If you are more than 600 miles away from your target club but still want to have an evening interclub, how do you accomplish it? It isn’t difficult if you have an amateur radio operator in your club who is friends with another amateur radio operator who also happens to be a member of Kiwanis. Just ask Howie Urdang, a 50-year member of the Kiwanis Club of St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada (01945). On October 25, Howie was attending St. Stephen’s weekly meeting when he approached President Roger Alain.

“Roger, I want you at my house on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.,” Howie said.

“Why?” Alain asked. “Because we’re going to have an interclub with Saratoga Springs, New York.”

“How many people are going to be there?” Alain asked. “Just you be there,” was Howie’s curt response. What could Alain do, but show up at Howie’s home at the appointed time?

“What’s happening,” I asked Howie. “Just wait. Sy isn’t on the air yet. There he is now,” Howie exclaimed. Then, before anything could be said, Howie was on the air, calling “Victor Echo One Alpha Charlie Juliet calling Whiskey Bravo Two Mike Echo Whiskey. Come in.”

A moment later, Sy was coming back, informing everyone that the Kiwanis Club of Saratoga Springs, NY (03896), was just getting under way with its supper meeting. In attendance were eight members and one couple’s baby. What followed was the most interesting interclub in which all had participated in. St. Stephens and Saratoga Springs talked about what the clubs were doing for projects and fund raising. President Barbara Frasier of the Saratoga Springs Club and her members filled each other in on where they are going, and how they are getting there.

If anyone is looking for an innovative way to hold an interclub without leaving your home area, just look to the airwaves. Remember; call VE1ACJ to arrange a meeting with St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada. Howie (from Saratoga) knows how to contact Roger A. Alain, Pres. Kiwanis Club of St. Stephen (01945) <rmalain@nb sym pathetic.ca>

Thanks to Sy Saslow, Saratoga Springs Kiwanis Club, like Howie Urdang, he is also a 50 year Kiwanis member and Radio Amateur WB2MEW/4X8SY. He uses his laptop to communicate with Howie VE1ACJ. They use EchoLink® software that allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station. Any Kiwanis Club in the world could join us for an interclub conference. The audio is excellent using (VoIP) technology. Contact them to set up a meeting.

Contact: Howie <hurdang@nbnet.nb.ca> or Sy <wb2mew@att.net> for information.

**Saratoga Springs Interclubs With Canadian Kiwanians Via Ham Radio**

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