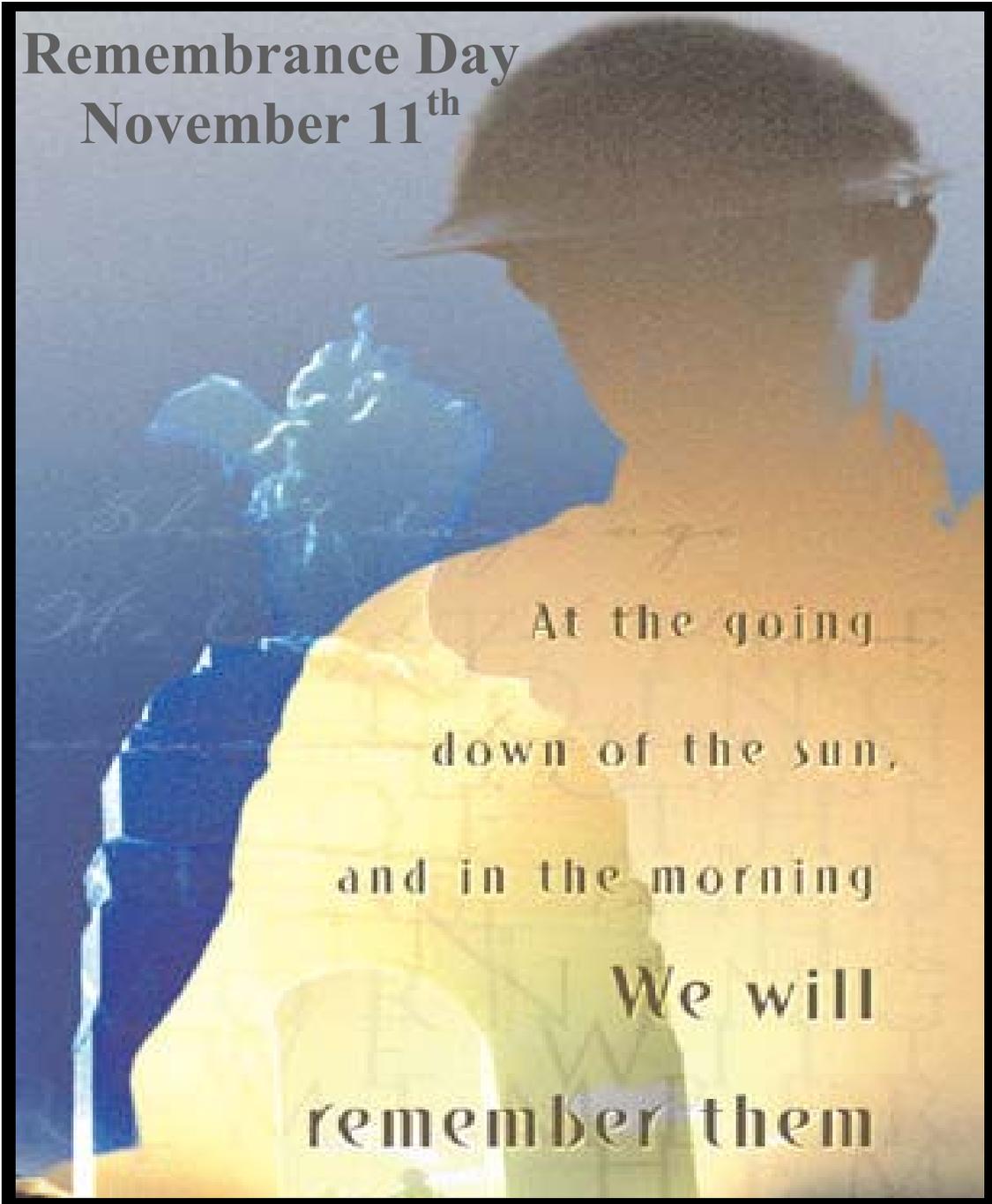
VE5AA

November 2003

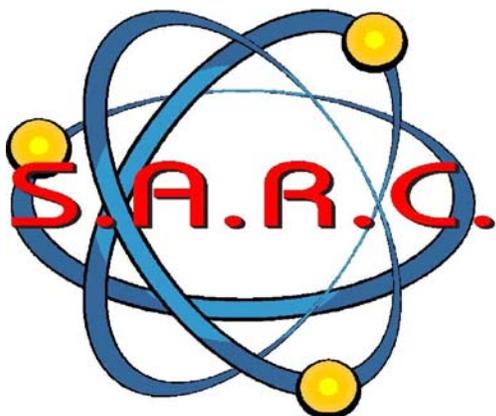
The Feedline

SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Remembrance Day
November 11th



At the going
down of the sun,
and in the morning
We will
remember them



Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club

P.O. BOX 751
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L7
ve5aa@qsl.net
<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, Nov 17, 2003
7:00 PM
CITY HOSPITAL
ROOM 1903
Winter operations
readiness review**
<http://www.ares-saskatoon.ca/>

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Tuesday, Nov.18, 2003
7:30 PM

ALVIN BUCKWOLD SCHOOL
715 East Drive
West entrance

BE THERE!

November Meeting

Dr. W. Braun will give a talk on the formation of diamond pipes, oil deposits, potash deposits, and the general geology of Saskatchewan.

This will take place immediately after the general meeting.

COFFEE

Saturdays at 10 A.M.

**Smiley's
on 8th 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!

MINUTES
SASKATOON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
October 14, 2003

President Ron (VE5RMS) opened another well-attended meeting at 7:30 P.M. Guests included Glen (VE5GAM), Terry (VE5HF) and Robin (VE5RE) as well as two associate members not named.

The minutes of the last regular meeting were approved as circulated in The Feedline on a motion by Eric (VE5HG), seconded by Don (VE5LQ). The treasurer outlined the benefits of SARC becoming an affiliate of RAC. It was moved by John (VE5RJA) and seconded by Derek (VE5SD), that our club apply for affiliation with RAC as there were a number of benefits with no cost to the club – carried.

The treasurer Al (VE5MDC) presented his financial report. It was accepted on a motion by Eric (VE5HG), seconded by Warren (VA5WDB) and has been filed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE: no new community service events since our last meeting but we continue to meet with the Santa Claus Parade organizing committee re the parade on November 23rd.

REPEATERS: Ned (VE5NED) reported that he and Bruce (VE5BNC) had made a trip to Davidson to install digi-peaters for packet and APRS atop the Pool elevator there and both were now in operation at no cost to the club as parts were found or scrounged. Consideration had been given to possibly moving the portable repeater to Luther Tower on a temporary basis for the Santa Claus parade but Bruce (VE5BNC) indicated that he had access to the Arts Tower at the University and this too could be a location that would give us excellent handheld coverage for the parade.

HAMFEST 2005: The president reported that MARS had agreed to jointly sponsor the Saskatchewan Hamfest with SARC during the province's centennial year in 2005. A committee is being formed, consisting of executive members of both organizations as well as members at large. Representing the SARC executive will be Ron (VE5RMS), Warren (VA5WDB) and Ned (VE5NED). From our members at large, Bill (VE5XP), Andy (VE5APD), Ken (VE5KRB) and Nat (VE5NAT). John (VE5RJA) offered his services in helping with refreshments. It was agreed that the committee would look at some type of fundraising activity to help fund the hamfest. SARL plans to hold on-air meetings on the second Monday of each month on the linked repeater system and members were encouraged to participate in these meetings.

PROGRAMS: As Remembrance Day occurs on the usual date of our November meeting, the meeting has been rescheduled to Tuesday, November 18 with Prof. W. Braun to speak to us on the geology of Saskatchewan. The Christmas social will take place December 9th at The Cave Restaurant. There will be a gift exchange (value about \$10.00) for those who wish to participate. Need to contact Warren (VA5WDB) by the end of November to get a count on

those planning to attend. For this event, Herb (VE5HE) and Lee (VE5LEE) are looking for volunteers who play an instrument to put together a “Ham Band” to do a few numbers. Contact either if you’re willing to take part.

HAM CLASSES: Ned (VE5NED) reported that two individuals had begun the class but it was hoped more would attend. The secretary reported that PSAs had been sent to the media but it appears they have not been used.

Code class: Herb (VE5HE) advised that four had participated in the first class with more expected to come on stream. Start time for the forthcoming classes will be 7:30 P.M. if this accommodates additional participants.

ANTENNA CONSTRUCTION CLASS: Ken (VE5KRB) had planned to commence the antenna classes on October 17 but the apparently is a conflict with a Space Club event and antenna building classes will commence at 7:30, October 24th.

Ken (VE5KRB) reported that he had to bring in the mounting brackets on the Diesel generator at the VE5LBL site as they were broken and needed replacing. He reported that one of the hams from Winnipeg, Wayne (VE4WR) planned to try to bring a group to the VE5LBL open house the weekend before Field Day in 2004. He also reported that inventory of VE5DL’s equipment had been taken and it would be advertised in the next FEEDLINE or on our website. George (VE5DL) is in poor health and plans to put his whole station up for sale.

The 50/50 draw was won by Jack (VE5JGS) – congratulations Jack.

Once again, Colleen (VE5CMG) favored us with a delicious cake to accompany our coffee provided by John (VE5RJA). Thanks to both of you!!!

Bruce (VE5BNC) gave us a most interesting presentation on APRS, (Automatic Positioning Reporting System). Each time Bruce does a presentation on APRS it gets more interesting to learn of the multitude of uses for this mode. Thanks from all of us Bruce.

And now, technically we are still in session as our president did not call for a motion to adjourn the meeting so formally, I now move that we adjourn and that makes the meeting 14 hours and 10 minutes long. I wonder if the Guinness Book of Records would be interested!



Herb Essenburg – VE5HE
Secretary



ARES SASKATOON

ARES SET 2003 deploys Hams to four operational sites.



ARES Saskatoon Emergency Coordinator called the 2003 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in Saskatoon at 11:00 Saturday October 4 to test the deployment capabilities of ARES teams and equipment to four locations around the city.

By 11:32 the first Hams had arrived at the staging area and began preparing ARES radio equipment for deployment. There was an initial response of 50% of the call out list (not bad for a sunny Saturday afternoon). Representatives of both the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club and the Meewasin Amateur Radio Society responded in the first hour of operation.

At 12:00 tasks were assigned and by 12:30 a cross band repeater station was established at The Lawson Heights Recreation Center which successfully linked hand held radios at the simulated evacuation center to a second cross band repeater operating into hand held

radios at the staging area at Smiley's on 8th Street at Circle Drive. All hand held radios were able to operate at low power settings to extend battery life and to minimize local interference with other radios at each of the sites.

A station was established at Saskatoon City Hospital where the radio room facilities and fixed antenna system were tested into both the 146.640 and 146.940 repeater systems as well as direct path signals to the staging area. All VHF facilities checked out with strong signal from the hospital.

Scheduled contacts were made from hand held radios at the evacuation center and the staging area to mobile and fixed station locations in Humboldt. This task tested capabilities for the newly expanded Saskatoon Health Region list of hospitals that include Humboldt and Lanigan.

IRLP contacts were made to Calgary and Red Deer Alberta from the battery powered cross band repeaters locations. Medium range simplex contacts from east of the city limits were successfully tested into the cross band repeater system.

Repeater VE5SK on 146.640 was used as the initial tactical frequency with VE5CC 444.975 being used as a linking hub to Humboldt and the IRLP nodes. The cross band link was used with 146.580 simplex inputs at the Lawson Heights evacuation center and 146.560 simplex at the staging area. Both systems were initially tested with outputs of 446.00 simplex and 444.00 simplex for point-to-point health and welfare communications. Later tasks involved using 444.975 outputs to link both sites into the IRLP and UHF



linking systems. Both cross band repeaters were standard off the shelf dual band mobiles connected to dual band antennas on push up masts attached to cars in parking lots. They operated throughout the exercise on battery power.

A open review of this exercise took place at the ARES meeting on October 20 when the ARES team discussed future directions for ARES Saskatoon and plan the fall and winter training schedule.

More details of the exercise including who participated, what went right and what went wrong as well as pictures and video clips will be posted soon on the ARES website at <http://www.ares-saskatoon.ca>

Many thanks to all of the participants who gave there time to the exercise and to all Saskatoon amateurs who were inconvenienced by our use of their repeaters.



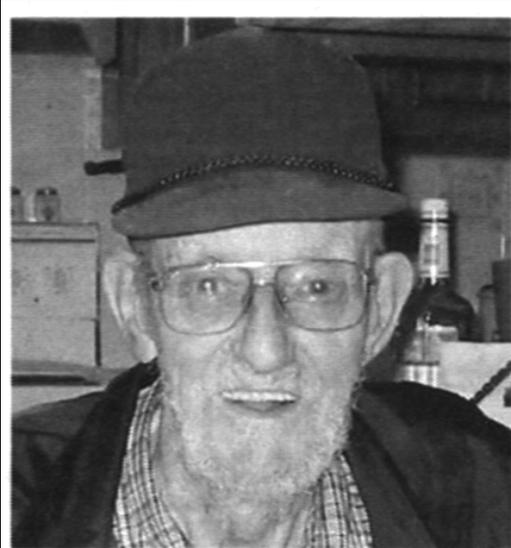
Garry McCallum VE5PNQ
Emergency Coordinator
Radio Amateurs of Canada
ARES Saskatoon

Silent Key

VE5JRA

Jack Ashton

b.1916 d.2003



ASHTON — John Ralph Ashton (Jack) passed away in the University Hospital of Saskatoon October 17-2003. Jack was born in South Wales in 1916, served 3 1/2 years in the Royal Navy and was always involved in the Canadian Legion wherever he lived. Jack taught school in England and later in Canada after emigrating in 1966 first settling in Saskatchewan. He leaves to celebrate his life; wife Peggy, daughter Jill and five sons, Michael, Neil, Russell, Dale and Richard. Grandchildren: Helen, Ivan, Rob, Beth, Wayne, Sarah, Jake, Thomas and Hayley. Great-Grandchildren: Sydney, Danielle and Emily. Jack also leaves sister Betty and brother Eric in England. Jack was an Amateur Radio enthusiast (VE5JRA) and was very active in the HAM community for many years. Peggy would like to thank some special people for their friendship and kindness over the years: Nellie Ballard & family, Mel and Ann Libke, John and Anne Bildfell, Martin Zdunich and Irma & Gordon Gibbons. In keeping with Jack's wishes there will be no service. A family gathering was held in Calgary in his honour. Thanks are also extended to the staff at the University Hospital for their care and thoughtfulness.

Rest in peace Jack



RAC Bulletin 03-028 Brief report by Radio Amateurs of Canada at the conclusion of the twenty-first IC-RAC Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory

Board meeting held in Ottawa, ON, October 23, 2003.

Among several on-going regulatory subjects on the agenda, were the following:

- * RAC presented its Board-approved recommendation that Morse code be dropped as a qualification requirement.
- * Possible options for consideration related to four-character call sign suffixes were discussed.
- * RAC provided IC with a copy of its submission to the Committee on the National Antenna Tower Policy Review.
- * RAC's efforts to bring more young people into Amateur Radio through the RAC Youth Education Program were introduced and discussed.

Industry Canada invited RAC to submit detailed proposals on dropping Morse code and the use of four-character call signs. Industry Canada expressed appreciation to RAC for its prompt and comprehensive response to the department's request for input on significant changes to regulations arising out of the WRC-2003 decisions.

RAC was represented by President Bill Gillis, VE1WG, Vice-president Regulatory Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, and Directors David Nimmo, VE1NN, and BJ Madsen, VE5FX. Also participating through

presentation of their work as members of the RAC Ad Hoc Committee on qualifications were: Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ and Brice Wightman, VA2BW/VE3EDR

Industry Canada was represented by Senior Director, Spectrum Management, Mike Connolly, Director Eastern Ontario District Office and Amateur Radio Service Centre Line Perron, Directorate of Spectrum Operations staff members, Rob Cepella and Gary Steckly, and Harold Carmichael, Program Manager, Quebec City District Office.

Silent Key

VE5GM

**Hans Morken
of Prince Albert
d. Nov. 14, 2003**

Rest in peace Hans

Silent Key

VE5DL

**George Curliss
of Saskatoon
d. Nov. 8, 2003**

Rest in peace George



SARL CORNER

by

Derek Bereza VE5SD
President SARL

Did you know that SARL stands for the Saskatchewan Amateur Radio League, and is your provincial amateur radio organization?

From information Stan VE5SC shared with me, SARL began around 1950/51. Many people were involved, but three who worked tirelessly on the licence plate project were Lionel O'Byrne VE5LU of Rowatt, Steve Tomecek (can't remember his call) from Lipton and Keith Baker, VE5XX of Regina. To the best of his knowledge the first plates were issued in 1954 or 1955. In other words, SARL enabled hams in Saskatchewan to have personalized licence plates! Other things SARL has been involved in is sponsoring provincial Hamfests, flea markets, picnics, and helping out clubs and groups with funding for worthwhile projects.

Every second Monday of each month at 9:00 PM on IRLP Saskatoon Reflector 9300 (which is accessible on either the 146.940- or 145.210- repeaters) we hold an "SARL meeting on the air". The purpose of the net is to promote amateur radio throughout the province and gain insight on what direction the organization should have. In January 2003, we launched a new website at <http://www.qsl.net/sarl/> to showcase

and promote amateur radio in our province and the numerous clubs and organizations in our province. We are working on a number of different sections on the website including a history of amateur radio in Saskatchewan. We are actively looking for history of clubs, amateur radio events, field days, ARES, repeater history, or any other items of interest to do with our hobby. We are exploring the idea of producing a limited edition centennial project on the history of amateur radio in Saskatchewan, as well as other initiatives.

We aim to give members true and meaningful value for belonging to the organization, and are in the process of rebuilding. We have a first class bi-monthly publication called the "QSO" (which is sent out in alternate months of RAC's TCA), and one of our goals we have set is to have membership in the hundreds by the 2005 Hamfest! SARL has website domain of <http://www.saskhamfest.com> which it offers the use to clubs or organizations who host the provincial hamfests.

So, if you would like to see a copy of the QSO, send an email to ve5dwr@sarl.ca, or if you would like to learn more about SARL or possibly join this worthwhile organization, you can email me at ve5sd@sarl.ca or Ron at ve5rms@sarl.ca. Next month, "Why join SARL?".

73 Derek

"Never argue with an idiot. They drag you down to their level then beat you with experience."

Thanks for the support!

I would like to thank all the Hams in the area who supported me in the Jingle Bell Run recently. Your support is greatly appreciated by the organizers and myself.

Doris (VE5DJQ)

Santa Claus parade next

The next club project is November 23 when we will work the Santa Claus parade. We are open to all amateurs to assist with communications. While we operate under the banner of S.A.R.C. anyone can participate by contacting va5wdb@rac.ca or on the 2metre evening phone net on 146.640.

Warren (VA5WDB)

Antenna classes every Friday evening

Antenna classes are being held every Friday evening at the Alvin Buckwold School from 7:30PM to about 9:30PM. There are a number of different antennas to choose from, so there should be something to satisfy everyone's needs.

Working together is what makes it work

Each year, the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club is involved in a variety of events from public service to demonstration and promotion of ham radio. This year, the club participated in the annual Hobby Show held on our exhibition grounds. Along with antique cars, guns, model airplanes and a myriad of other displays, there we were with HF, VHF, PSK31, slow scan television and packet. On Friday afternoon,

Ron, VA5RON and son Ken, VE5KRW, towed the club trailer into position just outside the display hall door nearest our display. Later, a group of diligent hams erected our tower and antennas and when the show started, we were ready to go with volunteer operators ready to do their thing for the hobby.

Saturday morning and all day, more club members and other hams, staffed our display and spoke with interested visitors, some expressing an interest in possibly becoming amateur radio operators. When the show was over, a crew took down the tower and antennas and arranged to have the trailer towed back to its parking place at VA5RON's ranch south of the city.

Here's a list of those who offered their help at the show and if you are one of those who helped without getting your name on the list of volunteers, we appreciate your help as well: Ned, VE5NED; Ron, VE5RMS; Ken, VE5ACK; Gary, VE5PNQ; Brian, VE5CUL; Glen, VE5GAM; Andy, VE5APD; Warren, VA5WDB; Len, VE5SU; Nat, VE5NAT; Gus, VE5SPI; Terry, VE5HF; Bob, VE5NFG, VE5LPP and Herb, VE5HE.

Once again, "Working Together Is What Made It Work!"

Herb Essenburg (VE5HE)

Thinking of getting your HF privileges?

We have a complete station at the Clubhouse and it's available for use during any event taking place there. There's always an HFER around to give you a hand.

APRS demonstrated for CASARA



At about 8:00 PM on Friday night, I received a call from Dave Martinuk, VE5RY in Humboldt asking if I could help demonstrate APRS on Saturday morning for the Humboldt division of CASARA, the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association. After a brief discussion we decided that we would place an unattended tracker in the search aircraft and track it's movements at the simulated command post. Now the fun began. After building a bracket to mount a 1/4 wave antenna on a Cessna wing strut, I packed everything up and went to bed.



Once in Humboldt we set up the receiving station in the airport "terminal" and mounted the tracker, GPS and antenna on the airplane. Once airborne, the CASARA representatives were amazed that they could see in real time every movement of the aircraft including speed, direction and altitude. At one

point the aircraft radios failed and the only way they knew the plane's location was via APRS. In the afternoon we flew a simulated search pattern and they were once again impressed both at how the APRS system worked and how well the navigator and pilot followed the search pattern.



The day ended with the CASARA representatives asking for additional information about APRS so they could present it to their governing body at a meeting next week. This was just another example of what amateur radio can contribute.

The web address for CASARA is <http://www.casara.ca/>

73 - Bruce (VE5BNC)

"Needing someone is like needing a parachute. If they aren't there the first time, chances are you won't be needing them again."

Busy weekend

Saturday Nov 8th was a busy day for Ham radio in Saskatoon. SARC members VE5KRB and VE5SPI assisted the SPACE Club with help on a student project. We helped the students assemble and solder together a code practice oscillator using perf board and an NE555 timer chip. There were approximately 12 students attending this portion of the program. A good time was had by all.

Gus (VE5SPI)

One day soldering class

On Friday Nov. 21, 2003 there will be a soldering lecture held at the antenna building class. Ken VE5KRB and I felt that it would be in line with some of the work being done on antennas. If anyone else wants to attend please let Ken and I know so there will be enough supplies.

I would ask everyone to bring the following items a 30-watt soldering pencil, a stand to hold the tip so we do not damage the table tops, a pair of side cutters, needle nose pliers, a project board (Radio Shack) with solder pads and traces on one side, and a pair of wire strippers. We will supply solder, flux, and a fiberglass board cleaning pencil. I will try to have some circuit boards built for a quick project to finish up for the evening.

If anyone has any suggestions please let Ken or I know. We will be covering the soldering techniques for coax connectors during the class. If anyone has a circuit board holder or similar device for holding a work piece you may want to bring that as well as it makes the work a little easier. And finally for those of us

whose arms are shorter you may want to consider a magnifying glass for inspecting your work piece.

Gus (VE5SPI)

Contests

Nov 8 WAE DX Contest, RTTY

Nov 8 Japan International DX Contest, Phone

Nov 8 OK/OM DX Contest, CW

Nov 15 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB

Nov 25 RSGB 1.8 Mhz Contest, CW

Nov 29 CQ Worldwid DX Contest, CW

Guy Invention Of The Month: Microwave Oven

What guy needs a stove? Wolfgang Puck wannabes maybe. But for the rest of us the microwave suffices. You can make coffee, cook popcorn and heat up a TV dinner. There's three squares a day.

The microwave oven traces its origins to the forties when Raytheon engineer Dr. Percy Spencer noticed that a magnetron tube he had developed seemed to melt the candy in his pocket. He experimented by placing popcorn near the tube and it began popping. The next day he tried an egg. Same result: it seemed to cook. He built a box for the tube and soon he and his scientist friends were heating coffee and warming soup.

Today there seems to be no food that you can't cook in the microwave.

As futurist Faith Popcorn says, "We don't cook anymore; we heat up."