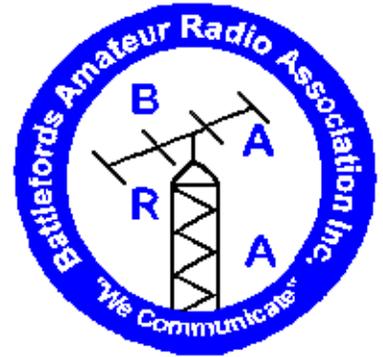




THE QSO

June/July 2013

Hamfest Issue



Saskatchewan Hamfest 2013

Sponsored by:

Saskatchewan Amateur Radio League

Radio World

Sasktel

Super 8 Motel - N. Battleford

Hosted by the Battlefords Amateur Radio Association

Battleford Saskatchewan - Saturday July 27

Location: Battleford Legion Hall

Friday (evening) July 26 - coffee & early setup at the hall

(Pre-registration

Flea market, SARL Annual meeting presentations & awards

TGIF - Get an early start Friday night!

Last chance to "Pre-register" and get extra chances at winning door prizes!

This years Hamfest will have a meet and greet Friday night, starting at 7 PM. - coffee and snacks available. This is a chance for those who come the day before to have a visit.. If anyone wants to provide some entertainment you will be more than welcome. Vendors could also setup in advance.. This will allow you more time to get a good nights rest and be ready for the next day.

Admission: \$5.00

Flea Market tables & Tailgaters: \$5.00

(space available on first come first served)

\$5.00 admission gives you a chance to win many great door prizes including a dual-band HT.

Pre-Registration

So Cheap at \$5.00 so we can cut you a deal on the price.

.. BUT here's the deal..

If you pre-register, you will get an additional 2 draw tickets!

You will have 3 chances at winning prizes. (instead of just 1)

Including the draw for the HT!

Pre-Registration on Friday night - July 26 or by mail.

Friday July 26, 2013

07:00 pm Pre-Registration

07:00 pm Meet & Greet - coffee & snacks

08:00 pm Door Prizes for early attendance

Saturday July 27, 2013 - (all day) - Great Door Prizes!

08:00 - 09:00 - Vendor set up

09:00 - 12:00 - Flea Market

12:01 pm - Lunch - Flea Market closes

12:30 pm - take down/ move tables & setup for SARL Meeting

1:00 - 2:30 - SARL Meeting

2:30 - 3:15 - Group Picture/ break

3:15 - 4:15 - DStar - Devon VE5DWR

4:15 - 5:15 - Balloon Project, Saskatoon ARC - Bruce VA5BNC

5:15 - 5:45 (if time permits) KX3 - The Elecraft QRP HF rig - VE5KC:

Approx. 6:00 pm (could run a bit longer)

- Final draws for major door prizes

- Rough Riders Display Football

- Baofeng Dual Band HT - door prize

- Draw for Baofeng Dual Band HT raffle

-Draw for any remaining prizes

- wrap up and closing

- clean up of hall

Battlefords Area Repeater Information

(Primary Repeaters)

Call	Frequency	Location	Tone
VE5BRC-1	147.240 (+600)	Battleford	Tone
VE5BRC	146.880 (-600)	South of Battleford	none
VA5LLR	145.390 (-600)	Lizard Lake	none

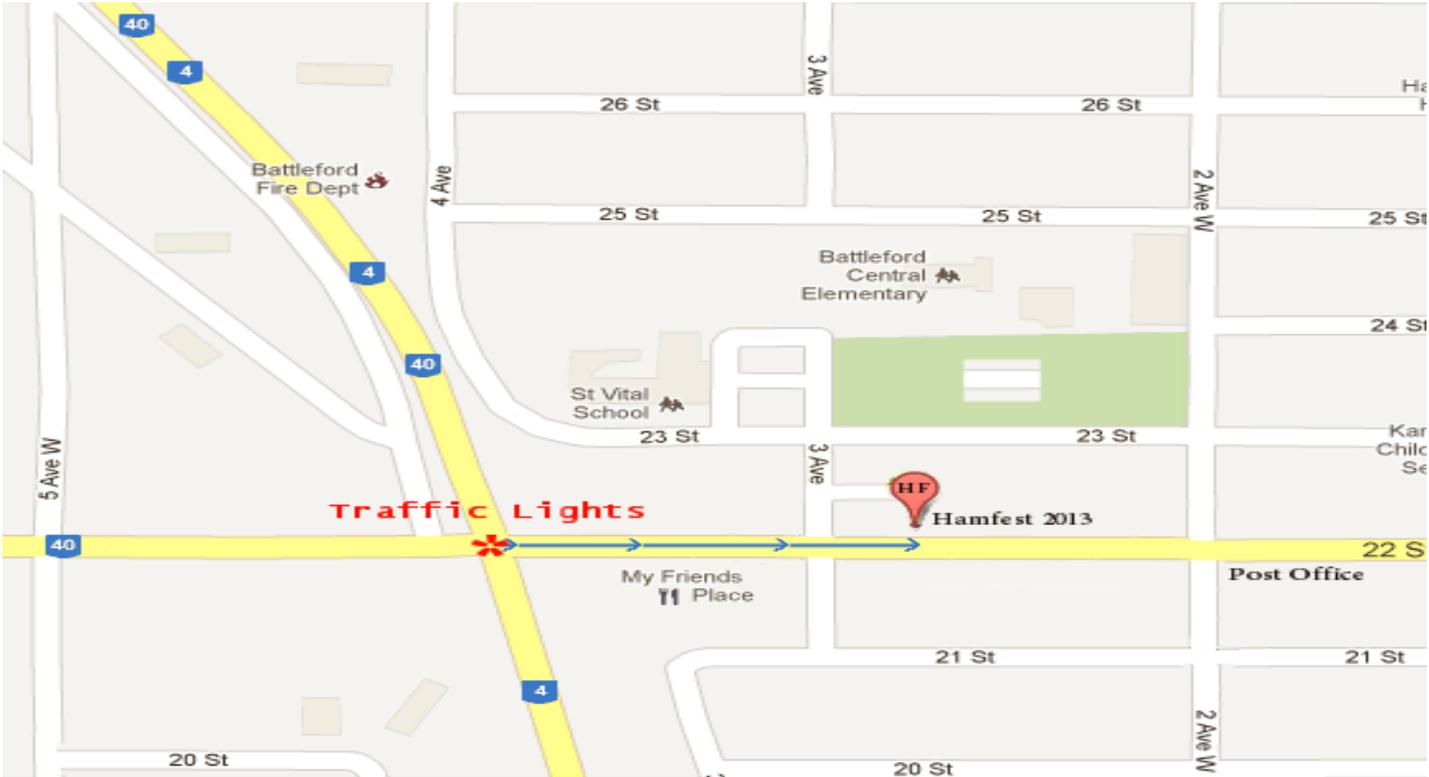
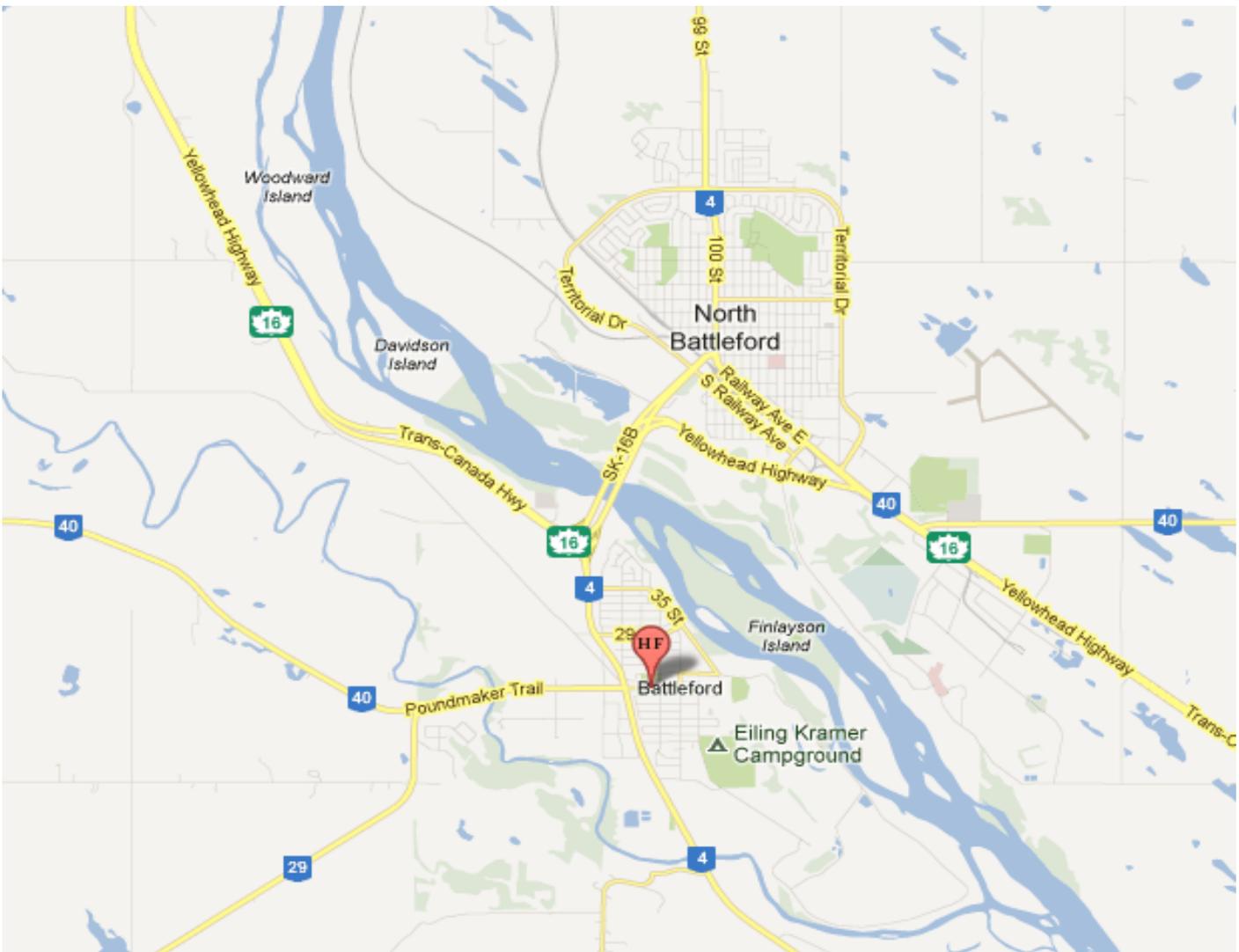
(between Saskatoon & Battlefords)

Talk in frequency for Hamfest. 147.240

(If repeater not working, 146.520 simplex)

<http://ham-radio.ca/pages/sask-hamfest/2013.php>







PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From the “Last Mountain” I shall write up my observations of hamdom in Saskatchewan in “ought thirteen”. This is the mid year installment.

The repeater on the mountain was getting more and more disagreeable with the advancing weeks, and by May, something had to be done. Using it meant that one had to make sure the elements of the QSO were passed swiftly because after the machine had been operating for about three minutes, the sensitivity seemed to diminish and all manner of noises would put an end to any further use. That story reminds me of the telephone system when I was a kid, long distance calls were rare and treasured events. Sometimes the lines were noisy making communication difficult and the adults were always conscious of that unseen “clock” running, somewhere, dropping quarters down a slot, the total number to appear on the following month’s statement. Consequently, little visiting of the kind we know went on over the long distance wires. Mostly, greetings, the reason for the call and a hurried goodbye were the order of

priority.

We use the modern “long distance” service daily and hardly think about how it was developed and the cost is a mere fraction of what it once was. When cousin Laurelie was visiting us from New Zealand nearly 20 years ago, she noticed my tri-band beam and said that her father was a long time ham and maybe we could arrange a QSO. I thought that this would be a chance encounter at best because I had not heard a ZL station for many years on 20 metres. Laurelie phoned her father Brad, ZL1FF and made a sked for 20 metres at a time that I considered most likely for success. He was using a FT-101 feeding a long wire held up by apple trees, but we did have a QSO that afternoon and at least one more after that. Brad was an old CW operator from generations past so we did have to resort to that mode before the QSO ended.

This past weekend marked annual Radio Amateur Field Day. I have heard from a few participants and the reports describe a quite enjoyable exercise. I was able to visit the site of the Regina Amateur Radio

Association’s field day set up near the Science Centre and Wascana Lake. I spoke with a few of the operators on the Sunday morning shift. The physical set up was well done with a real antenna farm that had been erected on short notice but appeared to have a lot of planning involved. Stalwarts Terry and Doug were busy keeping the reports going out but they reported there had been some new operators on shift Saturday and expected them back on Sunday morning. Field day is quite a good training experience for new hams.

The annual General Meeting of the S.A.R.L is to be held during the Battleford Hamfest on July 27th. Everyone is welcome to attend and voice concerns and maybe learn more about what other members are thinking and concerned about in the world of Amateur Radio. Thanks everyone, see you there, 73

GORDON, VE5UJ

SOUTH-WEST REPORT

Hello everyone,
Well here we are almost at the end of June, time is moving along faster than want. I have to say that when spring arrived here in the Southwest it actually stayed Spring and now Summer has officially begun. Lately this area has received some much needed rainfall, we were a little dry in May in spite of all the snow that we had . Seeding around here went well for the most part and all the crops are doing well. I was actively involved with spring seeding this year as I was offered a job on a fairly large farm not far from where I live. It happened to be a former co-worker that used to work at the Research Station about 17 years ago. I actually found it quite enjoyable to be back on tractor again since I was a farmer before I became an electrician. The man I am working with says good farm help is hard to find these days especially someone who you can trust with the large modern machinery. That said, I have been asked to come back in the fall to help with harvest which I said I would.

June 22 and 23 the annual Kite Festival was held here in Swift Current on the south hill. After calling for some rain on those days we only got a shower at the start then it cleared off for the most part for the remainder of the event. It was a huge success and there were large crowds in attendance for both days. The wind was moderate to strong and all who had a kite had fun flying them. Ray VE5XRA and his

daughter were there flying their own kites that they had built themselves. It was amazing to watch them co-ordinate their kites through all sorts of acrobatic maneuvers. Ray offered me a lesson on his so I took him up on it ,it was a lot of fun. A fun filled time was had by all and the weather couldn't have turned out any better. I got to chat with a few more hams at the kite fest Bill VE5XT, Shara VE5AF and Tejas VE5TEJ

The summer calendar is starting to fill up fast . We are planning a couple of short trips before harvest begins ,one of which will be to North Battleford to the ham fest on the 27th of July. While on this topic I want to thank VE5KC and his group for coming forward at the last minute to host and organize this event. We are looking forward to being there and getting to visit with everyone. I want to wish everyone a very nice and safe summer holiday and will see you at the ham fest.

73 KEN VE5BI

NORTH-WEST REPORT

The Northeast region has had a relatively busy start into this year of Amateur Radio. This spring, the local EMO put on an event in the Tisdale Mall parking lot aimed at making the public aware of the services and equipment available to the community in case of emergency. It was great to see all the Amateur Radio Operators who were a part of this. Hams were represented in the Red Cross, the Fire Department, the EMS

operators, transportation operators and, of course, the EMO itself. It appears that Radio Amateurs are excellent volunteers for the benefit of their community. Local Amateurs provided communications for the area's "MS Walk" event, which raised over \$11000. Later the hams came out again to provide security and communications for the local "Relay for Life" event which raised over \$140,000 even though the rainy season forced it indoors. Well done, Amateurs! We really need to "blow our own horns" more. While we contribute a great deal to our communities, the general public continues to be quite unaware of our existence. We are fortunate, in the Tisdale area, that our local EMO is a strong supporter of Amateur Radio to the extent that they completely underwrite the costs associated with our repeater.

Near the end of June, several hams from Tisdale and Melfort came out for a Ham-B-Q at the home of VE5FL and VE5FX and were able to enjoy an outdoor evening around the fire without getting rained on.

The local repeaters are working: Tisdale recently was forced to replace the station's antenna and the finals in the transmitter, and it seems to work well once again. I understand that Nipawin is still experiencing some IRLP issues on the link with Tisdale and Melfort's repeater, while transmitting very well, is still extremely hard of hearing and continues to defy efforts to

solve that problem.

The XYL and I wish you all the best for the summer and look forward to the get together at Battlefords Ham Fest.

BJ. MADSEN - VE5FX

FINES FOR IMPROPER USE OF AMATEUR RADIO

All amateurs should be aware of the following where is in the Canada gazette and is now in effect. <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2012/2012-11-21/html/sor-dors236-eng.html>

More changes to Radiocommunication

Please find below, the information regarding the repealing of the previous legislation governing the use of obscene or profane language.

In regard to the use of profane or obscene language, Section 32, of the Radiocommunication Regulations, which had previously contained a prohibition against these activities, has been repealed as of October 17, 2011. There is therefore no longer any prohibition in regard to the use of profane or obscene language.

Owing to the loss of this prohibition, it now falls to the Amateur Community to promote the discouragement of these practices which may result in the creation of a significant barrier toward the use of Amateur Radio by young amateurs, families and to the promotion of the hobby to both new and existing

operators.

In regard to the willful interference to Radiocommunications: Section 9.1 (b) of the Radiocommunication Act, states in part that:

"No person shall"... "(b) without lawful excuse, interfere with or obstruct any Radiocommunication;"

Due to the limited resources available to the Department, enforcement action is prioritized according to the perceived over-all impact to the Radio Frequency Spectrum. Safety, Emergency, Broadcast, Government and Commercial services are afforded priority for these resources. The Amateur Radio Service has been for the most part, considered to be a self-policing service.

Most operators tend to operate well within the rules and regulations and the Amateur Community has been known to be quite effective in curtailing the majority of illegal practices by operators.

In the event that such self-policing should prove ineffective, the Department may determine that enforcement action is required in order to obtain compliance.

It is in the best interest of the Amateur Community to promote the self-policing model among its members.

REGARDS,

CHANTAL DICKIE

Amateur Radio Service Centre | Centre de service pour la radio amateur
Spectrum Management Operations Branch

DIRECTORS NOTE:

So now we know where we stand as amateurs once again. We need to take care of ourselves first and act as gentlemen and ladies.

73 DEREK HAY MID-WEST DIRECTOR

MOOSE JAW AND AREA

Well summer is here. We did miss out on spring, but who's really complaining. We (Val and I) got our garden in before we went camping,

and those spuds sure did grow and so did the weeds, but Val now has them under control.

The Seniors Radio Club had their last monthly supper in May, and will resume again in September. Some of the members from what I understand helped out at a couple of events at the WDM, so our thanks goes out to them for answering the call.

Other than that, nothing new in the area, things pretty quiet during the summer months. Hope to see as many of you as possible at the ham fest in Battlefords July 26th.

73 HARV VE5AC

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS



Well, this is just a short message this time around, as everyone is busy with summer holiday plans, which I

hope include the ham fest. I hope that the information on the first 3 1/2 pages help everyone out if they are planning on attending. I made the maps as big as I could and you can also go to <http://ham-radio.ca/pages/sask-hamfest/2013.php>

For more information. I have the link also on the SARL website: www.sarl.ca

The deadline for the next issue of the QSO will be September 7th.

Please send me your articles, photo's and or stories. Our Directors can only write so much and input from our fellow members is greatly appreciated.

73 VAL EDITOR IN CHIEF (yep I am the big cheese)

SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

Well, Regina and Saskatoon held classes again this past winter and that gave us 11 more members for SARL, and then I had 2 come to my QTH to write their exams and that brought us up to 13. Then I received an email

from Randy Canning VE5QU informing me of his son who received his licence so now we are up to 14. A couple of days ago, I receive another email from Harvey Drinkle VE5AD and low and behold we now have 1 more. So our total of new hams is 15. This is all wonderful news and the best part is that we only have 4 Silent Keys this year, 2 of whom were SARL members. My thanks go out to the clubs who are dedicated to teaching more students the wonderful hobby of Amateur Radio. By the way, 2 of the new hams are 12 years old.

Other than that nothing else to report, just hope everyone is having a great summer. Hope the mosquitoes are not too big and bothersome, and realistically winter was not that cold, lots of snow yes, but cold no. I think we might have a problem!

See as many of you as possible at the Ham fest. I will be at the SARL table taking people's renewal money—so don't spend it all on the treasures—



see me first, hi hi

PROVINCIAL NETS					
Name	Date	Sessions	Check-ins	Traffic	Bulletins
IRLP 9300	May	23	728	64	14
	June	15	468	51	12
Avonlea ARG 147.0600-	May	31	195	0	0
Sask Evening Phone/CW 3.735					
Sask Wx Net 3.753					
Ares					
TOTALS		48	1301	115	26