NEXT CLUB MEETING
Tuesday, June 14th, 2011
7:30 PM
ALVIN BUCKWOLD SCHOOL
715 East Drive
West entrance
BE THERE!

COFFEE
Haywood's Restaurant
Saturdays 9:00 AM
3016 Arlington Avenue
South of Alvin Buckwold School

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!

NEXT ARES MEETING
1st Tuesday of each Month
7:00 PM
Fire Department Staff Development Centre on the Corner of 22nd Street and Avenue W

Call in: 146.640-
**Saskatoon and Area Frequencies**

**LOCAL AREA REPEATERS**
- **VE5SK** 146.640- Saskatoon, SARC
- **VE5XW** 146.730- Rock Point
- **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.

**APRS**
- **VE5RHF** 144.390 Saskatoon DIGI
- **VE5BNC-3** 144.390 Saskatoon
- IGATE & SATGATE
- **VE5XW-1** 146.730- Rock Point
- **VE5HAN-4** 144.390 Hanley DIGI
- **VE5YR-4** 144.390 Davidson DIGI

**ATV**
- **VE5ATV** 439.250 in 1277.250 out
Saskatoon (currently off the air)

**PACKET**
- **VE5BBS** 145.010 Saskatoon BBS
- **VE5USR-3** 145.010 U of S DIGI
- **VE5YR-7** 145.010 Davidson DIGI
- **VE5TH** 145.010 Regina BBS
- **VE5XXX** 145.010 Melfort 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.

**CONTESTS - June**

**Kid's Day Contest**
1800Z-2359Z, Jun 18

**His Maj. King of Spain Contest**
SSB1200Z, Jun 25 to 1200Z, Jun 26

**Marconi Memorial HF Contest**
1400Z, Jun 25 to 1400Z, Jun 26

**ARRL Field Day 1800Z**
Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26

For a full calendar of contests see:
http://www.contesting.com
President Nathan VE5NAT called the meeting to order @ 1935

President Nathan VE5NAT called for acceptance minutes of previous meeting as published in the “Feedline”.

Moved by Eric VE5HG
Seconded by Gus VE5SPI    Carried

President Nathan VE5NAT called for the reading of the treasurer’s report.

Treasures Ned VE5NED was not available so a verbal report was given by Nathan VE5NAT which indicated a bank balance of $610.61, the Hamfest account a balance of $165.00 and the GIC $3761.02

**Old Business**

Bruce VE5BNC and Gus VE5SPI advised that the Rock Point repeater is still having upgrades and modification being installed and tested and will be installed on site when testing completed and weather permits.

President Nathan VE5NAT called for a Hamfest report.

Bob VA5BRT called for volunteers to solicit for donations and more vendors.

President Nathan VE5NAT called for nominations for Club Secretary.

Ron Ford VA5RJF accepted request and was acclaimed as secretary.

President Nathan VE5NAT called for a volunteer to be chairperson of the Field Day. Non-received, will be tabled until next meeting.

President Nathan VE5NAT called for a status report on the Saskatchewan Marathon that is being held on May 29, 2011.

Gus VE5SJI advised list would be posted to members involved shortly.

President Nathan VE5NAT called for a volunteer to be responsible for the 50/50 draws.

Ken VE5KRB will administer this draw at club meetings.

**New Business**

Ken VE5KRB advised that 5 students passed their basic exam and now new hams and members of the Club. He also advised that there are two more prepared to write next week.

Ken VE5KRB advised that an expedition to Little Bear Lake Amateur Radio Research station is planned to prepare the generator for operation and the site for the completion of the antenna installation.

Ken VE5KRB won 50/50 draw

Motion for meeting to adjourn by Eric VE5HG.
Hello all,

Where did the month of May go? Strange how nicer weather makes time fly by.

I would like to thank the volunteers who came out to the Saskatchewan Marathon. The weather was almost perfect and communications ran smoothly overall. The time you spent volunteering for the marathon is greatly appreciated.

Field day is on the horizon... We are still looking for a chairman or chairpersons to look after the event. If you are interested in chairing Field day, please get a hold of any of the executive or let us know at the meeting next week. Field day is a great opportunity to promote the club and possibly get some direct media exposure.

With the year coming to an end for SARC and a new one coming in the fall, we will be looking for ideas on presentations during the last hour of the meetings. If there is an interest you have or something you would like to share with the members please bring them forward.

One thing to keep in mind that it is the season for abnormal weather and other possible natural anomalies. Now is the best time to ensure that your portable radios are functional and your emergency kits are properly stocked. Saskatoon has a good record of avoiding most natural disasters, but you never know when something may go awry.

Hope to see you at the meeting next week!

Nate
VE5 NAT
Well another Saskatchewan Marathon has come and gone. The race continues to grow. There were almost 3000 runners and a very large contingent of volunteers including Ham Radio Operators. The three races were the full marathon, half marathon, and the 10 Km run. The organizers had a fun run for children who were just getting started in running and they had a great time running in their race as well. The organizers thanked all the Hams who worked the race for coming out. The weather this year was better then last years event but still not the greatest. The sunshine and 15 degree temperature never did happen at the event. I want to personally thank all those who came out and braved the elements to keep this event going smoothly and above all in a safe manner. There were no casualties this year that I am aware of and it looks like everyone finished the race that started. The Hams that braved the early morning hours were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Call Sign</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim</td>
<td>VE5JIM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>VA5RJA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave</td>
<td>VE5DHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>VE5NAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike</td>
<td>VE5MIK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob</td>
<td>VA5BRT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike</td>
<td>VE5MMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen</td>
<td>VE5GAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen</td>
<td>VE5CMG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane</td>
<td>VE5DSB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>VE5JZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bruce</td>
<td>VE5BNC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard</td>
<td>VE5RH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>VE5MU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roly</td>
<td>VE5RO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris</td>
<td>VE5QV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick</td>
<td>VE5RLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gus</td>
<td>VE5SPI</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Everyone was on station and on time with some like Nate and Dave being up with the sun to ride with the trucks that set up the water stations and other areas of the course. John once again supplied us with coffee and donuts and brought the trailer in from Ron’s Farm and returned it there after the event finished. Many thanks John. Bruce, John (MU) and Glen rode their bikes to keep track of where everyone was and to render assistance if necessary. Peter once again did a great job on the stage supplying information to the announcer and enduring the music that was being played all day and I might add very loudly after 09:00. Jim helped with the first aid and ambulance and other tasks around the site as required. Richard, Roly, Mike (MIK), Mike (MMG), Bob Chris, Rick, Colleen, and Diane were stationed at water stations and along the course to help keep track of the runners and their progress on the course. It was a great job by all who attended! Mike (MIK) and Roly had to change stations as the race progressed as we were short a few bodies. They managed to do this without incident and everything ran smoothly. Once again my personal thanks to everyone for coming out and helping with the event.

Gus VE5SPI
Chris, VE5GEX, running in the 10k, finishing 17th.

Running in a kilt!!
SABRE #12 A High Voltage Flight

Well the morning was a bit windy, more than we usually like to see but we thought it would be manageable. It was also very cold for the 4th day of June. But we decided to go ahead with the Launch. Nav Canada was called and advised it was a go! The equipment was laid out and readied and the payloads were checked and the balloon was ready for filling. Payloads were switched on and the balloon was filled with little or no problem until it was noticed that it did not have an anchor point on each end as we are used to having, so as the wind increased handling the balloon became more difficult.

Nav Canada was again contacted and advised we were ready to go and clearance was given for launch. With a little fancy footwork and a hundred yard dash Bruce was able to get the payloads into the air without further damage.

We had noticed some flaws in the balloon fabric while we were filling same but it was too late to do anything about it. We were wondering if it would be a short flight due to an early burst of the balloon. The upper winds were running about 135 kph above 20,000 ft.

So the chase was on. The flight followed very close to the predicted flight path. We drove east on the Yellowhead Highway watching the flight on our radios and computer maps. It was unbelievable but we reached an altitude of over 96,000 ft with a military surplus balloon that was over 30 years old.

On this flight Gord had a new set of stabilizer wings, along with a gyro system, a sun sensor and new software to keep the camera as steady as possible. Bruce had added a couple of new video cameras one pointing up to the balloon and one pointing down to look at the ground. We also had the usual compliment of still and video camera looking sideways. This flight, the box carrying the payload had been modified with sloped sides.

The descent was uneventful and we were able to locate the payloads in the field beside the road but disaster had struck and our mascots that were along for the ride were unable to prevent it.

The second payload had dropped over a 138 Kilovolt three phase power line! We were not impressed that the new Jansen Mine site had put a new high voltage line in the middle of our landing field! SaskPower was contacted and a lineman was dispatched. However he was not able to reach the payload with his equipment as it was too high. He contacted a bucket truck operator and we waited patiently for his arrival. He was able to reach the offending payload and drop it to the ground for us. With our equipment in hand we retreated to Lanigan and found a restaurant and had a much needed meal and a quick look at the video and pictures that were in the payload. Then it was back on the road and home for a much needed rest.

All in all it was very successful flight and a good time was had by all those who participated in the event. Keep an eye on the website and the latest pictures from the flight will be posted for all to view.

Gus VE5 SPI
Ham Fest 2011

Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club is hosting the Saskatchewan Ham Fest this summer. The event will be held on Saturday July 9, 2011 at the Pike Lake Community Center. A change of venue was required to have enough space to hold both the Ham Radio program and the Ladies program. Pike Lake Community Center is located in the Village of Pike Lake and is south west of Saskatoon, SK and just east of Hwy 60 that runs to the Pike Lake Provincial Park.

The committees are working hard to get things ready for the Ham Fest. The Schedule so far has a flea market, ladies programs, fox hunt, Annual General Meeting for the Saskatchewan Amateur Radio League, trophy awards, a home brew competition and other sessions of interest like high altitude Amateur Radio balloon flights. Information on the remaining programs will follow once the arrangements have been finalized. There will be static displays that we hope you will find of interest and if you have ideas for programming please contact the committee.

At this time we have one vendor who has expressed interest in attending the Ham Fest and the committee is working on having others attend as well. Admission covers a hot lunch, main door prize ticket, all the coffee you can drink during the event, other door prizes, and the ladies event will cover the same and costs of materials for their programs.

The major door prize will be a WouXun dual band (2m & 440) hand held radio complete with accessories. In addition to the door prize ticket included with your registration you have the opportunity to increase your odds of winning by registering early. If your registration is received before the 30 of April you will receive three extra door prize tickets. If have your registration is received before the 31st of May 2011 you will receive two extra door prize tickets and if it is received before the 28th of June you will receive one extra ticket free of charge. There will be an opportunity to renew your S.A.R.L. membership if you have not already done so.

Talk in freq. and GPS coordinates will be posted at a later date along with scheduling and continuing updates related to the event. So let’s make this an event to remember. Come out and renew old acquaintances and enjoy yourself. Bring along your fox hunt equipment and join in the fun.

2011 Ham Fest Committee
TAPE MEASURE BEAM OPTIMIZED FOR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING

This antenna evolved during my search for a beam with a really great front-to-back ratio to use in hidden transmitter hunts. This design exhibits a very clean pattern and is perfect for RDF use. It trades a bit of forward gain in exchange for a very deep notch in the pattern toward the rear. (You could optimize the design for more forward gain, but at the expense of a really good notch in the pattern toward the rear.) It is a design that can be constructed using only simple hand tools (no machine shop needed) and still perform well. It has been duplicated several dozen times by other local hams and has been successfully used as a club construction project.

When I designed this antenna I had one basic idea in mind. It had to be easy to get in and out of the car when hunting for a hidden transmitter. This would be accomplished by the use of steel "tape measure" elements. These elements could fold easily when fitting the antenna into my car and yet still be self supporting. I decided to use three elements to keep the boom from getting too long.

Another of my design goals was to use materials that were easy to obtain. I chose to use Schedule-40 PVC pipe and fittings available at my local hardware store for the boom and element supports. These kept the cost for the antenna very low. The element supports consist of PVC crosses and tees.

Since I had never seen any plans for an antenna using elements made from 1 inch wide steel "tape measure," I had to do the design myself. To assist in the design I used a shareware computer aided yagi design program written by Paul McMahon VK3DIP. It allowed me to optimize the antenna for the cleanest pattern combined with the best front-to-back ratio.

When I first built this beam I found it needed a matching network of some kind to have a low SWR. My first attempt was a Gamma match. This was unwieldy. The driven element could barely handle the weight and the Gamma match itself was not very flexible. The best matching network turned out to be a "hairpin match." This is simply a 5 inch length of wire that is connected across the feed points of the driven element. The antenna has some capacitive reactance without the matching network. The 5 inch length of wire has just enough inductance to cancel the capacitive reactance. This resulted in a better match than anything else I had tried.

The wire I used for the hairpin match was enamel insulated 18 gauge solid. Other hams who have duplicated this beam have used just about anything they had on hand. 14 gauge house wire works well, so does a length of 22 gauge hookup wire. It does not seem to matter if it is stranded or solid, use whatever you have available. This results in a very good match across the two meter band once you have adjusted the distance between the halves of the driven element for minimum SWR. (1 inch apart on my prototype).
I used a pair of shears to cut the tape measure elements to length. An old pair of scissors will probably do as well. No matter how you cut the elements be very careful. Those edges are very sharp and will inflict a nasty cut if you are careless. Use some sandpaper to remove the really sharp edges and burrs resulting from cutting the elements to size. I put some vinyl electrical tape on the ends of the elements to protect myself from getting cut. I encourage you to do the same. It will probably be best if you round the corners of the elements once you cut them. Wear safety glasses while cutting the elements. Those bits of tape measure can be hazardous.

The RG58 coax feedline is connected directly to the driven element. No matter what method you use to attach the feedline, make sure you scrape or sand the paint off the tape measure element where the feedline is attached. Most tape measures have a very durable paint finish designed to stand up to heavy use. You do not want the paint to insulate your feedline connection.

If you are careful, it is possible to solder the feedline to the element halves. Care must be taken since the steel tape measure does not solder easily and since the PVC supports are easily melted. You might want to tin the tape measure elements before mounting them to the PVC cross.

If you decide not to solder to the tape measure elements, there are two other methods that have been used to attach the feedline. One method employs ring terminals on the end of the feedline. The ring terminals are then secured under self tapping screws which hold the driven element halves. This method does not allow you to tune the antenna by moving the halves of the driven element. 6-32 bolts and nuts could be used if holes are drilled in the elements near the ends. If the bolt heads are placed nearest the PVC fitting, you could secure ring-terminals with nuts and lock washers. Another possibility is to simply slide the ends of the feedline under the driven element hose clamps and tighten the clamps to hold the ends of the coax. I know this is low-tech, but it works just fine.

Stainless steel hose clamps are used to attach the driven element halves to the PVC cross which acts as its support. This has the added benefit of allowing you to fine tune your antenna for lowest SWR simply by loosening the hose clamps and sliding the halves of the driven element either closer or further apart. By using the dimensions specified, I found that the SWR was 1:1 at 146.565 MHz (our Fox-Hunt frequency) when the two elements were spaced approximately 1 inch apart. Figure 1 shows the method used to attach the driven element to the PVC cross.

I used 1 1/2 inch hose clamps to attach all the elements on my prototype beam. Others who have duplicated my design have used self tapping screws to attach the elements to the PVC crosses and tees. Performance is the same using either method. The screws are much less expensive but they do not hold the elements as securely. If you do not use 1/2 inch PVC fittings but instead use 3/4 inch, make sure the hose clamps you buy are large enough to fit.

If you wish a slightly neater looking beam, use the self tapping screws. If you do not mind spending a few more dollars for the hose clamps, use them instead. If I were to build another beam I would use screws for the director and reflector, and hose clamps for the driven element. That would give me the best of both methods.
Rubber faucet washers have been used by some builders between the tape measure element and the PVC fittings on the director and reflector. These allow for the tape to fit the contour of the PVC fitting and will make the antenna look better. Now you know what to do with those washers left over from the assortment you once purchased; You know the ones I mean, the washers that do not fit the faucets you have in your house. If you are an apartment dweller, ask around, these things are stashed in almost every homeowners basement or garage.

**Construction:**

Cut a length of tape measure to 41 3/8 inches. It will be the Reflector element. Cut two lengths of tape measure to 17 3/4 inches. These will be used for the Driven element. Cut one length of tape measure to 35 1/8 inches. It will be used for the Director. Once you have cut the tape measure to length, put vinyl tape on the cut ends to protect yourself from the sharp edges. You will want to scrape or sand off the paint from one end of each of the driven element halves so you can make a good electrical connection to the feedline.

If you are planning to solder the feedline to the driven elements it is best to tin the elements first before attaching them to the PVC cross. If you don’t, the PVC will melt as you apply heat to the element. It would be a good idea to also take the time to form the wire used for the hairpin match into a ‘U’ shape with the two legs of the ‘U’ about 3/4 inch apart. Tin the ends of the hairpin if you plan on soldering it to the driven element. If you tin 1/4 inch of each end of the hairpin it will leave 4 1/2 inches to shape into the ‘U’.

You will need to cut two lengths of PVC pipe to use as the boom. One should be cut to 11 1/2 inches. It is used to form the boom between the Director and the driven element.
The other piece of PVC should be cut to 7 inches. It will be used between the Reflector and the Driven element. Just about any saw will cut through the soft PVC pipe. I used a hacksaw. When we mass produced this antenna as a club project, we marked the pipe and used a portable jig saw to cut the lengths in assembly line fashion. It took longer to measure the pipe than to actually make the cuts. Since the pipe is available in ten foot lengths, you can make a few beams from a single 10 foot length. In any case, you might want to cut a few extras lengths for your friends. They will want to duplicate this once they see your completed antenna.

At this time you can pre-assemble the PVC boom, crosses and tee which will support the tape measure elements. I did not use any cement or glue when I assembled mine. The PVC pipe is secured in the fittings with a friction fit.

The hose clamps I used are stainless steel and have a worm-drive screw which is used to tighten them. They are about 1/2 inch wide and are adjustable from 11/16 inch to 1 1/2 inch diameter. Attach the tape measure elements to the PVC fittings as shown in the accompanying drawing. It is normal for the Reflector and Director elements to buckle a bit as it is tightened to the PVC Tee and Cross. You can eliminate this buckle if you use the washers and self tapping screws to attach these elements instead of the hose clamps. I do not think the beam will withstand as rough a treatment as when hose clamps are used.

Summary  This beam has been used on Fox-Hunts, on mountain tops, at local public service events, outdoors, indoors in attics, just about everywhere. The SWR is typically very close to 1:1 once adjusted. Front to back performance is exactly as predicted. When tested using a sensitive field strength meter and a low powered fox transmitter, full scale readings were seen from a distance of ten feet. With the same field strength meter I was able to point the antenna away from the transmitter and move the reflector element to within a few inches of the transmitter antenna and still not see a reading. I don’t have the facilities to verify a 50 db notch as predicted by the Yagi-Cad software but It sure seems close. The flexible elements have taken a lot of abuse. My antenna has seen a lot of use and has held up quite well. Best of all, when on a fox-hunt, this beam is a breeze to get in or out of the car.

-Joe Leggio WB2HOL

---

**Edge Of Space Sciences** will be flying its 165th stratospheric balloon flight on Saturday June 11th at 7:10 AM local time out of Windsor Colorado.

This flight will be in support of Colorado University Boulder’s Space Grant Consortium (SGC) Shot Workshop. Student built experiments will be the payload on this flight with approximately 40 students participating in this launch. We will be flying a 3000 gram helium filled balloon with 20 Lbs. payload.

These are the tentative payload frequencies:  

**Beacon** 147.555 MHz CW ID: AE0SS  

APRS 144.340 MHz ID: AE0SS-11  

DIGI: EOSS

This flight is open to all Hams and to the general public. For the latest information please check the EOSS website at [www.eoss.org](http://www.eoss.org)

-Mike Pappas  
W9CN
Message from the President

Well here we are and another year of Amateur Radio activity within the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club is fast drawing to a close. We have one more meeting and then the Field Day at the WDM. We have had a successful year with our public service events including the Santa Claus Parade, our classes, and other projects like assisting the Space Club. We hope to get the Rock Point Repeater back on the air this summer. Ken is arranging for another summer event at the Little Bear Lake site. My thanks to all those who have participated, helped organize and taken part in the club activities. The club is only as good as the effort put into it by the members.

The executive have received requests for an advanced class this fall and an antenna class.

We need input from the membership to see who is willing to attend or help with these projects. If there is enough interest we will try to book space at the Club site to make it happen, so let us know your thoughts and wishes for the up coming year.

We have had a number of “Silent Keys” this past year and our thoughts and prayers go their families.

It is with sadness that I report that Les VE5LPP has resigned his post as editor of the Feedline. Les has done this for over 10 years and he has done an excellent job! I can remember when he was actually cutting and pasting up master sheets to be photo copied, collated, folded, stuffed into envelopes and mailed. We now have one of the best on-line newsletters in the province for Amateur Radio thanks to Les’s efforts. All one has to do is look in the archives on our website to see just what a great job he has been doing over the years. I would like to personally thank you, Les, for your hard work on the Feedline and I am sure I can speak for the membership as well. And may you enjoy your “retirement” from being our editor in chief of the Feedline.

Well summer has been trying to arrive although there seems to be quite a battle going on with old man winter who just seems to not want to let go. Hopefully field day will have great weather and everyone can enjoy the weekend.

I would like to wish everyone a great summer. Stay safe and enjoy!

Gus
VE5SPI

SARC New Mailing Address
Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club
c/o Alvin Buckwold School
715 East Drive,
Saskatoon, SK
S7J 2X8

Call for Articles
Have a story to share? An experience to relate? Some gear to review? A technical tip to dispense? Write it up, add a couple of appropriate photographs and send them off to VE5 MIK (mluciuk@sasktel.net) or (mluciuk@gmail.com) Hams reading The Feedline will thank you.

SARC 2011 Meeting Dates (subject to change)

| June 14 | June 25, 26 (Field Day) | July 9 (Hamfest) | Sept. 13 |

Field Day June 25, 26, 2011
Field Day is the single most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Each year over 40,000 amateurs gather with their clubs, friends, or simply by themselves to operate.

Field Day is not a fully adjudicated contest, which explains much of its popularity. It is a time where many aspects of Amateur Radio come together to highlight our many roles. While some will treat it as a contest, most groups use the opportunity to practice their emergency response capabilities.

It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Amateur Radio to local elected community leaders, key individuals with the organizations that Amateur Radio might serve in an emergency, as well as the general public. For many clubs, Field Day is one of the highlights of their annual calendar. GET INVOLVED

SASK. HAMFEST 2011
The Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club will be hosting this year’s Saskatchewan Hamfest. Please mark this event on your Calendar.

Date: Saturday, July 9th. Location: Pike Lake Community Centre, 30 Km South on Highway 60

In order to make this event a real success, we need all the club member volunteers we can get. Please contact Gus, VE5SPI, and volunteer to help on any of our Hamfest Committees. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

With the constantly increasing cost of copying and postage we would like to reduce or eliminate the mailouts (via Canada Post) of The Feedline. If you have access to a computer and internet connection at home, at work, or, at a nearby Public library we would urge you to get The Feedline via email. For a small club, these extra costs do add up. On next year’s membership form, please sign up for the electronic version of The Feedline.
Benefits of Stealth HF Antenna Easy to See (not so easy to see antennas)

Due to the visual impact of traditional ham antennas & towers, some communities have responded by imposing restrictions. Light Beam Antenna & Apparatus, LLC manufactures two compact antenna models to overcome these issues.

The flagship model is the Light Beam Plus antenna series, which consists of an extremely strong clear polycarbonate support structure – the same material used to make aircraft windshields and bullet proof glass. Transparent, it assumes the color and texture of whatever is behind the antenna from where it is being viewed. Very little visual impact truly makes this a compact, yet extremely strong stealth antenna.

The second model is the Light Beam antenna series – a lower cost model that boasts the same small size, radio frequency design, and performance as the Light Beam Plus, but is made of a thick-walled fiberglass support structure.

The original and unique radio frequency design of the Light Beam Antenna models is unlike any other prior design, yet incorporates tried and true antenna design principles. The RF design has been computer optimized for operation at only 30 feet above average ground. These are mono-band antennas designed to maximize gain and front / back ratio, greater than 10dBi and greater than 20dB, respectively. Antenna efficiency is very high (over 90%) because they are half-wave antennas.

Necessity is the mother of invention. The Light beam Plus and the Light Beam antennas are very compact. Both are ¼ the size of other beam antennas of the same operating frequency, and ½ the size of a cubical quad. This compact size is made possible by configuring 3-wire folded dipoles in a unique, open loop configuration. The antenna is so small that they can be easily hidden in an attic or back yard. These antennas are lightweight and designed to be out of sight. Another benefit is that they have a small surface area with little wind resistance. A simple mast can be used to support the antenna at 30 feet. No heavy-duty tower is required. Currently, antennas are available for the 20M, 17M, 15M, 12M, and 10M amateur radio bands. Manufactured in the Finger Lakes Region of New York State, these antennas have been designed to withstand harsh winter conditions including ice, snow and high wind velocity.

Both Light Beam Antenna models are ideal for working DX, are portable for field day events, and are ideal for DXpeditions.

Light Beam Antenna & Apparatus, LLC was formed in 2010 to make this outstanding design available to other ham radio operators who have a need for a small, stealthy and efficient antenna that has remarkable performance characteristics. To learn more, check our web site at www.LightBeamAntenna.com

Events Summary

June 14 SARC Meeting
June 25, 26 Field Day
July 9 Saskatchewan Hamfest
Sept. 13 SARC Meeting
FAIRBANKS (May 25, 2011)— Keith Stebbings of Joseph, Ore., is one of the first of this year’s crop of long-distance bicyclists to head from Alaska to the Lower 48, but I don’t know that anyone has ever been as well supplied as he is in the radio transmitting department.

He has an Automatic Position Reporting System transmitter on his bike, which will be tracking his location for the next five months as he heads toward Brownsville, Texas. His progress can be tracked on the Internet.

In addition to his regular biking gear, Stebbings is carrying amateur radio equipment on his travels. He left Whittier on May 12 and reached Fairbanks this week, pulling two trailers.

When he is not on his bike, Stebbings is the director of the Wallowa Avalanche Center in Oregon.

Before radio equipment was miniaturized, Stebbings could not have carried all he needed for HF, VHF and UHF transmissions, he wrote.

He has a Yaesu VX-6R and a Yaesu FT-857 F radio that run on batteries kept charged through a solar panel. He plans to keep in touch with his friends via ham radio, with set times for “ragchew” sessions.

“Band conditions and my conditions may cause me to miss some check-ins. Remember I’m on a bicycle without any cover from rain, wind, etc.,” he writes on his website.

(Mike - The article doesn't mention, but his call sign is KE1THR. )

http://aprs.fi/?call=KE1THR-4&mt=roadmap&z=9&timerange=21600

Bob Tower, VA5BRT has stuff for the Hamfest FleaMarket at home and is selling it. Members who may have stuff for the FleaMarket - see Bob. Viewing, and/or Sales in advance at Bob’s house which is at 938 East Centre. Call first - 374 5306

WANTED: Lightweight mast 15-25 feet in length. Must be in sections or collapsible. Contact VE5 MIK mluciuk@gmail.com

Check out the June edition of CQ magazine. The group featured in the “Two Blue lawn chairs 20 Feet High” Antennas in the Park article is one I wrote about taking part in the Winter Field Day from Red Mountain Park in Mesa.

-Mike VE5 MIK
I have been able to obtain four Icom R100 scanners for the Club. They are a good communications receiver and will scan but are not going at lightning speed when it comes to being a scanner. They cover HF to 1.3 GHz and these have been modified with an audio output jack that is a constant level for running into a recorder or audio amplifier. There is also another modification that has another jack for data output. I have replaced the backup battery for the memory in each one and gave each a brief check on the air and they were working just fine. Each one has an owners manual and we have a copy of the Modifications done on the units. The Club will be offering them for sale at the Ham Fest. However I feel it is only fair that club members get first chance at these before the Ham Fest and at a reduce cost. We will be asking $100.00 each at the Ham Fest, but for members before the Ham Fest I think $75.00 would be a good deal. These units work on 12VDC so they can be used on battery or in a vehicle. The website below gives a run down on its features and performance.

http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/474?ehamsid=3D1371cb736c21d70979373b12320f0b9d

Gus
VE5SPI

Well, here we are with good antenna weather and the start of the spring/summer season underway. The Saskatchewan Marathon is over for another year and everything went very well this year. It looks like next year will be as big or bigger and the same route will be used again. That will make things easier for us as every one will be familiar with the route and the water stations and sites that we need to man.

I have noticed that we do not have a chair for Field Day that is coming up at the end of the month. The last news letter had a check sheet that covered everything that needs to be done to hold the Field Day. I had printed out the rules for the event and offered them to whoever going to take the chair this year. There were no volunteers coming forward. If everyone looked at the check sheet from the Feedline and took one item it would not take much effort to get things going.

If no volunteers come forward I guess we have lapsed back into the usual apathy where it is assumed that someone else will do whatever is needed and all we need to do is show up and reap the benefits and complain about the things that we do not like.

In the past I have found Field Day fun and good exposure for the Club. Ron has been able to get WDM site again this year so one task on the list has been completed. So let's pitch in and get things moving so that we can have one of the best Field Day and BBQ’s going.

Gus
VE5SPI
Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club

Field Day Checklist

- Appoint a chairperson in charge of Field Day
- Reserve Field Day site
- Line up generator/gas/oil & pick up/return
- BBQ – need someone in charge of the BBQ
  - cost per person
  - BBQ transport/propane
  - Food purchase/refreshments
  - 2m net announcements/tally
- Coffee/refreshments at trailer
- Trailer to and from site
- Schedule for operators
  - 2m net announcements/schedule
  - Set up/take down
- ARRL Field Day rules
- Field Day logging program
- Computer(s) for logging
- Guest/operator sign in book
- Name tags
- Transceivers
  - how many (2)
  - pickup/return
  - headphones needed
- Media informed about Field Day and location
- May & June Feedline & club website - a notice with more specific information about Field Day
- Invitation to non club hams regarding Field Day – Club members could be asked to contact a non SARC member and invite them to Field Day/BBQ.
- Submit Field Day scores to ARRL

Coordinator(s) Needed!!
Saskatchewan Hamfest 2011
July 9 Pike Lake Community Centre

Door prize tickets will be awarded as follows:
• 3 extra tickets for registrations made before April 30, 2011
• 2 extra tickets for registrations made before May 31, 2011
• 1 extra ticket for registrations made before registration deadline on June 28, 2011
• There will be a 50/50 draw
• Registration at the door will be $25.00 meal included if supplies still available.

See SARC homepage for Registration information
http://ve5aa.dyndns.org/

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! SEE YOU AT THE PIKE LAKE COMMUNITY CENTRE!
Delegate Registrant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Call Sign</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province/State</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phone Number</th>
<th>Email Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lady Registrants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Call sign</th>
<th>$20.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Includes lunch and presentation on Scrap booking and Composting / Gardening

Registration Fee Calculation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Extras Included</th>
<th>Subtotal Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delegate Registration</td>
<td></td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>Lunch, Draws &amp; bottomless coffee cup</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flea Market Only (no door prize)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flea Market Table</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tailgater’s</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$ Notes: Door prize tickets will be awarded as follows:

- 3 extra tickets for registrations made before April 30, 2011
- 2 extra tickets for registrations made before May 31, 2011
- 1 extra ticket for registrations made before registration deadline on June 28, 2011
- There will be a 50/50 draw
- Registration at the door will be $25.00 meal included if supplies still available.
- Caterer requires notification of numbers before June 28, 2011

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! SEE YOU IN SASKATOON!

Mail to: Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club
Saskatchewan Hamfest 2011
Box 375, Davidson SK S0G 1A0