

The Tantramar

May, 2005

Westcumb Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



Next Meeting

Wed., May 4, 2005

E.D. Fullerton Bldg.

7:00 pm

Club Executive

President - Jim Milner, VE1VIA

Past President - Rick Sullivan, VE9RWS

V. President - Lloyd Smith, VA1MAB

Secretary - Ron Bickle, VE1BIC

Treasurer - Mike Embree, VE1MY

Publisher - Peter Hebb, VE1CCL

W.A.R.C. Homepage -

<http://www.westcumb.com>

W.A.R.C. REGULAR MEETING – April 06, 2005

The Meeting was brought to order at 7:09 p.m. with President Jim Milner (VE1 VIA) in the chair. Twenty-four members and guests were present.

Minutes From the Last Meeting:

The minutes from the March Meeting were approved as circulated in the April Newsletter. Moved/seconded by Mike (VE1 MY)/Jim (VE1 CHI) that the minutes be accepted as published.

Business Arising From the Minutes:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike (VE1MY) reported a current balance of \$1088.10 including \$22.50 in the Bursary Fund. It was moved/seconded by Mike (VE1 MY)/Willard (VE1 WJH) that the treasurer's report be accepted.

Correspondence:

The Club received newsletters "The Reflector" from the HARC, and "Hot Bananas" from the Oakville, Ontario club.

An e-mail was received from Dave (VE9 FQJ) with permission for WARC members to use the Moncton IRLP node 2805 (147.345).

Field Day:

The 2005 Field Day Committee consists of Jim (VE1 AFH); Peter (VE1 CCL); Ron (VE1 BIC); and Rick (VE9 RWS). Field day is June 25-26, 2005 and will be held at the Robb's Centennial Complex on LaPlanche Street, Amherst. Willard (VE1 WJH) reported that the Cumberland Car Club will allow the WARC to set up next to their Car Show, and look after security. The new banner for Field Day and other Club activities was displayed. It was purchased from Access Labels in East Amherst and features red vinyl lettering and a yellow and black WARC crest. Thanks were extended to the members who were responsible for designing and obtaining the banner: VE1 CCL, VE1 BIC, VE1 CHI, VE1 AFH, VE1 JSP, VE1 WJH, VA1 MAB, VE1 ZS and VE1 MY, and especially VE1 EDP.

Education:

Jim (VE1 AFH) reported that he had prepared cards containing the two \$100 Student Bursaries. This year's recipients will be students from River Hebert District High and Tantramar Regional High in Sackville, who will be going on to study technology.

Publicity:

Jim (VE1 AFH) is working on an article on the WARC and EMO to be submitted to The Canadian Amateur. Ron (VE1 BIC) has consulted with Eastlink Television about covering Field Day.

Public Service:

Frank (VE1 FSM) and Mike (VE1 MY) will be coordinating the Club's participation in the annual Cedar Crest Music Festival for the I.W.K. It will be held on John Gilroy's property on the Stanley Road in Salem on July 8, 9 and 10, 2005.

Newsletter/Web page:

Peter (VE1 CCL) reported no problems with the newsletter.

Jim (VE1 CHI) reported the WARC website at <http://www.westcumb.com> is still undergoing "growing pains". It is hosted on the Municipality of Cumberland server. More features will be added in the coming months. It was suggested that the Newsletter could be made available in HTML to make it easier to view on-line.

E.M.O:

Jim (AFH) reported he had attended a workshop on satellite telephones. Seven units will be available for Cumberland County, including two for each Ground Search & Rescue unit, and one for the Advocate Fire Department to use in the Cape Chignecto area, where there is little or no VHF, TMR or cellular coverage. A training night will be held in the near future. A revised list of club-owned items in the EMO room has been prepared and will be posted on the webpage and in the Newsletter. Jim said the plan is to have all the older Club gear replaced by EMO gear, which will be constantly kept up-to-date by the County. The ongoing Antenna Project will be installing a Larsen 5/8 whip at the new County Elementary School in Brookdale. An antenna is also planned for the Amherst Red Cross office on Church Street.

The local Red Cross and the WARC will be involved in "Exercise Sandpiper" (originating out of HRM) on April 9-10. Jim (AFH) will be at the EMO room at 9:00 am using TMR, Ham and Red Cross frequencies. VE1 BHS will be linked to the Airport repeater, and to Newfoundland using Echolink.

Jim (VE1 VIA) reported on a successful work party at the EMO room on Easter Monday. On hand were "The Three Jims" (JBL, VIA and AFH) also Willard (VE1 WJH), Lloyd (VA1 MAB), Al (VE1 ZS), Mike (VE1 MY), Bruce (VE1 VH), Lorne (VE1 BXK) and Elaine, Peter (VE1 CCL) and Cody Harris. ZS printed labels for the equipment and coax cables, BXK, JBL and MAB worked on Packet and the Harris HF radio. MAB got the Packet working but had no responses. Jim (AFH) organized the surplus telco test gear, and Cody worked on the surplus computer equipment to be auctioned off at the April meeting.

N.S.A.R.A:

Jim (VE1 AFH) will be attending the next meeting in June.

Net:

Rick (VE9 RWS) reported no problems with the Monday night net on VE1 BHS (145.350). He thanked Al (VE1 ZS) for being Net Controller the previous Monday.

Repeaters:

Brad (VE1 ZX) reported the Springhill repeater (VE1 SPR) was still being tested, but should be operational in a few weeks. The VHF section was working fine, but parts are needed for the

UHF side.

Lloyd (VA1 MAB) said he was having trouble hitting the Salem repeater (VE1 WRC) from many areas of Amherst. He said this has been going on for the past five years, regardless of the location of the repeater. He suggested trying another frequency.

Brad (ZX) replied that there is a lot of paging equipment at the Salem site.

Bruce (VE1 ABC) said if the "local" repeater is not working, we are going to lose members.

Jim (VE1 AFH) noted that if you try to lessen the noise by adjusting the squelch you lose sensitivity. You can only have one or the other, not both. It has always been a problem with that machine.

Al (ZS) made a motion to replace the WRC repeater, seconded by Brad (ZX).

Ron (VE1 BIC) reminded the members that it had been brought up at the last meeting that there was a plan to replace the WRC repeater next year, when funds permitted. Motion withdrawn.

Brad (ZX) asked if we could contact Ron (VE1 AIC) about getting a new frequency.

Jim (AFH) said we have already been given a spare frequency by the NSARA.

Ron (BIC) suggested that we wait and try the new frequency when the repeater is replaced next year.

Social:

The next Brunch will be held at 11:00 am on April 16th at Patterson's, and on May 14th in Parrsboro – probably at the Glooscap Beverage Room. The 50-50 was \$20.50 and was won by Nelson (VE9 NEL).

Lunch for the March 2005 meeting:

Sandwiches – Jim (VE1 AFH) – Sweets- Jim (VE1 JSP)

Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Jim (VE1 VIA) brought up the subject of replacement battery packs for handheld radios. Frank (VE1 FSM) has offered to rebuild the packs for about 25 kc. Anyone wanting more information can contact Frank.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 04, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cumberland County Municipal Building.

Adjournment: at 9:10 p.m.

Ron Bickle (VE1 BIC) Secretary.

Notes

Brunch - In April 16 our brunch was held at Patterson's Restaurant in Sackville, N.B. We had 19 people in attendance. The next brunch (our last for the season) will be held at the Glooscap Bar & Grill in Parrsboro on May 14.

April's Auction - After the April meeting an auction was held to clear out the surplus equipment in our Radio room at the E.D. Fullerton Building. It was a fun time and everything went except for the Yaseu FT-101 HF rig. There is some interest in this rig, so I don't think it will stay around for very long.

Congratulations - Cody Harris and Mike Roberts wrote and passed their Basic Amateur license. Cody's call sign is VE1TUX. Robert's call is VA1MJR.

Terry McGee, wife of Jack, VE1CZD, Judy Milner, wife of Jim, VE1VIA & Stuart Colson, son of John, VE1JJC were presented with awards for volunteerism with the different organizations they are involved with. This took place one evening last week.

Correction - In last months newsletter I forgot a couple anniversaries -

Nelson Estabrooks, VE9NEL & Gloria - 1954
Jim Milner, VE1VIA & Judy - 1971

Guest Speaker - At our next meeting, Don Courcy, VE1CY from Industry Canada will be giving us a presentation which should be very interesting.

Red Cross Building - Joe MacPherson, VE1CH from NSARA has sent a radio and antenna to be installed on the Red Cross

Building in Amherst. This will be another to-do project for our club.

Birthdays

June 1 - Lloyd Smith, VA1MAB
4 - Rick Sullivan, VE9RWS
8 - Jim Perry, VE1JSP
12 - Bruce Sears, VE1VH
13 - Terry Craig, VE9TER
17 - Bill Anderson, VE9UH
30 - Willard Hudson, VE1WJH

Anniversaries

June 24 - Ron Bickle, VE1BIC & Wanda - 1989
27 - Jim Perry, VE1JSP & Eleanor - 1970
30 - Cliff Rose, VE1CBR & Joanne - 1990

Kitchen Korner

Busy Day Chicken Rice Casserole

1 cup uncooked rice
1 pkg onion soup mix
3 cups water
paprika to taste
1 cup cream of chicken or mushroom soup
1 chicken or breasts, cut up and salted

Mix rice, soups and water & place in a large casserole. Place chicken (if not skinless, skin side down) on rice mixture. Sprinkle with paprika. Bake covered for 1 hour at 350 deg F. Turn chicken over and bake uncovered for 1 hour at 350 deg F. Stir rice occasionally.

Upcoming Events

May 4 - W.A.R.C. meeting - 7:00 pm - E.D. Fullerton Bldg.

May 14 - Brunch - Glooscap Bar & Grill, Parrisboro - 11:00 am

June 1 - W.A.R.C. meeting - 7:00 pm - E.D. Fullerton Bldg.

June 11 - Downeast Flea Market -

Location - Halifax Forum

Admission - \$3.00

Doors open - 9:00 am

Talk in freq. - 147.27+ VE1PSR

June 25 - 26 - Field Day

Location - Robb's Centennial Park on LePlanche St., Amherst.

July 9 - 10 - Cedar Crest Music Festival on Stanley Rd.

More details will be in the next newsletter.

Funny Stuff

Subject: The Amazing/ Confusing English Language

If you ever feel stupid, then just read on. If you've learned to speak fluent English, you must be a genius! This little treatise on the lovely language we share is only for the brave. Peruse at your leisure, English lovers.

Reasons why the English language is so hard to learn:

1) The bandage was wound around the

wound.

2) The farm was used to produce produce.

3) The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.

4) We must polish the Polish furniture.

5) He could lead if he would get the lead out.

6) The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.

7) Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.

8) A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum

9) When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

10) I did not object to the object.

11) The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

12) There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.

13) They were too close to the door to close it.

14) The buck does funny things when the does are present.

15) A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.

16) To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.

17) The wind was too strong to wind the sail

18) After a number of injections my jaw got number.

19) Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

20) I had to subject the subject to a series of tests

21) How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

Quicksand works slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2

geese. So one moose, 2 meese? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? Is it an odd, or an end?

If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship?

Have noses that run and feet that smell?

How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out, and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all.

That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.