

# The Tantramar

Sept, 2009

## Westcumb Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



### Next Meeting

Wed., Sept. 9, 2009

E. D. Fullerton Bldg.

7:00 pm

## Club Executive

President - Jim Langille, VE1JBL

V. President - Rob Ireland, VE9KM

Secretary - Ron Bickle, VE1BIC

Treasurer - Mike Embree, VE1MY

Publisher - Peter Hebb, VE1SM

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

## W.A.R.C. Annual General Meeting – September 03, 2008

The Meeting was brought to order at 7:04 p.m. with President Jim Langille (VE1 JBL) in the chair. Eighteen members were present.

### Minutes From Last AGM:

The minutes from the September 2007 Annual General Meeting (Part 1) and the continuation on October 03 2007 were approved after being read aloud by the Secretary. Moved/seconded by Ron (VE1 BIC)/Jim (VE1 CHI) that the minutes be approved.

### Business From Minutes:

Nothing to report.

### Treasurer's Report:

Mike (VE1 MY) was not in attendance, so his report was read by the President. It was moved/seconded by Rob (VE9 KM)/Jim (VE1 AFH) that the Treasurer's Report be approved.

### Nominating Committee Report:

Jim (VE1 CHI) chair of the Nominating Committee report, thanked Jim (VE1 AFH) and Bob (VE1 EDP) for serving on the committee.

Jim stated that he had made the rounds at the June 2008 meeting and had posted the Call For Nominations on the Website all summer. He was pleased to report that the 2007-2008 Executive had all re-offered for 2008-2009.

There being no further nominations, the WARC Executive for 2008-2009 shall consist of President: Jim Langille (VE1 JBL); Vice President: Rob Ireland, VE9KM);

Secretary: Ron Bickle (VE1 BIC) and Treasurer: Mike Embree (VE1 MY)

Peter Hebb (VE1 SM) will continue as Newsletter Editor, and Jim Cleveland (VE1 CHI) will continue as Webmaster for the next year.

The Trustees and the Repeater Committee shall continue with no changes.

### New Business:

Rob (VE9 KM) asked if the Club would be considering the option of charging higher dues for non-RAC members. Jim (VE1 JBL) replied that since the issue of purchasing Liability Insurance through the RAC had been tabled, we should leave the dues at \$15.00 single, \$20.00 family, and an additional \$10.00 for a membership in the NSARA.

Lloyd (VA1 MAB) asked "what defines a family membership?"

Jim (VE1 AFH) replied that it is more than one member from the same family. He stressed that all Amateur Radio Operators are welcome to attend any WARC meeting, but only paid members would be allowed to vote.

Motion to adjourn: moved/seconded by Brad (VE1 ZX)/Al (VE1 ZS).

Adjournment: at 7:24 p.m.

Ron Bickle (VE1BIC) Secretary.

## **W.A.R.C. REGULAR MEETING – June 03, 2009.**

The Meeting was brought to order at 7:07 p.m. with President Jim (VE1JBL) in the chair. Sixteen members and two guests were present. Regrets: Ed (VE9 ES)

Introductions were made around the table.

A minute of silence was observed in remembrance of Silent Key, Bruce Smith (VE1 ABC).

### **Minutes From the Last Meeting:**

The minutes from the May meeting were published in the Newsletter.

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

Motion carried.

### **Business Arising From the Minutes:**

The upcoming Community Fair at the Amherst Stadium was discussed. Ron (VE1 BIC); Peter (VE1 SM); Lloyd (VA1 MAB) and Jim (VE1 CHI) plan to be there.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's Report was not available as Mike (VE1 MY) was not in attendance.

Rick (VE9 RWS) reported he had the proceeds from the sale of items at the Halifax Fleamarket.

### **Correspondence:**

Jim (VE1 CHI) brought up a letter the Club had received from a "VE4" Amateur who was requesting assistance with obtaining some used equipment. After some discussion, it was decided to table the matter for the time being.

### **Field Day:**

Lloyd (VA1 MAB) is looking for operators for the 24-hour exercise to be held June 27-28, 2009. Al (VE1 ZS) has offered to be one of the operators for the overnight hours.

Jim (VE1 AFH) reported that work had begun on the new vertical antenna at the County Building. He said the long wire antenna would be modified, and the new radio had arrived.

He said that although he had to be away most of Saturday, he would make sure the supplies were ready, and there would be access to the building.

Jim (VE1 JBL) mentioned QSL cards at the Brit Fader QSL Bureau.

**Education:**

Nothing to report.

**Publicity:**

Ron (VE1 BIC) said he was planning on doing a newspaper article about upcoming activities a week or so before Field Day.

**Public Service:**

Peter (VE1 SM) said he was still taking part in the Red Cross Net on Thursdays.

Jim (VE1 JBL) reported he had been approached about providing radio coverage for the 10K Cross-Border Challenge Road Race on Saturday, July 04. Volunteers would be needed at three checkpoints and at the finish line at the Cumberland YMCA.

Ron (VE1 BIC); Jim (VE1 JBL) and Bob (VE1 EDP) will be in attendance.

Jim (VE1 AFH) suggested that we volunteer as individuals, and not as a Club, as there could be liability issues.

Jim (VE1 JBL) said we could offer to do the same for the annual Amherst Santa Claus Parade. He said we could bring it up in September.

Jim (VE1 CHI) asked about an e-mail that had been circulated about the list of club information to be sent to RAC.

**Newsletter**

Peter (VE1 SM) said everything was running OK.

Jim (VE1 CHI) noticed that the webpage address on the front page of the Newsletter was still showing the inoperable IP address.

**Web page**

Jim (VE1 CHI) we are still using the temporary site, but it has only a 40 MB limit, and also requires uploading one file at a time when making any changes.

**E.M.O:**

Jim (VE1 AFH) reported the new EMO nametags were ready.

He said "Exercise Good Luck" was being held the upcoming weekend in Cape Chignecto and will involve representatives from NS Public Safety. The RCMP will also be testing their communications truck. He said it is more of a communications exercise, and will be a good shakedown.

Jim said the station at Bayview Hospital in Advocate will need a better outside antenna. A new power supply has been added to the station at the Parrsboro hospital.

Brad (VE1 ZX) said the radio had a solid signal into the SPR repeater.

Jim (VE1 AFH) said the Pugwash Hospital will need to have the antenna cable moved, and he has suggested erecting a new antenna with a shorter cable. He said crystals are on order for the new repeater at the Springhill Hospital. The duplexers are in, and the VHF antennas will be added once the police department switches to digital.

Jim said he base is in for the new vertical antenna at the County Office, and the new Icom HF rig and Rig Blaster is ready to go. Lloyd (VA1 MAB) has tried out the radio. Work will also be done on the EMO radio room, including new workstations.

Jim said Kevin (VE1 KEV) was working on getting the portable packet system operational. It would be installed in a Pelican case and would include a laptop, power supply, Kenwood radio and TNC.

Bob (VE1 EDP) gave a rundown on Exercise Handshake, which usually happens on the last Tuesday of each month. He said they plan to continue through the summer months. Bob noted that we really need to get more people familiar with the TMR system, so they can work it without supervision.

Jim (VE1 AFH) added that Saint John wants to participate in the next exercise. He said that there have been some very good comments about the exercise, and the work done by members of the WARC.

He said an exercise will be taking place at the main entrance to Cape Chignecto Park which will try to identify any shortcomings. Brad (VE1 ZX) noted that the only reliable method of communication in that area is Amateur Radio.

**\*New Business:**

Jim (VE1 JBL) had to leave shortly to return to work, so he brought up about forming the Nominating Committee for the WARC Annual General Meeting in September. Jim (VE1 AFH); Bob (VE1 EDP) and Rick (VE9 RWS) have volunteered to be on that committee.

Jim also gave a brief report on meeting he had attended with the Saint John ARES Group.

Details will be available on his website: [www.maritimeamateur.ca](http://www.maritimeamateur.ca)

< From this point, the meeting was chaired by Vice President Rob (VE9 KM) >

**N.S.A.R.A:**

Jin (VE1 AFH) gave a report on the NSARA "Clean Sweep" (Worked All Counties) contest, which was won by VA1 ANN with 2232 points.

Brad (VE1 ZX) reported that the NSARA had sent out an e-mail asking for a club to host the 2009 summer picnic, but so far there have been no offers.

**Net:**

Rick (VE9 RWS) said the Net was going well with no problems, except for a linking radio that was overheating at times.

**Repeaters:**

Brad (VE1 ZX) reported no problems.

**President's Report:**

No report.

**Unfinished Business:**

Jim (VE1 AFH) gave a rundown on the ongoing plans to hold a Basic Qualification Course in the fall. He said it could be run on five different evenings, using the Industry Canada question bank.

**New Business:**

< see above: Nominating Committee >

Jerry (VE1 KW) brought in some surplus items for sale, with proceeds going to the Club.

**Social:**

There will be no Brunches in June, July or August.

In September, the Brunch will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> at Patterson's in Sackville.

**Sick and Visiting:**

Nothing to report.

**Lunch for the June 2009 meeting:****Sweets – Jim (VE1 CHI)****Sandwiches – Rick (VE9 RWS)**

The 50-50 (\$12.50) was won by Ron (VE1 BIC) who donated his share to the Bursary Fund.

## **Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, September 09, 2009 at 7:00 at the Cumberland County Municipal Building.

(The meeting will be a week later than usual, due to Labour Day falling on September 07 this year.)

**Adjournment: at 8:15 p.m. Ron Bickle (VE1 BIC) Secretary.**

## **Notes**

Field Day – This year our Field Day activities were slightly different than last year. We had a new verticle antenna and our new Icom 7200 rig. We also had a long wire antenna connected to the tower. After all the adjustments were made to the rig and the antenna system we started Field Day off by going to 6 meters with great results. Later we changed to the other bands - mostly 15, 20, 40 and then 80. We also had a few contacts using 160 meters. We worked until a little after midnight, then decided because there was no one who wanted to do the night shift, to close down until about 8 am in the morning. We still had about 120 or so contacts which is not too bad. Next year we will do it again.

Exercise Handshake - Exercise Handshake continued during the summer months on the last Tuesday of the month. Despite the summer season we still had a few – 4 – 6 people show up to work the various radios and packet etc. Other locations also were able to put a crew together to work the exercise from their area. Our Radio club now has several operators who can work many different radios and modes with no difficulty.

## **Birthdays**

Sept. 1 – Duane Sears, VE9DRS  
7 – Bill Durant, VE9JMP  
8 – Cliff Rose, VE1CBR  
11 – Joanne Reynolds  
14 – Gerry Gallant  
14 – Peter Hebb, VE1SM  
18 – Russell Lusby, VE1AFL  
21 – Joanne Rose  
24 =- Coral Harris  
24 – Cody Harris, VE1TUX  
27 – Ed Hart, VE9ES  
28 – Jack McGee, VE1CZD

Oct. 2 – Lou Garrett, VE1JLG  
18 – Nelson Estabrooks, VE9NEL  
22 – Brad Ross, VE1ZX  
27 – Ron Bickle, VE1BIC  
28 - Treva Hebb  
31 – Michael Milner, VE1OCT

## Anniversaries

- Sept. 6 – Gerry Hannah, VE1KW & Kay, VE1YH – 1958  
6 - Jim Hannon, VE1AFH & Carol, VE1RCH – 1974  
6 – David Jones, VE9DWJ & 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

## Upcoming Events

- Sept. 9 – W.A.R.C. Annual Meeting & General Meeting – E. D. Fullerton Bldg. - 7:00 pm  
12 or 26 - Brunch – Patterson's Restaurant – Sackville, N.B. - 11:00 am  
19 – Moncton Flea Market – Louis J Robichaud High School – Shediac, N.B. - 10:00 am  
IRG meeting to be held after F.M. closes  
29 – Exercise Handshake – E. D. Fullerton Bldg. - 7:00 pm
- Oct. 7 – W.A.R.C. Meeting – E. D. Fullerton Bldg. - 7:00pm  
17 – Greenwood Fleamarket – Greenwood Community Center - \$3.00 Talk in – VE1WN –  
147.240+ . NSARA meeting to follow F.M.  
24 – Brunch – location not determined – 11:00 am (probable date)  
27 – Exercise Handshake – E. D. Fullerton Bldg. - 7:00 pm

## Kitchen Korner

### **Blueberry Crunch**

- |                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 pint blueberries    | ½ cup oatmeal                        |
| 2 tbsp sugar          | ¼ cup light brown sugar              |
| 2 tsp lemon juice     | 2 tbsp flour                         |
| 1 tsp ground cinnamon | 3 tbsp butter or margarine, softened |

Combine berries, sugar, lemon juice and ½ tsp cinnamon in a 1 quart baking dish  
Combine oats, brown sugar, flour and the remaining cinnamon in a small bowl. Cut in butter and sprinkle over fruit. Bake in preheated 375 degree oven for 30 minutes (or until topping is browned and fruit is bubbly). Let stand for 15 minutes. Yeild – 4 servings.

## Waikiki Meat Balls

1 ½ lb ground beef  
2/3 cup cracker crumbs  
½ cup minced onion  
1 egg  
1 ½ tsp salt  
¼ tsp ginger  
¼ cup milk

2 tbsp corn starch  
½ cup brown sugar, packed  
1 cup (13 1/2 oz) pineapple tidbits, drained  
(reserve syrup)  
½ cup vinegar  
1 tbsp soy sauce  
1 tbsp shortening

Mix beef, crumbs, onion, egg, salt, ginger and milk thoroughly. Shape into balls. Melt shortening in a large skillet. Brown and cook meat balls. Remove meat balls and keep warm. Pour fat from pan. Mix cornstarch and sugar, stir in reserved pineapple syrup, vinegar and soy sauce. Stir until smooth, then pour into skillet. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until thick and boiling. Boil and stir one minute. Add meatballs, pineapple tidbits and green pepper. Yeild – 6 servings.

### Extra

This summer was struck with sadness for several of our club members. Pat Hughes, VE9PH lost his wife of more than 60 years, Muriel in early summer. Charles Phinder, VE1CPI lost two relatives, and Bill Durant, VE9JMP lost a family member just recently. I hope I haven't missed any others, but if I did I'm sorry. Condolences go out to all who have lost a loved one this summer. I also hope there have not been any serious illness to any of our club members or their families this summer. Get well wishes are extended to one and all.

This fall our club will be conducting a condensed version of the amateur radio course. Please pass the word around to anyone who has shown interest in becoming a radio operator. Several club members will be conducting this course. Each one will concentrate on a different topic – electronics – the Ohms Law; radio make-up, how they work; radio procedures, the correct way to operate, etc.

### Funny Stuff

There are 4 guys in a car, 1 from Iowa, 1 from Wisconsin, 1 from Florida, and 1 from Illinois. The guy from Florida says "I'm tired of seeing oranges everyday" so he throws some oranges out the window. So then the guy from Iowa says "I'm tired of seeing corn everyday" so he throws some corn out the window. The guy from Wisconsin is very inspired so he opens the door and pushes the guy from Illinois out of the car!

A local business was looking for office help. They put a sign in the window, stating the following: "HELP WANTED. Must be able to type, must be good with a computer and must be bilingual. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer." A short time afterwards, a dog trotted up to the window, saw the sign and went inside. He looked at the receptionist and wagged his tail, then walked over to the sign, looked at it and whined. Getting the idea, the receptionist got the office manager. The office manager looked at the dog and was surprised, to say the least. However, the dog looked determined, so he lead him into the office. Inside, the dog jumped up on the chair and stared at the manager. The manager said "I can't hire you. The sign says you have to be able to type." The dog jumped down, went to the typewriter and proceeded to type out a perfect letter. He took out the page and trotted over to the manager and gave it to him, then jumped back on the chair. The manager was stunned, but then told the dog "the sign says you have to be good with a computer." The dog jumped down again and went to the computer. The dog proceeded to enter and execute a perfect program, that worked flawlessly the first time. By this time the manager was totally dumb-founded! He looked at the dog and said "I realize that you are a very intelligent dog and have some interesting abilities. However, I \*still\* can't give you the job." The dog jumped down and went to a copy of the sign and put his paw on the sentences that told about being an Equal Opportunity Employer. The manager said "yes, but the sign \*also\* says that you have to be bilingual." The dog looked at the manager calmly and said, "Meow!"

# Dues Mail-In Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Call \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Call \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Single Membership - \$15.00    Family Membership \$20.00

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ N.S.A.R.A. Membership – Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

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Interests – circle if any of the following is of interest to you:  
2m HF   SSB   Packet   Antennas   Project Building   Community Services  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

Options: Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association – N.S.A.R.A.

If membership is paid through our club, (\$10.00) - \$5.00 goes to N.S.A.R.A. and our club retains the other half. The N.S.A.R.A. dues can be added to the W.A.R.C. dues. If yes is checked, then add \$10.00 to the total in the amount enclosed space.

Send this form to:

Mike Embree, VE1MY  
174 Southampton Rd.  
Amherst, N.S.  
B4H 3Y4

At the same time, it might be a good idea to renew or become a member of Radio Amateurs Of Canada (R.A.C.) Full membership dues are \$ \$50.00 + tax - \$56.50 for one year.

Send your cheque to:

Radio Amateurs of Canada  
# 217-720 Belfast  
Ottawa, ON  
K1G 0Z5