Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club Meetings are held usually on the 2nd Tuesday of each month September till 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: Vacant
Vice-President: Nathan Mirva VE5NAT
Secretary: Lou Curti VE5LOU
Treasurer: Ned Carroll VE5NED
Director: Ken Bindle VE5KR
Director: Mike Luciuk VE5MIK
Director: Mike Miktyshyn VE5MMG
Director: Bob Tower VA5BRT

Committees
Repeater: Gus VE5SPI
Property and Assets Record: Club Executive
Training Coordinator: Ken VE5KR
Public Service: Club Executive
Sick and Visiting: Vacant
Field Day: Sean VA5LF
Elmer: Vacant
Trailer: John VA5RJA
Space Club: Mike VE5MIK, Al VE5MDC
SARC Net: John VA5RJA
L.B.L. Rep: Ken VE5KR
Coffee: John VA5RJA
50/50 Draw: Nate VE5NAT
Feedline: Mike VE5MIK
Web-site: Bruce VE5BNC

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-

Next Club Meeting
Tuesday, March 8th, 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!
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
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

In the process of upgrading

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 146.640-
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 - March
AGCW QRP Contest 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 12
Russian DX Contest 1200Z, Mar 19 to 1200Z, Mar 20
CQ WW WPX Contest SSB0000Z, Mar 26 to 2400Z, Mar 27
QRP Homebrewer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 28
For a full calendar of contests see: http://www.contesting.com
President Gus VE5SPI called the meeting to order @ 1930.

President Gus VE5SPI called for acceptance minutes of previous meeting as published in the “Feedline”.
Moved by Eric VE5HG
Seconded by Richard VE5RH
Carried

President Gus VE5SPI called for the reading of the treasurer’s report, which was read by Ned VE5NED. Copy on file.
Moved by Eric VE5HG
Seconded by Lou VE5LOU
Carried

**Old Business**

President Gus VE5SPI advised that the Rock Point repeater Wind generator has been repaired under warranty and has been returned to Bruce VE5BNC. Several parts were replaced. The unit will be reinstalled at the site when weather conditions permit. Gus VE5SPI also advised that the Solar panels are slowly charging and maintaining the charge in the batteries. Bruce VE5BNC will install more telemetry at the site when the wind charger is installed such as input and output charging rates.

Eric VE5HG advised that the Stranraer repeater and duplexer VE5UB has been repaired and will be reinstalled when the weather permits.

Mike VE5MMG reported on status of the Hamfest planning. The Program committee has been established with:
Bruce VE5BNC
Sylvan VE5ZX
John VE5MU

He also called for more volunteers for the other committees. He has terms of reference for each committee.

**New Business**

President Gus VE5SPI called for volunteers for the Field day committee.

President Gus VE5SPI called for volunteers for the Saskatchewan Marathon, which will be held on May 29, 2011. There was some discussion on last years route and possible changes.

John VA5RJA advised he would be taking holidays this year, date not yet determined and called for volunteers to call the net when he was gone. He will advise when dates are scheduled.

Meeting adjourned @ 2045

John VE5MU gave a very interesting and engaging presentation on the Canadian Forces Affiliate Radio System, which was well received by all present.
Well, here we are with some good antenna weather and it is March already. I am beginning to wonder if we will ever see “normal” weather again. Plans for the Ham Fest are progressing. Mike can still use volunteers for the event so give him a call and get involved!

I was reminded that elections will be coming up and we need to fill the office of President, the office of Secretary and one director this time around. Please contact any member of the executive with your nominations for any of the above office. As per the constitution half of the executive will change so there will be experienced personnel on the board to help guide the new arrivals if they need assistance.

I was looking through the on line archives of the Feedline and see that I have been involved with the executive since 2000 in one capacity or another. I will not be running for office again and I will not allow my name to be put forward again for nomination. I feel that it is time for some much needed “new blood” on the executive. I have run out of ideas and I think a fresh set of eyes will be beneficial. These positions do not require a lot of work basically two nights a month. There is the regular club meeting and one executive meeting a month. So please give it some serious thought and put your name forward as a nominee for any of the open positions.

We have a busy season coming up with the MS Walk that Bruce VE5BNC has called for volunteers, the Saskatchewan Marathon, Field Day, Little Bear Lake, and the Ham Fest. So there are lots of activities to get involved with.

I will attend a meeting in the beginning of March for the Santa Parade. They are looking at setting it up as a non profit organization. I will report back to the Club about this and let everyone know what is happening with this group.

I hope the weather warms up soon as it would be nice to be able to get outside a little more. I am happy to advise that classes are coming along fine with 14 students registered. I think this is the largest class and one of the youngest I remember since being involved with it.

Well that’s all for now and I hear my granddaughter calling as she gets up from her nap, so take care and see you at the meeting.

Gus Schmid
VE5SPI
The Project Page

20 meter wire "J-POLE"
for 14.2 MHz
(VERTICAL, END-FED ½ WAVE)

2/13/00
Nilo

½λ RADIATOR #14 OR #18 STRANDED BARE COPPER

"HANG THIS ANTENNA AS HIGH AS POSSIBLE FROM A TREE OR SIDEARM OF A TOWER. STEADY THE BOTTOM END WITH A LIGHT TAG LINE IF WIND IS A PROBLEM."

HOOK LOOPS & SOLDER TOGETHER

NO CONNECTION HERE (OPEN STUB END)

¾λ MATCHING STUB, 450Ω LADDER LINE OPEN AT TOP, SHORTED AT BOTTOM

COAX SHIELD CONNECTION / WEATHERPROOF WITH COAX CENTER CONNECTION

CABLE-TIE COAX TO ONE SIDE FOR STRAIN RELIEF SHORT STUB END HERE & SOLDER

COAXIAL CHOKED BALUN & FEED ASSEMBLY: USE ABOUT 80' OF RG-58 & FORM A COIL OF 5 TURNS ABOUT 4-5" DIA (LIKE A SPRING, NOT Bunched). CABLE-TIE FIRST & LAST TURNS TOGETHER & TAPE ENTIRE LOOP.

SILVER 50-238 CONNECTOR. SLIP ON A PIECE OF ¾" CPVC PIPE, SOLDER THE CONNECTOR, AND FILL THE CAVITY WITH EPOXY OR HOT-MELT GLUE.
I will not claim to be a fantastic operator, and I could never claim to know all there is about operating. What I do know, however, is what I hear on the air. Most of the time, poor practices are the result of misinformation or no information, but the solution is usually simple: experience. There is no substitute for experience, but I’ve outlined a few examples of poor or inefficient operating.

- “This is KX1XXX listening 146.95” The statement most often heard on VHF repeaters. Why bother to say the frequency? We know what frequency you’re on, because we’re listening!

- “Your call?” Sometimes the running station needs to give his call more often. However, replying to a CQ with “your call” is a waste of time. He’ll CQ again in a moment anyway. If you can’t understand the call in the CQ, work him first and get it during.

- Using “cute” phonetics All of us do it (see “K1 Killer Antenna Array”), but we shouldn’t do it on the air. Stick to the standard or accepted phonetics unless you are in a more laid-back environment.

- “QRZ the frequency?” I don’t even understand this one. This is wrong both in syntax and meaning. Simply ask “is the frequency in use?”

- “Please copy...” “Please QSL...” “Hear...” In a contest, don’t bother saying any of these. They just take up time. Of course we are going to copy, that’s the point of the contest, and you don’t have to remind us.

- “Sorry, we’re a dupe.” The days of the old dupe sheet are long gone. Computer programs automatically throw away the dupes without claiming them for additional points. Work them anyway; there is no penalty. In fact, the chance of incurring a penalty from NOT working a dupe is 100% higher than the chance of incurring a penalty from working one. If you disagree, don’t work the dupe, but it may mean YOU made a mistake earlier in the contest.

- Picking a TX frequency without listening While working split, remember to check your transmit frequency from time to time, and especially before establishing a run. When calling a station split, make sure the frequency you are about to call on is clear; it may be clear in EU, but what about your neck of the woods?
Snowbird Field Day W7Z
by VE5 MIK

Hams are the generally the same almost everywhere. While they all share a passion for communicating through radio, many also share a passion for experimenting, building and getting together through the hobby.

Red Mountain Park is a large recreation/sports park located in northwest Mesa, AZ. Early, every Thursday morning during the “snowbird” season a group of hams get together in the park to operate QRP and try out different purchased and homebrewed antennas. When the weather is cold (here we’re talking +5º C) the jackets are on, the coffee is hot and the conversation on the air is hotter. You will usually find anywhere from 10 to 12 regulars with as many as 20 coming in with their own equipment to operate in the morning.

This year the Winter Field day was held on Wed. Feb. 23, with Venture Out Ham Club and Sun Life Amateur Radio Club coming together to put on the event. Lots of coffee, donuts and a Pot Luck Lunch added to the fun.

Red Mountain Park is about a 5 minute drive from Venture Out Park where we stay. I arrived around 10 a.m. and was greeted by a lady asking if I was VE5MIK. She had a message for me from VE5NED (one of the first contacts), who had made contact with the Sun Life group earlier in the morning. The event call was W7Z. Many US, Canadian, South/Central American, Maritime Mobile, and Pacific contacts were made. There was lineup to operate at all the stations and a good time was had by all. I’ve included a few pictures of the event below.

Bill from the VO club enjoys building antennas

During the summer, Terry(VO club), W7RNF, operates from Boise, Idaho.
The portable antenna farm at one of the two operating canopies
For Sale

IC-229H (purchased new in 1993 for $475 from Alfa and Central Western Communications Ltd. in Edmonton).

The radio was reviewed at: http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/2352

Will sell it for $60 (including the wiring harness and mag-mount antenna). Delivery in Saskatoon.

Ted Hainworth (VE5ZHT) 306-244-6751

I also have a couple of lengths of coax cable (about 40 feet) to give to the person who buys the radio.
Announcements

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 2010 - 2011 Meeting Dates** (subject to change)

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**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:** Clavet Community Hall, Highway #16, 15 minutes southeast of Saskatoon.

In order to make this event a real success, we need all the club member volunteers we can get. Please contact Mike, VE5 MMG, and volunteer to work on any of our four Hamfest Committees. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

**Upcoming events!**

May 29, 2011

May 1, 2011
If you’re the Net Control . . . .

Here’s the script. All you have to do is ask the questions, listen for the responses, and record numbers/call signs.

Good evening all, this is VE/VA5 ____ with the 2 meter net that meets nightly at 8 pm or 0200 UTC on the 146.64 repeater. This net passes on information about the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club’s activities, events, bulletins, etc. If you want to break the net, give your call sign (preferably in phonetics), and stand by to be acknowledged.

1. Do we have any emergency traffic?
2. Do we have any net bulletins?
3. Any visitors in the area?
4. Any news of sick or hospitalized?
5. Anyone wanting to call another station?
6. Any mobiles around?
7. Any stations out of town to check in?
8. Any stations in town?
9. Anything further?
10. Not hearing anything, I’ll close the net. Thanks to one and all for checking in.

This is VE/VA 5 ____, clear.

You can give the time of the net closure if you want to, but it’s not necessary. You don’t have to stick exactly to the script, but you should have all the elements of it included. Make it your own.