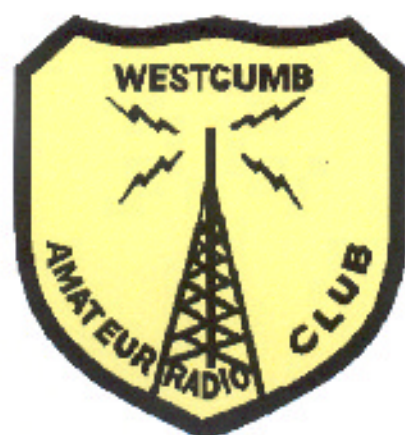


The Tantramar

June, 2007

Westcumb Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



Next Meeting

Wed., June 6, 2007
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 - Jim Hannon, VE1AFH

Publisher - Peter Hebb, VE1SM

W. A. R. C. Homepage - <http://www.westcumb.ca>

W.A.R.C. REGULAR MEETING – May 02, 2007

The Meeting was brought to order at 7:07 p.m. with Vice-President Lloyd (VA1 MAB) in the chair. Thirteen members and guests were present.

Minutes From the Last Meeting:

The minutes from the April meeting were approved as published in the May Newsletter.

Corrections: In the Repeater report it said that Lorne (VE1 BXK) was also planning to set up a 10 meter packet station – when in fact it should have read a “10 meter repeater”.

Also, under Field Day - the Field Day Committee be authorized to purchase a Windom antenna, up to a cost of \$200.00 and Jim (VE1 CHI) volunteered to order it on behalf of the Club.

And under Webpage – it stated that Jim (VE1 CHI) had arranged with Leonard MacDonald at the County Office to use the new name “westcumb.ca” through the service known as “no_IP.org” – but the new domain name was not arranged through that service. It was done through the service used by the County.

It was moved/seconded by Peter (VE1 SM)/Bob (VE1 EDP) that the minutes be approved.

Business Arising From the Minutes:

Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Jim (VE1 AFH) reported a bank balance of \$1,027.80. The approximately \$450.00 in the Bursary Fund will be used for two \$200.00 bursaries this year –one to Amherst Regional High School and one to Oxford Regional High School.

It was moved/seconded by Nelson (VE9 NEL)/Jim (VE1 CHI) that the treasurer's report be accepted.

Correspondence:

Peter (VE1 SM) has received the usual newsletter from the Halifax ARC.

A thankyou letter was received from Roger (VE1 RV) for the Club membership, WARC crest and cheque he received from the Club for his help in transporting some equipment from Ontario.

A letter of thanks was received from the Municipality of Cumberland for the Club's participation in the Municipal day Open House.

Letters were also received from the two schools involved in the Club Bursaries this year.

Field Day:

Jim (VE1 CHI) brought in the Windom antenna that cost \$117.45 (US) \$135.89 (CDN).

Brad (VE1 ZX) reported that the two new 100-ft cables are all made up.

Jim (VE1 CHI) suggested using the Windom antenna diagonally during Field Day, as it is omni-directional. He has been going through the rules and suggested several ways the Club could gain more points. Bonus points are awarded for such things as using 100 percent emergency power, and getting media publicity.

Brad (VE1 ZX) reminded the Club members about security at the Field Day site.

Final details are to be discussed at the June meeting.

Education:

Jim (VE1 AFH) reported that a Basic Emergency Management Awareness course was going to be

held in Springhill on Saturday May 05. The course will be held at the Salvation Army Hall at 98 Main Street starting at 9:30 am. No registration is needed.

Publicity:

Ron (VE1 BIC) said as part of the Field Day arrangements we would invite our local M.P. to attend the event.

Public Service:

The Dave MacAulay 5K “folly” run was planned for 2 p.m. Sunday May 06 in Sackville. Rick (VE9 RWS) said they had four Club members helping with communications in 2006 using the Fairfield repeater. Volunteers are needed for this year’s event.

Jim (VE1 JBL) asked about the status of the antenna at the Red Cross office. Jim (VE1 AFH) said he and Al (VE1 ZS) would try to get it replaced in the next week or so.

Peter (VE1 SM) reported that the radio in the Red Cross van was now working.

Jim (VE1 JBL) suggested that when we get the mobile packet system working, it could be used during the Red Cross Net. Jim (VE1 AFH) said they hoped to have a surplus laptop computer available soon for the EMO Radio Room, which would be used for packet.

Jim (VE1 CHI) said he had a line on a packet TNC for about \$100.00.

Peter (VE1 SM) also suggested the Red Cross Net using the Echolink facility at the County Building. Brad (VE1 ZX) reported the Red Cross Net had received a mobile check-in on HF.

Newsletter

Peter (VE1 SM) said he had to have his computer upgraded, but it had not caused any problems with doing the Newsletter.

Web page

Jim (VE1 CHI) reported on the recent changes to the Club Webpage, which is now at www.westcumb.ca

He had contacted Leonard MacDonald at the county Office on Tuesday about the I.P. numbers showing up in the browser address box instead of the domain name.

Rick (VE9 RWS) said he was having trouble getting on using the domain name, but it worked if you put in the I.P. numbers.

Ron (VE1 BIC) said he had received an e-mail from Cody (VE1 TUX) who suggested they could have been a cheaper way to register the domain name, although the decision was made by the County on behalf of the Club and we had no choice but to go along with that. He said it might cost more in the long run, but it would be safer to let the County handle it from now on, since the Club Webpage was being hosted on the County’s server.

Jim (VE1 CHI) said he was able to do some updates to the Webpage while using his laptop while on vacation in Maine, but later had problems making changes using his desktop computer. He has since solved the problem. He thanked Rick (VE9 RWS) and Lloyd (VA1 MAB) for their photos of the Municipal Day Open House.

E.M.O:

Jim (VE1 AFH) reported they were still planning an exercise with Maritimes And Northeast Pipeline, possibly in September.

N.S.A.R.A.:

Jim (VE1 AFH) said the winner of the NSARA March 11 contest was Merle Taylor (VE1 VCI) of Lochaber NS.

Net:

Rick (VE9 RWS) reported there had been plenty of check-ins on the Monday Night Net.

Brad (VE1 ZX) suggested bringing up the VE1 WRC repeater as well, and went over the link pathway.

Rick (VE9 RWS) said it was good to have VE1 PAR connected as it helped some amateurs in the Valley to be part of the Net.

Repeaters:

Brad (VE1 ZX) reported that he and Jim (VE1 AFH) and Lorne (VE1 BXK) had changed some cables at the VE1 WRC site at the new tower in Salem. They found that the IRLP UHF link radio was using the wrong antenna and fixed the problem. On May 13 they plan to move some of the equipment to a different location in the tower building.

Social:

The next Brunch will take place at 11:00 am on May 26 at the Harbourview Restaurant in Parrsboro.

In June, the Brunch will be at Patterson's in Sackville – date TBA.

The winner of the May 50-50 draw (\$16.50) was Ron (VE1 BIC)

Jim (VE1 AFH) said he had misplaced the certificates from the Newfoundland Amateur Radio Club to be presented to local Amateurs for helping with communications. They will be presented at a later date.

Draws were made from the 50-50 tickets for tokens of appreciation from the Municipality of Cumberland for the Club's participation in the Municipal Day Open House.

Sick & Visiting:

Nothing to report.

Lunch for the June 2007 meeting:

Sandwiches - Bob (VE1 EDP)

Carrot Cake – Jim (VE1 VIA)

It was moved/seconded by Jim (VE1 CHI)/Rick (VE9 RWS) that the carrot cake will still be provided even if the President was unable to attend the June meeting!

Unfinished Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

Jim (VE1 CHI) reported that the FCC in the US was trying to reduce QRM by setting standards for voice speeds. This, the FCC said, would reduce "long boring conversations". After some discussion, Club members decided that due to the date of the release (April 01) that the matter was probably a joke.

Brad (VE1 ZX) recalled another humorous April Fool's Day incident a few years ago involving the "proposed" move of the Halifax Fleamarket to Moncton.

Jim (VE1 JBL) provided a rundown on Exercise Storm Surge, which was planned for May 31, 2007.

Jim (VE1 AFH) said he would like to see the EMO Radio Room be part of the exercise.

Jim (VE1 CHI) said they should try to use the 2-meter packet system as well.

Rick (VE9 RWS) reminded anyone involved that they should remember to say “exercise, exercise, exercise” during any transmissions.

Doug (VE9 IZ) gave a detailed overview of tentative plans for an International Air Rally to be held in Moncton from July 05-08. Amateur Radio Operators in the area were being recruited by the “Codiac Amateur Radio Group” to help with transportation and communications. The group is not affiliated with any Amateur Radio clubs. George (VE9 GFD) and Angus (VE9 MCD) are also part of the group. Plans were to be finalized at a meeting of all parties on June 27.

Details are available at www.copanational.org

Doug also reported there were four new Amateur Radio operators in the Moncton area, and that the Duke Of Edinburgh Awards were being presented in Moncton on May 12.

There is also a UHF Net operating on Sundays at noon on 449.325 (VE9 SHM)

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 06, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cumberland County Municipal Building.

Adjournment: at 8:50 p.m.

Ron Bickle (VE1 BIC) Secretary.

Notes

Halifax Flea Market - This year's flea market seemed to be a success again this year. There were 90 tables. Some like Durham Radio, etc. had several. I helped out with The Old Timers Club table. We had about 15 people sign in. Both Jim, VE1CHI & Brad had, VE1ZX had tables with some goodies.

Brunch - For the month of May we held our brunch in Parrsboro at the Harbour View Restaurant. There was a good turnout with 15 people in attendance. This is our last brunch for this season as we do not hold one in June. The next brunch will be in September.

Field Day - Things seem to be coming together for Field Day. We still need more people to help out with this event. We have purchased a new Windom antenna and we have new transmission line as well. We are going to try to do some CW this year if at all possible. We will still only use one transmitter. The location this year remains the same - The Robb's Field which we share with the Antique Car Show. All in all, it should be a good time.

Birthdays

July 3 - Abbie Ross, VE1BFB
6 - Bruce Smith, VE1ABC
8 - Louise Nolan, VE1ABI
13 - Pat Hughes, VE9PH
14 - Rob Ireland, VE1KM
17 - Al Christie, VE1ZS
29 - John Colson, VE1JJC

Aug. 7 - Irene Wheaton, VE1CF
15 - Paul Follini, VE1SS
24 - Gerry Hannah, VE1KW
26 - Wanda Bickle
28 - Faye Haley
29 - Odette Gibbons

Sept. 1 - Duane Sears, VE9DRS
7 - Bill Durant, VE9JMP
8 - Cliff Rose, VE1CBR
14 - Gerry Gallant
14 - Peter Hebb, VE1SM
24 - Cody Harris, VE1TUX
27 - Ed Hart, VE9ES
28 - Terry McGee

Anniversaries

July 6 - Bruce Smith, VE1ABC & Gayle - 1957
12 - Paul Follini, VE1SS & Maida - 1964
24 - Gaius Dobson, VE1AVV & Darlene - 1982
30 - Willard Hudson, VE1WJH & Donna - 1966

Aug. - 3 - Bill Wheaton, VE1CFK & Irene, VE1CF - 1943
13 - Terry Craig, VE9TER & Peggy - 1985

Sept. - 6 - Jim Hannon, VE1AFH & Carol, VE1RCH - 1974
6 - Gerry Hannah, VE1KW & Kay, VE1YH - 1958
6 - David Jones, VE1DWJ & Jane - 1964
14 - Bill Durant, VE9JMP & Paulette - 1963
19 - Lou Garrett, VE1JLG & Irna - 1967
21 - Bill Anderson, VE9UH & Ruth - 1951
21 - Lloyd Smith, VA1MAB & Marge - 1957
23 - Les Day, VE1CEF & Jennie - 1944

Important

Subject: Fw: VERY IMPORTANT ABOUT AREA CODE

We actually received a call last week from the 809 area code. The woman said "Hey, this is Karen. Sorry I missed you--get back to us quickly. I Have something important to tell you." Then she repeated a phone number beginning with 809 . "We didn't respond".

Then this week, we received the following e-mail:

Subject: DON'T EVER DIAL AREA CODE 809 , 284 AND 876

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION PROVIDED TO US BY AT&T. DON'T EVER DIAL AREA CODE 809

This one is being distributed all over the US This is pretty scary, especially given the way they try to get you to call. Be sure you read this and pass it on.

They get you to call by telling you that it is information about a family member who has been ill or to tell you someone has-been arrested, died, or to let you know you have won a wonderful prize, etc.

In each case, you are told to call the 809 number right away. Since there are so many new area codes these days, people unknowingly return these calls.

If you call from the US , you will apparently be charged \$2425 per-minute.

Or, you'll get a long recorded message. The point is, they will try to keep you on the phone as long as possible to increase the charges.

Unfortunately, when you get your phone bill, you'll often be charged more than \$24,100.00.

WHY IT WORKS:

The 809 area code is located in the British Virgin Islands (The Bahamas).

The charges afterwards can become a real nightmare.

That's because you did actually make the call. If you complain, both your local phone company and your long distance carrier will not want to get involved and will most likely tell you that they are simply providing the billing for the foreign company. You'll end up dealing with a foreign company that argues they have done nothing wrong.

Please forward this entire message to your friends, family and colleagues to help them become aware of this scam

Sandi Van Handel
AT&T Field Service Manager
(920)687-904

Additional information on these area codes can be found from ATT at:

1. <http://www.consumer.att.com/consumertips/areacode.html>

Sharon Foster
Service Manager
R V World
15 Chaparral Rd
Waasis ,N.B. E3B 9Z4
Ph - 506-446-3799
Fax - 506-446-6034
E-mail - sharon.foster@rvworld.nb.ca

Upcoming Events

June 6 - W.A.R.C. Meeting - E. D. Fullerton Bldg. - 7:00 pm

June 23-24 - Field Day - Robb's Field, Amherst, N.S. - Set up - 10:00 am. Please help with this event if at all possible.

July 21 - PEI Flea Market - Summerside - Wilmot Community Centre - Admission - \$2.00

Kitchen Korner

Cream of Carrot Soup

4 cups peeled & cut up carrot
2 cups chicken stock
1 cup chopped onions
3 tbsp butter or margarine
3 tbsp all purpose flour
1 tsp salt
1/8 tsp pepper
1/4 tsp seasoned salt

4 cups milk

Combine carrot, stock & onion in saucepan. Cook until vegetables are tender, Do not drain. Cool a bit, then run through blender & set aside. Melt butter in saucepan over medium heat, stir in flour salt & pepper then add milk. Heat & stir until it boils & thickens. Add carrot mixture.

Reheat & serve. Makes 7 cups.

To make a chowder, cook 1 1/3 cups diced potato along with the carrot & onion.

You can add 1/2 tsp curry powder with flour to make curried carrot soup.

This recipe taken from The Amateur Radio

Cookbook.

Funny Stuff

The Famous Sea Captain

Once upon a time there was a famous sea captain. This captain was very successful at what he did; for years he guided merchant ships all over the world. Never did stormy seas or pirates get the best of him. He was admired by his crew and fellow captains.

However, there was one thing different about this captain. Every morning he went through a strange ritual. He would lock himself in his captain's quarters and open a small safe. In the safe was an envelope with a piece of paper inside. He would stare at the paper for a minute, then lock it back up. After, he would go about his daily duties.

For years this went on, and his crew became very curious. Was it a treasure map? Was it a letter from a long lost love? Everyone speculated about the contents of the strange envelope..

One day the captain died at sea. After laying the captain's body to rest, the first mate led the entire crew into the captain's quarters. He opened the safe, got the envelope, opened it and...

The first mate turned pale and showed the paper to the others. Four words were on the paper, two on two lines:

"Port Left Starboard Right"

Remember - It was just about one year ago that Ron Bickle, VE1BIC had his accident.

He still walks with a little limp, but other than that he is OK.

The Rat, The Chicken & The Farmer

A rat looked through a crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife opening a package. What food might it contain? He was aghast to discover that it was a rat trap. Retreating to the farmyard the rat proclaimed the warning; "There is a rat trap in the house, a rat trap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Excuse me, Mr. Rat, I can tell this is a grave concern to you, but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The rat turned to the pig and told him, "There is a rat trap in the house, a rat trap in the house!"

"I am so very sorry Mr. Rat," sympathized the pig, "but there's nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured that you are in my prayers."

The rat turned to the cow. She said, "Like wow, Mr. Rat. A rat trap. I am in grave danger. Duh?"

So the rat returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's rat trap alone. That very night a sound was heard throughout the house, like the sound of a rat trap catching its prey.

The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see that it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught. The snake bit the farmer's wife. The farmer rushed her to the hospital.

She returned home with a fever. Now everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient. His wife's sickness continued so that friends and neighbors came to sit with her around

the clock. To feed them the farmer butchered the pig.

The farmer's wife did not get well. She died, and so many people came for her funeral that the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide meat for all of them to eat. So the next time you hear that someone is facing a problem and think that it does not concern you, remember that when there is a rat trap in the house, the whole farmyard is at risk.