



Radio Amateurs of Canada

Midwest Report

Ensuring radio amateurs in the Midwest are informed!

December 2009

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Directors Ramblings

The monthly teleconference meeting of the Regional Directors was held on November 19, 2009 starting at 2330Z. The main topic of discussion was the smooth transfer of operations to the new Executive. President elect, Geoff VE4BAW was present at the meeting as well as Treasurer elect Margret, VE3VXN and Secretary elect Paul, VO1PRB. As an example of how things are getting better at RAC HQ, we are now going to take back in house our own bookkeeping and payroll activities which will save us a fair amount. This is due to our Office Manager, Denise's extra efforts on our behalf.

The most common question / beef I hear is "What does RAC do for me?" This month I would like to mention two areas where RAC is going to bat for Amateurs in Canada around the world. Brian, VE3QN is our point man who represents Canadian Amateurs at the International Telecommunications Union conference in Switzerland. It's through his committee work we have an experimental allocation at 500 kHz and are working on more frequencies in the 5 MHz range. Many services, military, aeronautical and marine radar systems would love to have more HF frequencies, including our bands. All his expenses are covered by donations to DARF which is administered by RAC. A donation to DARF will further his efforts. Ever been to Europe? If you are going why not consider talking a QRP HF rig. They now come with built in tuners, add a battery pack some wire and you are on the air. Oops, don't forget to make sure you have a CEPT. This certificate available from RAC HQ is your ticket to operate in most European countries. A call or email to RAC HQ will get you all the details. A more detailed report will be sent out under a different email

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Midwest Region Assistant Directors

Bill Till - VE5FN (Lloydminster)
Richard Holder - VE4QK (Beausejour)

Section Managers

Joe Musgrave - VE5CEM (Saskatchewan)
Jan Schippers - VE4JS (Manitoba)

RAC Winter Contest

Once again the RAC winter contest is coming up on December 19th from 0000 – 1159 UTC. If you would like to operate using the VE4RAC or VE5RAC callsign, please let me know. I would prefer to issue the call out to station(S) that will be multi-operator, but if no multi comes forward, then a single operator will do. As long as we get the Callsign on the air.

Still Looking for Assistance

I am still looking for new blood and new assistants. So if you live in Regina, Saskatoon or rural Saskatchewan or you live in Brandon, or rural Manitoba and you would like to assist me in RAC duties, I really could use your help. In fact, it does not matter if you live in these areas or not. I still need your help. So if you are willing to help your national association, please send me an email (see below for my address)

If your membership is about to expire,

Please consider renewing it at the following web site, <https://www.rac.ca/store/membership-form-e.htm> where you can either Download the form, Print the form or Enter it online. Your support of our national Organization is needed. If for some reason you do not wish to continue your membership, I would like to know why, so that I can see if I can change anything that would allow you to join once again.

If you have an Amateur friend who is hard to buy for why not consider a membership as a very special Christmas gift.

Finally from my 3 daughters and myself, I hope you and your family have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas time and you can take some time to spend it with family and friends, be they in your home or across the across the air waves.

Merry Christmas.

