



Nanaimo Amateur Radio Association
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Static November 2005

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2005
7:30 p.m. at the Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Centre
(At the foot of Wingrove Street - old Departure Bay Firehall)

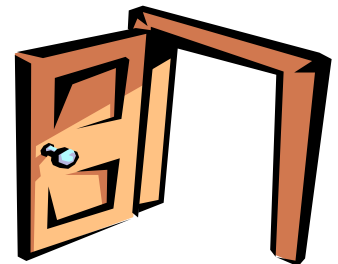
>> November Program <<

IT'S A MYSTERY...



The program for November was not available by Static's publishing deadline. The only way to find out is by coming to the meeting to see what the topic will be!

Please join us! 😊



INSIDE...

Seen and Heard	Page 2
Hot Air from the President	Page 2
Island Trunk System - Brand New Webpage	Page 2
From the Secretary's Desk	Page 3
NARA Regular Activities	Page 4
TWO on the Isle	Page 4
NARA Now Has a 144	Page 5
Training and New Hams Profiles	Page 6



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SEEN AND HEARD... **de Roger, VA7RS**

- VE7RLH** Thanks to Dick for being the webmaster for the new Island Trunk System webpage. (www.islandtrunksystem.org)
- VA7FS** Fred has moved and now lives in Christina Lake. Best of luck in your new QTH Fred. The Club will miss you.
- VA7NO** John is sporting a new Gateway laptop. Hope you enjoy it John.
- VE7PDQ** Paul joining the NARA gang for coffee on Saturday. Good to see you again Paul.
- VE7MUX** Thanks for the great install of the new dual band antenna (144/450) at the NARA club station.
- VA7MPG** Paul is now looking for some antenna ideas for HF. Apparently he got 50 different answers from 50 Hams. Good luck Paul.
- VE7RNA** Jim (VE7JHE) and Doug (VE7AQW) doing some fine repair work on the Mt. Brenton repeater.

HOT AIR FROM THE PRESIDENT

Chris, VE7TOP

The President's report was not available by press time. Stay tuned for next month!



Island Trunk System - Brand New Webpage!

de Roger, VA7RS

Please be advised that the Island Trunk System now has its own webpage. It is currently "under construction" and will contain all the information regarding the repeaters on the system. Please feel free to advise anyone who may be interested or attach a link from any existing webpage.

The Island Trunk System webpage is located at:

www.islandtrunksystem.org

Thanks,
Roger VA7RS



From the Secretary's Desk

de Pat, VA7PLH

E-mail: plharper@shaw.ca

Phone #: 716-1728



In place of her regular article this month, Pat sent the following article she found on the internet:

THE IMPORTANCE OF TELETYPE

Isn't that little gizmo called the radio kind of amazing? Well, it is to me. I mean, even though I make my living in radio, the way it works still fascinates me to no end. Did you know that people, even so-called industry experts, once predicted the doom of radio? That was back when television was starting up. But fact is, radio is healthier than ever.

And here's a Little Known Fact that I am always being asked about. If you have ever wondered why most radio and television stations have their call letters begin with a W or a K, it's because those letters were assigned to American airwaves by an international convention held in London in 1912. We also got A and N, but those were reserved for the Army and Navy.

But truth is, radio did have something of a rough start. Yeah! People really didn't much think there was any use for radio when it was first marketed. Most folks thought that talking to your neighbor over the fence was a pretty good way to get the local gossip, and the newspapers were in their glory days. So, radios weren't selling very well at all. In 1922, only one in every 500 homes even owned a radio.

And as with most things, it took a big event to get radio off the ground. That event was the Dempsey-Carpentier heavyweight championship fight. That fight was so huge that the New York Times devoted virtually the first 13 pages of the paper to it. The interest got so great that an enterprising someone decided it would be a good thing for radio. The newspaper headlines screamed in huge letters, "Radio phones to tell Times Square Fight."

When people found out that they could hear the fight on radio, sales exploded. The problem was that there were just a few radios to be had. After all, they hadn't been selling all that well. So people gathered around in groups to hear the fight. One person listened, and would yell out to the crowd what was happening. Huge crowds gathered everywhere in the country, clustered around a store with a radio. After that fight, pretty much everyone wanted a radio of their own. Within the next two years, four million radios were sold. Sales of radios climbed to \$850 million by the end of the decade - all because of a boxing match in Times Square.

But you know what? It never happened! Yeah, I'm serious. It's a Little Known Fact that because of some technical snafu moments before the fight started, the fight was never broadcast on the radio at all. In a last minute effort, a Teletype was employed to send the fight results out all over the country to the millions of people gathered to hear the fight. At each location, someone read the Teletype and literally yelled out the blow-by-blow to the crowd.

But, almost no one knew that the announcer was reading a Teletype and not listening to the radio. Radio, in its first attempt, failed miserably to perform. But just the idea of being able to hear that fight live, was enough to kick the radio industry into high gear. I'm kind of glad it did. Aren't you?

This article found at this site: www.littleknownfactsshow.com

'Til next month, 73 Pat VA7PLH - Club Secretary

NARA REGULAR ACTIVITIES

There are lots of regularly scheduled activities going on that we'd like to make club members aware of. If you see an activity that interests you, definitely get involved!



- ◆ **SATURDAY MORNINGS:** Koffee Klatch (9:30 a.m., Moxie's Restaurant, near Costco)
- ◆ **SUNDAY EVENINGS:** "Ragchew and More" on Ten Metres (7:30 p.m., 28.400 MHz, Upper Side Band)
- ◆ **MONDAY NIGHTS:** NARA Club Net (8:00 p.m., 145.43 and 146.64 MHz - and Island Trunk System)
- ◆ **TUESDAY NIGHTS:** Gerry's Ham Classes (7:00 p.m., Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Centre - e-mail ve7bgp@rac.ca or call 758-9035 for details - all months except July and August)
- ◆ **3rd THURSDAY OF THE MONTH:** NARA Regular Club Meeting (7:30 p.m., Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Centre)
- ◆ **1st, 4th, and 5th THURSDAY NIGHTS OF THE MONTH:** "Open House Nites" (7:00 p.m., Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Centre - all months except July and August)
- ◆ **2nd THURSDAY OF THE MONTH:** "Hot Solder Night" (Club Station Room - Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Centre - all months except July and August)



TWO on the Isle *de Dave, VE7TWO*

Thanks to those of you who responded to last month's (October) TWO-on-the-Isle article – if you haven't read it, maybe you should!

This month, as the fantastic communicators we all are, let's tackle "The Great Pop vs. Soda Controversy..."

By that, I mean: "What technical term is commonly used by English-speaking North Americans to describe carbonated soft drinks (i.e. "Pop" or "Soda")?" Who cares, you may ask!

Well, the point here is that you sometimes have to know which region of the country you're talking to so that you can better understand one another's communication. Besides, I thought you should know that the majority of Canada (including BC) use the term "pop," whereas Quebec uses "soda" (albeit, by a slim lead). It's also interesting to note that a lot of people use the term "coke" in place of either pop or soda...how confusing is that? "I'll have a Pepsi coke please!" Huh???

Get the complete sordid detail and mappings at <http://www.popvssoda.com>

NARA NOW HAS A 144!

NARA now has a 144/450 antenna installed and operational at the club station. Many thanks to Al VA7ACL and Murray VE7MUX who jumps towers in a single bound! ☺



For Sale...

COMPUTER DESK

- It is a regular size - 58" wide and 27" deep, with 3 drawers and filing drawer.
- The hutch is same size - all in black.
- Asking \$100.



If someone wants my "even larger" computer desk it could be negotiated around \$150.

Contact: Guenter VE7LLL
Tel: 756-1551



TRAINING AND NEW HAMS PROFILES

TRAINING REPORT

ICS 100 level training - if you are interested, give me a call (758-9035) or send me an e-mail (ve7bpg@rac.ca). If you haven't taken ICS 100 yet, I highly recommend that **ALL** club members do, as it is very important protocol to know in the event of an emergency. .

I don't know how many took the ICS and Rapid Damage Assessment courses that were recently offered - I will keep you posted when more are available. The next training session is at #1 Fire Hall (666 Fitzwilliam St.) for Rapid Damage Assessment Level II on Friday, November 18th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Training will make us all more useful in the event of an emergency.**

Anyone interested in classes give me - Gerry VE7BGP - a call at 758-9035 or e-mail me at ve7bpg@rac.ca. Or, show up Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. at the Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Center a.k.a. the Old Departure Bay Firehall on Wingrove St. Anyone interested in getting an Amateur Radio Qualification Certificate is welcome to show up there.

We now have students interested in taking their Basic exam. Join the club - we provide loan of training textbooks, a training instructor, and an accredited Industry Canada examiner to administer the exams. The morse code was dropped from being the sole addition requirement for HF access. It is still one of the three options.

The new HF requirements are: 1) Get 80% on your basic exam; 2) Get your 5 WPM morse code; or 3) Get your Advanced Certificate. It is still needed for operating HF in countries you visit that still require morse code - the USA is one at present.

Show up at the Nanaimo Volunteer Emergency Center at 7:00 p.m. if you are studying for your Basic Certificate - if you want help with upgrading to your Advanced Certificate, come around 8:15 p.m. Industry Canada exams have now changed and the pass mark is now raised to 70% from 60%.

QUICK LEARNERS...

Randle, a friend of Harry VA7HL, is going to challenge his Basic exam on November 15th. Good luck, Randle...

**73 'til December, Gerry VE7BGP
Training Director**

STATIC STAFF

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Submissions for the next issue of Static are due to Rob VA7RJE (rfrolic@hotmail.com) by December 4, 2005, unless otherwise notified.



NARA



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Social:	Frank Merritt	VE7FPM
Repeater:	Roger Stacey	VA7RS
Nanaimo EOC Rep:	Terry Curé	VE7LVD
NARA Historian:	Terry Curé	VE7LVD

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Famous Olympic skier Picabo (pronounced Peek-a-boo) Street is not just an athlete, she is a nurse.

Currently, she is working at the Intensive Care Unit of a large metropolitan hospital.

She is not permitted to answer the telephone, however, as it caused simply too much confusion when she would answer the phone and say, "Picabo, ICU."

