



Due to a computer glitch on the Editor's computer, page 2 of the President's report for December was missing from the last issue, so hopefully you've still got the last issue so that this makes more sense.....sorry Devon.

Members, we are indeed at a crossroad. We have to decide as a membership, does SARL still have a viable reason for existence? Where do we need to go from here? Why are we the last of only two provincial organizations left in Canada? Is it that we are just stubborn and unwilling to fold up shop? These are some of the questions that I hope to research over the next six months or so and have a report available to the membership prior to the AGM, so that we might make some informal decisions on our future. I am certainly open to input from amateurs across this great province, members of SARL or not. Please forward your comments to me on why you believe or do not believe SARL has a place in our current world of amateur radio. (my email address will be at the bottom)

As some of you know, I will also be replacing Bj. Madsen VE5FX as the Midwest Region Director for Radio Amateurs of Canada beginning in January 2009. I had some reservations about taking on both tasks however I feel that both positions were very similar in nature and that in many instances I could "kill two birds with one stone." I want to ensure all that I will fulfill my goals for each organization and if things go according to plan, I will have overlapping duties only for six months out of the two year term.

On a more exciting note, I had the pleasure of attending the Saturday morning breakfast ritual in Tisdale at the end of November. We had a very good showing despite the blizzard-like conditions. From my experience calling the Saskatchewan 2 Metre Linked Net, I finally get to put a few faces to call signs. I also received a tour of the facility housing the VE5FXR repeater in Tisdale. Thanks to Bj. And the gang up there for the hospitality!

We have otherwise been busy in Saskatoon getting our club (MARS) repeaters back to operational status. The VE5CC (146.970-[100.0 PL], VE5SKN (146.940- [100.0 PL]) and VE5FS (443.000+ [100.0 PL]) repeaters are fully operational again, just in time for the Christmas traveling season. You'll also usually find a voice on the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club's VE5SK (146.640-) repeater if you are traveling through out city.

I don't want to drag things out too terribly long this time around, so I want to wish everyone a very merry and safe Christmas season and all the best in 2009. I also encourage everyone to link up to the Discovery Reflector 9010 Channel 2 as much as possible during the holidays and say "hello" to your fellow amateurs in the province. 73 Devon Racicot VE5DWR dracicot@sasktel.net

February/March 2009 Devon Racicot VE5DWR President – SARL

Hello everyone! It is that time again for the next issue of the QSO. My continued thanks to Val for putting this newsletter together and to everyone that contributes to it! I think it is a valued communication tool for us, members of the SARL and amateurs in Saskatchewan.

Don't forget to plan for a couple of Saskatchewan events this Spring/Summer to mark on your calendar including the Moose Jaw ARC Flea Market on April 4th, and of course, the Saskatchewan Hamfest on July

11th in Lanigan. Of course, with the Hamfest comes the Annual General Meeting of members of SARL. If you are interested in serving your amateur radio community, please consider letting your name stand for a position on the board.

As of late, I am feverishly working away at the SARL constitution and will have some suggested amendments to put before the membership at the AGM and examining the viability of the scholarship program that was placed

before the executive a few years ago. The Board is looking at having a meeting sometime in the spring to discuss some of the changes so we have a complete package put together for the AGM.

Now that we are ever so close to the 2009 Hamfest, we are now seeking interested clubs or associations that would like to take on the 2010 Hamfest. Toss the idea around at your next club meeting and let us know if there is any interest. It is always more interesting to have the SARL AGM in conjunction with an event, rather than by itself. It is also the time of year that all the ham classes begin. I know they are underway here in Saskatoon, courtesy of the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club and I suspect the same in other centres. Good luck to all aspiring hams and for those of you that are instructors,

remember to pass along the SARL membership forms to the graduates! Those new hams get their first year membership free!

Speaking of projects, members will be happy to know that if all goes as planned, within the next month we will have access to a revived Saskatchewan Reflector 9300. As mentioned previously in my last report, planning is underway and it appears that sometime in February, the switch will be flipped. We will keep you posted by way of the Saskatchewan 2M Net and ultimately when the net moves, will be up to the net manager, Harvey VE5HAW.

Get your antenna projects planned soon, because it isn't going to be long and the ground will thaw!

Until next time, 73 & good DX!

From the Editor's Chair – VE5ACJ

So here we are, into February already. Can't believe that Christmas is over and January 2009 came in with such a cold blast. Sure glad that is over.

The OM and I have been listening to the bands, and things do not really look that good. I know Harv has been listening for the 75M net every night and he says that there are many times when he can hardly hear Don, VE7QYR and he can't hear anyone else, oops pardon me, except for Ben, VE5YJ, but seeing as Ben is just across the valley from me and he usually pins my needle, but that's ok. So that's why you haven't heard Harv, VE5AC on the air much, he just can't hear anyone else. Oh well, one of these days the bands just have to improve, I hope.

As you will notice, we have been having lots of info from VE5MC, Murray, and also from VE5DC, Jerry. This is wonderful, but I am sure that there are many more hams out there that also have valuable information that you are just ever so willing to share. So please don't be shy, and expect your area reps to be the only ones sending in articles for the QSO. You can send them to me, ve5aq@sasktel.net and don't worry about spelling or grammar, as I can and will be able to fix all corrections that are needed. Our area reps do a wonderful job, and we are still in need of reps from **Regina, Southwest Saskatchewan, and The Battlefords**. So if you know of anyone who would be willing to come on board and who are SARL members, (yes to be on the Board of Directors, you must be an SARL member), we will not turn anyone away, as we really need more members.

As I said in the previous QSO, we have our annual AGM coming up in July, and it will be in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Hamfest in Lanigan. We have been averaging about 100 plus folks come through the doors to the fleamarket, and most of them are SARL members, but when it comes time for the meeting, where do they all go? At our last 2 meetings, there has only been 25-30 members sign the book that they are there and leave all the business to these few folks. The meetings usually only lasts an hour and it would be so much nicer if we had all of you there. At the moment we have 105 members. I know that of our members, don't want to say old, but are not as active or as mobile as they would like, but the rest of you, come on now, join the fun and yes, we have elections, but we will not railroad anyone into a position that they really don't want to accept. As far as I know, the only position that will be available is that of the presidency, as Devon is also the Midwest Director for RAC and he said at the last meeting when he was elected that he would only be able to hold the position until the next AGM, which is understandable. The position of the Vice-President, I'm not sure of, but I do know that the position of the Secretary/Treasurer will stay the same if the membership doesn't mind me doing it, I do enjoy it, as it keeps me busy and out of trouble.

Lastly, with the hamfest coming up quickly, there must be mention of trophies. Please go to the SARL website, and find the nomination forms. These must start coming in as soon as possible, so we know what trophies must be brought to the hamfest. Any clubs having classes, please remember to send me the names of the successful candidates, so that we can put their name in for the SARL New Amateur award. Please folks, once again be part of SARL and help choose winners for the trophies, don't leave it up to the Executive to have to make that decision. This is your membership too.

Hello to all from Saskatchewan SE Area de VE5CEM

The SE has settled nicely into winter. Not much radio activity in the Amateur community this winter in the Weyburn area. The bands have been terrible. Not to worry, we can take heart in the fact that spring is close at hand so to then are the spring Flea markets and antenna projects. The sunspot cycle is going to get better soon and all will be well in the kingdom of Ham. The Weyburn Repeater story has come to an end. The prospective buyers changed their mind and the city is going back to regular operation at the building for now.

The Weyburn Group still goes to Main tracks café for Saturday morning breakfast. Location is junction of 39 and 13 highways at the NW end of town. We start at 8:30 am and go until we are all talked out.

I have cleaned out the QSL bureau and sent all the cards on their way. If you were looking for cards you should have them soon if you don't already.

Some house keeping activity has been happening in the Section Manager end of things. I went through the list of Saskatchewan

Emergency Coordinators and checked names address etc. I made a list of changes too be made and sent it in to the VPFS in Ottawa. The changes should be done on the web page by now. So you can have a look and see if all is ok. We also made a change in Swift Current & Area. Roy Toole VE5ROY decided to step down and Calvin Vosper VE5CAL accepted the position of E.C. for Swift Current and Area. Thank you Roy for your time & effort as E.C., it was appreciated. Thank you Calvin for taking up the challenge, welcome aboard. We need to get a Section Traffic Manager and a Bulletin Manager onboard, so that will be my next project. I have a couple candidates in mind so we will see what happens.

If anyone has questions or comments regarding the QSL Bureau, SARL SE or RAC Sask Section please contact me at the address listed below. If you have articles from the SE for the QSO paper or for the TCA Magazine you can send them to the address below.

That is all for now. 73

C. E. Joe Musgrave. 729-5th St. Weyburn, SK. S4H1A4. Phone 306-842-2626. ve5cem@sasktel.n

Saskatchewan's First ARISS Contact a Success!!!

Article by: Murray Crandon, VE5MC.



The Amateur Radio on International Space Station, (ARISS), and program was created by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, (NASA), eight years ago. The intent of the program is to be an Educational outreach for school students, exciting their interests in space exploration, science, math, technology, and amateur radio.

On December 15, 2008 Saskatchewan held it's first ever ARISS contact. The contact was held in Moose Jaw at King George Elementary School and was organized by contact coordinator Murray Crandon, VE5MC who worked with coordinating teacher Jim Gardner, and Principal Ward Milligan to apply to the program. On October 15, 2007 our application was submitted and just two days later, we received word that it had been approved.

Our project was assigned to mentor Steve MacFarlane, VE3TBD, who has been involved with the ARISS program since its creation and has mentored over 20 contacts. Steve provided great advice and walked us through the process to make sure that we did everything properly in order to be successful.

On November 20, 2008 we received a list of five contact options and were instructed to put them in order of our preference for a contact. With only a week's notice, we were notified that our contact would be with Mission Specialist Sandra Magnus at 16:51UTC, (10:51AM CST), and would be #394 for the program.

As part of the school curriculum, students learn about our universe, space exploration, Canada's role in the space program, and the International Space Station. King George Elementary School Students had been participating in their own "Ask an Astronaut" program whereby they were asked to submit questions; the ten best were judged and selected by the teachers. Chosen were: Rebecca Davies, Rylan Evans, Tyler Stephenson, Dakota Tames, Sasha Valgardson, Riley Kinch, Michaela Farnham, Riley Cannon, Taylor Farrer, and Everett Neigel.

Shortly after 14:00UTC, the real hero's of the day arrived to install the primary satellite antenna on the gymnasium roof. In -30.8C weather, Trevor Painchaud VE5RDK, Terry White VE5TLW, and Malcolm McLeod VE5ZG, worked outside for more than forty minutes to hook up the Satellite antenna and x510 vertical for the backup station. During the assembly process it was discovered that a solder connection had come apart on the balun during transportation of the Satellite antenna. Malcolm and Terry got busy and fixed that with little difficulty. After installation, the elevation rotor had issues operating properly in the extremely cold conditions and it was decided that, given the pass predictions, we would try and get the highest elevation that we could, but would switch to the back up radio and antenna if required.

At 16:52UTC we got the call, "VE5ISS this is NA1SS, do you copy?" It took only six minutes for the ten questions to be asked and answered, but given our worries about the movement of the elevation rotor, a short contact was better than a potentially problematic one.

In attendance at the event were, Moose Jaw City Mayor-Dale McBain, Director of Education for the Prairie South School Division #210-Brenda Edwards, Palliser MP-Ray Boughen, Teachers, Students, and members of the television and newspaper

The ARISS program is one of the most exciting and beneficial means in which we can share our wonderful hobby with those who are most likely to appreciate it. Although interest in Amateur Radio is declining, for at least one day the students of King George School think; "It's amazing that we could do something like this"-Rebecca, "I'll definitely wanna tell my kids about it"-Michaela, "Being able to talk to somebody that far away from you is really cool"-Tyler. "To be able to talk to them while they are actually on the Space Station, that's pretty cool"- Taylor.

Mission Accomplished.

Be sure to VIEW OUR EVENT VIDEO ON YOU TUBE at: www.youtube.com/ve5iss

Also see www.qrz.com/ve5iss or email ve5iss@rac.ca for more information.



<p>Rebecca Davies, Grade 6. What is the most visible man-made structure seen from space?</p> <p>Rylan Evans, Grade 7. If you could bring only one luxury to space with you, what would it be and why?</p> <p>Tyler Stephenson, Grade 8. In your opinion, what is the hardest task to complete on the International Space Station?</p> <p>Dakota Tames, Grade 6. Has an astronaut become ill on the International Space Station?</p> <p>Sasha Valgardson, Grade 6. How long will you be in space, and what is the longest a person has been in space?</p> <p>Riley Kinch, Grade 8. How frustrating does it get not being able to do things as easily as you can do them on Earth, like brushing your teeth?</p> <p>Michaela Farnham, Grade 6. When you go outside to work on the space station or do other experiments, how does it make you feel?</p> <p>Riley Cannon, Grade 6. How much training does it take to be an astronaut?</p> <p>Taylor Farrer, Grade 6. Have you ever waken up in the middle of the night and thought "Where am I"?</p> <p>Everett Neigel, Grade 8. What is it like not being with your family for long periods of time?</p>
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Yorkton & Area by Randy Molyneaux – VE5RJM

The Parkland Amateur Radio Club wishes everyone a very happy and prosperous New Year. The Parkland Amateur Radio Club in 2008 had a very rewarding year with the many members' volunteer hours, the community donations, and the company sponsorships. We would like to thank the Saskatoon Club, Gus VE5 SPI, Erich VE5 HG & Doris VE5 DJQ Quiring, and Bill Dunster VE5 DN, for the equipment donations. It surely will come in handy for many projects in 2009. These are only a few donations and gifts mentioned but if you are curious you can check out our many sponsors at: <http://parc.sasktelwebsite.net/sponsors.html>.



The Parkland Amateur Radio Club would also like to say that we have also recently welcomed new members Douglas Lackey (VE5 DLJ) from Ontario and Garf Challoner (VE5 CAT) from Norquay. The Picture below is Garf's New Tower Setup on Jan 12th, 2009 in – 30 Degree Weather, looks like a good start to his antenna farm. hi hi. We are also glad to see another new member to our club: Steven Bossley, VE5ZVX from Yorkton.

The Parkland Amateur Radio Club Area Repeater Report:

- Yorkton (VA5 PAR) 145.490- (Fully Operational with upgrades on UHF Linking to Continue for 2009)
 - (Yorkton – Manitoba Linking still ongoing, and not operational at the present time)
 - Yorkton / Invermay EchoLink Node # 48431 & IRLP Node # 1710: (Fully Operational)
- Yorkton / Invermay EchoLink Node # 48431 & IRLP Node # 1710: (Fully Operational)
- Invermay (VA5 INV) 147.080+ (Fully Operational with upgrades on UHF Linking to Continue for 2009)
- Invermay (VA5 INV) 445.500- (Not Operational till UHF Upgrades are completed in summer of 2009)
- Melville (VE5 MDM) 147.000+ EchoLink Node #342958 & IRLP Node # 1858: (Fully Operational)
- Kamsack (VE5 PWO) 147.390+ (Temporarily Offline – in the process of being upgraded)
- Preeceville (VE5 SS) 146.610- (Fully Operational with upgrades on UHF Linking to Continue for 2009)

Up to Date Listing Information can be found at: <http://nwham.com/>

The Parkland Amateur Radio Club has had many changes and upgrades done to the EchoIRLP Nodes and to the website newly designed format. A special thanks to Douglas (VE5 DLJ), who suggested we have a Sunday Evening Rag Chew. Everyone is welcome to join us on Sundays at 8:00 PM local time or 02:00 UTC on reflector 9012. For more information, browse our club website at: <http://parc.sasktelwebsite.net>. '73's to all

Amateur Radio History Credits to NVARC signal---- Article sent in by Bruce Donovan, VE5ND

This month we take a bit of a different tack. (The nautical term intended, as you will see.) In early 1923 Dr. Donald B. MacMillan approached the A.R.R.L with an interesting proposal. This month's look at early amateur radio explores the results of that proposal.

WNP - Wireless North Pole, the first Dxpedition

Dr. Donald B. MacMillan was an alumnus of Bowdoin College in Maine and world-renowned leader of scientific expeditions to the Arctic regions. In 1923 he had lead seven cruises of the auxiliary schooner Bowdoin into Arctic waters to study the region. His eight's cruise of 14 months duration was scheduled to leave in late June of 1923 and winter over locked in the ice at a point about 700 nautical miles south of the North Pole between Greenland and Ellesmere Island. One of the purposes of the trip, among others, was to discover the nature of the Aurora Borealis and study the effects on radio wave transmissions in the 200 to 300 meter wavelength region (1.0 to 1.5 MHz). With this in mind and also considering the benefits of radio communication for crew moral, and well being, Dr. MacMillan had approached the A.R.R.L. with the proposal that the League provide an amateur radio operator for the expedition. The board of directors voted to do so and preparations were started on equipping the Bowdoin with wireless equipment. The call at Dr. MacMillan's suggestion was WNP, Wireless North Pole. A search was started for an amateur to go as the operator. Don Mix, 1TS of Bristol, Conn., and a member of the A.R.R.L. staff was selected as the operator.

Manufactures and vendors donated much of the equipment for the Bowdoin. The transmitter and receivers were supplied by Zenith in Chicago. This equipment was designed to fit in the space made available for the radio

equipment. It consisted of two receivers (tuners) one for long waves and one for short waves. The short wave tuner was a regenerative detector and two stage audio amplifier. It covered 850 to 150 meters. The long wave tuner design was the same. The transmitter was a two-tube oscillator design. It was supplied 500 Hz high voltage AC from a special transformer. Keyed AC from a DC motor driven 500-cycle AC generator powered by a 32-volt storage battery supplied the high voltage transformer. An internal combustion engine driven generator charged the 32 volt 160 amp hour battery system, as back up a second charging motor generator was provided. The antenna used when the Bowdoin was under way consisted of a flat top of wires from the top of the main mast to the foremast and then down to the deck via a bow sprint. The wireless equipment was located in the crew's quarters where a bunk had been removed. While the schooner was frozen in the ice more elaborate antennas were tried. These were suspended from ropes rigged from the boat to high points on shore. The last and largest of these was a fan array of wires suspended by over a half mile of rope passing over the boat at a height of 125 feet. The rope was anchored to rocks on the cliffs surrounding the bay. This last attempt at a better antenna used almost every available length of rope on the boat. This expedition was looked on with some of the same feeling as the trips to the moon some 40 years later. They were going to one of the ends of the world. For example, the 500 cycle generator needed to be rewound and was sent out by Zenith in Chicago. When it arrived back there was a note on the generator saying "This generator personally rewound by 9BA, 73". Another example, the Burgess Battery Company furnished the radio B batteries for the receivers. They made up 10,000 cells and set them aside to age. They then selected 1000 of the best of these cells for the batteries that would power the tubes in the receivers. These batteries were to last the 14 months of the voyage, but they also sent spare cells and chemicals to provide batteries for another two and one half years. People on these types of expeditions didn't always make it back on schedule. Some didn't make it back at all. One of the missions of the expedition was to place a bronze memorial at Cape Sabine from the National Geographic Society to the Greely Expedition that perished there from starvation and exposure. The Arctic can be very unforgiving. The Bowdoin was an auxiliary schooner. That means she had two masts with sails and a diesel engine. With 2000 gallons of fuel she had a motor range of 4000 miles. This was claimed to be the longest range of any ship of the day. She of course had sails as the prime method of travel. She was 88 feet long and 23 feet wide. There was a total crew of seven. She sailed on June 23, 1923 from Wiscasset, Maine north into the sun. This was not the first time such a radio expedition had been attempted, but none before had been successful. There was a feeling that this time it would be different. And it was. Radio had, and still does, have this habit of throwing a curve ball. With the improvement in radio performance of CW over spark and the other improvements in equipment it was felt by many in the amateur community that WNP would not have trouble working back into the US. It was pointed out that the west coast stations should take heart, as they were not much farther away than the stations on the east coast. WNP would be about 2500 miles north of New York City. After all this range was worked quite often during the winter nights, and the nights where WNP was going to be are six months long, but not in August. The Bowdoin arrived at Etah, Greenland on August 8th. At this time of the year there was still 24 hours of sunshine at this high latitude. On the trip up the Bowdoin had made numerous stops along the way to make scientific observation, replenish fuel and water and pick up an addition crewmember that would also serve as translator. During the trip they had managed to stay in contact but as they got farther north and more into the continuous daylight signals were getting poorer. As August progressed and the sun started dipping closer to the northern horizon signals started to appear during the short period of near sunset each day. Due to ice conditions they were unable to make it to Cape Sabine or Flagler Fiord and chose Refuge Harbor to winter at. They arrived there on August 17th. By this time received signals were getting steadily better each night as the sun was getting closer to the northern horizon. Most signals heard were from west of the Mississippi. This was a condition that continued for the whole time they were at Refuge Harbor. It would not be until they were back to southern Greenland on the way home that they could hear or work many east coast stations again. On the way north they had talked to many local maritime radio operators who told them they would never work back into the states on 200 meters. Well the local experts were wrong. But it wasn't easy either. In late August there was a brief QSO with 1ANA one of the few east coast stations heard and worked from northern Greenland. Many stations were being heard, some with very strong signals, but no one seemed to be hearing WNP. On Sept. 8 7DJ of Bremerton, Washington was raised and they tried for over an hour but could only exchange "All's Well". Then WNP was called by 9BP of Prince Rupert, BC, Canada. This was Jack Barnsley and he would be a regular contact, handling over half of the traffic passed to and from WNP during their stay in the Arctic. Often he was the only station WNP could raise and even that was not a sure thing. Of the total of 16,000 words cleared through WNP during the expedition, 8,000 were passed through 9BP, and of the 13,000 received, 9000 were also from 9BP. With the exception of the 7DJ contact, 9BP was the only station worked during Sept. October was not much better. Besides 9BP, WNP worked 7AHB Alaska, 7DC, and 9EBT. Although Mix was on daily and hearing many stations weeks would pass without a contact. But November would be much better. 9BP handled most of the traffic, but several other Canadian stations were worked and then on the 16th a CQ was answered

by 6CEU in Hawaii. This low power station had been heard quite well on many previous occasions but it was exciting for both to work such a path, especially when the Eastern US might as well have been on the moon. On the 26th of November a distance speed record for a two-way message relay was set when 1HX sent a message to 6XAD who relayed to WNP. The answer was back at 1HX in five minutes and six seconds. Another first was a four country relay from (F) 8AB in Niece France, to (U) 1XAM, to (U) 1HX to (U) 6XAD to (C) 9BP Prince Rupert BC, and finally to WNP Refuge Harbor, Greenland. Amateur radio had just spanned the Atlantic and was already in the international traffic business. Things were in deed moving rapidly in this hobby. Conditions in December were not as good as November and January was not much better. In December a condition that Mix called a “QRN storm” started occurring. This was a white noise condition that was present on all wavelengths. Some times lasting for a few hours and sometimes for days. Many times it was so intense that only the strongest signals could be copied through it. Mix seemed to feel it might have been related to the winds driving snow across the frozen harbor. Anyway the condition persisted until spring. The sun returned in February and with it a steady decrease in signal levels. 9BP continued to be the gateway station although several other 7th call area stations were contacted in February. Some were running rather low power. A final contact with 6CEU in Hawaii was made on February 19. The sun was rising rapidly in the sky and during March only one contact was made on the 3rd with Canadian 4HH. The next contact was not made until April 14th, and it was the last from Refuge Harbor. It was with 7DJ who had been the first contact back in September. Radio watch was maintained until mid May but it was discontinued then to conserve fuel for the generators. There would be no contact with the outside world again until they were on their journey home and off the coast of southern Greenland. The Bowdoin had been locked in the ice from late September 1923 to June of 1924. This is over eight months. During the stay at Refuge Harbor WNP had only been in contact with 35 stations but many more than once, especially 9BP. This has to have been a disappointment, but the experts had said that they would not work any. So the amateurs had proven the experts wrong again. There are some interesting observations that I think can be drawn from this in retrospect. It pointed out the difficulty of propagation in the high latitudes. Although one of the missions of the expedition was the observation of the Aurora, they never detected any correlation between the Aurora and radio propagation although it is well known today, mix in his article on the expedition in November 1924 QST, where I obtained much of this material, stated that they observed little Aurora activity at Refuge Harbor and it did not effect either the short or long wave radio transmissions. We know now that they were well above the Aurora circle. They were only some 500 miles form the magnetic pole. The concentration of stations worked along the west coast in an interesting thing. Mix comments on it several times but does not offer any explanation. Whether it is some characteristic of the propagation from this latitude or if it was due to local terrain is not clear. Refuge Harbor is surrounded by high land extending to 1400 feet above sea level. I expect if Mix had suspected it at all he would have mentioned it, but the knowledge of radio propagation was such that he might not have thought it important. Hawaii was contacted several times with good signals and yet only one first area and one second area station was contacted in eight months. A quick look at the distribution of calls worked points this out. The call areas in 1923 were a bit different. The zero call area did not exist till after W.W.II. So the 9th area included what is now the zero area. The seventh call area was smaller and the sixth bigger including Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and Hawaii. WNP worked four 6th area stations, including Hawaii, thirteen 7th area stations, one 8th area station, and seven 9th area stations. A 3rd, 4th or 5th area station was not worked. Eight Canadian stations were, contacted half being in the 4th Canadian call area. Canadian 9BP was the main path of communications with northern Greenland which was one of those curve balls that Radio throws. By today’s standards of tens of thousands of QSOs for a week’s effort on some remote rock in the ocean, this first DXpedition by amateur radio may seem insignificant, but it was a first. The mission was more one of providing communications and scientific discovery. The newspaper dispatches from Dr. MacMillian to a chain of seventy major newspapers across the country filed via amateur radio had a side benefit of good public relations for the hobby, and probably inspired many people to an interest in amateur radio. Probably not unlike another expedition some twenty plus years later who’s amateur radio reports brought to the attention of a young boy the magic of radio as he followed the progress of a raft floating westward across the South Pacific. Maybe some day I’ll tell that story. *From the Signal, **newsletter** of the Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club, Pepperell MA USA. Copyright 2003, WIXP. Reprinted with permission*

♥♥♥♥♥Because it’s Valentines Day♥♥♥♥♥

GREEKS AND SCOTS: A Greek and a Scotsman were sitting in a Starbuck’s café one day discussing who had the superior culture. Over triple lattes, the Greek guy says, “Well we Greeks built the Parthenon: arching his eyebrows. The Scotsman then replies, “Well, it was the Scots that discovered the summer and Winter Solstices.” The Greek retorts, “We Greeks gave birth to advanced mathematics.”

The Scotsman, nodding in agreement says, "Scots were the ones who built the first timepieces and calendars."
And so on until the Greek comes up with what he thinks will end the discussion. With a flourish of finality he says, "The Greeks were the ones who invented Sex!"

The Scotsman replies, "Indeed, that is true, but it was we Scots who introduced it to women."



Vice President's Report de Gus Schmidt, VE5SPI

The Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club has acquired some repeaters and mobile radios along with racks and a few antennas. As I am wearing two hats, one for SARL and one for the SARC, I would like to offer any Club or group a hand in renovating repeater sites, upgrading club sites or ARES stations. If you have a project and are in need of equipment please contact any executive member of SARC and advise what your project is and what assistance we could render. I personally feel that it would be nice to get the linked system back up and running and expand same for the benefit of all Hams in the province as well as those passing through our Province. If we all work together it makes good things happen for the hobby. 73's Gus, VE5SPI

HAMFEST 2009 LANIGAN, JULY 11th

Admission: SARL members FREE.....Non Members \$10.00

Fleamarket 9-12 -----Tables \$2.00 SARL members, \$3.00 Non members

Hosted BBQ lunch—maybe, or at a very minimal cost – final details later

Afternoon: 1-4 Several Interesting sessions are being planned including

A special presentation by Murray Crandon, VE5MC, VE5LGT, VE5ISS: a video of the ZL8R Dxpedition to Raoul Island in the Kermadec Islands.

SARL AGM---please attend...we need ALL members. Lots of great Door prizes too!

Remember this is a Non-Profit Event. Any revenue left over after facility costs will be donated to a local Charity. For more information please get hold of David Klatt, VE5GN at dfklatt@sasktel.net David is the coordinator for this years' hamfest.

Moose Jaw and Area, de VE5ACJ

Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club Flea Market

Place: Western Development Museum---50 Diefenbaker Drive (same place as the 2007 hamfest)

Date: April 4, 2009

Time: 9:00-2:00

Entrance: \$5.00

Entrance Fee includes one free table. Extra tables are \$5.00 each. Tables are \$3.00 each if you book before March 5th. Wheelchair Accessible. Coffee and Donuts

Please contact Brenda at ve5trg@sasktel.net or 691-5254/694-2056 for more information

Submitted by Harv, VE5AC

Canadian Time and Frequency Standard Station CHU –A decades-long fixture on 7335 KHZ has moved to 7850 KHz effective January 1, 2009. (February 2009 CQ magazine, page 2)

If interested in a Moxon Beam, see www.moxonantennaproject.com

Any Hams or Non Hams interested in a Wind power Enthusiast club, please contact Harv at 693-6127 or at Val's email, ve5aq@sasktel.net

Also anyone that has ever worked on the CF104 Starfighter Aircraft, call me at the above number, so we can swap widow maker stories.

73, Harv