

Northern BC Amateur Radio News

Issue 2 June 2001

Hamfests

Prince George: 01 08 17 (August 17-19)

The PG Hamfest and camp-out will be held at the VE7ZZZ club site again this year. It is a joint production of the ZZZ group and the Prince George Amateur Radio Club. Although a schedule has not been announced at this time, the format will be similar to last years. There is no on-site food sales planned at this time but there is a restaurant just down the road at Baldy Hughes. There will be a potluck banquet on Sunday evening so bring food that you can prepare in your camper or in the camp kitchen.

Smithers: 01 09 01 (Sept 1-2)

The annual Smithers Hamfest will be held on Labor Day weekend as usual at Riverside Park in Smithers. Saturday evening activities have not been announced at this time. Sunday's activities include a pancake breakfast, swap-n-shop, transmitter hunt, and banquet. Visiting around a campfire is always a popular activity at the Smithers Hamfest! For more information contact Doug VE7EPT on the Northern Net (3.775MHz at 03:00UTC Wed & Sun) or by e-mail (steventn@mail.bulkley.net). Talk-in will be on 146.88-

RAC National Convention

Wilfried Mulder
VE7OHM
RAC Convention Chairman

It is my pleasure to announce that the Orchard City Amateur Radio Club (OCARC) and the North Okanagan Radio Amateur Club (NORAC) have received official approval from Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) to host the second RAC National Convention in Vernon, British Columbia on the **26th, 27th, and 28th of July 2002**. The RAC Convention committee will be meeting in the coming weeks to lay the foundation for what will be the biggest amateur radio event ever in British Columbia!

New HF Privileges

Industry Canada has announced full HF operating privileges to Hams holding Basic + 5 wpm code effective May 19 2001.

Copies of the revised RIC-2 (Radio Information Circular 2) are available from the Industry Canada web

site at: <http://strategis.gc.ca/SSG/sf01226e.html>

PERCS

Graig Pearen, VE7EAP

PERCS is the *Provincial Emergency Radio Communication Service*. It is a joint venture between the Provincial Emergency Program, Radio Amateurs of Canada, ARES, and all the HF nets and some of the VHF nets in British Columbia. The Provincial Emergency Radio Advisory Committee (PERAC) is the governing body of PERCS. The PERCS web site is now on line at www.percs.bc.ca.

The web site is a resource that all BC Amateurs are encouraged to use on a regular basis. It provides information about upcoming events such as Hamfests, and training material, sample plans, news, meeting summaries, Amateur Radio emergency plans, etc. There is information about the nets, upcoming events, and links to related sites such as RAC, PEP, and BC Amateur Radio club sites. There is also some Amateur Radio software that you can download. Check it out!

Amateur Cycles Across Canada

Jim Jutte, VE3JNJ is "Cycling for Kids" from Signal Hill, Newfoundland to Victoria BC. Jim left on 2001 04 28 and expects to be in Victoria on 2001 10 04. You are welcome to join him along the way. You can track Jim's progress on his web site at www.cyclingforchildren.com.

01 08 22 Golden	01 09 02 Vancouver
01 08 27 Kamloops	01 09 04 Victoria
01 08 30 Hope	

PERAC Meets In Victoria

Graig Pearen, VE7EAP

PERAC, the Provincial Emergency Radio Advisory Committee met for 3 days in Victoria on May 4th to 6th. A letter of understanding formalizing the relationship between PERCS and the Radio Amateurs of Canada (ARES) was approved. New training material was reviewed and approved for use. Three recommendations were sent to PEP for approval and several subcommittees whose work was completed

Northern BC Amateur Radio News

Issue 2 June 2001

were dissolved and others formed. For more details see www.percs.bc.ca

Northern BC Amateurs Win Awards

Each year, the government of BC through the Provincial Emergency Program honors outstanding volunteers by presenting them with a beautiful plaque at an award ceremony and banquet. One award is presented for each of five categories: land search and rescue, air search, communications, emergency social services, and road rescue.

Vern, VE7VJB, of Prince George received the PEP Road Rescue Volunteer of the Year award for long and outstanding service and Graig, VE7EAP, received the communicator of the year award.

Previous northern BC award winners include last year's communicator award winner, Kim, VE7DZV, of Terrace and Gord Meakin of Prince George won the SAR award a couple years before that.

New NE Regional Volunteers

Hugh Mortimer, VE7EQV of Prince George has accepted the job as an assistant Regional Amateur Radio Representative for the Northeast Region. Frank, VE7AV has assumed the job of station manager for the PREOC (VE7PGZ). Hugh & Frank will be assuming some of the responsibilities that Graig has been handling, thus leaving more time for Graig to devote to PERCS and the Provincial Emergency Radio Advisory Committee activities.

The NE region is the largest geographic region in the province and Ernie Davidson, VE7BGB, of Williams Lake shares the RARR and PERAC duties with Graig.

Graig: 560-5678 gpearen@telus.net
Ernie: 392-5728 ejdavidson@telus.net
Hugh: 963-3209 hmortimer@direct.ca

New NW Region Regional Rep

Mike Pilon, VE7DQC, of Prince Rupert has been selected as the new Regional Amateur Radio Representative (RARR) for the Northwest region of the province. The NW region extends from Vanderhoof to the islands and north to the Yukon border. With Mike assuming the RARR duties, Kim now has more time

available to devote to his job as the chairman of the Provincial Emergency Radio Advisory Committee (PERAC).

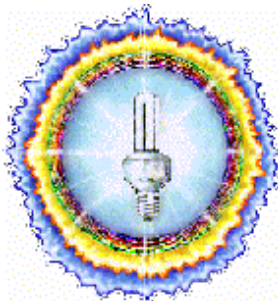
Mike: 627-5956 mpilon@citytel.net
Kim: 635-3529 kolfert@kermode.net

Sound Card Packet

You can use the sound card in your computer as a TNC to operate on Packet. A link to the software is available in the links section on www.percs.bc.ca.

Battery Desulfator

You can extend the life of a lead-acid battery by installing a desulfator on it. This circuit runs from the battery and generates high-current pulses that break up sulfate crystals. Desulfators are available commercially or you can do what I did and build your own from an article that was published in Home Power Magazine. It would be a good idea to have one on your repeater battery, camper battery, 1 of course the battery that you have in your home for power black-outs.



Home power has numerous articles that you can download, even the entire magazine! Go to www.homepower.com and have a look around. It's a great site and you'll find several construction articles that are of interest to Amateurs. This particular one in on their "Downloads 2" page.

Coming Events

Field Day: June 23 – 24

EOC course – Dawson Creek June 23

Logan Lake Hamfest: July 13-15

Prince George Heart & Stroke Walkathon: Sept.
(PGARC will do traffic control)

I took an IQ test and the results were negative.

I just got lost in thought. It was unfamiliar territory.

Ever stop to think, and forget to start again?

Out of my mind...Back in five minutes.