



RAC NEWS

September -- October 2011

President—Doug Mercer, VO1DM

RAC AGM AND HAMFEST

The local ham community was pleased to host this year's RAC AGM and Hamfest on the weekend of July 30-31st weekend. Enjoy the report and pictures supplied by Charlie Marsh, VO1VZ. We would like to thank all of

our delegates from away and hope each of you return and bring some friends with you to our province. The weather isn't always as wet as it was this year. If you're lucky you can usually catch our week of summer in late

July! Hihi!

We also would like to thank all the local hams who took part in any way to make the weekend a great success.

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Field Day—June 2011

This year's field day took place with the usual participation and help of local hams. Band conditions were traditionally challenging but the weather cooperated for the most part. It was especially good to have one of our younger hams, Brandon, VO1HAX, operating CW for a while. Also, Darryl, VO1HO, did some QRP work with his portable/solar setup. While we thank all



VO1RYN-Michael

who were involved in any way, special thanks goes to Dave McClennon, VO1LM, who spearheaded the organization of FD this year.



VO1DM & VO1GXG

Special points of interest:

- *Visitor's Comment*
- *Hamfest reports*
- *Hams Helping Again*
- *More Celebrations*
- *Field Day*
- *Loads of pictures*



VO1NP & VO1HO



VO1UF

CW FD, CW FD...

2011 RAC AGM and Hamfest – It wasn't all Business!



The Cooks: VO1DK and VO1PRB

It wasn't all work and business at the 2011 RAC AGM and Hamfest. Held on the July 30 – 31st weekend, venues included the Battery Hotel and FES-NL locations in St. John's, as

effects on Newfoundland, and other important topics like attracting the younger set in to the hobby. There was also a productive question and answer session.

ties was the banquet with the traditional 'screeching in' of 14 CFA (come from away) amateurs, making them honorary Newfoundlanders. We had great fun and put on a few pounds!



Pictures can tell the story far better than words. Thanks to the organizing committee and all who attended. It's amazing what the local Clubs (AVRAC, BARK, UTARC and

well as Admiralty House in Mount Pearl. Of

Throw in whale watching from either a boat tour or the shore at Cape Spear, operating VO1AA at Cabot Tower, shopping in downtown St. John's, a barbecue at Admiralty House, a great down home blue-



VO1VZ laying down the rules for the "Screech IN".



course, there was the RAC AGM but we also had fun, lots of fun! The meetings included such presentations as: operating 160 metres, software defined radio, D-STAR and other digital modes, HF email, Hurricane Igor's



grass music session, a good NL breakfast scoff and you can see we had a good time. Topping off the social activi-



SONRA) can do when we work together.

Charlie Marsh
VO1VZ
RAC NL SM



More Hamfest Pix



Silent Key

Condolences are offered to the family of Ben St. Croix, VO1BEN, of St. Mary's. Ben passed away at 44 years of age after a lengthy illness.

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CORRECTION

An apology is in order arising from the inadvertent omission of Matthew Gillie, VO1GXG, from the report in our last newsletter concerning the MS Walk. In fact, Matt played the very important role of MC for the event. My personal apologies, Matt. We appreciate all you do for the club and for ham radio in general.

—Editor



Visitor's Letter to Paul, VO1PRB

Our visit to St. John's went very well, thanks to your recommendations, and the weather was too good to be true(I guess it was winter when I was there before). We did visit Cabot Tower on Tuesday(19th) and also Admiralty House Museum. The young man monitoring the station in the tower was most helpful and did invite me to operate. I did not operate due to my poor hearing and the construction noise outside. We then went to Mt Pearl to visit the Museum and station. One of the young ladies there gave us about an hour tour and seemed very well prepared.

On Monday we visited Placentia/Argentia and were surprised to see that the Military base there was totally gone.

What a waste! Placentia looked familiar, but has grown considerably over the 57 years since we were there. The ferry was new when we lived there, now replaced by a bridge which I was told is to be replaced.

Our short trip was even shorter due to losing a whole day en route due to airline delays(Toronto).

All in all, we had a great visit.

Thanks again for your suggestions. - Bob Embry, AD6ML 73

Hams Help for Ronald McDonald House—St. John's

Rendyl Goodwin, VO1RYL and Barry Harris, VO1NC, at McDonalds on Ronald M day to raise money for the R.M house in St. Johns.



An Amusing Encounter at the Station

On Sunday, June 19th, the local Ham operators were set up at the Heart's Content Cable Station Provincial Historic Site for a week long demonstration event, 'Around the World in Morse Code'. It was to celebrate 145th anniversary of the laying of the first trans Atlantic cable. Don Fraize, VO1CDF a member of the radio club, happened to be filling in for Tolson Rendell as custodial worker at the station. Sometime during that morning, Don came rushing up from the basement very shaken and upset. He told the other staff he had gotten a very bad fright as he had just

seen what appeared to be, a sinister looking rat with big beady eyes.

Duly alerted to the problem, the regular custodian, Tolson, came in the next morning to set a trap for Don's infamous "rat". Upon entering the basement Don exclaimed, "There it is; that's what I saw!" Much to their surprise, the rat turned out to be nothing but an old metal door knob with a couple of paint spots on it. Apparently, it had fallen off the door and unto the floor. Don followed his outburst rather sheepishly, "I feel very relieved but rather stupid!"

The staff would like to thank Don's for this entertaining encounter with the *rat/doorknob!*



VO1DD, Don Card, coaches the operating of eight year old, Ryan Snelgrove as he chats with VE9AO.

