

**YARA Workshop 2010**  
**Saturday, January 16 10:00 - 4:00**  
**EMO Meeting Room**

**SW, GP, MA, JMX, BG, GB, RM, DM, FA, DW, PG, JWM, ORT, MG, PJB**

1. Introduction - SW 1008

- Overview of workshop - purpose, objectives, topics to be covered

2. History of YARA - Ron 1015 - going into 34<sup>th</sup> year. Charter pres 1976. Log history of YG and YARA working together. (Stewart Crossing microwave fire)

3. RAC - RM 1055

Stretch break 1104

5. YARA - Organization & Governance - DM 1117 - 1217

YARA as a Society, Constitution & Bylaws, Responsibilities of directors, Records - minutes & financial reports

6. Where the resources/money comes from - SW - 1217 - 1237

\$5,000 annually from EMO

\$1,500 from KCIBR

\$1,000 from KRR

\$2,000 from City of Whitehorse (this year they bought the equipment we told them to buy; usually we buy the gear and they write us a cheque)

\$1,300 from memberships (1000 - 1500 each year)

Marine system has 3 main sources - EMO contributes \$5000

DFO contributes \$6,000 annually - we have a 3-year contract with DFO based on us allowing them access to our site on Atlin Mountain

Yukon Electric gives us \$6,000 - there are some contracts re: site access and partnerships - we help maintain their equipment

We own the land and buildings at Pilot Mountain, Atlin Mountain, Panacea, (and two others - which two others?)

We've had successful grant applications from CDF for specific purposes - \$20,000 for one . . .

We've had successful Lotteries Yukon grants approved - \$16,500.

Southern Extension was a partnership between ourselves, Parks Canada and WP&YR. We received \$21,000 from WP&YR, we used the Lotteries Grant, and Parks has agreed to spend \$5,000 in 2010 and \$10,000 in 2011 for tuning and tweaking.

The \$5,000 we used to get each year from the Federal JEPP program is gone. Their funds are no longer available for maintenance, only for

training – we could bring in an instructor, for example, for emergency preparedness training.

Lunch

4. Visioning Discussion – Terry – 13:48

review of participants' survey – membership, trade show, mini field day got the most hits – EMO is important to everybody where we see YARA in 5 years, 10 years, 20 years

RM – need binder with pictures and wiring diagram and documentation of every repeater site – include maps and directions

SW – we have that for 2/3s of our sites now, has a list of repeater freqs and antenna directions and GPS coordinates for 90% of the sites. Have topo maps in PDF form for each site. Goal is hard copy in radio room, password-protected file on our website – there is highly confidential information in the file, and we have partners – SW sees this with a 3-year completion. Partly dictated by need to access each site for maintenance.

(PJB – while I'm thinking about it – we need a cheat sheet and photos of the radio room IN the radio room as well so if someone less experienced gets there in an emergency, we can get going)

JWM – also need to consider how long JS will be here – which is key to SW's determination to compile the information.

DM – should we identify a few people who can apprentice with JS – succession planning? Yes

Emergency preparedness – belongs on all our time frames –

MA – would be nice to use it more, be involved in more EMO exercises, do our own.

ORT – need to become familiar enough with the radio room that it's second nature.

MA – training and documenting the skills people have in the radio room

RA – for the 1-year goal, get as many of us as possible trained in the radio room

SW - maybe the 3-year goal could be to bring in some outside training expertise and access some JEPP training funds

SW - DFO is bringing in trainers for Level 2 incident command

RM - any course EMO offers, we get in free

MA - for a 1-year goal, lets document everyone's training and get a schedule of training opportunities

SW need to find funding deadlines for JEPP, etc.

JWM - EMO website is out of date . . .

RM - do some PR with RCMP, Dept of Highways, etc. - make them aware of our capabilities

MA - have we sent anything back to Airports saying we have used your radios for the XCski project, thank you? - RM- not yet, that's my last thing to do now that the work is done on the project.

SW did speak with a S/Sgt at the RCMP - we have an open invitation to present our network and show our coverage and capability to each of the 4 watches.

ORT - should we give them a copy of our callout list? SW - for sure

PJB - we need a list of who outside YARA needs our contact info - and we need to regularly update it

PG - everyone should think about being prepared - a 72-hour kit ready to go, a bug-out bag in case you have to leave your home - we have to get to the point where we're ready to go at a moment's notice - should be in 1-yr category

RM - in the radio room there are two red backpacks -

JWM - he, PG and MG are looking at putting on a short course on survival kits - 1 yr goal

DM - at field day we can go through go kits -

ORT - the club could put together go-kits to keep here, in the Suburban - just add radio . . . 3 or 1

3 yr goal - as many as possible of us to have kits

VH has talked about a command unit - a trailer with a couple of bunks, set up a table "operating position" - whole trailer is wired for radio - you need to add groceries, your radio, your pillow

RM - we used to have an ATCO trailer that was exactly that - it was deemed too big to be pulled by most vehicles - proved not to be practical. YG has a 40-foot trailer that has everything - the Wildland Fire one - RM's preference is to have a tent

PG - a small travel trailer

ORT - Class C motorhome and a construction camp light plant (w/40-ft crank-up tower) 5 to 10-year goal - needs to be hard-wired with coax and appropriate electrical wiring

RM - the trailer we have is at the home of EI

GP - we have a number of YARA assets that are on loan to various members so they are kept in good working order

DM - inventory - 1 yr or 3 yr plan - find out what we own and where it is - i.e., DM has the YARA service monitor in his basement for the last 15 years

JWM - stickers - this is the property of YARA

ORT - and a sign-out list

RM - ask YG/EMO - 1 yr plan - hats, magnetic signs, vests - have some identification of some kind

Durham Radio has a reflective vest for \$23 that says "Radio Communications"

ORT - I have a dozen vests right now

RM - YARA signs at entry points to the Yukon - 1 - 3 yr goal - YG will pay for them, we jus thave to ask

RM - we're now in the Yukon map - PG sent in the information

RM - gets around to membership again - was at the Arbutus club years ago - should we send an invoice to every member at the beginning of the year?

SW - a couple of people on the phone could do it

SW - some people help us with the races each year but they don't pay their membership - what do we do?

ORT - membership in a club like this is up to the individual . . .

RM - but non-members aren't covered by our insurance should something happen - waiver? Honorary membership?

Discussion about what do with licensed amateurs here who aren't members

DM - what are fees for comparable clubs?

RM - from the City of Whitehorse viewpoint, our membership fees are about right - some feel it's too low - (PJB - Rotary is \$133.75 every 6 months, not including meals)

SW - membership revenue now is about 5% of our revenue; even if we doubled the fee, it's pretty small - more important to get as many people around the table willing to participate as possible

JWM - re trade show - has there ever been a sign aimed at existing ham operators who aren't members?

ORT - increasing membership -

DM - do we want to increase the membership, or get more people involved in both things?

ORT - willing participants

SW - curling club has a volunteer fee of \$100 every year - if you volunteer for enough things, you get your money back - so it's really a non-volunteer fee

RM - we have a lot of people from the Philippines in Whitehorse - they have no idea where there's an IRLP in Whitehorse - they have to speak in English or French on the system - but they could talk to their relatives . . .

(Skype, internet fulfil that role)

FC - have you ever wanted to be on the other side of the yellow tape?

JWM - what are we doing to encourage younger members?

RM - is there a Yukon science teacher who would be interested in getting their license? Could talk to the space shuttle . . .

ORT - it's up to us to do these things, not wait for it to come charging through the door

RM - the Rangers also need to be aware of our capabilities

JWM - Gord Reed is aware - he was at the SAR exercise

ORT - need to do hands-on training and fun things other than at events like races

RM- can we build a portable APRS transmitter -

RM - idea - put up a wi-fi transmitter at Haeckel - an internet access point for hams; DSTAR isn't dead - RM and CM are just waiting for the New Horizons application call

3 G wireless

ORT - we should have our own internet connection that will work when Whitehorse fails . . .

DM - maybe we should also have an inventory about what people around this table can do? DI has a satellite-based internet connection at Fox Lake -

DM - 1 yr goal -get Ron to write down at the history - moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> carried

PR - we don't have a formal position on the list of directors

RM - it can be done informally - Paul Flaherty at NWTel doesn't know that when 911 failed YARA could have stepped in - MA says " talk to me some more and I'll get you in touch with Kathy Poulter . . ."

RM - EMO is putting in a recording device in the radio room audio and video - coming in the near future

ORT - what about a library? I have a pile of books at home . . .

We need a place to put them . . .

RM - The public library might be interested in putting together a shelf, properly catalogued

RM - if you don't want your ham radio magazine after you've read it, take it to the hospital, dentist's office, doctor's office, etc

ORT - how quickly do we want people ready -

RM - a lot of people today learned a lot about how the club works - finances

FC - I've been here 6 months now, and YARA has been welcoming, helpful, - YARA has set a bar, and we need to keep working

JWM - besides RM, who else can train others on the radio room?

JS, BG, DM mostly, SW mostly

RM - JS does not play with HF at all - he does everything else

MA - what does success look like? If it's a flow chart for each piece of equipment rather than reading the whole manual - who can help us get there?

Trade Show yes - and work on prerequisites - it's at Mt Mac this year

ORT - set up a real station and do various things

RM - IRLP net once a week

JWM - is there a way to have a permanent antenna set up at the Games Centre in preparation for a real emergency?

Show and Tell

Float at Canada Day Parade

ORT will head up Trade Show

BG - we need to prioritize which repeaters we need to keep going in a pinch -

Haeckel Hill - we have to think about fluctuating membership

JS knows when forestry and others are going to service equipment at our sites . . .

if he's not here, we lose that - we need to be careful not to over-reach ourselves

DM - one of our lacks right now may be "the organizer"

Meeting adjourned 16:04 SW

- PAM, VY1PJB