



Midwest Report

Ensuring radio amateurs in the Midwest are informed!

October 2009

Directors Ramblings

We have just concluded our monthly board tele-conference and one of the main topics of conversation was the RAC Club Insurance program. Much discussion arose around the cost of the program and those clubs who have a low RAC ratio of members not paying their fair share. As such a new motion was made & passed as follows;

Motion that the Board of Directors adopt proposed changes to the RAC Club Insurance Program as follows :

- Annual registration fee \$125 per Club
- Annual fee of \$2.75 per Club member that are not members of RAC
- Surcharge of \$50/yr for Clubs with <25% RAC membership
- Fee of \$75 per occurrence for the addition/deletion of a named party to policy
- Fee of \$25 for a paper copy of the insurance coverage letter or any other administration request

The club must be affiliated with the RAC, at a yearly fee of \$25.00, which gives the club access to the benefits available under the RAC Club Affiliation Program.

A letter will be going out shortly to affiliated clubs advising them of the change. Is you club on the plan?

Online Membership System

Last month I mentioned that a new online membership system is about to be deployed at RAC. Well the system is up & running and will allow you to view online your membership status, make address changes, email alias changes, re-new your membership etc... Have a look for it at <http://www.rac.ca>

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RAC Bulletin 2009-029E - RAC HFBPC has a new name.

It is now official, a while ago, the RAC Board of Directors has approved a motion to change the HF Band planning Committee name to LF/MF/HFBPC. This new name better reflects the range of frequencies that the committee is responsible for. Jim Fisher, VE1JF, the Committee Chair indicates that the work the committee members are doing will not change much as they were already including those bands in their ongoing reviews.

RAC Office Manager

Radio Amateurs of Canada, now has a new Office Manager Ms Denise L. Wagorn effective September 14th. This new person is up on accounting and office management. She will be working from approx 10:00 am – 6:30 pm eastern, in order to serve the requirements of those hams in the Pacific time zone and will be a great asset to RAC. It will take a few weeks to gain some speed and familiarization with RAC and the office, so please bear with us for a bit longer. Things will return to better than normal very shortly.

“Secondary Allocation to Amateur Service in the 135.7 - 137.8 kHz Band”

As the result of efforts by VPIL Rashleigh and VPRA Ferch, the attached letter has been completed and being mailed to IC over my signature, as suggested by them. My sincere thanks go to Norm and Rich for this important step forward by the RAC on behalf of all Radio Amateurs in Canada. Prospects look good for this new allocation to become reality

To: **Director General, Telecommunications Policy Branch, Industry Canada, Ottawa. Ontario**

From: **Radio Amateurs of Canada**

In Response to:

Proposed Revisions to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations (2009 Edition)

Canada Gazette, Part I, July 3rd, 2009, Reference Number DGTP-003-09

Page 54, “Secondary Allocation to Amateur Service in the 135.7 - 137.8 kHz Band”

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased that the Proposed Revisions to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations include new operating privileges for the amateur radio service, in the band 135.7 to 137.8 kHz, on a secondary basis, and at a power not to exceed 1 Watt (eirp). This allocation for Canadian radio amateurs is consistent with the global allocation made in the decision at WRC 2007 on Agenda Item 1.15 that arose from the initiative by Industry Canada for such a global allocation. Radio Amateurs of Canada anticipate that Canadian amateur radio enthusiasts will join with radio amateurs from other countries to use this LF band allocation to conduct short-range and world-wide propagation studies by developing and employing specialized analogue and digital modulation techniques suitable for use within the limited 2.1 kHz bandwidth space that this allocation provides. Radio Amateurs of Canada very much appreciates the efforts and support given by Industry Canada to obtain this new allocation for the amateur radio service.

Robert Cooke,

Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Hall of Fame

The RAC - Hall of Fame is looking for a chair. If you are a long time Amateur would you consider chairing this committee, please let me know. More information on the hall can be found on the RAC web site by clicking here <http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/hall-of-fame/> then look under constitution and the other options.

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)

Membership Goal

I would like each of you to approach your fellow hams, and within the next 12 months see if you can extend the virtues of being a RAC member to them and convert them into a RAC member. It is a simple goal. Use this web link as a guide as to what RAC provides <http://rac.ca/join.htm> and for more detail, check this link <http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/membership/benefits.php>

Where R You?

The past few Directors have been relying on the clubs to get information out to the members of RAC. This does not seem to be working as well as it should. It could be the information arrives after the club newsletter has been sent out, or after a club meeting, and by the time it comes around again, the information is too old. But it does not matter, as I am trying to set up an email database, where I would email out to the members this newsletter and any other pertinent RAC information directly to the members. So with that said, I need your email addresses. If you are a RAC member and you did not receive this in your inbox – directly from me, then I do not have your email address and I would like you to send it to me (see front page for contact info). Please be assured that I will not sell, or distribute any email addresses for any reason. Only Ham radio related information from me will be sent to you. And it will be sent with all email addresses hidden.

RAC Bulletin 2009-029E - Derek Hay, VE4HAY, elected Midwest Region Director.

Following the September 16th, 2009, close of nominations for the Midwest Region Director position, an Election Committee was convened, chaired by RAC Corporate Secretary Linda Friars, VE9GLF. The committee met to open and review the sole nomination received for the position, as required by the By-laws. There being no other nominees, and the nomination documents found to be in order, the committee declared the incumbent, Mr. Derek Hay, VE4HAY, completing a two-year term left vacant when the previous Midwest Director resigned for personal reasons, a term that will end on December 31, 2010. The RAC President, Board and Executive congratulate Director Hay and thank him for continuing to volunteer his services.