



# The **NEWSCASTER**

*The Official Publication of the  
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club  
Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club*

December 2000

Free to Members

vol: 2000-12

## **Annual Xmas Get together**

**Come out for the entertainment, to meet  
your fellow hams and to just say hi.**

**Date:** December 11th, 2000  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

### **Other Important Dates:**

Articles: Dec 20 - Article Deadline December Newscaster

WARC: Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 12, Apr 9, May 14, Jun 11- Meeting  
schedule

WSC: Dec 14 - Xmas Party  
Dec 20 - Annual General Meeting

ARES: Feb 10-11 Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races  
Dec 19 Gord Giesbrecht "Coping with Cold Wx"  
Jan 16 Salvation Army - CAPT Heather Darrach.

Other: Dec 31 - RAC Canada Winter Contest  
Thursday 9:00pm - MRS Net 147.390 MHz +  
Sunday 1:00pm - MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

### **RADIOGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT: by Darcy, VE4DDW**

Hello everyone!! I've been very busy over the last few months, but things are starting to settle down a bit now. I was lucky enough to be the successful candidate for a recently created position at 17 Wing. For some reason, they think that work should take priority over other things in life (yes...even amateur radio). Anyway, it's been a very busy time, while I learn all about new Information Technology resources that we use across the country. I've found that technology can be a really scary thing for some folks...hard to believe that we've used computer in the workplace for years, but some people still call to find out how to copy files from disk to hard drive!

Anybody that was present at the last few WARC meeting will agree with me that it's hard to remember a time when we've had this many quality presentations in a row. Obviously David is doing a fantastic job convincing people that they do have information that others find interesting. I know for a fact that the ideas being bounced around right now, will maintain the high standards that we've set.

This month brings with it the annual holiday celebrations at the club. We have tried to put together another fantastic evening for the members and their spouses. I understand that the Intermods will make a repeat performance, with a few additions to their play list. Of course no one can forget the FOOD! Ruth VE4XYL has graciously offered her assistance to the club in the huge undertaking that we all enjoy each year.

It seems like a good time to remind you all how important it is to renew your membership and stay current with the club. The measly \$15.00 that we ask for is just barely enough to pay for the yearly publication of the newsletter your reading right now. I can say with confidence that the club is at one of its highest points that I can remember. This club runs the way YOU want it to! That means that if you want a new presentation TELL US. If you want to change the way we do things, TELL US. I'm so fortunate to be dealing with such a great group of people.

### **WARC: Executive for 2000 - 2001**

Past President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
President	Darcy Wilson	VE4DDW	783-0421
Vice-Pres./ PR	Tom Mills	VE4SE	837-6915
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	VE4CRS	589-6718
Treasurer	Sue Collings	VE4SYM	694-1525
Membership	Mariska Maguire	VE4MMG	256-3143
Program	David Rosner	VE4DAR	489-4106
Goodwill	Vern Dutton	VE4VQ	256-5346

But neither my executive, nor I can read minds. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR INPUT!! Remember, complaints are easy to make, but recommendations should always follow.

If you can't make it to the meeting to take part in the celebrations, I wish you the best of the season. Otherwise, we'll talk over eggnog.

**Minutes for W.A.R.C. November 13th, 2000  
Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS**

*President's Welcome Darcy VE4DDW*

Darcy opened the meeting at 19:30 hours. Darcy thanked everyone for attending. Introductions followed. 46 members attended.

*Minutes of October 16th, 2000 meeting*

Moved by Jim VE4AJR, seconded by Harm VE4HAZ that the minutes of the October 16th meeting be accepted as printed in the Newscaster. Carried.

*Flea Market Report - Sue VE4SYM*

Flea Market was a success. Revenue - \$639.58. Net profit from flea market - \$519.58. Thanks to Sue VE4SYM and Ruth VE4XYL for a job well done.

Industry Canada Amateur Centre  
Voice 1-888-780-3333 (toll-free)  
Fax: 1-613-991-5575  
Email: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca  
Web: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/spectrum>

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Comments or if you just want to reach us :

**Newscaster Editor**  
**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**  
**C/O VE4WSC**  
**598 St. Mary's Road**  
**Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5**  
<http://www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc/>

*Newscaster on Web - Derek VE4HAY*

Problems have occurred re emailed newscaster. Derek explained that the Newscaster is in a portable document format - adobe - as an attachment. In order to read the Newscaster, Adobe Acrobat Reader needs to be downloaded. It is a free download at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

Darcy VE4DDW explained that Mark VE4MAB is updating the WARC website. The official WARC website is: [www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc](http://www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc)

*Correspondence - Darcy VE4DDW*

Darcy informed members of the Seminar "Overview of Robotics Research Projects", which will be taking place on November 15, 2000. The invitation to attend was from W. Kinsner VE4WK

The club VE4BB received a QSL CARD from IZ3ATU, France, the Italy contest. Bob VE4RCJ informed members that the contact was made from our display at the Movie Theatre in St. Vital.

*Treasurer's Report - Sue VE4SYM*

WARC Treasurer's Report for October 2000

Total monthly revenue	\$1,623.58.
Total monthly expenses	\$ 630.88
Book balance as of October 31, 2000	\$5,191.04

*Programming - David VE4DAR*

Darcy DDW thanked David VE4DAR on behalf of WARC for last month's program "An Evening to Remember", honouring Manitoba's Amateur Radio Pioneers. Feedback was very positive from all who attended. Thank you, David!

David VE4DAR thanked Darcy for his comments and thanked all members who made the evening possible.

David briefly previewed the program for the evening, "Safety First", being presented by Albert VE4AJB.

Next month's meeting, December 11th, 2000 is dedicated to holiday celebrations. It will include: - hat and mug decorating contest, draw, loonie raffle, Ruth's fantastic refreshments, The Inter-Mods with new numbers, and a surprise guest. All are invited and spouses are welcome.

*Membership - Mariska VE4MMG*

Mariska thanked all members for renewing their membership. As of the flea market, 177 members renewed.52 members requested the Newscaster by email.

The lucky winner of the WARC Membership draw for an IC-T2H two meter handheld was John Bell VE4OL.

Tom VE4SE explained that ICOM donated a \$100.00 gift certificate. It went towards the handheld. Comtelco also contributed and WARC made up the rest.

#### *RAC Report - Rick VE4OV*

1. Ed Henderson VE4YU, President of the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club, VE4WSC, has received approval from his Board of Directors to volunteer the Senior's Club as the new QSL bureau for the new International Space Station. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) operation for Canadian QSL cards will be handled by Norm Coull VE4EH. The Radio Amateurs of Canada Vice President of International Relations, Dr. Ken Pulfer VE3PM, has congratulated the Senior's Club on their wisdom and their vision. All of the small details will be worked out in the coming weeks.

2. Since the Federal election has been called, there is no news from Industry Canada on the proposed Gazette Notice for the 12 wpm morse code qualifications to be dropped to 5 wpm.

3. The AMSAT Phase 3-D Satellite should be launched on November 15th, 2000. Check the AMSAT and the ARRL web pages for the latest news.

#### *WARES Report - Jeff VE4MBQ*

Jeff regretted not attending the previous club meeting. A comprehensive report was in the Newscaster.

He notified members of the next WARES meeting, Tuesday, November 21st, 2000 at the Stephenson Library. The guest speaker is from Child Find Manitoba.

Jeff informed members that it is not too early to consider the possibility of a Red River Valley flood in the spring of 2001. MB ARES executive first planning meeting will be next week. There will be an on-line volunteer registration form. The URL will be in the December Newscaster. Paper forms will be available in January 2001. The biggest challenge of '97 flood operations was volunteer recruitment before the flood. We had lots of volunteers during the operation, but dealing with them once operational was problematic.

Questions from Members were answered as follows:

- we were not called up when aircraft crashed in Assiniboine forest. Members could be called out to hospitals.

- VE4SE said police and firefighters have different talk groups.

Tom VE4SE mentioned report of stolen jeep with portable radio. Jeep belongs to VE4WAL and is marked as such. There had been interference on Gimli repeater, and both instances could be related. The vehicle is a Ford Ranger.

Membership draw this meeting was a thermos food flask. The raffle draw was a soldering gun. Congrats to the winners!

#### *Presentation*

Albert VE4AJB has extensive experience in "Safety First". Albert explored the themes of safety in the shack and at the workbench, lightening strikes, and safety around and on towers and antennas. The equipment he displayed and his knowledge on these subjects was most impressive. Thank you, Albert.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

### **Contest Calendar**

#### *December*

01-03	2200-1600	CW ARRL 160 meter Contest
02-03	1800-0200	RTTY TARA RTTY Sprint
02-03	1800-1800	CW TOPS Activity 80m Contest
03	2000-2400	CW QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits
09-10	0000-2400	CW/SSB ARRL 10 meter Contest
10	0300-0500	CW Great Colorado Snowshoe Run
15	2100-2300	CW/SSB AGB Party Contest
16	0000-2400	RTTY OK DX RTTY Contest
16-17	1400-1400	CW Croatian CW Contest
16-17	1600-1600	CW/SSB International Naval Contest
30-31	1500-1500	CW Stew Perry Topband Distance
30-31	1500-1500	CW Original - QRP - Contest
31	0000-2359	CW/SSB RAC Canada Winter

#### *January 2001*

01	0000-2400	CW ARRL Straight Key Night
01	0000-0100	CW/SSB AGB "New Year SnowBall"
01	0800-1100	RTTY SARTG New Year Contest
01	0900-1200	CW AGCW Happy New Year
01	1600-2200	CW/SSB HangOver Hustle
06-07	1500-1500	CW AGCW-DL QRP Winter Contest
06-07	1800-2400	Digital ARRL RTTY Roundup
06	1800-2400	SSB Kid's Day Operating Event
06	0500-1000	CW/SSB Old New Year Contest
06-07	1800-0600	CW North American QSO Party
12-14	2200-2200	CW Japan Int'l DX, Low Bands
13-14	0000-2400	CW YL-ISSB QSO Party
13-14	0700-2359	CW Michigan QRP Club CW Contest
13-14	0900-2100	SSB/CW Hunting Lions on the Air
13-14	1800-0600	SSB North American QSO Party
20	1200-2000	CW LZ Open Contest
21	0000-2400	CW HA DX Contest
26-28	2200-1600	CW CQ W W 160m Contest
27-28	0600-1800	CW REF
27-28	1300-1300	SSB UBA

## An open letter to all interested amateurs. By Pat Giesbrecht VE4PLG

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*Dear Executive and Interested WARC Members;*

As a former RAC section Manager, a former member of the Executive of The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, a member of WARC, a member of ARES, a member of MRS, a member of RAC and a concerned Amateur I am writing to you about some of my concerns and concerns of others as to where this club is headed. It is my observation that WARC is losing members every year and this worries me. WARC is a great club but we have become very complacent in the past while. We seem to have lost all purpose. We seem to think that a meeting once a month is enough to keep our members happy and willing to come out. Well this is "NOT" enough. As a club we used to participate in many functions and events such as road races and bicycle races, and now we do none of these. We have given all this to ARES and we now have very little recognition as a club. We also let new members slip through our fingers. We do not offer new members anything to do. The only events we participate in as a club where we can actually use our hobby to its' fullest are Field Day and the Manitoba Marathon. As an executive can you not see how good it makes our members feel to be able to participate and actually use the skills we worked so very hard to obtain. We must get back to the basics here. We are Radio Operators and we would like to be able to use our skills and get some valuable practice as operators and be ready in case of disaster. Don't get me wrong, I am not knocking ARES or any of the work they do, but WARC used to do a lot of the things that ARES has now taken on, and I for one do not like the feeling of uselessness the WARC members now feel. We feel left out! ARES has taken everything we used to do and left us with the one big event a year, the Marathon. ARES has done some great work in the past and will do so in the future but don't you think we should have a little something for our WARC members too? Before anyone starts to pick up something to throw at me remember that most WARC members are also members of most of the other organizations I speak of, so in most part WARC members are doing a lot to further Amateur Radio but I think some of this should be done under the title of WARC instead of the other groups. Even the WARC Flea Market is not just a fund raiser for WARC any more, it has become and I quote "The only means ARES has of raising money for their operations". Has this not gotten away from the reason the Flea Market was started, to raise money to keep WARC in operation? I may be Black listed for some of my comments but I feel it is time something is done to change the situation before WARC as a club folds. I surely don't want that to happen. It has meant a lot to me and to others for a long time. So lets work together to straighten out our problems and keep this club going.

One of the problems we have at WARC is our monthly meetings. The programs are very good and I must compliment everyone who has given demonstrations or has talked to our members on subjects we are all interested in. The biggest problem I can see is the fact that the business portion of our meetings lasts way too long. Can we not stick to "JUST WARC" business? We seem to be more concerned about what RAC, MRS and ARES are doing rather than what we are doing. If you attend meeting of these other clubs or organizations they do not give time during their business meeting for things that WARC is doing so why should we spend precious time telling everyone what these other groups are doing? Should anyone be interested they can find out about RAC at the RAC web site. If they want to find out about ARES they can attend an ARES meeting and if they want to know what MRS is doing listen to the MRS nets twice a week or read about them in the different news letters. Why must we have these organizations as part of our business meetings? Should the executive decide that we still have these organizations give us information at our WARC meetings then could you not limit their participation to not less than 2 minutes and not more than 5 minutes. I have attended some of these meetings where the talks have lasted up to 20 minutes. That is way "TOO" long to keep anyones' attention. I for one get very bored with long meetings and I don't think I am the only one. Most members attend the meetings because they want to hear the presentation not the business meeting. We do keep the WARC portion of the business meeting short which is good, so could we please not let the meetings get so out of control that they last an hour or more. The business part should last no longer than 20 to 30 minutes. I am afraid that this is one of the reasons we are losing members. By the time the business portion of the meeting is over it is around 8:30, then you take a break and then you have the presentation, have you not noticed that a lot of the members disappear before the presentation even starts? Does this not tell you something? Should the meetings continue to be this long could you not have the presentation first and the meeting later? I think if you reversed the process you would find out just how few are really interested in long meetings. Even some of the participants from these other clubs or organizations disappear after they have their little say and they don't stay for the presentations. I, for one have a night job and have to leave about 9PM so I can get ready for work. I have had to miss many presentations I would have liked to have heard, but because of the length of the meetings I have had to leave. Do you think this is really fair?

We should also try to encourage members from other clubs and organizations to attend our meetings and events, but we must not bore them to tears when they do come, and we must not ignore them either. They may have some very interesting ideas even though they may differ from ours. Let's make these Amateurs welcome!



There are quite a few women who now have their tickets, should there not be some meetings geared towards the concerns of the female operators. If you fellows have not noticed, the ladies can also operate radios and we should not be put on the back burner so to speak. We all worked hard for our tickets as well and should not be relegated to so called (No offense intended), "Kitchen" work. Some of the female operators, and I am one of them, feel intimidated by all the technical talk we hear at meetings and on the air. Could we not have some programs geared to the Amateurs that may not be so technically inclined be they female or not? This would be an excellent way for some of our more seasoned Amateurs to help explain this technical "stuff" to those of us who may not be technically oriented. We are all in this hobby because we like Amateur Radio and we also like the feelings we get when we can help out, be it with the Marathon or with a disaster. This is why we took up this hobby in the first place. So lets get back to what we started out to do when we got our tickets and that is "COMMUNICATE" with one another. Thanks for listening to me.

### **Hints & Kinks** **By Ralph, VE4RY**

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Here's a handy gadget to use for soldering or painting small objects. Drill a hole in one handle of a small spring clamp. Bolt on about a foot of solid 10 to 14 gauge solid wire. Make a small loop in the other end and clamp in your vise or to the workbench with a C-clamp. The clip can be then be positioned exactly where you want it by bending the wire. I've see more elaborate setups using goosenecks etc., but this works just as well and costs next to nothing, in true ham fashion

### **Radio satellite launches next week** **Submitted by Doug Hawley (ex VE4KV)**

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Sirius Satellite Radio will launch its third satellite from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on November 30, When this final satellite is in place, Sirius will be able to deliver 100 CD-quality radio stations anywhere in the continental United States. Drivers will be able to drive across the US tuned to one radio station, and residents of the most inaccessible locations will have access to cutting edge radio technology.

Ford, DaimlerChrysler and BMW have made deals with Sirius, while General Motors and Honda Motor Co. are allied with competitor XM Radio. Associated Press, BBC World Service, Bloomberg, CNBC, CNN/Sports Illustrated, National

Public Radio, and USA Today have all announced plans to deliver content to one or both satellite radio systems.

Alpine, Audiovox, Clarion, Delphi Delco, Fujitsu, Kenwood, Mitsubishi Electric, Panasonic, Visteon and others are building automotive receivers for satellite radio and Lucent Technologies and STMicroelectronics are developing chip sets for the receivers. The Sirius chipset is reportedly near completion and the company says it will demonstrate the system in January.

### **Program** **By David VE4DAR**

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#### *Happy Holidays with WARC*

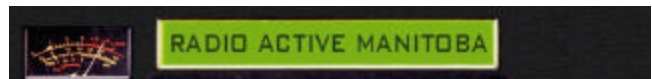
In September we said, "Welcome Back!". There was "An Evening to Remember" in October. Don't forget, "Safety First," from November. Now, it's time to celebrate the Holiday Season.

WARC is having a Holiday Celebration at Sturgeon Creek Collegiate, 2665 Ness Avenue in St. James on Monday, December 11, beginning at 1930 hours.

The judges have been selected for the hat and mug decorating contests. Sandwich spreads are being prepared and ovens at Ruth's Kitchen are baking Christmas Goodies for you to sample. The song sheets are being printed. Adam's tuning fork is keeping The Intermods on key (CW?).

A surprise guest is rumoured to be enroute. And prizes, too. What a show it should be!

Start decorating your hat and mug. Put a couple of loonies in your pocket for the draw. Tune your voices for the sing song. Bring your "sweetie" or a friend and join us for an evening of fun. Happy Holidays from WARC.



**[WWW.VE4.NET](http://WWW.VE4.NET)**  
**Promoting the Spirit of Radio**

Bob Hrabi

VE4ZAP

## **Winnipeg ARES Report**

### **by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC**

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Our November meeting featured Lianna McDonald from Child Find Manitoba. Lianna gave us a very interesting and at times disturbing talk about lost/abducted children. Child Find is planning on putting on some courses for volunteer searches - WPGARES will attempt to provide emergency amateur communications for Child Find upon request. Several of our members are interested in their search course.

An addendum to our Emergency Plan was distributed that outlines key locations for emergency amateur communications in Winnipeg that our members could be assigned to. If you missed the meeting please ask me for your copy at the next WARC or next WPGARES meeting. A pamphlet from Emergency Preparedness Canada Winter Driving was also distributed. One of our mobile radio kits has been left at VE4EOC as a supplemental radio. A copy of the new Sherlock Streetguide has also been left at VE4EOC - the 6th edition is now our official map reference.

Manitoba ARES Executive and WPGARES have begun planning for POSSIBLE Flood Operations next spring. I am putting together an ARES team to operate VE4EMO if required - if you are interested please let me know ASAP. We hope to begin practice sessions by mid-January. Amateur volunteers will be much needed if we do get into a flood situation. If interested please register ASAP. You can register on-line: [www.escape.ca/~wpgares/cgipage.htm](http://www.escape.ca/~wpgares/cgipage.htm)

Paper copies will be available at meeting beginning in January - possibly in the Newscaster if Derek has space.

Interest in CANWARN continues to grow both inside the amateur radio community and with emergency planners. I was privileged to present a lecture "CANWARN - Manitoba's Early Warning System" at the MEMO Mitigation 2000 Conference in mid-November. Advanced Spotter Training is being contemplated for Spring 2001 if we are not otherwise occupied or in the fall if spring proves to be a busy time. If there is enough interest we will also do a Basic Spotter Training Course - let me know if you are interested in a Basic Course. The list of district CANWARN representatives is on the WPGARES web-site, toward the end of the CANWARN section. Our web-master Ian Clark VE4CLK is doing a terrific job!

On SAT 25NOV nineteen WPGARES and four 1st SVV-SCARES members attended a familiarization at Wpg International Airport of the MEMO Emergency Mobile Command Centre - VE4EMC (EMCC). The EMCC is equipped with a variety of radio equipment including Fleetnet (MEMO and Wpg Airport Authority), MEMO VHF, Amateur VHF, VHF Aircraft, mobile telephone and cellular. Satellite phone and fax will be on-line soon. Thanks to Marc Bruyere and

Don Gerrard for the planning that went into the informational hand-out and their "off-duty" time at the trailer. The attendees were VE4s: ACX, AJR, CRS, DAR, DWG, HAZ, HK, GWN, KAZ, KU, MAQ, MBQ, MMG, RCJ, SE, TRO, WF, WTS, VID; GRM, JHJ, MAQ, Kelvin VE4???

WPGARES members that missed the tour should ask me for their hand-out at the next meeting.

The next WPGARES meeting is TUE 19DEC 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Dr Gord Giesbrecht (Human performance Lab UofM) will be giving us a presentation on "Coping with Cold Weather".

## **News from the Winnipeg Seniors' Radio Club**

### **by Gil Frederick, VE4AG**

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2 events happen this month of great importance - the annual Christmas Party taking place on Thursday, the 14th, and the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, the 20th.

The Party is featuring the traditional turkey meal, with the inclusion of cabbage rolls and meatballs. Following this sumptuous dinner, there will be great entertainment by talented artists, including Ralph, VE4RY; Paul Palace and "Dolf the Clown". a sing-along, a skit by Bob, VE4RJH and Ruth, VE4XYL, and a medley of songs by that great singing group, "The Intermods", although when you hear them, you might want to call them "The Heterodynes" (kidding, of course!)

And we can't forget the myriad of draw prizes to be won - you have a 1 in 4 chance of getting something - and there are door prizes and a raffle. The raffle consists of 2 Gingerbread Houses full of goodies, a fabulous Barbie Doll in a beautiful gown, and a super Arctic Fleece Jacket, courtesy of Gladys, VE4GE. All those attending will receive a hand-made basket with goodies in it (also courtesy of Gladys, VE4GE). So there is something for everyone who attends. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. All proceeds go to the club.

Dinner Party tickets are \$15.00 each, and can be obtained from a Duty Officer at the Club; from any Executive member, or you can phone 233-3122 for further information, or phone George, VE4GNG at 774-6378 to arrange to get your ticket(s).

There are only 100 tickets available, so place your order NOW so you won't be disappointed.

The location is the Royal Canadian Legion, 3600 DeVries Ave. in East St. Paul (just off the Perimeter Highway and Henderson Highway junction). Doors open at 11:30 a.m., dinner after 12 noon. Lots of parking available, and elevator service also. Hope to see you all there!

And the Club event that has a big impact on its operation is the General Meeting being held at the Clubrooms on Wednesday, December 20, from 9:30 onwards. ALL members are asked to attend – at this meeting we ELECT those that will govern your Club during 2001. Every member has a voice, and a vote – and we need to hear what you have to say.

So, please, let's have a big turnout.

There will be an issue of "Sparks" in late January, which will include the names of the new Executive and Board, the minutes of the meeting, and annual reports. This issue will also appear on our website:

<http://www.pangea.ca/~ve4wsc>

Season's Greetings to All – and we hope you have a Happy New Year.

### **RAC Bulletins**

[www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbullemail.htm](http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbullemail.htm)

#### *RAC Bulletin 00-091E*

Canadian Amateur takes over as President of AMSAT-NA

Robin Haighton VE3FRH, has replaced Keith Baker KB1SF as the President of AMSAT North America.

Robin, who has been a licensed amateur since 1977, formerly held the call GD4INU. An electrical engineer by profession, he joined AMSAT in 1991, organized the AMSAT-NA annual meeting in 1997, and more recently occupied the position of Executive Vice- President at AMSAT before replacing KB1SF as President.

Robin has been an active member of the Canadian amateur radio community for many years, he has been a life member of CARF and now RAC since 1980. More recently, he has become one of two RAC representatives to ARISS, the volunteer organization managing amateur radio participation on the International Space Station

#### *RAC Bulletin 00-097E*

New Basic Question Bank Issued.

The second edition of RIC-7 was issued by Industry Canada earlier this month.

This circular contains the questions that will be used effective January 01, 2001, for making Basic Qualification examinations for the Amateur Radio Operator Certificate. This early release is intended to enable course providers sufficient time to prepare course material for future Amateur Radio Operator Courses. Until this time, examinations will be compiled using the existing question banks.

The question bank can be downloaded from the Industry Canada website at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01900e.html>

The RAC Study Guide for Basic Exam, 6th Edition fully covers the new questions.

### **Am I a good Amateur Radio Operator..Quiz... by Eric, VE4EPC**

To score 100 points you must meet the following criteria.

1. I am a licensed (Certificate holder ) Amateur.
2. I follow all the requirements issued by Industry Canada.
3. I follow the guidelines issued by various clubs as to proper Repeater operations.
4. I am always polite and courteous to all Amateurs.
5. I am willing to assist during times of emergencies.
6. I promote the hobby and encourage others to do so.
7. I avoid controversial conversations.
8. I can fully operate all my equipment and its functions.
9. I understand the difference between Simplex and Duplex and what limitations my equipment has in either mode of operation.
10. I respect the use of all frequencies and the right of all to use them without interruption other than an emergency situation.

If you can say, " YES " to the above 10 questions, then you have scored 100%.

If you say " YES " to any of the follow questions, Deduct 5 points for each question.

1. I am a licensed Amateur that operates on any frequency I want.
2. I do not monitor the frequency before I key up.
3. I have and will acknowledge an individual if no call sign is given.
4. I have sent an unmodulated carrier on a repeater (kerchunk )
5. I do not leave a space between conversations.
6. I see no problem with tying up a repeater .
7. I have been a Ham for many many years and I can do what I want.
8. It's ok to use improper phonetics when using a call sign.
9. Its ok to substitute your call sign with words like " Yeeess and Go Ahead ".
10. Its better to say " Break or Station " instead of your callsign.
11. " Q Codes" were intended for use on 2M or any Voice operation.
12. The use of phonetics is to be used only during " Net Check-ins ".

- 13. It's ok to use a short version of your callsign because everyone knows Im a Victor Echo (or was that a Victor Alpha).
- 14. I think it is ok to talk about or make fun of other Hams while on the air.
- 15. It is ok to give phone numbers or addresses of other hams over the air without their permission.
- 16. It is ok to operate on a repeater even if the person I am talking to is only half a mile from my station and is stationary.
- 17. I use the " WPG " repeater because there is no one on any other frequencies and I am not going to bother to make my contact and move to another frequency.
- 18. I feel that all this rules and regulation stuff is only important when writing the exam for my certificate.
- 19. It is ok to discuss a controversial subject when you say " I really should not discuss this over the air but my intention is to not offend anyone.
- 20. It's ok to break the rules as long as we are having fun and after all it's " ONLY " a Hobby.

So , how did you score , and just for FUN the next time you monitor a conversation see how well they score.

Just one more thing, the above is not intended to be humorous or a joke , and I have not yet found the word "Destinated " anyware in a dictionary or in a word processor spell checker.

73 ( or is it 73s or seventy threes )

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### **Editors Ramblings By Derek VE4HAY**

The Holiday season is coming very quickly. By the time you read this it will be less than three weeks away. So what does that mean. Well, it means that your time left to leave hints around the house for that new rig, accessory, microphone, antenna or whatever is running out quickly.

And with that, on behalf of myself and my family I want to wish everyone a very good holiday season and all the best Dx for the New Year.

The entire Executve of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club wishes each of you a very merry Holiday Season and the best of a New Year. Please use a Designated Driver if you are out Drinking & Driving.

73 and happy DX

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