



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

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

November 2004

VE4BB

Free to Members

Antennas & transmissions Lines

By Walter, VE4VB

Date: November 8th, 2004

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

The President's Call By John, VE4QV



It was great to see such a good turnout at the October meeting. I'm sure it was in no small part related to Barry Malowanchuck VE4MA's excellent presentation on broadband over powerlines. We really appreciate the time Barry obviously dedicated to preparing his presentation and wish thank him again. That brings me to November's presentation. Walter Bezpalko VE4VB will be presenting "Antenna and Transmission Lines". Every good Amateur knows that it's not the power you have, but how you use it. I think we can all learn from Walter on this topic.

As amended at the last meeting the WARC executive should now be a group of six and while we have many of the programs already lined, up having someone come forward to stand as the Program director would really help out. Just before the Flea Market Bob, VE4ZAP resigned his position as Vice President for the Club. So the position of Vice President is also open. If you're interested in helping out and/or putting something back into the club for all it has given you over the years, please give me a call (number good in the blue book) or email (address below) and I can fill you in on what's involved. Speaking of Blue Books... The club has a number of them for sale. If you would like to have a copy or thinking that your current one is a few years old and should be upgraded please ask any of the executive at the next meeting who would be happy to help you. I hope to see you all at the next meeting. 73

Other Important Dates:

WARC Dec. 13th - Christmas party
Jan. 10 - Monthly Meeting
Feb. 14 - Monthly Meeting
March 14 -- Monthly Meeting
April 11 - Monthly Meeting
April 17 - Flea Market
May 9th - Monthly Meeting
June 13 - Monthly Meeting

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn
December 7th - Christmas Party

ARES:

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
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 +

WARC: Executive for 2004

Past President	Louis Gaudry	lcaudry@mts.net
President	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Bob Hrab	775-0747
Secretary	Ed Horton	ve4eih@rac.ca
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Vacant	
Director at Large	Jan Schippers	schippej@squared.com

Notice of Motion
By Derek VE4HAY

Motion to amend by-laws 3.12(a) and 3.12(b).

Where as the present by-laws read,

3.12(a) The term of office of any member of the Board of Directors shall not exceed three (3) consecutive years.

3.12(b) A member who has served three (3) consecutive years may not serve again without at least one (1) year absence from the Board of Directors.

To be changed to and to read as follows...

3.12(a) A term in office as a Director of the Board shall be one (1) fiscal year.

3.12(b) A Director of the Board can be voted in for a unlimited amount of terms, provided that a majority of the members present and in good standing at a meeting for that purpose, have voted in said director for each term.

3.12(c) Any Director of the Board, appointed to the office of President or Vice president, shall not hold said offices for longer than five (5) consecutive terms and must step down from said positions for at least one (1) term but will be allowed to remain on the Board of Directors in any other position, provided that a majority of the members present and in good standing at a meeting for that purpose, have voted in said director for each term.

Motion made by Derek Hay VE4HAY

Seconded by Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Discussion and voting to take place at the November meeting.

WPGARES
Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

The WPGARES Table at the WARC Fall Flea Market was organized by Susan VE4SYM. Table staff included Susan VE4SYM, Fred VE4TRO, Don VE4DWG, and Jeff VE4MBQ. Congratulations to Ray Hall VE4RQ who was the winner of the "50-50" draw. Thank you to all those who provided financial support for WPGARES by buying a ticket or tickets.

The Winnipeg ARES Annual General Meeting was held TUE 19 OCT 2004. In addition to "routine" reports the members present approved the 2004-04 Financial Statement and also approved the 2004-05 Budget. In the past year we have had:

Alerts, Exercises, or Tests	7
Educational Meetings	11
Public Service Events	5

The 2004-05 Executive includes:

President	Glen Napady	VE4GWN
Treasurer	Susan Collings	VE4SYM
Secretary	Dick Maguire	VE4HK

Thanks to out-going President Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ who served as President for almost ten years. Don Gerrard VE4DWG and Tim Rhind VE4TJR continue to be our web-masters (our public site is www.winnipegares.ca). Our operations folks (preparedness and response) are still:

Emergency Coordinator (EC)	Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ
Assistant EC	Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ
Assistant EC	Richard Sheridan VE4ESX

Membership requirements and a membership application form are available on our web-site. Membership requirements include:

- ✓ live in or near Winnipeg
- ✓ have an interest in providing emergency Amateur communications
- ✓ be at least 18 years of age
- ✓ valid Canadian Amateur Radio Certificate
- ✓ Possess a working 2m HT with spare battery pack
- ✓ commit to attend at least four WPGARES meetings per year
- ✓ commit to participate in at least two on-the-air events or exercises per year
- ✓ be sponsored by a current member in good standing or complete an interview with the EC to the satisfaction of the EC

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 :
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5
 Newsletters - past issues
<http://www.ve4.net/newsletters.html>

We have picked up four new members over the past month or so:

Sandie Isaac VE4TOS

Doug Kazuk VE4KDB

Ron Place VE4PL

Ellie Taylor VE4NRS.

Our next monthly meeting is TUE 16NOV 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Grant Ubell from the Honda Goldwings is our guest speaker.

We will be staffing VE4WVO again this year during SKYWARN Recognition Day 04 DEC 2004. At press time we are the only Canadian weather station that has registered. The SRD web-site is: <http://hamradio.noaa.gov>

Our volunteer briefing is TUE 30 NOV 1900h in the 4th floor training room at PSPC 123 Main Street. Please call on 147.420 MHz for access. We have at least one WVO Operator scheduled for each shift so the other operators need not necessarily be familiar with the operation of VE4WVO but they must be ARES members. If you are considering taking a shift please let me know ASAP. We have the following shifts still open (local time shown):

FRI 03DEC 2200h to SAT 0200h for an ARES HF Operator

SAT 04DEC 0600-1000h for an ARES VHF Operator

SAT 04DEC 1400-1800h for an ARES VHF Operator

Choosing A Satellite Radio

By Emily Clarke, W0EEC – VP of Project OSCAR

The purchase of a new radio is possibly the biggest decision and most debated decision a ham makes. When I started out I asked a dozen people and got as many answers. In the end, I made my decision not on what people told me, but by considering what I wanted the radio to do. Choosing a satellite radio is easy if you know what your needs are. Rather than make specific recommendations, let's examine some general capabilities.

Simultaneous Dual Band?:

Satellites generally transmit on one band and receive on another. There are a number of dual band radios, but can you listen on 70cm and transmit on 2m at the same time? This cross band mode is an absolute requirement. If you have a radio that will do split band operation, this probably qualifies.

Full Duplex?:

Generally you don't need a full duplex radio for repeaters, however when operating satellites it is important to monitor your own signal as it is retransmitted by the satellite. Although you can work the easy sats with a split band radio, full duplex is highly recommended. Radios with dual VFOs generally meet this criteria.

Handheld or Base?:

If you plan on working satellites indoors, antennas will probably be up on the roof or on a tower. You will need extra power (10 watts or more) because you will also have cable losses to overcome. If most of your contacts will be made outside with a handheld antenna, a handheld radio might be all that you need.

All-Mode?:

All mode radios are base or mobile radios that can do both FM and SSB/CW modes. They are more expensive but put out up to 100 watts. FM only radios can be used for many satellites, but high orbiting satellites always use SSB/CW modulation. If this is your goal, an all mode radio is for you. A word of caution – some handheld radios say they are all mode, but it is generally only AM receive not SSB.

HF?:

Currently only two operational satellites use HF. AO-7 operates in Mode A (2m xmit, 10m receive) and AO-51 has a PSK mode that is 10m xmit and 2m receive. Note that you need HF privileges to operate AO-51 in this mode.

Packet?:

Some radios have built in terminal node controllers or TNCs. These convert data from the satellite and display them on a screen or computer, and vice versa. Other radios don't have built in TNCs but have a data port for a TNC. Make sure it supports 9600 baud data.

Computer Interface?:

Not all radios have the ability to be controlled by a PC running a tracking program that will automatically correct for Doppler shift. While not very important for FM, it is a highly desirable feature for SSB/CW operation. This feature is generally only available on all-mode base station radios.

Whatever your decision, they can sometimes become permanent. Though you can quickly sell a radio you aren't happy with using online auctions it's generally a decision that is difficult for hams to make. So the best advice is to buy a radio that meets your needs and possibly needs you may have in the future.

Transmitter Power, Antenna Gain, and Coax Loss Trade-offs

By Ken Larson KJ6RZ

In the 1950s and 60s many hams built their own transmitters for the simple reason that commercial transmitters were too expensive. For example, a Johnson Viking II transmitter cost \$300, which doesn't sound too bad until you stop to consider that a new Ford or Chevy cost \$1,000. The alternative was to buy cheap war surplus radios and use the parts to build one of the transmitters shown in the Radio Amateur's Handbook. In a way, that was more fun. As far as power was concerned, you had control! You could push your transmitter as hard as you dared, to squeeze every bit of power out of it, even to the point where the plates of the transmitter's output vacuum tubes glowed cherry red.

I was convinced in those days that if I could just get another 20 watts of output from my transmitter that it would make all the difference in the world at the receiving end. If I could just get those extra 20 watts that rare DX operator in a distance land would see my signal jump from a pitifully weak whisper to a loud boom that he could not ignore, and I would get that contact. Today I know that little extra power would not have made any difference at all. However, I still have an intense desire to push my transceiver to its maximum power output to get a DX contact. But it doesn't stop there. I want every db of gain that I can possibly get out of my antenna. As far as coax is concerned, I want that big, heavy, hard to handle, expensive coax because I don't want to lose any of my valuable watts getting from my transmitter to the antenna. Does all of this pushing, shoving, and optimization really make a difference? Probably not!

It turns out that you must increase the output power of your transceiver by at least 3 db in order for the person you are talking with to notice any change in your signal strength. For your signal to sound twice as loud, you must increase your power out by about 9 db.

How much is a 3 db increase in power? A 3 db power gain is equal to a times 2 increase in power (3 db = x2). So, if your transceiver is running 100 watts, you must increase your transceiver's output to 200 watts in order for the person you are talking with to notice any increase in your power. If you wanted your signal to sound twice as loud, you must increase your power to 800 watts (9 db = 3 db + 3 db + 3 db = x2 x2 x2 = x8)!. Clearly, increasing power by 20 watts, say from 100 to 120 watts, is not going to make any difference at all to the person receiving your signal. On the other hand, if you cut your power in half from 100 watts to 50 (a 3 db decrease in power), the other operator will hardly

notice any drop at all in your signal strength. So why beat your transceiver into the ground by running it at full power? If you run at 75 watts instead of 100, your transceiver will run cooler and no one that you talk to will know the difference. There is someone who may notice the difference however, your neighbors. If you are having interference problems, cutting your power level in half could solve those problems without having any noticeable affect on your ability to make contacts. For example, when I operated on 10 meters at 100 watts, my lawn sprinklers would turn on whenever I keyed my transceiver. When I dropped to 50 watts, the problem went away. Running at 50 watts turned out to be a great water conservation technique.

What about antennas? The same 3 db rule applies. You can go to a lot of trouble and expense on 40 and 80 meters putting up phased vertical arrays to achieve 2 or 3 db of gain. But 3 db of gain will hardly be noticeable to anyone listening to your signal, so why bother? The threshold in antenna cost verses performance gain is around 6 db. If your antenna provides 6 db of gain, operators listening to your signal will notice a difference. Your signal will not be twice as loud, remember you have to get 9 db of gain for that to happen, but at 6 db the gain will be noticeable. The table below puts antenna cost verses performance gain somewhat into perspective. This table compares various yagi beam configurations to the performance of a dipole. The table shows the db gain, relative to a dipole, achieved by each of the antennas. The antennas get more expensive as you go down the table. The table also indicates the increase in signal strength observed by the S-meter on a distant transceiver that is receiving your signal.

Antenna	db Gain	S-unit Increase	Comment
Dipole	0	0	Baseline
2-element Yagi Beam	4	0.6	Marginal performance increase
3-element Yagi Beam	6	1.0	Good performance increase
10-element Yagi Beam	12	2.0	Excellent performance increase

The cost verse performance trade-off for the transmission line connecting a transceiver to an antenna is similar to the antenna cost trade-off. However, this time the trade-off relates to the difference in loss between two types of transmission lines, for example, between two different grades of coax cable. As an illustration, 100 feet of LMR 400 coax used to connect a transceiver with a 10 meter antenna will produce a loss of 0.7 db. If standard RG-8/X coax is used instead, the loss will be 2.0 db. The difference in loss between the two types of coax is 1.3 db. Is it worth buying the more expensive LMR 400 coax to reduce loss by 1.3 db? Probably not. The strength of your signal in this example will sound the same to other hams regardless of which type of coax you use. Notice in making a comparison between

two types of coax (or two types of antennas, etc.) it is the difference in loss (or gain) that is important, not the actual loss (or gain). At UHF frequencies, the differences in loss will be greater. 100 feet of LMR 400 coax at 440 MHz has a loss of 2.7 db. In comparison, RG-8/X has a loss of 8.1 db. The difference in loss is 5.4 db. In this case the more expensive LMR 400 coax may be worth the money. LMR 400 coax is relatively thick, stiff, and difficult to work with compared to RG-8/X, particularly inside the radio shack. Suppose that you use 75 feet of LMR 400 to get from your 440 MHz antenna to the wall outside your radio shack. Then you use a 25 foot length of RG-8/X to come through the wall and into the radio shack because RG-8/X is smaller and easier to handle in the shack. What performance penalty will you pay for doing this? The loss of 25 feet of RG-8/X is about 2.03 db. If you brought the LMR 400 all the way into the shack, the loss associated with the additional 25 feet of LMR 400 would be 0.68 db. The difference in loss is approximately 1.36 db, a negligible amount. Using RG-8/X within the radio shack is thus a good choice since it simplifies cable management within the shack and provides negligible additional loss.

In making trade-off comparisons, you have to look at the total system as well as the individual components. For example, a 2-element 10 meter yagi antenna (4 db gain over a dipole) feed by LMR 400 coax (1.3 db gain over RG-8/X coax) produces a total system gain of 5.3 db compared to a 10 meter dipole feed with RG-8/X coax. The total system gain of 5.3 db probably is worth the effort, even though the gains between the individual components was not that attractive. The system trade-off can easily go the other way as well. At 440 MHz, 100 feet of LMR 400 coax has a 5.4 db performance gain over RG-8/X coax and is clearly better. However, if your transceiver has power settings of 5, 10, and 50 watts, and you can hit all of the area repeaters at 10 watts using RG-8/X coax, why upgrade to LMR 400? Unless you are running off of batteries, using LMR 400 coax so that you can drop your transmit power to 5 watts probably is not worth the trouble or cost.

In conclusion, when making trade-offs between transmitter power, antenna gain, coax loss, and total system performance, it is the db difference between the options available to you that is important. A difference of 3 db will not be apparent to the hams that you are communicating with. They will hardly notice the difference if you run your transmitter at 50 watts instead of its maximum 100 watt output power. A difference of 3 db or less between two antennas, two types of coax, or two system implementations is usually not sufficient to justify higher costs. However, a difference of 6 db may justify the more expensive approach.

-- extracted from the *Conejo Valley Amateur Radio Club Tech page web site*

News from the Net

Great Britain to get additional 100kHz at 7MHz Soon?

Ofcom's period of consultation on its proposal to vary the Foundation, Intermediate and Full amateur radio licences to permit UK amateurs to operate in the band 7100 to 7200 kHz ends on 23 October. The proposal is that the band would be allocated to the Amateur Service on a Secondary basis on the basis of non-interference to other services, inside or outside the United Kingdom. It is hoped that an announcement will be made soon after the end of the consultation about when the additional 100 kHz of spectrum will become available to UK amateurs. -- *RSGB*

RAC Board of Directors Appoints New President and First Vice-president

At a Special RAC Board Teleconference meeting, held on October 12 th , the Board of Directors voted to appoint a new president, selected by a majority vote among the Directors. The director from Alberta, Earl Smith - VE6NM - will be the new president, starting on October 15th. His position as Director for Alberta/NWT/NU will be filled by appointment in the near future.

RAC has a new First Vice President, similarly selected. The First Vice President will be John Iliffe - VE3CES/VA3JI. - John was president of CARF during the union with CRRRL when RAC was created. - He is the co-author of the study guide.

Following that Board Meeting, Treasurer Eric Ferguson - VE3CR - resigned his position. He has been replaced by Ken Pulfer - VE3PU - who will resume the position of Treasurer. -- *VE5FX*

Israel - To CW or not to CW:

The proposition has been raised lately by the Ministry to drop the Morse (CW) requirement for HF access. Many European Countries have been dropping the requirement. Resulting in a revised CEPT agreement; Israel accepts the updated CEPT T/R 61-01 and T/R 61-02 agreements. It is expected that a heated discussion will develop on the air waves once the debate opens for discussion. -- *IARC*

Kenya Drops Morse Requirement,

According to an article in QST's August 2004 edition (page 88), the Communications Commission of Kenya has dropped the Morse requirement and made additional changes to simplify and facilitate amateur licensing in Kenya. Further information is available on the website of the Amateur Radio Society of Kenya at <http://www.qsl.net/ars> - *No-Code International*

Calendar

November, 2004

HA-QRP	CW	0000Z	Nov 1-7
ARS Spartan Sprint		0200Z	Nov 2
SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest	CW/SSB/FM	1700Z	Nov 4
IPARC	CW	0600Z	Nov 6
A	And	1400Z	Nov 6
Ukrainian DX	CW/SSB/RTTY	1200Z	Nov 6
ARRL Sweepstakes	CW	2100Z	Nov 6
NA Collegiate ARC	CW	2100Z	Nov 6
IPARC	SSB	0600Z	Nov 7
	And	1400Z	Nov 7
Anatolian ATA	PSK31	0900Z	Nov 7
High Speed Club	CW	0900Z	Nov 7
	And	1500Z	Nov 7
DARC 10-Meter	Digital	1100Z	Nov 7
YO International	PSK31	1600Z	Nov 11-19
WAE DX	RTTY	0000Z	Nov 13
JIDX	Phone	0700Z	Nov 13
SARL Field Day		1000Z	Nov 13
SL	CW	1100Z	Nov 13
OK/OM DX	CW	1200Z	Nov 13
SL	SSB	1230Z	Nov 13
SSA Månadstest nr		1400Z	Nov 14
LZ DX		1200Z	Nov 20
RNARS CW Activity	CW	1200Z	Nov 20
EUCW Fraternizing	CW	1500Z	Nov 20
	And	1800Z	Nov 20
	And	0700Z	Nov 21
	And	1000Z	Nov 21
All Austrian 160-Meter		1600Z	Nov 20
Carnavales de Tenerife	SSB	1600Z	Nov 20
ARRL Sweepstakes	SSB	2100Z	Nov 20
NA Collegiate ARC	SSB	2100Z	Nov 20
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz	CW	2100Z	Nov 20
HOT Party	CW	1300Z	Nov 21
CQ Worldwide DX	CW	0000Z	Nov 27
LI/NJ-QRP Doghouse Sprint	CW	1700Z	Nov 27

December

ARCI Topband Sprint		0000Z	Dec 2
Aktivitetstest	CW/SSB/FM	1700Z	Dec 2
ARRL 160-Meter Contest		2200Z	Dec 3
TARA RTTY Melee	RTTY	0000Z	Dec 4
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint		0400Z	Dec 4
TOPS Activity Contest 3.5 MHz	CW	1800Z	Dec 4
CIS DX Contest	CW	0000Z	Dec 5
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew		2000Z	Dec 5
ARS Spartan Sprint		0200Z	Dec 7
28 MHz SWL-Contest	CW/SSB	0000Z	Dec 11
ARRL 10-Meter Contest		0000Z	Dec 11

Fall NA Meteor Scatter Rally		0000Z	Dec 11
Great Colorado Snowshoe Run		0200Z	Dec 11
Månadstest nr 12	SSB	1400Z	Dec 12
Månadstest nr 12	CW	1515Z	Dec 12
AGB PARTY Contest	CW/SSB/DIGI	1700Z	Dec 17
Russian 160-Meter Contest		2100Z	Dec 17
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	PSK	0000Z	Dec 18
OK DX RTTY Contest	RTTY	0000Z	Dec 18
RAC Winter Contest		0000Z	Dec 18
Croatian CW Contest	CW	1400Z	Dec 18
Stew Perry Topband Challenge		1500Z	Dec 18
International Naval Contest		1600Z	Dec 18
SSA Jultest (1)	CW	0700Z	Dec 25
RAEM Contest		0200Z	Dec 26
SSA Jultest (2)	CW	0700Z	Dec 26
DARC Christmas Contest		0830Z	Dec 26

Minutes for W.A.R.C. October 18th, 2004

Submitted by Ed, VE4EIH

Meeting start 19:40

The introductions were started. There was 54 people including 2 quests, and 1 new member. John welcomed all.

VE4GWN motioned to accept minutes John VE4JNF 2nd. - Carried

Business arising - John informed everyone of Bob VE4ZAP departure, from the exec and club. Bob also withdrew his donation of the computer for the IRLP. Les VA4LES and has a computer he willing to donate and work on. John explained about Bob's motion and how it does not stand. Dave VE4DAR explained his thoughts, as to the difficulties of getting volunteers for the exec. While using a chart Dave showed how other clubs work. The president, looks after the secretary, treasures, membership. While the vice president looks after, programing, flea market field day.. The at large members are in training, and would do other assignments. Dave explained that clubs are more than membership lists. Dave explained that WARC should do more for its members. This could membership development, updating, how to chair a meeting, or note taking.

Bylaw motions on the floor

Glen VE4GWN read his motion on bylaw changes as printed in the newscaster, Tom VE4SE 2nd. The floor was opened to discussion. Dick VE4HK, sent his views on the proposal by E-mail, which was read to the club. Dick voted in favor of the proposal. The questions was called and. a majority voted to approve the motion from Glen.

Adam VE4SN explained since everyone as members have read and thought on Bob's proposal, any one can make

the motion. Derek, VE4HAY made a motion on Bob's proposal. Seconded by Jeff, VE4MBQ Adam explained his thoughts on how stagnation would set in. Adam liked the idea of training. Ruthie VE4CRS was curious as to who would be on the board for that length of time. Jeff agreed with the proposal, for there is still flexibility. Derek told members it was a 1 year term, not 3 or 5 for key positions. Ed VE4YU explained that he does not like how the president is decided, the exec board decides. Ed feels it should be the membership. Derek re-read Bob's proposal.

Correspondence

John told of a E-mail from a M. Swarnoff of Israel, then invited everyone to come up and see the pictures, that was sent.

Treasures report

Fred reported that There was 67 new member for \$1005, 50/50 draw \$10.22 School rental \$650.00 prize \$17.00, postal \$42.00 refreshments \$7.40 Leaving a balance of \$6130.00

RAC Report

Adam told of a new President for RAC, the ex-director from Alberta and Ben Smith the Vice-president is from Ontario.

DX Sleuths

Adam told of a big one coming. Look for in Jan and Feb 2005. The expedition will be called Peter 1. This would be off the coast of Antarctica. They should be operating in all bands for about to weeks. They would be at the low end of the sun cycle.

ARES Report.

Jeff reported that the annual general meeting will be on the 19 of Oct. Wayne reported that the Provincial ARES exec met last month At the McDonald Bldg. Has budgeted for a ARES EOC. Wayne told of the space on the roof, for several antennas. If all goes well there should be a open house in about 6 weeks. Current Provincial ARES EOC has a lower elevation. The new site has good duck work to run cables. ERTS is coming along.

Field day Report.

John reminded everyone that field day is coming up. Field day may be at Birds Hill park, put not set in stone.

Flea Market report.

People were happy to help out. 230 attended, with lots of gear changing hands. Final numbers not ready.

Good and welfare.

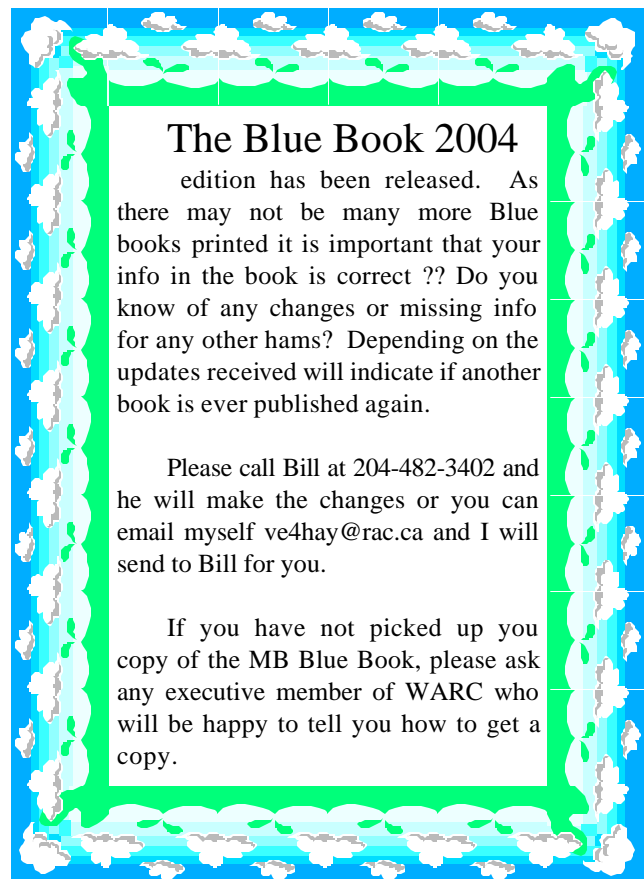
Tom VE4SE and Ruth VISUAL are getting a few Blue Books, they are \$12.00. Those who would like one see Tom or Ruth. Ruth has an idea for next Flea market. If there is a no-show, the table should go to the person, who is looking for one.

Motion to adjoin meeting, meeting ended at 20:33
Ed Bethune won the member ship prize.

Thank you **By Ed VE4EIH**

This is a quick thank you to all those who helped out at the fall flea market. There was many people who came out on a cool Sunday, to lend a hand helping out to set up, tear down, and manned the doors, and who helped Ruth with her sandwiches.

It is these volunteers, who make a flea market a success. Not only a success, but run so smoothly. So once again thank you. Hopefully will be able to see you at the spring flea market.



Parkside Appliance & Electronics



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John, VE4JNF

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885-9278

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

Care and feeding of your Pet Ham

Extracted from the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Ground Wave Canadian Amateur Radio Bulletin (Week of Feb.15 2004)

Pet hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. In case you do, here is a guide to the basics.

Living Area -- A pet ham needs a private nest area, an entire room where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures. -- boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, etc. that it will bring home whenever it ventures out. You will want to encourage your pet ham to confine its activity to this room to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter and the boring of holes in the walls.

Expenses -- Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but, unlike most com-mon pets, a pet ham can be trained to work out-side the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

Feeding -- A well-behaved pet ham will eat with the family occasion-ally, but it will feed more comfortable and se-cure taking its meals in the nest room. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone in there, even if it does not beg or whine.

Obedience Training -- A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks, the easiest and most common being "sit" and "speak" Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in the nest room.

Health Problems -- The pet ham typically suffers lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking, but health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

Travel -- Your ham pet will gladly travel with your family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the nest room. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families.

Breeding -- If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its nest room collection --

-from the W5WWW Website.

(Reprinted from The Ragchew—bulletin of the North Okanagan Amateur Radio Club)



QTX~
By Derek,
VE4HAY



Number of hams in the Midwest region (MB & SK) - 2364. Number of RAC members in the Midwest region - 431.


% of RAC members in Midwest region 18%

The Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board (CARAB) is meeting in Ottawa on the last week of October. Let's hope that we do not get any scary Halloween type news from this. Our regional Director should have news on this when he returns.

Sorry for those who are not Members of RAC, I guess you will not hear anything until the next newsletter. But for those 18% of you who are members of RAC, watch for the news to be released. Just another reason to be a RAC member. 18% is pretty small. I'm sorry, but I just do not see any reason why all HAMS not members of RAC. Yes there are those who have retired from the hobby who are not members. And those who simply can not afford

the \$40.00 per year. But, what about the rest of you. Do you not want to see the hobby grow? Are you not concerned about BPL? Are you not concerned about losing HF frequency at the next World Radio Conference? Maybe it's just me, but I enjoy our hobby. I like to stay informed about it. I like to hear about new band plans, frequency allotments, new technology. And of course possible new privileges. And the best way I see to do this is to support a national lobby group, who will stand up for us and ensure that we are acknowledged. Sure you could take the typical Canadian approach, by asking for everything for free and just expecting it to happen. No wonder we are taxed to death (ok that's another story). But I fell if you want something, then you should pay for it. Supporting RAC is the way to do it. So at the next meeting, explain to me why you are not a member. Tell me what I am missing in this picture, cause I just do not see it.

**DIAMOND
IMAGE**



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