



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc/>

February 2003

Free to Members

My 40 years on 50 MHz Bruce, VE4KQ

Date: February 10th, 2003
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: January 28th - Feb Newscaster deadline

WARC: March 10 - Field trip- Manitoba Electrical Museum
April 14 - Cafeteria - Home Brew Night
May 12 - Propagation explained - VE4SN
June 9 - Field day/Marathon primer

WSC: Feb, 13 - Breakfast Meeting
Feb 15 & 16 - Guides On The Air
Feb. 26 - Chili cook-off
June 9 - 20th Anniversary of WSCRC

ARES: February 11 - Sled Dog Races - briefing
Feb. 18 - Meeting - Future Digital Direction &
Message Handling

Other:

Nets: Daily 01:00 UTC	MB Evening Phone net 3760 KHz
Daily 01:30 UTC	Prairie traffic Net (CW) 3660 KHz
Daily 02:30 UTC	Aurora #2 net 7055 KHz
Weekdays 9:00am	Seniors morning net 147.390 MHz
Wed. 9:00 pm	Six Meter net 50.238 MHz.
Thursday 9:00pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 1:00pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

The President's Call By Louis, VE4PLJ



Hi everyone. I hope all are doing fine. Well last months meeting was a good turn out. I do believe we had about 36 attend, and that's not bad. Considering it being so cold out side. I really hope that this cold snap ends soon. The program on personnel safety was interesting. If anyone took a copy of the survey home with him or her please bring it back at the next meeting. For the ones that did not attend the meeting. You will find a copy of the survey in this month's newsletter. If you cannot make it to the next meeting. You can send it to the W.A.R.C address. Hope to see you all at the next annual W.A.R.C meeting. Bye for now.

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club by Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN, President

The Festive Season is now long gone including even those days of celebration according to the Julian calendar and as the coloured lights of the city begin to turn off, it becomes time to turn on to reality once more. The new Board of Directors for the Club met for the first time in the new year on January 15th and no doubt some of the first-time members of the Board were introduced to their "baptism of fire" rather quickly. The necessary Standing Committees were formed by President Adam and preparations are in place for the smooth conducting of Club business over the next twelve months. I would be remiss if I didn't thank all those former Board

WARC: Executive for 2003

Past President	Darcy Wilson	VE4DDW
President	Louis Gaudry	lsgaudry@mb.sympatico.ca
Vice-Pres	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	rmaman@mb.sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Glen Napady	ve4gwn@rac.ca
Director at Large	Rick Allan	rickalla@mts.net

members who did such a tremendous job during their tenure and who decided, for various reasons, not to stand for re-election. On behalf of all WSCRC members, thanks for a job well done!

Our first monthly breakfast social of the year was held on January 9th at the usual location, Garden City Inn at McPhillips and Jefferson. Twenty six persons attended in spite of the rather chilly temperature that morning and enjoyed good food and good companionship. The lucky winner of the free breakfast draw was Willard Elliott, VE4WJE. The next breakfast gathering is scheduled for February 13th.

For all you Chefs and "wanna be" Chefs, it is time to get your favourite chili recipes, purchase the necessary ingredients and enter the WSCRC Chili Cook-off to be held on February 26th, 2003 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the clubrooms at 598 St. Mary's Road. Entries will be judged for the best-tasting chili and even if you can't boil water without burning it, come out for the fun and get to sample some real scrumptious chili. Pass the Pepto Bismal please!!

Classes for Morse code began on Tuesday, January 14th with an enrollment of twenty three persons. It was necessary to split the group into three separate classes due to the number of people and also because there were some who had more exposure to the code than others. Another factor was the chance for students to select which evening class they would be most able to attend. The code classes are being held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Once again our Club is hosting the Girl Guides On The air for the weekend of February 15th and 16th from 10 a.m. To 3 p.m. At this time we have 21 Guides from the St. Vital area who will make an appearance on those days. However, we extend an invitation to Girl Guides anywhere to attend and have the opportunity to talk with other Guides anywhere in the world via ham radio. Listen for VE4CGG.

Finally, this year is the twentieth anniversary of The Winnipeg Senior citizens Radio Club and we are hoping to be able to plan some social activities to celebrate this milestone. It is important for the membership to get involved. If anyone has a good idea for any form of social activity, please get in touch with the Club and specifically with Alf Keber, VE4ALF and let your voice be heard!



From the Planning Chair:
Glen, VE4GWN

First I must thank everyone involved in presenting the O.S.C.A.R. award to me. I didn't even know that I was in the running for it. As I think back to the names that I remember on the plaque, some I have met, others I have only heard of, I feel honoured to be added to this list.

I hope everyone who attended the January meeting got some good ideas from Constable Campbell. I know I did. The executive has had Ruthie VE4CRS our secretary write a thank you to Constable Campbell (Ruthie has a way with words).

February Bruce VE4KQ will be giving a presentation called "My 40 years on 50 MHz.". I am looking forward to this, as are the others who check in on the Winnipeg 6 meter net (Wednesday evenings 2100 local 50.238 +/- QRN). Even if you are not interested in this band (at this time) please come out, you may get a new opinion about 6 meters.

March our meeting will NOT be at our usual location.
We will be meeting at the Manitoba Hydro Museum, 680 Harrow St. here in Winnipeg. We will meet there for 1930; they have a guided tour that will last about 1-1/2 hours. There will no business meeting on this night. There should be a map of how to find the museum in this News Caster, and one in the March issue as well. Thank-you to Derek VE4HAY for suggesting this tour.

The March meeting will also be the deadline for a volunteer to chair the Flea Market (April 27th). If we don't have someone come forward before the March meeting the Spring Flea Market will be canceled. If you wish to chair this

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.gc.ca/radioamateur.e>

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>
 Newsletters - past issues
<http://www.ve4.net/newsletters.html>

event please contact one of the executive soon. We have already paid for the hall. So please come forward and help out your club!

I spoke to Bob, VE4RCJ about field day. Things have changed and he can't run it this year, but is willing to help. Bob has been well involved with running field day the past two years, and has compiled a checklist of what needs to be done. We are hoping to have someone to chair the field day committee, and others to help out. If you wish to chair the committee, or even help out please contact one of the executive soon. Again I will say, please come forward and support your club!

I'm still looking for ideas for presentations for next year. If you have something that you wish to share with the club, know of someone that may have something interesting for the club, or even if there is a topic you want to see covered please let me know. My phone is still 831 8082, my e-mail is still ve4gwn@rac.ca, and I still monitor the VE4WPG repeater (that is on 147.390+) most evenings.

Yes it's coming.... And soon.

Home Brew Night

April 14th

What have you decided to build ? If you start now, you should have it built in time for the big night. So start building and show your soldering prowlness by bringing your project out on April 14th, to be judged by your fellow hams. If you are lost for idea's, check out these sites on home brew projects.

<http://homepage.tinet.ie/~ei9gq/homebrew.html>

<http://www.ku4ay.net/homebrew.html>

<http://www.ac6v.com/homebrew.htm>

<http://www.ac6v.com/homebrew.htm>

<http://wb0nni.dakotamade.com/>

<http://www.qsl.net/ve3rgw/dream.html>

<http://www.tecsolv.com/cq/>

Silent Keys

We are sorry to report the following 3 amateurs are now Silent Keys.

VE4ANA - Anna Horning

VE4IM - Ivan Morin

VE4GJ - Vic Rowe

Contest Calendar

February

10-10 Inter. Winter Contest	SSB	0001Z	Feb 1
Minnesota QSO Party		1400Z	Feb 1
FYBO Winter QRP Field Day		1400Z	Feb 1
Delaware QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 1
Mexico RTTY International Contest		1800Z	Feb 1
North American Sprint	Phone	0000Z	Feb 2
Six Club 2nd Winter Contest		2300Z	Feb 7
CQ/RJ WW RTTY WPX Contest		0000Z	Feb 8
Asia-Pacific Sprint	CW	1100Z	Feb 8
Dutch PACC Contest		1200Z	Feb 8
YL-OM Contest	CW	1400Z	Feb 8
FISTS Winter Sprint		1700Z	Feb 8
OMISS QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 8
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest	CW	2100Z	Feb 8
North American Sprint	CW	0000Z	Feb 9
QRP ARCI Winter Fireside	SSB	2000Z	Feb 9
ARRL School Club Roundup		1300Z	Feb 10
ARRL Inter. DX Contest	CW	0000Z	Feb 15
YL-OM Contest	SSB	1400Z	Feb 15
CQ 160-Meter Contest	SSB	2200Z	Feb 21
REF Contest	SSB	0600Z	Feb 22
UBA DX Contest	CW	1300Z	Feb 22
North American QSO Party	RTTY	1800Z	Feb 22
Russian PSK WW Contest		0000Z	Feb 23
High Speed Club CW Contest		0900Z	Feb 23
North Carolina QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 23
CQC Winter QSO Party		2200Z	Feb 23

March

ARRL Inter. DX Contest	Phone	0000Z	Mar 1
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship		2200Z	Mar 1
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest		1100Z	Mar 2
SARL Field Day Contest		1000Z	Mar 8
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	CW	1000Z	Mar 8
North American Sprint	RTTY	0000Z	Mar 9
UBA Spring Contest	CW	0700Z	Mar 9
NSARA Contest		1200Z	Mar 9
Wisconsin QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 9
YLISSB QSO Party	SSB	0000Z	Mar 15
10-10 Mobile Contest		0000Z	Mar 15
BARTG Spring	RTTY	0200Z	Mar 15
SARL VHF/UHF Contest		1000Z	Mar 15
Russian DX Contest		1200Z	Mar 15
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest		1600Z	Mar 15
Virginia QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 15
Oklahoma QSO Party		2300Z	Mar 21
CLARA and Family HF Contest		1700Z	Mar 22
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint		0000Z	Mar 24
CQ WW WPX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Mar 29

Minutes for W.A.R.C. January 13th, 2003
Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS

Meeting called to order by President Louis VE4PLJ at 1930 hrs. Introductions followed. 35 members and 2 visitors attended. Regrets: - Mark VE4MAB

Motion to accept minutes of December party minutes as printed in Newscaster by Derek VE4HAY, seconded by David VE4DAR. Carried.

Old Business

Trailer: - Glen VE4GWN reported on behalf of executive that after much discussion and appreciation, decided not to accept offer re trailer due to lack of funds and volunteers. Great idea but impractical. Motion not to outfit trailer for WARC purposes by Gord VE4GF, seconded by Tom VE4SE. Carried.

Flea Market: - Date changed to April 27th, 2003. April 20th is Easter Sunday. In need of volunteer to coordinate. Deadline for volunteer to come forth for coordinating Flea Market is WARC March monthly meeting. Flea Market will be cancelled if no one comes forth even though hall is paid for. Date change and March deadline will be announced on weekly MRS net.

Field Day: - One volunteer has come forth to coordinate, but needs 2 or 3 others to CO-coordinate. Needs a commitment no later than April. Will not coordinate alone.

Treasurer's Report Fred VE4FV

For month ending December 2002: -

Revenue: \$ 110.00
 Expenses: School Rental: - \$ 650.00
 Xmas Party: - \$ 275.27
 Total expenses: - \$ 925.27
 Bank balance: \$ 5,930.98

Programs Glen VE4GWN

This evening: - Police Department on Crime Prevention.

February: - Bruce VE4KQ "My 40 years on 50 MHz".

March: - Field Trip to MB Hydro Museum. Begins at 1930 hours for an hour and a half. Will include address and map in Newscaster.

April: - Home Brew night.

May: - Adam VE4SN on propagation.

June: - Marathon, Field Day previews and elections.

RAC

Derek VE4HAY announced that RAC is looking for new editor for RAC bulletins.

ARES Jeff VE4MBQ

1. Planning for 2003 MB Marathon is underway. Meeting with Technical Director 14 Jan, Radio Group planning meeting 28 Jan. Last year's volunteers will receive email toward end of January. Replies go to Robert VE4RST who is volunteer coordinator. Robert will have submission in Feb. Newscaster. Last year's operation involved over 70 operators covering course checkpoints, lead and sweep cars, sweep buses, medical vehicles, two separate Net Control Locations, back-up operators, etc. Except for transit operators and reserve people most assignments are done in pairs, generally newer operators are stationed with experienced operators. The Marathon is an ideal operation for both experienced and new operators to get involved with public service communications.
2. WPGARES General Meeting is Tue. 21 Jan 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library. Scheduled topic is Packet Radio Operations at Head of the Red Regatta.
3. Still looking for 2 volunteer operators with snowmobiles for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races 15, 16 Feb. Will be running a test net Sun 26 Jan. examining repeater coverage along the course. Still need 4-5 operators for test.

◆From members:

◆ Need HT testing from bus for Marathon.

◆Marathon 25th anniversary. Looking for the volunteers who have participated 25 years.

◆Need to mention Amateur Radio Participation in their press communications.

From Wayne VE4WR: -

1. CASARA – Civil Air Search and Rescue Association: - 3,800 members across Canada, mostly pilots who volunteer to assist civil authorities and GSARC – Ground Search and Rescue Association of Canada. These 2 groups help police, red cross and ARES to conduct large and small scale searches. Many CASARA members are Radio Amateurs and many of them are active in ARES across Canada. If ARES and CASARA and EMO learn to share a common simplex frequency like 148.685 MHz, then better search results can be expected.
2. ERTS plan continues to grow slowly but surely and is becoming growth area for potential Radio Amateurs from Aboriginal and Metis communities.

DX Sleuths Adam VE4SN

Recommends:

Liberia, EL. Ashley, EL2AR has been QRV on 15 meters SSB around 1800z.

Minami Torishima, JD1. JD1YBJ is QRV from the Loran Radio Club. Active on 17 meters between 2200 and 0600z. QSL via JH1EEP.

Lebanon, OD. OD5/OK1MU has been QRV on 30 meters around 0300z. QSL via the OK DX Foundation, Czech Republic.

St. Maarten, PJ6. Lee, VP2VE will be active as PJ5/K3RGD from Saint Eustatius Island, IOTA NA-145, from January 10 to February 10. QSL via WA2NHA. Meanwhile, DJ4SO will be QRV as PJ6/DJ4S) from Saba during this same time. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

Antarctica. Micky, VP8ROT is QRV from Rothera Base has been active on 20 meters from around 0200 5 0500z. QSL via GM0HCQ.

South Africa, ZS. Members of the Vaal Triangle ARC are QRV as ZS90SAP on 80, 40, 20, 10 and 6 meters until December 31. This operation is to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the South African Police Service. QSL via ZS6ZYM.

-Conditions not good.

-Winter RAC contest: - Bad Friday night, didn't start opening up until 0930h next morning. It is drawing international interest.

Presentation

Dick VE4HK presented the 2002-2003 OSCAR award to Glen VE4GWN. Dick gave the history of the award which began in 1977/78 and is given for Outstanding Service Concerning Amateur Radio. He also listed all Glen's accomplishments since he became a ham. Congratulations, Glen. You certainly deserve this award!

New Business

1.Survey: - WARC survey was handed out to members for completion, to be handed in before presentation.

2.Bob VE4ZAP requested access to WARC files for photocopying. Any information to be published will be decided with executive and club members before publishing. David VE4DAR suggested Bob's request be taken under advisement. Tom VE4SE noted that no files were received when Ruth VE4XYL became secretary. Bert VE4AND noted that filing cabinet at WSC is empty, and there may be files in boxes in basement. Louis VE4PLJ will look into matter.

Good and Welfare

David VE4DAR noted problem re computer logging program while contesting. Need to EXIT according to program, not X at right-hand corner.

50/50 draw: - Bob VE4ZAP

Attendance draw: - Rick VE4RA

Presentation

Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention Unit.

A most eye-opening presentation, with much appreciation and thanks.

Important phone numbers: - "Crime in Progress" - 911.

"Suspicious Activity" - 986-6222

Evening adjourned at 2130h.

Manitoba Electrical Museum

Plan on attending our March Meeting at the Manitoba Electrical Museum & Education Centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

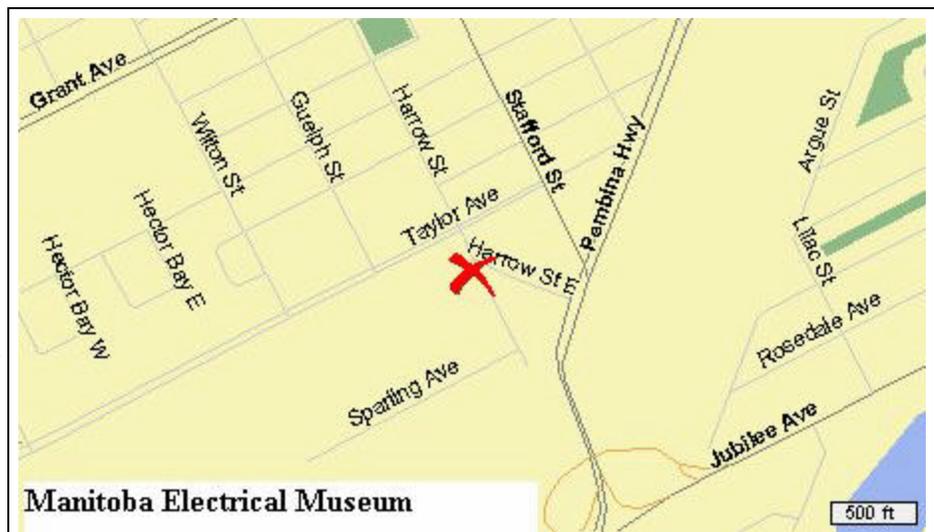
Located at 680 Harrow Street, guided tours are available for the general public, school, and community groups. Maximum group size is 30. Public viewing hours Monday-Thursday 1-4 p.m.

Tours are by appointment only. To schedule a tour please call (204)477-7905.

The museum is a volunteer organization composed of retired members of Manitoba Hydro and the electrical industry.

Within the Museum, six main themes portray the Story of Electricity in Manitoba from the 1870s to the present, as well as a view into the future. On the lower level, a Discovery Area with electrical safety exhibits and seasonal exhibits are displayed.

See you there next month. The X on the map below shows the location of the museum. Look for the large propeller out front. There is parking on the street and around the Manitoba Hydro offices.



News from the Net

5MHz band contact

In a first, Richard Rogers VK7RO has made a cross-band contact with Canada on the 60-metre band.

The Marconi Radio Club at Newfoundland VO1MRC has been experimenting with the new proposed new 5MHz amateur band.

In a prearranged test VO1MRC was initially heard by both Andrew Boon VK7AW and Richard VK7RO in late November, with VK7RO achieving a cross band 40mx/60mx CW QSO on 21 December.

VO1MRC using 90 watts output to a half wave vertical has also confirmed reports from North and South America and Europe.

Other 5MHz experiments by radio amateurs are being conducted in the United States and Britain. -*WIA Victoria*

Collins radio reproductions

An antenna switch, plastic trim, front grille, pointer knobs and winged badges from the famous Collins radio line are being reproduced to an eager collector market.

British firm, Advanced-Optics Limited which is offering high quality Collins reproduction items has an online catalogue <http://www.advanced-optics.com/collins.htm> and the products are being sold in the US through the Collins Radio Association in Pennsylvania <http://www.collinsra.com> -*WIA Victoria*

New antenna technology

An antenna specialist firm Antenova claims to have developed a novel ceramic material that radiates pencil-beam signals from hand-held units.

The British EE Times publication reports that Antenova has effectively torn up the rule book for antenna design with its high dielectric technology.

One of the main benefits is that the antennas are made from non-conducting material and do not suffer from the same kind of conductor losses that effect conventional copper antennas.

The company's patented antenna design provides directionality by a compact, single element structure, as opposed to multiple element phased array antennas.

Other claimed benefits are high efficiency, immunity to proximity de-tuning, flexible bandwidth, and increased power handling due to fewer conductors.

Antenova will be marketing the antenna in early 2003 to the Wireless LAN, mobile and cordless phone, short-range communication, automotive, and military sectors. -*WIA Victoria*

New Saudisat

Robin Haighton, VE3FRH, and AMSAT-NA President is pleased to announce that he has received the following E-mail from Saudi Arabia.

Dear Mr. Robin Haighton,

We are pleased to inform you that the Space Research Institute of KACST has successfully launched its third spacecraft, SaudiSat-1C. The launch and separation were accomplished flawlessly on December 20th, 2002, using a modified SS-18 intercontinental ballistic missile.

SaudiSat-1C carries several experiments, including a new mode J FM amateur repeater experiment operating on 145.850 MHz uplink and 436.800 MHz downlink. The repeater was activated and tested this past week, and we are pleased to make it available to your members and amateurs world-wide as power permits. The repeater is accessible using a 67.0 Hertz tone on the uplink, for on-demand activation.

The receive antenna is a single element quarter wave whip on top of the spacecraft, feeding a VHF receiver with -124 dBm sensitivity, while the UHF transmitter is coupled to a quarter wave antenna element on the bottom of the spacecraft, radiating 250mW of RF energy.

We kindly request a new Saudi Oscar designator for our spacecraft.

73,

Turki Al Saud

Director, Space Research Institute.

KACST.

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Robin informed the AMSAT-BB readers that, "This satellite will require activation on each pass by a designated control operator. A world-wide network of designated control operators is now being developed so that Radio Amateurs may begin using the satellite immediately." He continued, "You will note however that a 67.0 Hz tone is required to switch on the satellite when uplinking. The purpose of this is to try and remove annoying interference. You will note that the operational Frequencies are the same as AO-27. We expect that the satellite will receive an OSCAR Number within a few days." -*WIA Tasmanian*

NEW SAUDISAT GETS OSCAR DESIGNATION

A third satellite in the SaudiSat series has earned an OSCAR designation from AMSAT. SaudiSat-1C now will be known as SO-50. The Amateur Radio payload was successfully placed into orbit December 20 from Russia's Baikonur Cosmodrome by a modified Soviet-era ICBM. The German-made SAFIR-M Amateur Radio payload <<http://www.arrrl.org/news/stories/2002/12/24/3/#German>> went into orbit during the same launch, as part of the RUBIN-2 scientific satellite. SAFIR-M has been designated as AO-49. SaudiSat-1C is a project of the Space Research Institute of the King Abdulaziz City for Science and

Technology (KACST) <<http://saudisat.kacst.edu.sa/>>, an independent scientific organization of the Saudi Arabian government. "On behalf of AMSAT-NA I wish to congratulate you and your associates at Space Research Institute of KACST on the successful culmination of this project and hope that amateurs all over the world will have an opportunity to use SO-50," said AMSAT-NA Board Chairman Bill Tynan, W3XO, in making the announcement this week.

SaudiSat-1C follows by a little more than two years the launch of SaudiSats 1A and 1B. Now in a 650-km (400 miles) orbit, SaudiSat-1C carries several experiments, including a new Mode J FM amateur repeater. The downlink frequency is 436.775 MHz. The uplink frequency is 145.850 MHz. A 67.0-Hz CTCSS tone is required for on-demand access to the satellite, which shares the same frequencies as AO-27 and SaudiSat-1A. Space Research Institute Director Turki Al Saud reports that the SaudiSat-1C repeater was activated and tested this past week. Its receiving antenna is a quarter-wave whip atop the spacecraft. The 250-mW UHF transmitter is coupled to a quarter-wave antenna on the bottom of the spacecraft. He said the repeater will be available to amateurs worldwide as power permits.

For tracking, the NORAD identifier for two-line Keplerian elements is 27607.- ARRL

Licensed Radio Amateurs on the Increase

With around 6000 new licensees during 2002, thanks to the Foundation Licence, the number of amateur radio licences in the UK increased by about 10 per cent during the year. 2002 was also a good year for growth in the USA. According to Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, of 'Amateur Radio Newsline', the number of American licensees increased by 2200 to 682,591 during 2002. During the previous year there had been a loss of 816 licensees. Last year 4082 people either upgraded to the top license class in the USA, 'Extra', or went straight to it from zero, indicating an increased interest in the Extra Class since the Morse test was reduced from 20 to 5 words per minute. - RSGB

Morse code on the super information highway

A new software program called CW Communicator is being tested which promises to allow Morse code contacts through the Internet.

The FISTS CW Club reports that the program allows incoming code messages to be seen as a flashing light on a PC monitor, or heard as tones via the sound card and speakers. It even accommodates those who can read the code from a traditional landline telegraph sounder. Anyone interested can find the CW Communicator program at <http://www.mrx.com.au> - WIA Victoria

HIGH SPEED MULTIMEDIA HAMMING COULD BE THE NEXT BIG THING

High-speed multimedia hamming via the "Hinternet" could be the next big thing for Amateur Radio. That's the hope of the ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group, which is adapting the highly popular IEEE 802.11b Part 15 wireless Internet protocol to Part 97 amateur operating.

"We expect it to be nothing less than revolutionary!" says John Champa, K8OCL, who chairs the ARRL HSMM Working Group--a subset of the League's Technology Task Force. The Working Group's new "High-Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia" page <http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/> recently premiered on the ARRL Web site.

Champa's team is calling the specific techniques, software and hardware involved "the ARRL 802.11b protocol" to distinguish it from the unlicensed, commercial protocol. Systems employ direct-sequence spread spectrum techniques and operate in the 2.4 GHz range. The term "Hinternet" (ham + Internet), Champa says, is a user-friendly way to refer to the development of high-speed Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals.

"The development of the ARRL 802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities," Champa predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets.

In addition to emergency communication, Hinternet applications could include two-way streaming video, full-duplex streaming audio, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) applications such as eQSO, EchoLink, iLink and IRLP, and digital voice. As on the wired Internet, communication can be point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multicast at high bandwidth.

"An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone and a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency," says Working Group member Kris Mraz, N5KM. In Michigan, the Livingston County HSMM Experimenters Team already has three HSMM access points--called "Aps" in the commercial world--and about a dozen stations on the air centered on 2437 MHz. Another group of Amateur Radio 802.11b enthusiasts has recently organized in the San Antonio, Texas, area.

Although other amateur allocations also would be appropriate for Hinternet operation, the use of 2.4 GHz was an easy choice, since Part 15 WiFi (wireless fidelity) devices already operate in that part of the spectrum, and inexpensive commercial equipment is widely available. Acting on an

ARRL petition, the FCC has proposed elevating amateurs to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The ARRL publications catalog now includes the book 802.11 Wireless Networks: The Definitive Guide by Matthew S. Gast. The book covers the topics of creating and administering wireless networks.

Champa says that taken in a nationwide context, the meaning of the term Hinternet goes deeper than just an amalgamation of words. "In nautical terms the word hinterland is 'the land beyond the coast,'" he said. "And so it is with us. 'The Hinternet' is the radio net beyond the Internet." - ARRL

WPGARES

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Our January General Meeting featured Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ who gave us an interesting and concise presentation on Packet Operations at the Head of the Red Regatta. Or membership approved a resolution restricting the use of Winnipeg ARES logo clothing or items to Winnipeg ARES members or amateurs volunteering for Winnipeg ARES. John Foster has volunteered to be our "coffee-maker" for general meetings.

Thirteen WPGARES members braved -29.9 C Wind Chill on the afternoon of SUN 26 JAN to carry out Exercise 30 - repeater coverage testing with HTs on the Red River in preparation for Festival du Voyager. Participants were VE4s: KEH, YYL, GWN, SE, VID, DAR, CRS, CLK, JNF, AJR, RCJ, ACX, MBQ. Special thanks to: Yori Tsuji for use of VE4TWO, Bob Jacobs for letting us use his home station to host TWO, Interlake Amateur Radio Club for use of VE4ARC, Prairie Mobile Communications for use of VE4CNR. Previously we set up TWO each day at The Forks and took it down at day's end. Bob lives in the Riverview area almost in the midpoint of the proposed Sled Dog course.

The volunteer briefing for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races (Public Service Event 71) is TUE 11FEB 1900h at Manitoba Sports Federation 200 Main Street, Room 228. Thirty WPGARES members are scheduled for this fun-filled all-weather operation 15, 16FEB. We are still in need of one snowmobile equipped amateur radio volunteer.

Planning for the 2003 Manitoba Marathon SUN 15 JUN is underway, if interested please see Robert Stegmaier's article elsewhere in this issue. The Marathon Radio Group is composed of Robert VE4RST, Richard VE4KAZ, Yori VE4ACX, Wayne VE4WTS, and Jeff VE4MBQ.

The WPGARES display is in need of renewal or replacement. Any members interested in volunteering to look after this needed work please contact Richard Kazuk, ve4kaz@rac.ca

Our next General Meeting is TUE 18 FEB 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Two topics are scheduled: Future Digital Direction, Wayne VE4WTS; Message Handling Jeff VE4MBQ.

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2003 Manitoba Marathon Volunteer Request

By Robert, VE4RST

Another holiday season has come and gone and although the weather is still cold it is time once again to look forward to the coming summer. One of the major events in this upcoming season for Amateur Radio is the 2003 Manitoba Marathon. Last years marathon was a great success. Support for the runners through the presence of Amateur Radio provided for a smooth running event as well as prompt emergency communication when needed which helped save lives. Last years event will also bring many changes to the radio structure of the 2003 marathon through past volunteer's post event suggestions and insights.

With all of this in mind it is time again to think about, generously, giving up a portion of your Fathers Day to volunteer for the marathon. We are asking for your co-operation in volunteering early this year so that the 2003 organizing committee can get a feel to the amount of amateurs and helpers that will be staffing the event. This way the committee can plan not only to fill all of the regular posts, but, hopefully expand our communication ability into areas such as the transit shuttle busses which worked extremely well last year.

This years Manitoba Marathon will be held on Sunday, June 15th with your commitment being from about 6 in the morning to about 1 in the afternoon. There is also a pre-event meeting, the week prior to the marathon, where individual station information packets are discussed and distributed. As perks for volunteering for the marathon, T-shirts, tickets for the pasta feast and an open invitation for the post event BBQ are usually provided.

So, open your calendar, ask your significant others and consider volunteering for this years event. If you have given of your time in the past or have any posts that you would prefer to be stationed too, the organizing committee will try its best to comply. The earlier we can hear from you the better.

The Race Director of the Manitoba Marathon has stated many times that the marathon could not run as smoothly and



as safely as it does without the dedicated commitment of the Radio Amateur community. Please help us make this event not only an exercise in communication but also an ongoing tradition in amateur radio.

You may contact me in one of two ways:
 E-mail ftphysio@mb.sympatico.ca
 Phone 982-9600
 (if on answering machine please leave message)

Please indicate

- ± If and when you last volunteered for the Manitoba Marathon
- ± Your call sign and your name
- ± Your, last position posted at the marathon and if you wish to volunteer there again. (if applicable)
- ± Your phone number and preferred time of contact
- ± If you wish to be posted with someone in particular
- ± Your T-shirt size
- ± What was the first year that you volunteered for the Marathon

What is the DARF Trust?

DARF is the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund.

It is a Trust Fund established in the early 90's by the Canadian Radio Relay League, to provide financial support for research, and to defray travel expenses of a delegate to World Radio Conferences to defend the Amateur Radio Bands. The Fund is maintained by donations from individual Canadian Amateurs and from Canadian Amateur Radio Clubs. The fund is entirely separate from Radio Amateurs of Canada, and RAC Directors and Executive do not control how the funds are spent.

How is the DARF Trust Fund Managed?

The Fund is managed by three trustees who are Canadian radio amateurs, Gerry Hohn VE6LB, (Chair), Dave Snyder VE4XN, George Gorsline VE3YV. The trustees consider requests for assistance in the context of the terms

of reference and objectives set for the Fund. If the request is deemed valid, the trustees allocate funds to reimburse legitimate expenses. RAC has agreed to provide administrative support for collecting donations and transferring the funds to the Trust, however the fund remains separate from, and cannot be used for, RAC financial transactions.

How is the DARF Trust fund used?

The fund is used to reimburse travel expenses of a Canadian Amateur Radio delegate to a World Radio Conference. **The next such conference, WRC 2003, is scheduled for the month of June 2003**, in Geneva Switzerland. Even if all expenses are kept to a bare minimum, the cost of travel and living expenses for approximately one month, is expected to be in the range of \$10,000 to \$12,000.

How can I donate to DARF?

Donations may be made by cheque or credit card (Visa or MC) to RAC Headquarters Cheques should be made out to **The Defence of Amateur Radio Fund**, and may be sent by mail to:

"Defence of Amateur Radio Fund"
 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217
 Ottawa Canada, K1G 0Z5

Editors Ramblings

By Derek VE4HAY

Did you Know

Want to see your PKS31 signal from a receiver in Germany. <http://www.hamradio-portal.com/psk/start.html>

This empty space is the space I reserved for all the small and medium sized articles provided by the members. Surely someone has something to write?! Don't leave it all to the four people who contributed this month. They too, get tired of doing all the work when they could be with their families.

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Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club would like feedback from the membership in these areas. We thank you for your participation.

What topics would you like to see presented at WARC meetings??

Is there a presentation topic you would like to present to the membership??

We have Field Day in June. In what other ways do you believe WARC could promote Amateur Radio in Winnipeg??

In what areas would you like to help promote Amateur Radio in Winnipeg.

Do you have any suggestions about how WARC could recruit new members.

Would you be willing to be an "Elmer"

Would you be interested in having a weekly or biweekly "WARC" net?? Yes ____ No ____

Do you think the WARC logo needs to be updated??? Yes ____ No ____ If yes, do you have any suggestions??

If you have answered that you would like to help promote amateur radio, please provide your Call Sign so we may discuss your ideas with you _____. Thanks.