



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://ve4.net/warc/>

March 2004

VE4BB

Free to Members

How to work DX, 144 MHz and above By Bruce, VE4KQ

Date: March 8th, 2004
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles:

WARC Apr. 19-Cafeteria - Home Brew Night
April 25 - Flea Market
May 10 - Ed VE4YU "Digital Communications"
June 14 - TBA
June 20 - Manitoba Marathon
June 26, 27 - Field Day

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn
March ?? - Chili cook-off

ARES: March 16 - OCIPEP

Other: Apr 17 - Country Dance - Interlake Amateur Club

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
Daily 14:30 UTC MB Wx Net 3743 KHz
Weekdays 9:00 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 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

From the Planning Chair: Glen, VE4GWN



I think that David VE4DAR's presentation about the RRDX project was almost as good as the trip it self. I know David had a lot of help with this event, and I thank all of you. Thank you David for coming up with the idea, and making it happen, WELL DONE!

At the time of writing this you can find the links to the photos

Tim VE4TJR took on this trip by following the links from here: http://www.ve4.net/warc/RR_DXpedition/



March 8th meeting will be Bruce VE4KQ "How to work DX, 144 MHz and above". Most of you know Bruce from other presentations he has given, but for those who don't, Bruce's first love in this hobby is VHF. I feel this will be a very interesting presentation for all amateurs regardless of qualification.

WARC: Executive for 2004

Past President	Louis Gaudry	lcaudry@mts.net
President	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Pat Giesbrecht	339-3018
Secretary	Ed Horton	885-4084
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Program	Glen Napady	ve4gwn@rac.ca
Field Day	Vacant	
Flea Market	Bob Hrabi	774-5178
Director at Large	Bob Hrabi	774-5178



We held a dance nearly 2 years ago and it was a sold out success as a fund raiser to buy the piece of property we bought with the tower on it. If you need any more information on this you can e-mail hambel@mts.net

Industry Canada Amateur Centre
 Voice 1-888-780-3333 (toll-free)
 Fax: 1-613-991-5575
 Email: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/vwGeneratedInterE/h_sf01709e.html

Comments or if you just want to reach us :
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 Newsletters - past issues
<http://www.ve4.net/newsletters.html>

We are still looking for someone to coordinate field day. I can't ask each of you one at a time, but remember who ever takes on this job will have help! Bob VE4RCJ has made up a great package, and there are always volunteers to help with the work, we just need someone to take charge and guide us. Field day is a great time for us to "strut our stuff" and let everyone who wants to operate get on the air.

HOME BREW!!! April 12th is Homebrew night. Get your projects on the go. This is the first sign that antenna weather is over, and spring is in the air. This is still my favorite night of the year. There will be prizes to be won!

Friday April 16th some of the students from Sturgeon Creek Collegiate will be taking part in a 30-hour fast as a fundraiser for a local charity. I have been talking to the school and hope to have an Amateur Radio display set up, to help keep their minds off food. This will be a great time to show some of today's youth what amateur radio is about. I will be looking for volunteers soon. More information to follow, listen to the MRS net.

June... elections! I will be finishing my enjoyable stint on the board of directors, plus we are presently running 2 short. I hope that someone has already stepped in as a nomination committee by the time you read this, and if you are willing to have the fun by being on the board of directors please step-forward.

**Winnipeg Senior Citizens
 Radio Club
 By Adam, VE4SN, President.**



One has to really marvel at the way time moves along. Here we are almost through the second month of the year 2004 and it seems to me that it was only days ago that the Christmas tree was put away and the final sounds of Jingle Bells faded away. In the same manner, things are moving along as they should at our Club. We have established the time, the place and the goodies for our next Christmas Luncheon, we are preparing things for our annual picnic at St. Vital Park and we are planning other social events for enjoyment by our membership.

Our Breakfast gathering at Garden City was again enjoyed by those who attended, (22 in all), and the lucky winner of the free one was Gil Frederick VE4AG, whose number was drawn by none other than his XYL, Beryl. Although cries of "Fix, fix" echoed around the room, Gil's only comment was..." Well, it's about time!" Congratulations Gil, see you at the next one in March!

The CW training at the club is more than halfway complete and we have already tested and passed three students. One of those making the grade was our 10 year old ham, Aruni Perera VE4WMK, whose receiving and sending of Morse code was flawless. Also passing the exam was Aruni's dad Kuma VE4WKP and Wayne Mooney VE4RWM who was leaving for the warmer climes of Hawaii and wanted to get his CW before he left.

Congratulations to all three of you and good hunting on HF!

Once again our club was honoured by the visit of a dignitary. On Wednesday, February 18th, Jim Rondeau, the provincial Minister of Healthy Living (plus a couple of additional portfolios), addressed the membership after our regular monthly Executive Board meeting. His topic was on how to develop a healthy lifestyle from babyhood to senior citizen status. It was very informative and interesting.

The weekend of February 21 and 22 was when our club hosted the annual GOTA event.

Although only 12 Girl Guides showed up in total for both days, they did enjoy talking to their peers in other cities using ham radio. Conditions for HF were not the best but we did manage to contact a station in England and of course two or three in Canada. Much better communications was achieved on IRLP and Echo Link.

Once again our club is planning another Chili Cookout to be held in the clubrooms. Right now, we need more entrants for the chili contest so come on all you cooks and wannabees, dig up your favourite recipe and join the fun. The affair is planned for sometime in March although nothing is set for sure as yet. More on this later.

That's it for now and let's all of us hope for an early spring!

WPGARES

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Thanks to VE4s ACX, HK, GWN, EWN, CDP and MBQ who braved the -33 C wind-chill SUN 25 JAN to do some repeater coverage testing down on the ice of the Red River in preparation for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races (Exercise 39).

CANWARN Net Controllers operated VE4WVO at the request of Pat McCarthy, Severe Weather Program Manager PSPC during the Winnipeg Weather Office Open House FRI 30 JAN. Thanks to VE4s AJR, SE, ESX, ALW (Exercise 40).

The Amateur Radio operation for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races at Birds Hill Park 14,15 FEB (Public Service Event 80) went very well and was quite a successful "multi-agency" operation during -30 C wind-chill involving 30 volunteers from WPGARES, Beausejour ARES, Pathfinder ARC, and Winnipeg ARC. Special Thanks to Yori VE4ACX for use of VE4TWO, to Pinawa Repeater Society for use of VE4INT, to Richard VE4KAZ for use of his crank-up tower and trailer, and to Brad VE4XM for bringing out his snowmobile. Many thanks to our volunteers, VE4s: HAZ, MMG, KAZ, XM, JNF, MGR, SE, MAQ, CLK, XYL, ZAP, ACX, DWG, TRO, ESX, MMD, HK, WSQ, KEH, GWN, EWN, MJM, DDW, BOY, PPG, SBS, EIH, MAB, AND MBQ.

Thanks also to VE4s DAR, XYL, YWG x 2, MBQ x 2 for loan of ARES Traffic Vests. I would be remiss not to thank my parents Stan & Mary Dovyak for loan of an electric space heater for the Net Control trailer. People had so much fun several have already signed up for next year. A couple more snowmobile-mobile Amateurs would be a big help.


Our February meeting featured Ron Martin VE4MGR who spoke at length about IRLP. The business meeting also featured verbal reports from Tom VE4SE and Richard VE4KAZ who along with Richard VE4ESX participated in the City of Winnipeg Emergency Program Exercise Overflow 17 FEB at the City of Winnipeg Emergency Operations Centre (EX-41). This was the City of Winnipeg tabletop exercise component to the provincial exercise involving primarily South-Central ARES. Again this operation went quite well for us as well as stimulating some thought to some additional back-up plans for us in the event the EOC is evacuated or not able to open during an emergency operation.

Our next General meeting is TUE 16 MAR 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Andrea McDonald from OCIPEP will give a presentation on the new federal Ministry of Public Safety.

**DIAMOND
IMAGE**

Floyd Rolph VE4 FDR
835 Cavalier Drive Tel: (204) 888-3227
Winnipeg, MB R2Y 1C6 Fax: (204) 831-6400

- South Western & Victorian home decor
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Contest Calendar

March

AGCW YL Party	CW	1900Z	Mar 2
SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest	CW/SSB/FM	1700Z	Mar 4
ARRL Inter. DX Contest	Phone	0000Z	Mar 6
Open Ukraine Championship	RTTY	2200Z	Mar 6
DARC 10-Meter	Digital	1100Z	Mar 7
Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase		0200Z	Mar 11
YLSSB QSO Party	SSB	0000Z	Mar 13
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	CW	1000Z	Mar 13
DIG QSO Party (10 - 20 m)	SSB	1200Z	Mar 13
AGCW QRP Contest		1400Z	Mar 13
SOC Marathon Sprint		1800Z	Mar 13
North American Sprint	RTTY	0000Z	Mar 14
UBA Spring Contest	CW	0700Z	Mar 14
DIG QSO Party (80 m)	SSB	0700Z	Mar 14
DIG QSO Party (40 m)	SSB	0900Z	Mar 14
NSARA Contest		1200Z	Mar 14
SSA Månadstest nr 3	CW	1400Z	Mar 14
SSA Månadstest nr 3	SSB	1515Z	Mar 14
Wisconsin QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 14
BARTG Spring	RTTY	0200Z	Mar 20
SARL VHF/UHF Contest		1000Z	Mar 20
Russian DX Contest		1200Z	Mar 20
DARC	SSTV	1200Z	Mar 20
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest		1600Z	Mar 20
Virginia QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 20
9KCC 15m	CW/SSB	1200Z	Mar 21
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint		0000Z	Mar 22
CQ WW WPX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Mar 27
Oklahoma QSO Party		1300Z	Mar 27
CLARA and Family HF Contest		1700Z	Mar 27
9K 15-Meter Contest		1200Z	Mar 28
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	CW/PSK31	0000Z	Mar 29

April

SARL 80m QSO Party		1700Z	Apr 1
SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest	CW/SSB/FM	1700Z	Apr 1
IYLRC Elettra Marconi	CW/SSB/RTTY	1300Z	Apr 3
Kids Roundup		1400Z	Apr 3
SP DX Contest		1500Z	Apr 3
EA	RTTY	1600Z	Apr 3
Missouri QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 3
And		1800Z	Apr 4
QCWA QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 4
RSGB RoPoCo 1		0700Z	Apr 4
144 MHz Spring Sprint	1900 local		Apr 5
ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Apr 6
JIDX CW Contest		0700Z	Apr 10
ARCI Spring QSO Party		1200Z	Apr 10
EU Spring Sprint	SSB	1500Z	Apr 10

DIG QSO Party (10 - 20 m)	CW	1700Z	Apr 10
Georgia QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 10
And		1400Z	Apr 11
CIS DX Contest	SSB	1900Z	Apr 11
UBA Spring Contest	SSB	0600Z	Apr 11
DIG QSO Party (80 m)	CW	0900Z	Apr 11
DIG QSO Party (40 m)	CW	1100Z	Apr 11
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg		1200Z	Apr 11
Low Power Spring Sprint	CW	1400Z	Apr 12
222 MHz Spring Sprint		1900 local	Apr 13
Holyland DX Contest		0000Z	Apr 17
TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix		0000Z	Apr 17
ES Open HF Championship		0500Z	Apr 17
YU DX Contest		1200Z	Apr 17
GACW CW DX	CW	1200Z	Apr 17
EU Spring Sprint	CW	1500Z	Apr 17
SSA Månadstest nr 4	SSB	1400Z	Apr 18
SSA Månadstest nr 4	CW	1515	Apr 18
Michigan QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 17
Ontario QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 17
World Amateur Radio Day Party		0000Z	Apr 18
432 MHz Spring Sprint		1900 local	Apr 21
Harry Angel Memorial Sprint		1100Z	Apr 23
SP DX RTTY Contest		1200Z	Apr 24
Helvetia Contest		1300Z	Apr 24
QRP to the Field		1500Z	Apr 24
Florida QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 24
And		1200Z	Apr 25
Kentucky QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 24
Nebraska QSO Party		1700Z	Apr 24
EUCW/FISTS QRS Party		0001Z	Apr 25
Harry Angel Memorial Sprint	CW/SSB	1100Z	Apr 25

Marathon Radio Group Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

This is the third year that the Amateur Radio component of the Marathon will be a joint WPGARES-WARC operation with support from a number of other Amateur Radio organizations (e.g. UMARS; WSCRC; Interlake, Kildonan, and South-Central ARES).

Planning is now underway for 2004 Manitoba Marathon which will be Father's Day SUN 20JUNE. The Amateur Radio briefing is TUE 15 JUNE 1900h at Manitoba Sports Federation (MSF) 200 Main Street Rm 227. The Medical briefing (for those Amateurs that will have a medical-related assignment) will be WED 16 JUNE 2000h MSF Rm 227. A minimum of 80 Amateurs will be required and in fact we will try to recruit at least 90.

The first Marathon Radio Group meeting was held MON 16FEB. The Marathon Radio Group (MRG) is the planning/leadership committee for the Amateur Radio component of the Marathon. Members are:

Jeff Dovyak	VE4MBQ	Coordinator
Robert Stegmaier	VE4RST	Deputy Coordinator
		Volunteer Recruitment & Hospital
Richard Kazuk	VE4KAZ	Deputy Coordinator
		Help Desk & APRS
Yori Tsuji	VE4ACX	Technical Adviser
Derek Hay	VE4HAY	Hospitality Net Controller
Norm Coull	VE4EH	Medical Net Controller
Kelly Taylor	VE4XT	Liaison Net Controller
Pat Giesbrecht	VE4PLG	Volunteer Support
Richard Sheridan	VE4ESX	Everything else

Rob VE4RST will be soliciting volunteers via e-mail, net announcements, newsletter articles, etc. There will be a sign-up sheet at the April & May WARC meetings as well as the 25 APR Flea Market. There might be a sign-up sheet at the March WARC meeting if I can make the appropriate arrangements (same night as PTA meeting). You can wait to read Rob's article or to hear a net announcement or you can e-mail Rob now to register: ftphysio@mts.net

Anyone with expertise in APRS and wanting to get involved with Richard's APRS Team or willing to loan some APRS kit for the Marathon should contact Richard VE4KAZ ASAP via e-mail: ve4kaz@rac.ca

The Marathon Technical meetings begin monthly in mid-March ramping up to weekly then almost daily the week preceding the Marathon.

CLARA and FAMILY HF CONTEST

This year's HF Contest, sponsored by the Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association (CLARA), will be held over the weekend of March 20th and 21st, 2004. Commencing at 1700Z March 20th and continuing until 1700Z March 21st, 2004. The Contest is open to all CLARA members and their families and also to all Amateurs. Call "CQ CLARA".

FREQUENCIES:

These are suggested frequencies only for easier location of contacts:

CW 14.033, 21.033, 7.033, 3.688

Phone 28.300, 21.225, 14.120, 14.285, 7033, 7.200, 3.750, 3.900

Can work stations once per band/mode. Cross-mode contacts count as phone for both stations.

LOGS:

Logs must include the date, time (GMT), mode, call sign of contact, contact name, contact QTH (city, town, etc.) and whether the contact is a CLARA member, family member, non-member YL, or OM. Logs are to be received by the Contest Manager no later than April 24th, 2004 and must include call sign, address and claimed score. Because we are in the age of computerization, electronic logs are encouraged. You can also e-mail your logs to me in Plain Text, MS Word or MS Excel format.

SCORING:

Contact with CLARA member (includes CLARA to CLARA) 5 points. Contact with CLARA family member, (OM's, sons, daughters, in-laws, etc.) 2 points. Contact with non CLARA member YL 3 points. Contact with OM (includes OM to OM) 1 point MULTIPLIERS:1 for each Canadian call area (14 possible) 1 for each ARRL DX Country contacted if the op was a YL No multipliers for DX OM's: Points claimed = (Contact Points) x Multiplier

Contest Manager:

Paulette Schouten, VE7VPE

c/o VECTOR, 3301 East Pender Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5K 5J3 Canada e-mail: ve7vpe@rac.c Helen or Fred Archibald <mailto:hfarchibald@ns.sympatico.ca>



**Semi-Annual
WARC
Flea Market**

**April 25
Heritage Victoria
Community Club
950 Sturgeon Rd.**

\$2.00 Entrance fee
Tables are \$5.00 for WARC members, \$10.00 for non WARC members and commercial outlets.

Bob Hrabí is the Coordinator. If you would like to volunteer for various jobs or would like to book your table please contact him at 774-5178

News from the Net

Remember the names Carl and Jerry?

Well if you were playing with ham radio in the 1950's and 1960's you are well aware that these are the first names of the two fictitious teenage electronic whizze's. Characters created by the late John T. Frye, W9EGV, for his long-running magazine series of the same name. The Carl and Jerry stories appeared in Popular Electronics from October 1954 through December 1964. They told of the adventures of two perennial teenage boys who shared a special bond because of their shared love of music, electronics and radio. Now, many of these stories are again available to read to enjoy thanks to a new spot on the world-wide-web. Better yet, they are the kind of stuff you may want to read to your grandkids, especially if they have the same wonderment as you when you were their age. Where are they and how do you see these Pop Comclassics? That's easy. Just follow to link you will find in this weeks print edition of QNEWS. Traveling back in time for the Amateur Radio Newslite, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, enjoying the past. So far there are 21 of the stories in the series on the web, enough to keep you glued to your computer screen for several hours.

[Http://home.gwi.net/~jdeb主ell/pe/cj/cnjindex.htm](http://home.gwi.net/~jdeb主ell/pe/cj/cnjindex.htm)

-- ARNewslite

World Amateur Radio Day

Radio Amateurs: Pioneers in Bridging Barriers to World Understanding. That's this years theme for World Amateur Radio Day 2004 April 18. This year, the IARU marks its 79th anniversary and the 2004 theme is intended to emphasize the IARU's long history of bringing people together across geographic, cultural, and political barriers. Created in Paris, the IARU has been the watchdog and spokesperson for the world Amateur Radio community since 1925. The worldwide federation of national Amateur Radio organizations represents some three million radio amateurs in 159 countries. --WIA -Qnews

AUSTRIA:- THE BPL FIGHT: AUSTRIAN BPL PROVIDER SUING HAMS OVER NEWS STORY

In what looks to be a case of "he said -- no -- he said," a row is brewing over the introduction of Broadband over Power line telecommunications in the city of Linz, Austria. One that has a service provider taking that nations Amateur Radio society to court over statements quoted in the media world-wide. As reported a few weeks ago, stories were circulating that PLT, or Power Line Telecommunications as the Europeans call their BPL system, had been halted in Linz. This, due to interference caused by the system. Also that the Austrian government had enjoined the service provider and the system would never be permitted. Not true says the

BPL provider and the power company and its now headed to court to try to stop the hams from complaining to them and to the press. From across the Atlantic, Jeremy Boot, G4NJH, has more: "The Austrian national amateur radio society, OeVSV, has objected to the use of PLT in Linz, stating that it causes interference to amateur stations, and issuing a press release which was picked up by the Austrian mass media. It appears that the OeVSV was misquoted as saying that the Austrian ministry had taken out an injunction against the PLT providers and that the service had been closed down for good in Linz. The management of Speed-Web Consulting and Linz AG, who are responsible for the PLT transmissions, are disclaiming what they say are "press attacks by Austrian radio amateurs". They say that there has not been any injunction against them and the roll-out of PLT continues. Speed-Web and Linz AG say that Austrian radio amateurs are doing their best to stop PLT "by filing undue interference complaints". They go on to say that "if there should be any actual, harmful and officially proven interference case caused by Power line Communications, mitigation measures will solve this very case at that specific location in the concerned frequency". On the 14th of January, Linz AG stated that it would be suing the OeVSV, as well as its president personally, over this matter."

ARRL Files "A Plan for the Next Decade"

(Jan 28, 2004) -- The ARRL has filed a Petition for Rule Making asking the FCC to amend its Part 97 rules to complete the Amateur Service restructuring the Commission began in 1999 but left unfinished. The League wants the FCC to create a new entry-level license, reduce the number of actual license classes to three and drop the Morse code testing requirement for all classes except for Amateur Extra (see "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access"). The ARRL says its petition follows in the footsteps of changes in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003. Among those changes, WRC-03 deleted the Morse testing requirement for amateur applicants seeking HF privileges and left it up to individual countries to determine whether or not they want to mandate Morse testing. While several countries-- including Germany, the UK and Australia-- already have dropped their Morse testing requirements, the ARRL emphasized in its petition that Morse code is not the primary issue at hand. -- ARRL

Non-Ionizing Radiation"

(Israel) proposed legislation on "Non-Ionizing Radiation". As this is being written, the information has just come out and a lot of head-scratching and deliberation on the subject is underway. What can this mean for amateur radio... will every ham have to have Ministry of the Environment inspectors OK his/her station? Will this cost a

lot? Will stringent restrictions be imposed on our hobby? Since the use of cell-phones has become widespread in this country, there is much concern about the possible dangers of the radiation of these devices held adjacent to the brain, as well as the proliferation of cellular antenna systems on building-tops. Attention is shifting to other transmitting sites, and ham installations are now in the line of fire. Quite a few years ago, Shalom 4Z4UT of Beer Sheva was taken to court by his neighbours on the grounds that he was subjecting them to dangerous radiation. With documentation provided by the IARC, Shalom won the case. Now the whole topic has resurfaced, and in a big way. Stay tuned for our next issue when we may have further developments on this burning topic -- *IARC*

Finnish Club Stations Gain Access to 5MHz

Finnish club stations can now apply for Notices of Variation to allow them to operate on 5MHz. The first contact was made on the 27th of January between OI3W and OI3AY. The following eight frequencies are available for use on upper sideband at up to 50 watts power: 5278.6, 5288.6, 5298.6, 5330.6, 5346.6, 5366.6, 5371.6 and 5398.6 kHz. -- *RSGB*

Code dropping nations

More than 20 countries have abolished mandatory code tests for their amateur radio licences during the past seven months - with South Africa, New Zealand and Canada set to do so soon. Switzerland was the first country to remove the Morse requirement in July 2003 almost immediately after the decision was taken at the World Radiocommunications Conference to end compulsory code tests. Japan has for many years had a no-code HF licence, the most popular grade of licence in that country. It is also considering removal of the code requirement for its highest licence grade. China in a report to the IARU has recently advised that it has had a beginners licence since 2001 that provides HF access without code proficiency. The CEPT common licence system that includes about 40 nations is expected to go code-free this month, although a number of individual CEPT member countries have already done so. -- *WIA Victoria*

Project ECHO update

The AMSAT-NA ECHO satellite could be launched as early as the end of March 2004. This is an exciting bird that will enable, if all goes well, voice communication using handheld FM transceivers. The satellite will incorporate two UHF transmitters, each running from 1 to 8 watts and capable of simultaneous operation, four VHF receivers and a multi-band, multimode receiver capable of operation on the 10 metre, 2 metre, 70 cm and 23 cm bands. Various digital

modes including PSK31 on a 10 metre SSB uplink should also be available. -- *WIA Victoria*

New Regulations

DENMARK The Danish Information Technology and Telecom Agency has announced new regulations for the Radio Amateur Service. Main feature is elimination of the Morse code examination, and gaining of 70 MHz. --*WIA Qnews*

BPL in Canada

Broadband Power Line technology in Canada The first implementation of Broadband Power Line technology in Canada was reported in the Toronto Star on Friday last week. The city is Sault Saint Marie [pronunciation: Soo San Marie], a steel town of 80,000 people, 400 km northwest of Toronto on the waterway between Lake Superior and Lake Huron, across the water from Michigan. It will have wireless 802.11b or "Wi-Fi" roaming access points throughout the city in densely populated residential areas along medium-voltage power lines provided by the hydro-power utility. Subscribers will be able to roam and surf the net while they are within 150m of an access point. These wireless points convert data sent through the grid and on to the utility's fibre-optic backbone, which connects to the Internet. Canada has an Amateur Radio participation rate of double that of Australia: There are about 57,000 Amateurs in Canada which has a population of 31 million. At the time of writing, Radio Amateurs of Canada, the equivalent of the WIA, had made no comment on the roll-out of Broadband Power Line technology in Canada. (Peter Ellis VK1KEP) -- *WIA Qnews*

SAT NITE 8PM SORT

or "SOUTHERN ONTARIO REPEATER TEAM" run a ham radio audio news service called the "SORT Report", news collected from RAC, ARRL, RSGB, QNEWS, and Newslite. This uses software which Tim VA3TJS has written and Tim has run this news compilation for some 2 years. Listen out for or connect on Iphone EchoLink and IRLP VE3TTT, VE3SUE and VA3TJS. -- *WIA Qnews*

Hong Kong dropping Morse requirement:

Hong Kong has become the latest country to announce it will drop the requirement that Amateur Radio applicants pass a Morse code examination for access to frequencies below 30 MHz. In conjunction with the announcement, Hong Kong will cancel all existing amateur station license (ASL) classes (and/or authority to operate), replacing them with a new authorization that does not carry a license class. "The existing Intermediate and Restricted class of ASL holders are allowed similar operational privileges as the

existing Full class of ASL holders," the Office of the Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) announced February 11. OFTA also opened the 430 to 440 MHz band for portable and mobile operation and allocated 10.45 to 10.5 GHz to the Amateur Service. OFTA did not specify an implementation date for the changes but indicated they would "come into effect soon."

RAC Directors Report
By BJ Madsen, VE5FX

☞ The new executive at RAC continues to have some unfilled positions:

- We need to have a Treasurer
- We need to have an Honourary Council
- We need to have a Director to represent Quebec

☞ Aruni Perera - VE4WMK - who obtained her BASIC license last summer at the age of 9 years, now has her CW endorsement and is beginning to study for her Advanced License.

☞ The ARRL has asked the FCC to create an entry-level Amateur Radio course, to include limited HF privileges, without a Morse code requirement.

Statistics:

- ☞ There are 1555 VA/VE4 callsigns, representing 3% of Canadian hams.
- ☞ of these, 200 are RAC members, representing 13% support for the National organization
- ☞ There are 1227 VA/VE5 callsigns, representing 2.4% of Canadian hams
- ☞ of these, 198 are RAC members, representing 16% support for the National organization.

Those who are **not RAC members** should be very thankful to those who are members, for funding the retention, protection and advancement of Amateur Radio in Canada on their behalf!

Parkside Appliance & Electronics



**Sales & Service of
 Computers & Software
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John, VE4JNF

386 Belvidere Street

885-9278

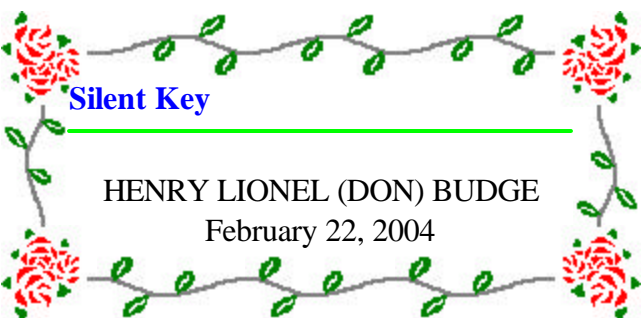
<http://www.escape.ca/~ve4jnf>

ve4jnf@escape.ca

The President's Call
By John, VE4QV



The days are finally getting longer and yes it seems that we're out of the cold snap. Thoughts start to turn to spring and summer. Speaking of which, Field Day is really not that far off and its time to start planning. If you haven't experienced Field Day it's a great opportunity to meet with other amateurs, work HF, and of course brave the elements in the name of community service. Seriously, Field Day gives we as amateurs a chance to practice our emergency preparedness and have a lot of fun at the same time. If you're interested in getting involved, or simply want to know more please give any member of the executive a call or email. Other great events on the horizon are Bruce VE4KQ "How to work DX, 144 Mhz and above" at the next WARC general meeting, "Home Brew" night at the April meeting and "Digital Communications" by Ed VE4YU in May. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.



Yes it's coming.... And soon.
Home Brew Night
 April 19th

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 prowess 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/>

Minutes for W.A.R.C. January 12th, 2004

Submitted by Ed, VE4EIH

Meeting began at 19:30 hrs. Introductions were done there were 48 people in attendance. This includes 10 guests. A motion was asked to accepted last months minutes, motion was passed.

Business arising,

John told everyone on how the old PA system had died, John VE4JNF was unable to repair the old system. John had brought in a demo, he informed those in attendance that there may be a used one coming up for sale at his company. John will be looking into it. David VE4DAR put a motion forward that the club spends \$200.00 on a new PA system. Tom VE4SE 2nd. motion passed. John apologizes that there was no membership prize for the night.

Field Day

Looking at locations for field day. two possible locations are Bird's Hill park and Fort White. Looking for a coordinator for field.

IRLP

John explained that WARC and MRS are starting preliminary talks on a joint project to install an IRLP node which will be run by WARC but using a MRS repeater.

Financial

Fred gave the balance for January.

Revenue

From the 50/50 draw	\$46.00	
There were 5 renewals	\$75.00	\$121.00.

Expenses

Insurance	550.00	
Timbits and Milk	\$11.00	
Copying	\$3.50	
Mailing	\$30.83	<u>\$593.32</u>

the current bank balance is		<u>\$6059.28</u>
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Programing

Glen informed everyone on what is coming up. David VE4DAR, was to give his report on the RR DX Expedition he arranged. For March Bruce is to give a talk on how to work CQ on 140 mhz. 21-22 February is Guides on the air., if any one hears the Guides, give them a chat. Sturgeon Creek school, is having a 30 hr famine in March. Glen is looking for some one to set up a display. The minimum would be a VHF and a IRPL set up.

Marathon

Marathon Radio committee meeting for the Manitoba Marathon to be held in late March.

Flea Market

to be held 25 April, Ruth selling tables.

Membership - Nothing to report.

RAC - Nothing to report.

DX sluthes - Nothing to report

New Business

- ☞ Motion for the good and welfare.
- ☞ Dick VE4HK, is looking for members to MRS.
- ☞ Tom was asked to pass on dance info. the dance is being held by the ILRAC at Lindwood. For info see Tom.
- ☞ VE4HAY His term as section manager for RAC is about to expire. He has done 2 and 1/2 terms and is looking for someone to take over.

Dick placed to a motion to adjourn the meeting. John 2nd. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2000 hrs.

The 50/50 Draw was won by Sunday VE4SBS

53rd. Hamvention Dayton Ohio May 14 - 16, 2004

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QTX~ By Derek, VE4HAY



I just finished a wonderful night at the last WARC meeting. This was the night that David, VE4DAR did his presentation on the RailRoad DX-pedition. David did a wonderful job of explaining his reasons behind this project, which was not to have a good time. It was not to get a bunch of HAM's out for a Saturday afternoon. It was not to operate radio. It was none of these things. It was instead, showing how to organize a project. How to recruit volunteers and how not just one person is the project, but the whole committee is the project. How everyone can do a little bit (which does not take much time) to make a project such as this fly. Yes folks, even you can volunteer to help out and be part of the winning team. David showed, that when asking for volunteers, you do not get anyone to respond, or you get the same people time & time again. But what about the rest of you. It seems that when approached one on one, you do volunteer. You are more than willing to help out. Yet David still had to fend off those who volunteer all the time. Yori comes to mind here. As well as myself. It seems that David just could not get rid of us. We are happy to offer our services in the little bit we do. But it was more gratifying to see some new faces helping out this time. And each of these people found out that for very little effort and a little coordination, the whole project comes into effect and works out perfectly.

So what about the RRDX-pedition itself.. Was it a success? Well, unfortunately I could not make the event as a wedding in the family precluded me on attending the train ride. But I was at the WRC meeting last month to see the slide show and video of the event. What a great presentation that was. Camera work by VE4TJR, VE4VZ, and the daughter of VE4CRS. Not the mention the video taken by Willard, VE4WJE. Then the professional editing and presentation done by John, VE4QV. Watching the video, sure made me seem like I missed of a lot of fun that day. Every shot showed a smile, every conversation was uplifting, everyone had fun. While it may not have been worthy of an Academy Award, the video did make me feel proud to be part of the committee and to be part of a group of Amateur Radio Operators, who knows how to get along with each other and how to socialize and enjoy our hobby at the same time. Well done David and crew. I can hardly wait for the next project... Did I hear someone mention operating Maritime mobile.....

Did you know -

- ☛ The Wireless Institute of Australia celebrated going code free on January 1st, and here is their story on a great event.
<http://www.wia.org.au/armag/2004/AR%20February%20004%20HF%20QSO%20Party.pdf>
- ☛ RAC last paid the IARU \$4,438.74 (Canadian funds) for one year. This breaks down to about 7 U.S. cents per Canadian Amateur. The actual amount paid varies with the movement of the Canadian dollar VS the US dollar. This is based upon the number of actual Amateurs, not clubs or repeaters or duplicates. Of course, it is entirely possible that some silent keys slip through and are counted, simply because family, Amateur Radio friends of the deceased or members of his/ her club failed to advise I.C. This is definitely a problem but only the Amateur Radio community can fix it. RAC also pays each year, on behalf of ALL Radio Amateurs in Canada, an amount at last count of \$3,450 Canadian, to the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC). So, it can be fairly stated that those who are members of RAC pay out about \$8,000 yearly to pay not only for RAC members but for non-members as well, for the good of Amateur Radio in this country.... LET'S DO OUR PART! by becoming part of the team TODAY .
- ☛ Anyone notice the title of this column? Anyone notice I changed it a few months ago? Does everyone know what QTX means ? -- Will you keep your station open for further communication with me?

Section Manager Wanted

As many of you know I am the current RAC Section Manager for our section. I have done this for 2 ½ terms (5 years) and I wish to step down and let someone else with more energy take over the reins. Not that I am getting old or anything, or the job is to much work. In fact there is very little to do, other than collect the monthly reports from the field and summarize the information into the submission for TCA. This only needs to be done every two month. The current structure and commitment of ARES & NTS in Manitoba makes this task so easy it is almost scary.

So I am looking for someone who would like to take over. The only requirements are that you are a current RAC member in good standing and that you get other RAC members to nominate you. If you are interested call me to discuss, and I can arrange for the nomination by RAC members. It would be a shame not to have a section manager in our section.