



April 2013 Edition

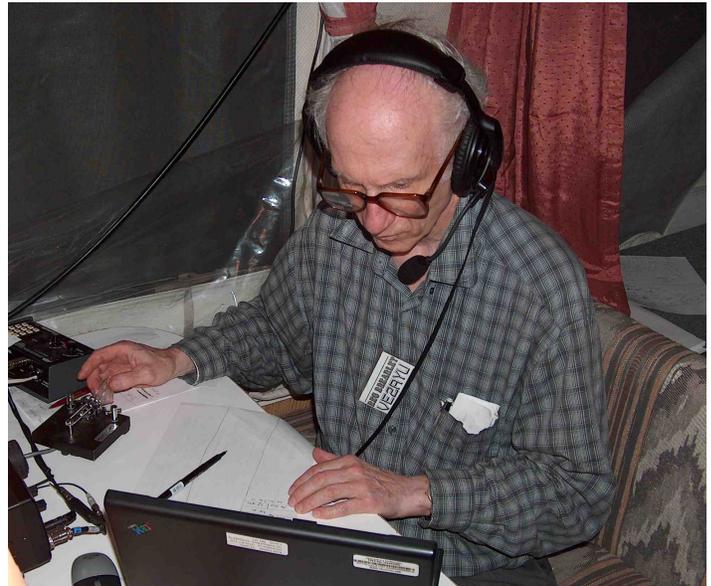
Upcoming Meeting – April 15th 2013
This month's topic
“Introduction to Foulab”
Given by Matthieu Lalonde, VA2MRF.

Reg Brearley VE2AYU / SK (1927-2013)

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Reg Brearley VE2AYU, long time member and past president of WIARC passed away on Monday April 1st, 2013. Reg was one of our premier members. He rarely ever missed a meeting. For years, he was our Field Day CW man who earned most of our points, usually operating all night long. He took responsibility for copying the ARRL FD CW message. He attended all of the Club functions, from Hamfests and Field Days, to Space Days and the Christmas dinners. He took part in many of the club DXpeditions. When we were looking for a candidate for president for the 2000 year, it was Reg who stepped up to the plate, accepted the challenge, and held the position for two terms. Over the years, he gave several presentations as the speaker for our club meetings. These were usually on the subjects of propagation, antennas, and contesting. Reg really loved contesting, especially CW. During those special week-ends each year, Reg was just not available. A few years ago, he accepted an invitation from J.W. Fisher VE1JF to join his team for a CW event at his Nova Scotia contest station. In many ways Reg was one of the youngest members of the club. It was he who would show the most enthusiasm over something new. He loved to learn about all things scientific. He wanted to know more about DNA,

digital radio, digital anything, macro and micro. At his passing, he was still on a team working on innovative solutions to “power grid” failures. The picture captures him at one of his happiest moments; operating our club station at field day. Reg will be deeply missed, and fondly remembered.



Reg VE2AYU when he was operating at FD.

President's Message and Report

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Hello everyone,

Reg VE2AYU/SK

I remember my first WIARC field day as a newly minted ham in 2007. No one operated through the night, but I eagerly showed up early Sunday morning. I was there with only one other ham, I think it was Morrie VE2BWS, when Reg showed up. He gave us what for when he found us trying to get the coffeemaker going while the radio sat idle. The radio should never sit idle. RIP Reg.

Maker Bot

We had an excellent presentation from Eamon, VE2EGN at the March meeting - many thanks Eamon. It was great to see the 3d printer in action. Check out the photos of Eamon's completed box for his powerpole distribution project later in the newsletter. He printed the bottom of the box during the March meeting, the top at home later.

Information Net Brunch

The regulars of the Sunday Night Information Net will be meeting for brunch Saturday, April 20. See the announcement elsewhere in this issue. As usual everyone is welcome. RSVP to my email if you are sure you are coming.

Field Day

As announced at the March meeting, George, VE2NGH and Paul, VE2OFH have reconsidered the plan for a 2A station - they have decided that we will be operating 1A again this year. In new news we will not be back at Pine Beach Park in Dorval. We are scrambling a little to find a location for the 2013 tri-club event.

Ham Radio at Foulab

Matthieu, VA2MRF from Foulab will tell us about Foulab and how amateur radio fits into the picture there. Foulab (foulab.org) is Montreal's own Hackerspace. Now before you let that word "hacker" offend you, you should know that in this context it refers to people with a certain mindset. People who take things apart to figure out how they work, or to modify them, or to push them to the limit, or to repurpose them have this mindset. Hackers tinker with things the way many hams tinker with things. I am very much looking forward to hearing more about Foulab and the place of ham radio there.

April 15, 2013 Meeting Agenda

- 🕒 SK ceremonies
- 🕒 Special Interest Groups (CW practice, SOTA, Solder Spot, ...)
- 🕒 First aid course
- 🕒 Field day update
- 🕒 Other business
- 🕒 Break (coffee, cookies, ragchew)
- 🕒 Foulab and Amateur Radio

See you on the 15th.

73, Malcolm VE2DDZ

What Happened

Minutes of the March 2013 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Minutes of the WIARC Meeting March 18, 2013 by Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:49. Malcolm VE2DDZ presided and welcomed the 24 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the meeting are as follows.

1. Peter Kartsakis: Peter had recently contacted both the Club and Francois VE2AAY concerning acquiring his Ham license. He showed up to the meeting to get a

jump start. Welcome Peter and congratulations on your decision. We hope to see you on a regular basis.

2. Ken VE2PMR/SK: We held a silent key ceremony for Ken Matheson VE2PMR. Gilles VE2TZT conducted the proceedings. Ken was a familiar voice on the repeater for many years. Some members recalled knowing him 'on-air' with his strong, distinguishable voice, although they never met him in person.

3. Reg VE2AYU: Keith VE2MTL again reported that he had just visited Reg VE2AYU on the way to the meeting

tonight. However, this time he was in the Lakeshore General emergency department.

4. Quick Notes:

--Malcolm VE2DDZ announced that the Concordia University group had to cancel their presentation at the last minute. Fortunately, Eamon VE2EGN, had planned to give us a presentation in the near future and was able to put it together in time for the meeting tonight. Thanks Eamon.

--Field Day 2013 plans. George VE2NGH has reconsidered the 2A plans and has now decided to remain with a 1A

operation. It also appears that the Pine Beach QTH may not be available this year. More news next month.

--Paul VE2OFH has a plan for the Solder Spot to make kits (there are none) to provide to participants. The project is a power pole based DC distribution bus, similar to the Rigrunner product. The Band Pass Filter project is still on-going. It's been underway for a few months. It's an advanced project and progress is slow at the moment mostly due to the participants' availability.

--Radio Talk was confirmed for Sept 21, 2013 at the Loyola QTH.

--Finally, Malcolm announced that we would be soon making a donation to AMSAT.

--Laval Hamfest is next Sat March 23rd. A free table was offered to the club. Anyone?

--MARC Hamfest is Sat April 13th, 2013.

5. **WIARC Repeater:** Charles VE2RFI spoke again about the repeater. Recently, we were experiencing vibrations in the cabinet holding all our repeater equipment. It was thought that they were caused by XM Radio adjacent to us. We had even considered plans to move our cabinet to the next 'track' on the floor. However, Charles just discovered that the vibrations were being caused by our own cooling fans. Oops! Time for a couple of new fans.

6. **SOTA News:** Malcolm VE2DDZ announced that he, Dan VA2KEY, and Eamon VE2EGN, attempted a

SOTA event on Mont St. Hilaire a couple of week-ends ago, but failed to summit. A medical emergency forced them to postpone to another date. Dan VA2KEY said that this has prompted everyone involved to take a serious look at acquiring proper first aid training. The members in attendance agreed and a considerable discussion ensued. There were suggestions about courses offered by the Red-Cross, the City of Pointe-Claire, and other organizations such as the St. Johns Ambulance. A number of members showed a willingness to participate in a course. It certainly looks as if something is really going to happen. Dan and others will canvass the area and inquire about instruction options, and rates, etc. Stay tuned on this one. It's really important for us all.

7. **Cookies:** Break time snacks were provided this month by Sam VE2LJV. Thanks, Sam. Next month, according to the volunteer sheet, Paul VE2OFH will be providing the treats.

8. **After the Break:** Eamon VE2EGN gave us a presentation on his new 3D printing process. Of course, there is no paper involved. Nevertheless, it is still called printing. In its simplest terms, it is a device connected to a computer, which acts much like a robot. The printer (robot) melts a thread of plastic and deposits the plastic bits in layers. This layering builds a solid 3D object made of the original plastic material. Now, so far, I have used only the word plastic. Actually, Eamon explained that several materials can be used depending on the desired results. The printer uses materials like thermoplastic, filament reels, ABS, PLA, and PVA. Some suppliers like MakerBot are now selling

ready built devices. As well you can now find Chinese clones. Eamon mentioned local sources such as Foulab and Voxel Factory. He passed around a small box that he had produced for us to examine. Then he displayed some of the programming code used to make it, and then set the machine in operation. We were able to see the box being built right before our eyes. Thank you, Eamon, for a most enlightening presentation. And all at the last minute, on short notice. Well done.



Above a Pic of Eamon VE2EGN and his 3D printer.

On top of that, Eamon was the winner of the 50/50 draw tonight, and donated his winnings to the Club. Thanks again.

Again this month, there were magazines provided by Keith VE2XL and Ken VE2KLF available for the taking. Thanks.

Something Punny - A man needs a mistress to break the monogamy.

The meeting adjourned at 22:00. See you April 15th, 2013.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

Free Flea Market Tables

Flea-market tables available free to members. Members are reminded that there are always tables available at the regular monthly meetings. This practice was very popular years ago. Lately, it seems to have fallen out of practice.

So, if you wish to sell something, or clean out your basement, or do your spring cleaning early, you don't have to wait for the next Hamfest. Just bring those junk boxes, antenna parts, and old rigs to the next WIARC meeting and set up your table at the back of the hall. It's free. It's fun. It's win-win.

\$\$\$ Swap Shop \$\$\$

To advertise items for sale, send details to Bram VE2XCS, the newsletter editor at ve2xcs@bell.net.

He will gladly include them in the next bulletin. Please remember to include all pertinent information relating to the item you wish to sell.

WIARC Information Net Brunch

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

The regulars of the Sunday night West Island Amateur Radio Club Information Net are getting together for

brunch and eyeball QSOs. All are invited.

RSVP to Malcolm ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca if you are sure you are coming so we know how many places to reserve

Time and Place:

10:00 am
Saturday, April 20, 2013
Le Manoir (<http://lemanoir1.com/>)
600 St Jean Boulevard
The SW corner of St Jean and Hymus
Pointe-Claire H9R 3J9
514 695 2071

RADIOTALK 2013

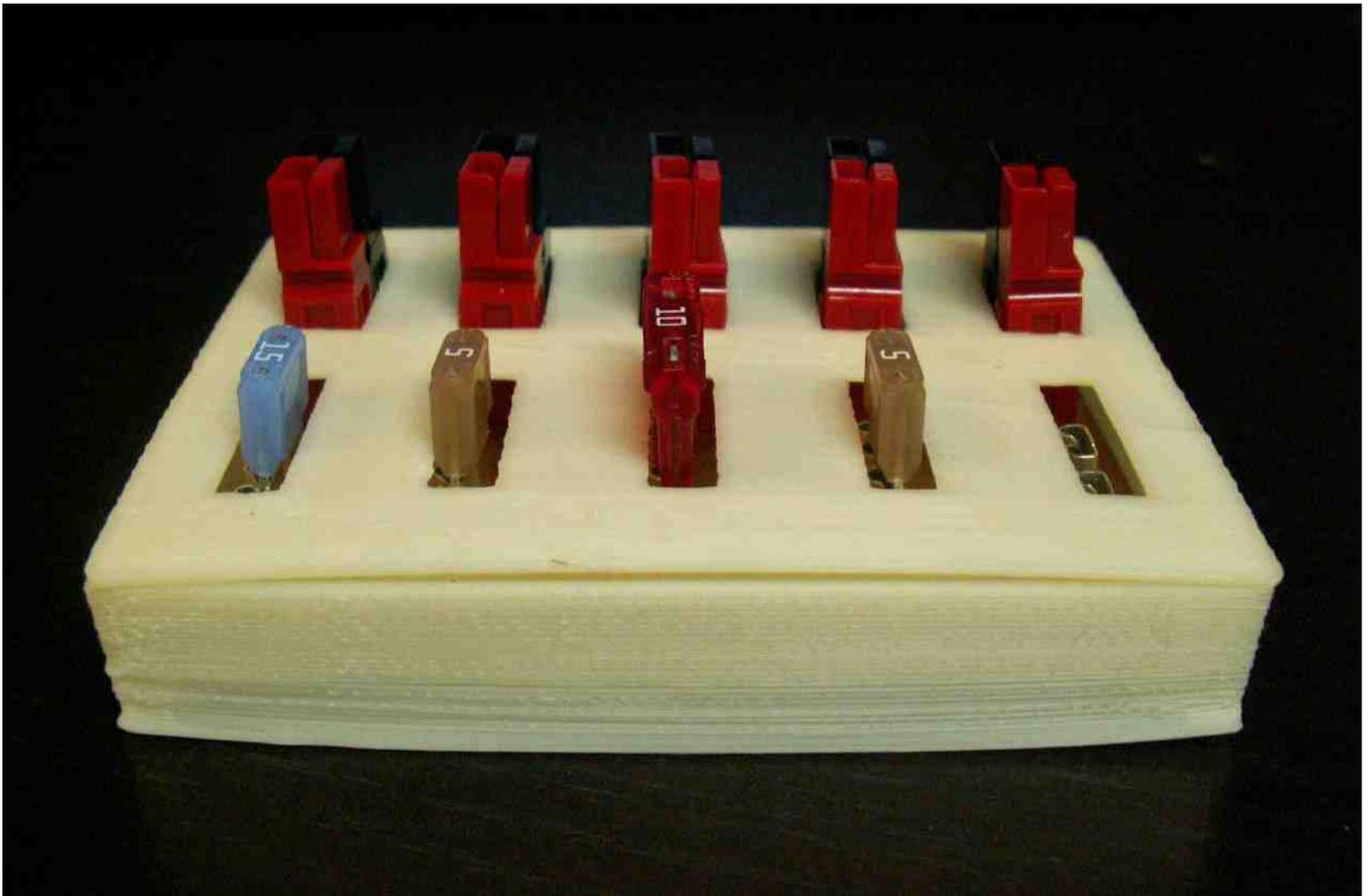
Saturday, September 21, 2013
[St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in NDG](#)
More information as it becomes available at:
www.radiotalk.ca

Pictures of the month

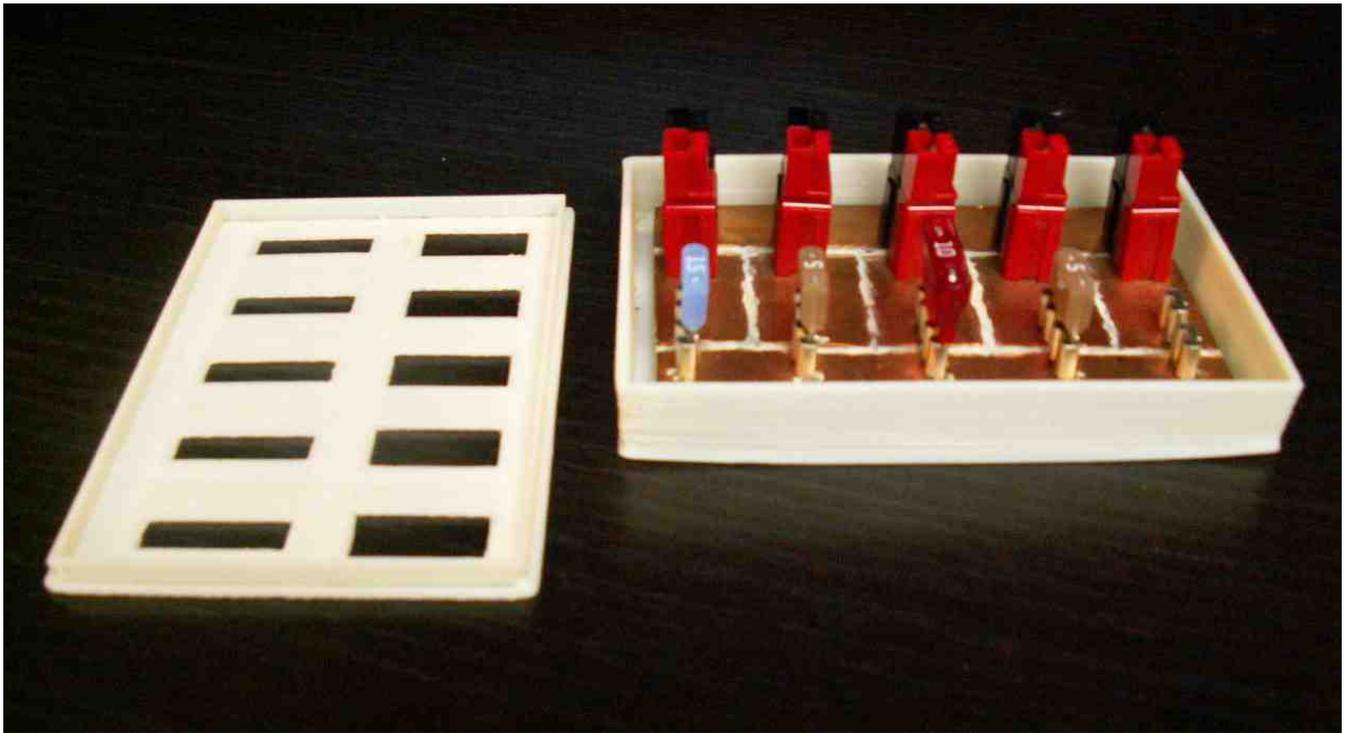
by Bram Paterson, VE2XCS

This month pictures are courtesy of Eamon VE2EGN who built a box with his makerbot machine for his powerpole board. The board provides five fused power sources, which can power radios and various equipment requiring 12 V. Nice job on the box and the board Eamon.

A similar project is going to be available for hams to build at the next Solder Spot group meeting.



Powerpole board with homebrew box made by a Makerbot machine.



Detailed view of the board inside the box.

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

Mailing Address - P.O. Box 884 Pointe-Claire, Quebec H9R 4Z6

E-mail: VE2CWI@WIARC.CA

Executives:

President : Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president : Charles Robitaille, VE2RFI

Directors:

Editor : Bram Paterson, VE2XCS

QSL Manager : Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Treasurer : Dan Montpetit, VA2KEY

Secretary : Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Webmaster : Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH

Immediate Past : Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

President (IPP)

Accredited Examiners:

Larry Dobby, DOBBY@AEI.CA

Stuart Truba, EME70CM@YAHOO.CA

Articles and comments are always welcomed; please submit them before the first Monday of the month for publication in that month's edition to the editor's attention, VE2CWI@RAC.CA

Website: <http://www.wiarc.ca>

Repeaters: VE2RWI VHF - 146.910 MHz (-)
VE2RWI UHF - 443.050 MHz (+) (141.3 Hz CTCSS tone transmitted by both repeaters).

Monthly Meetings

Held the 3rd Monday of every month, except July & August at: Lakeside Heights Baptist Church, 275 Braebrook, Pointe-Claire (West Island part of Montreal). Visitors are always welcomed.

WIARC NETS on the 146.91 VE2RWI Repeater

Information Net each Sunday evening at 8PM running for approximately an hour.
All are welcome to participate.