

The QSO



October/November/December 2011



Editor's Ramblings:



Well folks here it is November already. We have just finished watching the Eastern Finals and glad to say Hamilton won the game.

At least Montreal is out of it for this season. Now of course I am hoping that Winnipeg will beat Hamilton next week, but will just have to wait and see what happens. As for the battle for Alberta, really don't know who to cheer for, but am hoping that Edmonton does win, and we hope that BC are not the loser in the Grey Cup Game. We all know what happens to Vancouver when they lose. Nuff said.

We had a real good time in Regina Nov. 5th at the RARA flea-market, got lots of members to renew and also a few new members joined. Harv did not see anything that he wanted to buy so it was a real change not to have to cart a bunch of treasures out to the truck. Guess the next flea-market will be here in Moose Jaw in April sometime.

Other than that, Harv is doing much better and walking almost perfect, even though I did keep him busy with tree trimming and antenna work in October. At least now I don't have to worry about any branches or boughs falling on my roof or anyone else's. The antennas are all working the way they should so now just must pray for good band conditions.

I do want to thank Brian, VE5BJO for helping us take a huge load of branches to the dump. We took one in our truck and Brian took one in his. So as my girlfriend in South Africa

says, That job is now done and dusted.

Moose Jaw has a new ham. He wrote his exam on Oct 29th. He is a self study, and he really must have studied hard because he passed with a 96%. His name is Gordon Killally, who has been interested in amateur radio for many years. He came over from Ireland a year ago and settled in Moose Jaw. Says he loves it here except for the winters. Congratulations Gordon. He is hoping for the callsign VE5IRE—wonder why? No word yet from IC, maybe by the time I get this QSO ready we will know.

Starting in this issue of the QSO we will be having a FOR SALE/WANTED column. This is only for SARL members, or spouses of silent keys. The editor will maintain this column, so please send your items for sale or wanted. Remember to enclose your address, email address and other pertinent information.



Val VE5ACJ

MOOSE JAW HAPPENINGS:

We have started our monthly club suppers again, and must say that Humptys Family restaurant certainly does a good job. We average about 3 couples and one or 2 single hams. Our sympathy goes out to Brian **VE5BJO** on the loss of his son-in-law in a motorcycle accident in Vancouver in October. One couple from the MJ Pioneers Amateur Radio Club are on a Mediterranean cruise. Gord and Maxine **VE5GML/VE5MAX** left the province in October to head to Ft Lauderdale, and then a cruise across the ocean blue. Their stops include Spain, and Italy. Sure hope they are having fun. They will be

home for Christmas so it will be good to see them again and hear all about their travels. **Harv VE5AC**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Hams are good people. We all know this to be true. Kathy (**VE5FL**) and I and

two other passengers proved it once again in mid September when we were doing a bit of a drive in Denmark, using a guide book and my trusty GPS. We were driving from Elsinore to Roskilde and decided to find a bed-and-breakfast for the night. Our guide book said that there were lots of them. This should be easy, right? Look it up in the guide book and then follow the instructions from the nice lady in the GPS. Of course, once we got there, there was no guarantee that the B&B would be open and after we had done this a couple of times with the same result, and driven many kilometers, we were getting concerned. The third time, the GPS lady insisted that our B&B was located down a road which didn't exist. It was getting dark and we were out in the country with no idea of what to do next. Sleeping in our little Danish car didn't appeal.

When I drive, I antenna spot. If someone has a ham antenna, I will notice it and usually remark on it. While the passengers usually find this boring, I find it quite exciting. A few kilometers back, we had passed a house with a tower carrying a couple of VHF antennas in the back yard. I saw a possible solution.





My logic went like this:

- (1) hams are nice people
 - (2) hams help one another
 - (3) hams tend to know things
 - (4) hams probably speak English.
- Yes, I do speak Danish, but not really well.

So, although the others in the car were sure that I had finally lost my grip, back we went to find the tower, while the GPS lady nagged at me about "recalculating".

I'm not sure what the man who came to the door thought when he was faced with a lost tourist who greeted him with, "Hi, I'm a ham radio operator from Canada, VE5FX, and I'm kind of lost. Can you help me?" My hand was firmly shaken and I was, without hesitation, invited inside. The kind gentleman introduced himself as Kim Liljekrans, OZ5IQ and fortunately, his English was much better than my Danish. I told him of our plight and asked if he knew of a B&B where we could spend the night. He did and not only that, he said that he would lead us into Roskilde and show us to a place. He had to get his wife from the train anyway (she commuted to Copenhagen each day) and it was not out of his way to do this. Just follow the little red car. Wow! Off we went to get Elspeth and then to a B&B which fortunately had room for the four of us. Kim and Elspeth joined us for supper and we had a great visit. It turns out that Kim is a rather well known VHF operator in NW Europe, doing moon-bounce and very long distance VHF DXing with equipment that he has build for himself. Both he and Elspeth were very nice and interesting people and our meeting with them added a lot to our experience.

What have we learned from this experience?

- (1) Don't expect to find a B&B - pre-book using the Internet. They can be VERY hard to find.
- (2) Don't put your faith in the GPS lady - she is sometimes incorrect.
- (3) Hams are nice people and go to great lengths to help other hams.
- (4) Darn near everyone in Denmark speaks English better than I speak Danish.

I'm sure that this level of kindness is not unique to Europe. I've had occasion to answer the door to someone who has spotted my antenna and needed something or just wanted to chat. I've certainly done it before, both in Canada and elsewhere and have never been turned away. I'm sure that most of you have had the same experiences. Isn't ham radio great?

How can we make it even better? Perhaps, when someone calls in on the two metre repeater and needs tourist information or just wants to chat, we could make a bit more effort to respond. Maybe when a new ham comes to a club meeting or Saturday morning breakfast, we could make a conscious effort to include them and make them feel really welcome. I still remember my first HF QSO (on CW). It was pretty scary. I suspect that you can remember yours as well.



Bj. VE5FX

Saskatoon City:

Hi to all from Saskatoon

Well winter has reached us as we

knew it would. I did get my Christmas lights up and Eric antennae's appear to be working alright for now.

The Saskatoon club is again busy providing communications for public service. They will be helping with the Santa Claus parade on November 20th. This is an annual event. Hopefully the weather will not be too cold for everyone attending.

With December fast approaching the

annual SARC Christmas Dinner meeting will be held at the Cave Restaurant on Tuesday December 13th at 7:00PM. Please let John VA5RJA know if you are coming. John calls the net on 146.64 every evening at 8:00PM here in Saskatoon.

The 146.94 repeater is again fully operational and linked to the 1350 IRLP node. Many thanks go out to Devon **VE5DWR** for all the work that he has done at this site. Derrick **VE5SD** also helped at the site and **VE5HG**, **VE5DJQ** and **VE5PNQ** gave signal reports during the installation.

Saskatoon will be holding Basic Ham calls starting Jan 12/12. They will be held at the Alvin Buckwold School. The cost is \$75 for adults and \$50 for under 18. The cost includes course study guide, all other study materials, supplies for class project and 1 year membership in the Saskatoon Amateur Radio club. For more information call Gus at **249-3996**, Bruce at **373-5672**, Mike at **374-0724**, Ron at **374-8614** or Ken at **373-3403**.

With this issue being the last for 2011. Eric and I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and see you in the New Year.



Till 2012 73's **Doris VE5DJQ**

Regina City & Area

Well good evening to all readers here I am sitting down and

writing for the newsletter without Val on my butt hihi. On Sunday October 23rd I decided to get some antenna work done before winter is here and everything seems to be working fine they say to wait for 30 below as everything seems to work better. Question is were are all these people that say that? In Florida or California!! Oh well sucks to be them for they don't know what they are missing not being here in our Canadian winters.



This has been a busy summer as for Field Day in June along with all of the special events that has been happening around Regina and area. This year I went to Watrous and help with the **MS Bike Tour** lots of fun and educational. Also went out to **JOTA** (Jamboree on the air). Which was held Echo Valley Provincial Park at Fort Qu'Appelle with the scouts which was a lot of fun made some contacts with other scouts and the hams that were there are Rick Rickwood **VE5RJR** Terry White **VE5TLW** Malcolm McLeod **VE5ZG** George Harwood **VE5UU** and Bob Wilks **VE5LTD**.

RARA Annual Fall Flea Market was held Sat., Nov 5th @ 9:00 am. The location was the same as last year - The Elks Hall, 4915 1st Ave North. There were lots of great door prizes and a 50/50 draw.

In August the Avonlea Repeater was down with power troubles most of the month so the evening nets were very low. But now everything seems to be working well now.

On a different note I would like to pass on the net controller's position as work has been taking up a lot of time and other family commitments. So if anyone is interested, please get hold of me at rwilks@accesscomm.ca

73'S For now **Bob Wilks VE5LTD/VA5LTD**



Strasbourg, Sask.

As I write this the day is cold and windy and threatening. Not at all

what we have come to expect this fall of 2011. As the day length began to shorten in September, 17, 15, 12 and even 10 metres began to come alive. What a welcome change to the radio propagation conditions we have been experiencing for what seems like forever! The signal conditions I have been listening to have been quite spectacular and easily on a par with conditions I like to refer to in the late

1950s. I wasn't sure I would live long enough to see 10 metre activity like that again.

I received a phone call and had a nice visit with Kees, **VE5KKZ** who lives in Eston and who has been involved in the technical aspect of this hobby for many years. Those of you who attended the Ham Fest at Pike Lake this summer will have met Kees, who did an excellent presentation describing his microwave communications experiences both in Europe and Canada. Kees and his fellow hams were setting distance records with home built microwave equipment in Europe and between Holland, Belgium and Great Britain. These records were not brought about by using expensive "borrowed" lab equipment but with every day electronic items that were modified or adapted for microwave use. That was in the 1960s and he has been working with microwave communications ever since.

Seeing that Kees is a lone microwave radio operator within this vast province, he decided to raise his sights and has built a moon bounce or EME (Earth, Moon, Earth) installation. The parabolic antenna required for this type of activity was at one time quite rare but the satellite television craze of the 80s and 90s left "dish" antennas that are still sitting in many yards around the country. Mostly they are being used to hold up Christmas lights and other decorations. I hope to visit his installation and take some notes, soon.

I was able to attend the Regina RARA fall swap meet/ flea market on November 5th, and was able to meet many acquaintances that I only see at these events. To my mind the event was well attended and certainly had a lot of "good stuff" for sale. The Regina group members pulled it off quite handily as the following day the first big snowfall of the season occurred.

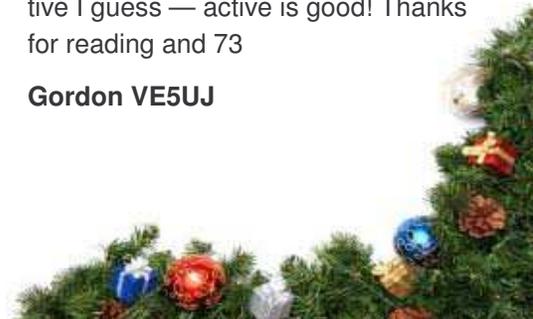
In my collection of year end paper work I see my renewal for the National Amateur Radio organization, RAC

(Radio Amateurs of Canada.) Cost about the same as one fill up at the pump (small car) and there are many benefits including group insurance, TCA magazine six times a year, QSL card forwarding and receiving, and a few I can't think of right at the moment. Members of RAC consult closely with our regulatory Government agency, Industry Canada, and it works both ways. If you have concerns about the way this hobby is headed, you are more likely to be heard from within the organization where you will undoubtedly find people with similar viewpoints. Members and non members will find lots of information on Amateur Radio topics by visiting the RAC website.

Now that winter seems to have set in, the 80 metre band is a pleasure to be on at least during the early evening when the Saskatchewan Public Service Net is on the air. The summer months were indeed quite a struggle some nights and we had to deal with a shortage of Net Control people as well as some challenging radio conditions. Many thanks to Kelly, **VE5KJS** as well as the other nightly operators and to Ken, Eric, Doris, Ned and John and perhaps others, who have pitched in on short notice. The net is still alive and well thanks to you all.

Speaking of 80 metres, there is still a CW band available for QSOs although just a shadow of its former self. It now extends from 3500 Khz. to 3600 Khz. and is quite active in the evenings. I have been having the occasional fine "rag chew" (extended visit) down there and it has been a pleasure. The folks using their 1929 oscillators as well as QRP enthusiasts are always game for a QSO. Keeps the brain active I guess — active is good! Thanks for reading and 73

Gordon VE5UJ





South-East Sask. Report

Well, here it is November and yes, as I look outside there is a typical Sask blizzard starting. Not

really a blizzard but it is sure coming down.

The 146.82 Repeater is back up on the hill and working just fine. The noise is also gone.

We had another silent key in Estevan. Bill Willis **VE5WV** passed away July 20th. Also the XYL of the late Roy Sanderson **VE5AE** passed away.

Our condolences to the families.

I do apologize for not getting to the hamfest, or the flea-markets this year, but with all the rain and flooding that we had and only 1 road in/out. It was a case of if we went, we might not be able to get back in to town, and there was also a possibility of not being able to get out of town. So we were sort of caught between a rock and a hard place. We ended up with 24 inches of rain in a 2 month period.

The mud and water have all now gone and we are all praying that next spring is not a repeat. Mind you we were not quite as bad as Weyburn who got flooded 4 times this summer, one day they got 2 inches in 20 minutes. Also the town of Roche Percee who despite the fact that they had 15 foot dikes, lost everything.

VE5BAM is always going here and there on business and we really are not sure if he is going to show up for coffee or not.

VE5TAW is recovering from a fractured pelvis, although not quite as quickly as she would like.

VE5KAT who lives in Williston ND is complaining about all the traffic due to the surge of vehicles from the oil patch.

Also, Minot has put out the Welcome Sign for Canadians again, now that the flooding is over. Don't really know why they blame us, as water does have a tendency to flow "downhill".

I have been working 1 day a week at SIAST and also 3 weeks in Weyburn. It really is time for me to retire, but— Oh well one of these days.

Other than that nothing else new in Estevan. So will wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and we will catch up with you in the New Year.

73 Marv VE500



Prince Albert & North

Wow, here we are November already, and I wasn't quite ready to send in any information, but Val phoned and here is

all we have going on.

Repeaters are all working fine, and you can see our counts in the Provincial net count section. ARES : we are getting a good number of folks checking in, but sure wish more folks would check in from all the areas, especially with Old Man Winter showing us that he is either already here or soon will be.

We will be having our annual Christmas Dinner get-together December 1st at the Lion's Den. They always give us a great meal.

I have my shack all torn apart, and plan on doing a few renovations, and it will be good to have it all done and tied up.

Other than that, nothing really to report at this time. Take care everyone and we will catch you later or on the radio.

73 Harry VE5HAE

More from the Editor

It is finally official, young Gordon has his callsign, **VE5IRE**. Due to Canada Post being extremely slow, and I as

the examiner did not check to make sure he had signed the sheet (not good), and 2 faxes later. I will know that next student's exam will be sent by fax. A much more reliable way to send test results.

To date we have 113 members who have paid their dues. Hopefully more will pay before the end of the year. We really hate to lose members because they forgot to pay their annual dues, as it is bad enough we lose them as Silent Keys. So if you know of an SARL member who did not get their QSO this time around, please ask them to check their membership card. If it still has 2011 on it, they are in arrears.

I have been emailing cards to those hams who wish to get the QSO via email, and the others should have their card and receipt in with this QSO.

Repeater News

The Lucky Lake (Rock Point) repeater is up and running once again. The voice repeater is operational as is the digi-peaters for APRS. The digi VE5XW-1 reports not only the current temperature in the repeater cabinet but also the outdoor temperature, wind speed, battery voltage and number of amps of charge or discharge. This is thanks to Bruce **VE5BNC**. Mike **VE5MMG** was able to get the voice repeater operational and cleaned up. It looked brand new when I picked it up to take to the site. We were able to add another battery to the string of spares so that we now have two banks of batteries wired in a series/parallel format that should double our battery capacity and keep things going this winter we hope. The wind generator was working fine and the old solar cell is still charging the batteries.

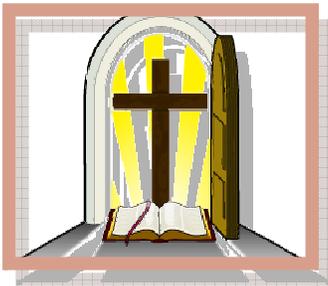
Those who were able to attend for this round of maintenance were: Mike **VE5MMG**; Ned **VE5NED**; Gus **VE5SPI**

Ned also had a friend along who was also able to assist with the lowering of batteries, repeater and duplexer into



the bunker. We hope we have solved the mice crisis but only time will tell on that score. Our first contact was Brian **VE5CUL** when we got the repeater up and operation and I believe Eric **VE5HG** was the second contact later in the evening. **VE5BNC** was able to pass a couple of messages to us using the message format found in the APRS Digi. Thanks.

Please show **VE5XW** and **VE5XW-1** as once again active. 73 **Gus Schmid**



VE5SPI

In Memory of Our Silent Keys 2011

- Rod Creighton **VE5ROD** -Jan/01/11
- Alex Burgess **VE5XR** Jan/12/11
- Gil Paradis **VE5PG** -Feb/01/11
- Myron Johnson **VE5AGO** -Feb/06/11
- Bill Smith **VE5AAR** -Mar/01/11
- Victor Leroi **VE5VL** -Mar/08/11
- Jeremiah O'Connor **VE5JOC/VE5JET** -Mar/14/11
- Bruce St. George **VE5ZN** -Jul/7/11
- Bill Cowan **VE5WFC** -Jul/13/11
- John Howlett **VE5JAH** -Jul/16/11
- Bill Woods **VE5WV** -Jul/20/11
- Al Frederickson **VE5RU** -Aug/19/11
- Robert Ediger **VE5RJ** -Sep/06/11
- Monty Salkeld **VE5MN** -Sep/24/11
- Mike Seebach **VA5MS** -Sep/30/11

Elnora Olan **VE5EEO** -Oct 01/11
Don Lawrence **VE5LQ** -Oct/19/11

Our condolences go out to all the families

Which Ham Did This ??

I am writing in response to your request for "additional information." In block number 30 of the accident report form, I put "poor planning" as the cause for my accident. You said in your last letter that I should explain more fully. I trust that the following detail will be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot antenna tower. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought about 300 lbs. of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the pole at the tip of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs. of tools.

You will note in block number 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 155 lbs. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken clavicle.

Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley.

Fortunately by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly on the rope in spite of the pain. At about the same time however,

the barrel hit the ground. The bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds.

I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might guess, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools, and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind.

I let go of the rope...

I have been asked by members of the Ham Community about operating 2 meters while driving. Here are the rules: The first is from RAC and the 2nd is from Saskatchewan.

This is from RAC

Travelling in Canada

Each province in the last few years has passed or in the planning stages of some sort of Distracted Driving Legislation. While the background for this is to stop people from using cell phones while driving, Amateur Radio has been caught up in the process in many instances. Below is a chart that shows where you can operate your radio while driving and where you can not.

Remember that this is only a guide and is not official. As such I would caution everyone when they refer to what is and is not permitted in a given province or territory to refer only to the official text of the law (usually a section in the Highway Traffic Act or similarly named statute) or the regulation



VE5IBK, VE5IM, VE5JAR, VE5JN,



VE5JRM, VE5JZ, VE5KK, VE5KRB, VE5LPP, VE5LQ, VE5LTD, VE5LY, VE5MC, VE5MCD, VE5MDC, VE5MHR, VE5ML, VE5PT, VE5RC, VE5RH, VE5RO, VE5RY, VE5SAR, VE5SC, VE5TK, VE5TL, VE5TX, VE5VP, VE5VT, VE5WW, VE5XO, VE5YD,

If you are part of a local club executive and any of these ham's are members of your club, Please pass on this information to them - Thank you.

Derek Hay, VE4HAY

This is a new column for SARL members only

Or if you know of a spouse of a Silent Key, you may send the editor a list of the items. This column will be maintained by the editor

**FOR SALE/
WANTED**

	Ex-empti on	Pen ding	Re-strict ed
NFL/LAB	OK		
NB			YES
NS	OK		
PEI	OK		
QC			YES
ON		2013	
MB	OK		
SK	OK		
AB	OK		
BC	OK		
YK	OK		

which establishes Amateur Radio as an exempt user if that is the way the statute works.

Word has now come down that the two RAC directors in Ontario and some ARES people have a meeting with the Ontario Deputy Minister of Transportation in an effort to be granted an exemption in Ontario. Stay tuned and in the meantime do your research before you venture out of your home

province.

(see page 7 for Sask. Info)

Do you know these RAC members?

The following listings of Callsigns are all RAC members who are living in Saskatchewan, but they have not furnished RAC with their Email address, as such they are not receiving this newsletter (which I of course work so hard on) nor are they receiving the RAC report and other periodic emails from RAC. If you know any of these fellow hams, please ask them to login to the <http://www.rac.ca> website and complete the member section with their email address any other information that may be missing.

VA5DX, VA5LIZ, VA5SAM, VE5AAD, VE5AF, VE5AFK, VE5AG, VE5BAP, VE5BBH, VE5BBK, VE5BF, VE5BFD, VE5BGF, VE5BPS, VE5CD, VE5CT, VE5DA, VE5DF, VE5DGD, VE5DZ, VE5EN, VE5FAW, VE5GW, VE5GY, VE5GZ, VE5HFD,

VITAMIN F

Why do I have a variety of friends who are all so different in character? How can I get along with them all? I think that each one helps to bring out a "different" part of me.

With one of them I am polite. I joke with another friend. I sit down and talk about serious matters with one. With another I laugh a lot. I may have a drink with one. I listen to one friend's problems. Then I listen to another one's advice for me.

My friends are all like pieces of a jig-saw puzzle. When completed, they form a treasure box. A treasure of friends! They are my friends who understand me better than myself, who support me through good days and bad days. We all pray together and for each other.

Real Age doctors tell us that friends



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are good for our health. Dr. Oz calls them Vitamins F (for Friends) and counts the benefits of friends as es-

Saskatchewan's Cellphone Legislation

Prohibited effective Jan. 1, 2010	Allowed	Not impacted by cellphone legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a hand-held cellphone while driving for: making or receiving phone calls sending, receiving or reading text messages sending, receiving or reading emails surfing the Internet using 10-4 "push to talk" technology Hands-free cellphone devices while driving for new drivers¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands-free use of cellphones while driving for experienced drivers², including: devices that clip to the visor headsets, either wired or wireless voice-activated devices devices built into the vehicle, such as OnStar or those with Bluetooth technology Bluetooth earpieces One-touch activation of a speakerphone feature on a cellphone placed within easy reach Making 9-1-1 calls on cellphones while driving, for both new and experienced drivers Making a call on a cellphone when parked on the side of the road, for both new and experienced drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic devices that are not cellphones, including but not limited to: GPS CB radios two-way radios MP3 players/iPods satellite radio <p>Note: Law enforcement still has the ability to charge distracted drivers with driving without due care and attention if they are putting themselves or other road users at risk.</p>

1 New drivers are drivers in Saskatchewan's Graduated Driver's Licensing (GDL) program.

2 Experienced drivers are all drivers other than those in the GDL program. http://www.sgi.sk.ca/pdf/cellphone_impact_chart.pdf

Hope this helps clear up things for all hams out there who mobile. Please use care and caution as you drive. We certainly don't want one of our hams getting into an accident because he was busy talking on the radio.



PROVINCIAL NETS					
Name	Date	Sessions	Check-ins	Traffic	Bulletins
IRLP 9300	Aug	22	463	87	9
	Sept	18	330	45	2
	Oct	15	253	43	6
Avonlea ARG 147.0600-	Aug		147		
	Sept	30			
Sask Evening Phone/CW	Sept	30	805	3	
3.735	Oct	31	1080	5	
Sask Wx Net 3.753	Sept	30	426	0	
	Oct	31	537	0	
Ares	Sept	4	93	0	
	Oct	5	79	1	
Prince Albert Repeater	Oct	20	50	0	
TOTALS		236	4263	184	17



*From the
President and
Directors, we would
like to wish all of our
members a very
Merry Christmas
and a Happy New
Year.*

HAMFEST 2012

Do we have any club wishing to take on the **Hamfest for 2012???** If your club is interested, please get in contact with Val at ve5aq@sasktel.net as soon as possible.

We still must have an AGM as according to our constitution.



A CHRISTMAS POEM

an unknown author Dec
20, 2000

'Twas the night before
Christmas and all through
the shack

The rig was turned off and
the mike cord lay slack.

The antenna rotor had
made its last turn,

The tubes in the linear
have long ceased to burn.

I sat there relaxing and
took off my specs,

Preparing to daydream of
armchair DX,

When suddenly outside I
heard such a sound,

I dashed out the door to
see what was around.

The moon shone down
brightly and lighted the
night-

For sure, propagation for
the low bands was right.

I peered towards the roof
where I heard all the
racket,

And there was some guy in
a red, fur-trimmed
jacket.

I stood there perplexed in a
manner quite giddy.

Just who was this stranger
- di di dah dah di dit ?

He looked very much like
an FCC guy,

Who'd come to check up
on some bad TVI.

I shouted to him, "OM !
QRZ ?"

" Hey you by the chimney,
all dressed up in red !"

I suddenly knew when I
heard sleigh bells jingle,

The guy on the rooftop was
jolly Kris Kringle.

He had a big sack full of
amateur gear,

Which was a big load for
his prancing reindeer.

Transmitters, receivers, for
cabinets and racks,

Some meters and scopes
and a lot of co-ax.

He said not a word 'cause
he'd finished his work

He picked up his sack,
then he turned with a jerk.

As he leaped to his sleigh,
he shouted with glee,

And I knew in a moment
he'd be QRT.

I heard him transmit as he
flew o'er the trees

"Merry Christmas to all,
and to all seventy-three."

