



# The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

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

Summer 2004

**VE4BB**

Free to Members

## Mid Summer Electronic Edition

### News from the Net

#### *VK's change license Structure*

ACA review - outcome highlights The Australian Communications Authority, in concluding its inquiry into Amateur Service regulation, has decided to introduce a new entry level licence giving access to the 3.5, 7, 21 and 28 MHz bands, plus 2m and 70cm, with a 10-watt transmitter power limit be it voice or morse. The only restriction is to "voice modes" or "morse code". There seems no restriction as to modulation method except that it comply with an 8 kHz bandwidth below 28 MHz. Licence syllabuses are to be overhauled to provide greater emphasis on interference resolution, electromagnetic radiation (EMR) exposure requirements and RF safety. In the future all new radio amateurs in Australia will be required to undergo a practical assessment in addition to a written examination or continuous assessment by a credited institution. The new Foundation licence will require the passing of an examination with emphasis on the safe operation of amateur radio equipment, and a practical element involving the operation of transmitters and receivers. There will be no age limit nor tenure limit for this licence. It requires the use of commercially made transmitting equipment. The ACA has decided on a three-tier licence restructure - Foundation (new entry level), Standard (Novice-Limited and Novice) and Advanced.(Limited, Intermediate and Unrestricted). None of these licences will require the passing of tests in Morse code telegraphy. Good news for those who qualify for the Standard licence. When it is introduced they will gain

#### Other Important Dates:

WARC

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn

Aug. 26 - Picnic in St. Vital Park

ARES: August 17 - TBA

September 19 - Terry Fox Run

September 21 - General Meeting

September 26 - Parkinson Super Walk

Other: August 21 - MARMfest 10

August 21 - MRS Semi Annual Meeting

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	Pat Giesbrecht	339-3018
Secretary	Ed Horton	885-4084
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Glen Napady	ve4gwn@rac.ca
Field Day	Vacant	
Flea Market	Bob Hrabi	774-5178
Director at Large	Bob Hrabi	774-5178

access to the 20m, 6m and microwave bands in addition to their current Novice and Novice-limited privileges. A 100W PEP limit will apply. The Advance licensees will gain access to 2-letter suffix callsigns if available. On the controversial issue of the proposed "no interference" policy for amateur stations, our greatest "win" is the removal of the 'no interference' proposal which had been initially proposed by the ACA who now have decided to strengthen the existing interference management arrangements. It proposes that the responsibilities of those affected by interference and the ACA's method of dealing with interference be published as an Advisory Guideline under the Radiocommunications Act. Although they now are NOT placing the onus on the amateur re interference issues note that the devil will be in the detail of the method of implementing the decisions. The ACA will leave current callsign arrangements, to enable ready recognition of licence type and geographic location. It will introduce four-letter callsign suffixes in 2005. Some rearrangement of callsign blocks will be required when the new licensing options are introduced. In early 2005 overseas radio amateurs visiting Australia who hold a licence recognized by the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) are expected to be able to operate in Australia without the need to take out a temporary VK licence. -- WIA -Qnews

#### ***New Zealand Radiocommunications Regulations 2001 will be gazetted 17 June 2004***

Removal of Amateur Service Morse Requirement in the HF Bands! The NZ Ministry has removed the morse operating competency from the New Zealand syllabus with effect from 17 June 2004. Existing Limited Amateur Operator licensees are deemed to be General Amateur Operator licensees, however there will be no requirement for licensees to change their callsign. The Ministry is also considering related matters such as reciprocal licensing arrangements. (zl3tic@mycom.co.nz) --- WIA -Qnews

#### ***Territorial Dispute Flares Up Japan/Korea***

A centuries-old territorial dispute between Japan and South Korea is again escalating with the South Koreans placing a group of amateur radio operators on the rocky islets known in Korean as the Lonely Islands. To the Japanese they are the Bamboo Islands. The radio station, licensed by South Korea, was seen as a provocation by the Japanese. Some amateur radio operators in JA are said to have interfered with the South Korean stations transmissions. Many ham operators around the world were surprised to hear the dispute because our service hobby stresses friendly international communications. (packet bulletin) .--- WIA -Qnews

#### ***MORE COUNTRIES DROP CW***

More restructuring has taken place in Europe. The GB2RS News Service reports that Finland has now officially dropped the Morse code requirement for that nations hams to have access to the High Frequency bands. GB2RS says that Finland actually deleted the Morse requirement on the 1st of November of 2003. Now, with the latest rules revisions there are now there are only two classes of amateur license in that European nation. Also from GB2RS word that former French Class 2 licensees with F1 and F4 callsign prefixes are now being heard on the High Frequency bands. According to the French national amateur radio society, this change was implemented on May 16th. But CW is far from dying or dead on the other side of the Atlantic. In fact the fourth European High Speed Telegraphy Championships take place the 15th through the 19th of September in Montenegro and Serbia. (GB2RS) --Amateur Radio Newline

#### ***G3VZV TV Repeater on ISS Presentation at AMSAT-UK***

On Saturday the 31st of July Graham Shirville, G3VZV, will give a presentation to the AMSAT-UK [ [www.uk.amsat.org](http://www.uk.amsat.org) ] Space Symposium on the plans to put an Amateur Television repeater on the International Space Station. It will have a conventional FM ATV input on the 1.2 GHz band and a Digital ATV output on 2.4 GHz. It is also proposed to install a camera on the outside of the station to give pictures of the earth. --RSGB

#### ***Amateur Radio Newsletter hit by computer failure.***

Jim Taylor VA3KU, who distributes a weekly e-mail newsletter called the Canadian Amateur Radio Bulletin, has had some bad luck. On Monday evening May 31st, both his computers crashed due to a lightning strike. As of June 3rd, he reports that one computer is back up and running.



Industry Canada Amateur Centre  
 Voice 1-888-780-3333 (toll-free)  
 Fax: 1-613-991-5575  
 Email: [spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca](mailto:spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca)  
[http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/vwGeneratedInterE/h\\_sf01709e.html](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/vwGeneratedInterE/h_sf01709e.html)

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

However, he has lost the " database of e-mail subscribers... over 1500 at last count. If you subscribe to Jim's newsletter, and wish to continue to receive it, he asks that you send e-mail to [webmaster@hfradio.net](mailto:webmaster@hfradio.net) with the word subscribe in the subject line. -- *RAC News*

### ***Call Signs Start with V - Why***

Ever wondered why our call signs start with the letter V? Of course, radio call signs are allocated on an international basis - Australia was originally allocated the block of VHA-VKZ at the London Radio Conference of 1912. Many of the UK's former colonies (such as Canada, Australia, South Africa and British India) were allocated call signs from the V series at the 1912 conference. The reason? Queen Victoria had recently died - the block was allocated in her memory.... (Glenn VK4DU) --- *WIA -Qnews*

### ***South Africa Proposed New Radio Regulations***

Under the proposed new Radio Regulations, the Morse requirement for a ZS license will be replaced by a number of assessments. Candidates wishing to obtain a ZS license will have to complete any one of these assessments, and the choice of which assessment to attempt will be up to the candidate him- or herself.

Council published a draft list of proposed assessments for comment on 31st March. After having considered the comments received, Council has agreed on an amended set of assessments and has published these for comment. The proposed assessments are:

- 1. Confirmed contacts with 100 different stations on any band and mode.
- 2. The construction of a direct conversion or superhet receiver or a crystal controlled transmitter for any amateur frequency and mode.
- 3. 50 hours of public service communication at sports events, disaster preparedness exercises and educational stations.
- 4. A professional tertiary qualification in electronics or radio.
- 5. Morse code proficiency at 5 words per minute.

Prior achievements will be recognized, so anyone who can show that they have already fulfilled the requirements for any of these assessments will be able to apply for a ZS license as soon as the new regulations come into effect.

Full details of the assessments can be found on the SARL's web site [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za). Council invites comments from members on the proposal. Comments can be sent by email to [secretary@sarl.org.za](mailto:secretary@sarl.org.za), by fax to the SARL office at (011) 675 2793 or to our postal address, P.O. Box 1721, Strubensvallei 1735. Comments should reach the SARL not later than Sunday 25th July. -- *SARL*

### ***ECHO Progress Update***

The first sets of Whole Orbit Data (WOD) from the satellite have been collected and analysis is continuing. Jim White, WD0E, says, "We have looked at the WOD collected after we adjusted the solar panel set point to what we determined would be close to the optimum point. It resulted in nearly double the peak power input from the panels on the following orbit."

Currently the solar panels are producing nearly 20W peak, 16W average in the sun. The WOD shows that ECHO's attitude motion is complex. The torque rod is clearly magnetized with the polarity that has the -Z down in the northern hemisphere.

The Command Team would like to thank everyone that has sent in ECHO telemetry to date. The data has already proven useful in the commissioning effort. A new web page is now available for submitting telemetry data. The web page also includes options for retrieving and graphing archived telemetry data. The new ECHO telemetry archive web page is <http://www.coloradosatellite.com/echo>

The TlmEcho program has an updated coefficients file available and version 1.03 will be available for downloading on 06 July 2004 from [http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/echo/tlm\\_decode.ph](http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/echo/tlm_decode.ph)  
(RAC News Service)

### ***Echo Satellite is Officially AMSAT-OSCAR 51***

AMSAT's Bill Tynan, W3XO, issued the following statement concerning the latest amateur satellite, AMSAT-OSCAR Echo, which was launched June 29 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

"AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH has asked me to handle issuance of OSCAR numbers, and has written me requesting an OSCAR number for the Echo satellite. Therefore, in response to his communication, I hereby issue Echo the number AMSAT-OSCAR-51 (AO-51) to this exciting new Amateur Radio spacecraft. Thus, AO-51 joins a long line of Amateur Radio satellites beginning with OSCAR-1 launched in December 1961.

"I wish to congratulate everyone involved in the design, construction, testing, preparing for launch, launching and commissioning of this latest Amateur Radio spacecraft.

"I trust that amateurs all over the world will have an opportunity to avail themselves of the many features offered by AO-51. "May AO-51 have a long and productive life - *AMSAT*

### ***Did Marconi invent radio ?***

Investigations by an amateur science historian have led to evidence that suggests that the real inventor of the wireless is Jagdish Chandra Bose. <http://www.niar.org/>  
Check their news section for the entire article.-- *NIAR*

**Spam Blocking On RAC Servers**

As previously announced, spam scanning software (SpamAssassin) has been installed on the RAC e-mail forwarding service, and was enabled at 0:00 Newfoundland Daylight Time, June 15th. All of the latest plug-ins have been included to make SpamAssassin as effective as possible. The reject level can be raised or lowered server wide to reduce false positives or increase effectiveness. On the RAC server the installation is different from standard SpamAssassin setups. When a message arrives, it is scanned immediately and the sending server is either notified that it is OK or rejected before the connection between the two servers is closed. If RAC rejected the message, the sending server will usually notify the sender of the message that it has been rejected. What this means is that the message has been blocked, but at least the sender knows it has been blocked, Please report any problems to: [aliashelp@rac.ca](mailto:aliashelp@rac.ca) -- (RAC News Service)

**Morse**

According to the ITU, the correct method of sending "understood" in International Morse is: the characters IR run together, or ...-. (dit dit dit dah dit).

The correct method of sending "error" is 8 dots .....

**Calendar**

**July, 2004**

RAC Canada Day		0000Z	Jul 1
Venezuelan Ind. Day	SSB/CW	0000Z	Jul 3
DL-DX RTTY		1100Z	Jul 3
Original QRP		1500Z	Jul 3
DARC 10-Meter Digital		1100Z	Jul 4
MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint		2300Z	Jul 4
RSGB 80m Club Championship	CW	2000Z	Jul 5
ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Jul 6
IARU HF World Championship		1200Z	Jul 10
UK DX	RTTY	1200Z	Jul 10
FISTS Summer Sprint		1700Z	Jul 10
ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint		2000Z	Jul 11
RSGB 80m Club Championship	SSB	2000Z	Jul 14
Mid-Summer Six Club		2300Z	Jul 16
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m		0800Z	Jul 17
North American QSO Party	RTTY	1800Z	Jul 17
CQ Worldwide VHF		1800Z	Jul 17
RSGB Low Power Field Day		0900Z	Jul 18
Pacific 160 metres	CW/SSB	0700Z	Jul 19
AGCW QRP	CW	1500Z	Jul 19
W/VE Islands	CW/SSB	1500Z	Jul 19
Great Colorado Gold Rush	CW	2200Z	Jul 20
RSGB 80m Club Championship	Data	2000Z	Jul 22
Russian RTTY WW		0000Z	Jul 24
RSGB IOTA		1200Z	Jul 24
Russian WW	RTTY	0000Z	Jul 26
Kentucky QSO Party		1600Z	Jul 26
FRACAP	SSB	1201Z	Jul 27

**August, 2004**

RSGB RoPoCo 2		0700Z	Aug 1
SARL HF Phone		1230Z	Aug 1
ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Aug 3
TARA Grid Dip		0000Z	Aug 7
10-10 Int. Summer	SSB	0001Z	Aug 7
European HF Championship		1200Z	Aug 7
North American QSO Party	CW	1800Z	Aug 7
ARRL UHF		1800Z	Aug 7
WAE DX	CW	0000Z	Aug 14
Maryland-DC QSO Party		1600Z	Aug 14
	And	1600Z	Aug 15
SARTG WW	RTTY	0000Z	Aug 21
	And	1600Z	Aug 21
	And	0800Z	Aug 22
ARRL 10 GHZ and Up		0600L	Aug 21
	And	0600L	Aug 22
Keyman's Club of Japan		1200Z	Aug 21
SEANET		1200Z	Aug 21
North American QSO Party	SSB	1800Z	Aug 21

**Parkside Appliance & Electronics**




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**John, VE4JNF**

**386 Belvidere Street      885-9278**

**<http://www.escape.ca/~ve4jnf>      [ve4jnf@escape.ca](mailto:ve4jnf@escape.ca)**

**DIAMOND IMAGE**



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- Gifts
- Printing eg: Business cards, letterhead, envelopes
- Wedding invitations



New Jersey QSO Party		2000Z	Aug 21
	And	1300Z	Aug 22
ALARA		0600Z	Aug 28
TOEC WW Grid	CW	1200Z	Aug 28
YO DX HF		1200Z	Aug 28
SCC RTTY Championship		1200Z	Aug 28
Ohio QSO Party		1600Z	Aug 28
SARL HF CW		1230Z	Aug 29

### **Aug. 21-22 2004 International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend 2004**

This highly popular annual August event attracts hundreds of amateur radio stations at lighthouses and lightships (369 in 48 countries for the 2003 weekend )world-wide. It is organized by Mike, GM4SUC, and Kevin, VK2CE is the web-master. This year the period of the event is from 0001 UTC on Saturday 21 August until 2359 UTC on Sunday 22 August 2004.

The event is NOT a contest. It is a special event weekend when amateur radio stations are established at lighthouses or lightships, they do not have to be adjacent to salt water, and each group decides how it will operate the station with regard to modes and bands. Participants are not committed to being on the air during the entire period - operate as much as you can. There are no restrictions on aerials or power. We wish operators to enjoy themselves and have fun while making contact with as many stations as possible whilst giving priority to other lighthouse/lightship stations. Please take some time to work the slow operator, the newly licensed and QRP stations.

As available space in many lighthouses is filled to capacity, participation in this activity does not have to take place inside the tower itself. Field day type set-up at the light or other buildings next to the light or adjacent field is OK. Permission MUST be obtained from any interested parties.

The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend is used to obtain maximum exposure for our hobby. We invite the press and, QTH permitting, also the public and try to underline the parallel between the international aspects in lighthouses, lightships, and amateur radio. As from last year, the World Lighthouse Day is held on the Sunday of the event and lighthouse keepers/managers/caretakers all around the world open their lighthouses to the public. [www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/events/intlighthouseday.html](http://www.lighthouse.fsnet.co.uk/events/intlighthouseday.html)

We use the event segment of the 5 Classic bands, consider the following as a range of suggested frequencies.

CW

80m: 3.510 - 3.540 kHz

40m: 7.005 - 7.035 kHz

20m: 14.010 - 14.040 kHz

15m: 21.010 - 21.040 kHz

10m: 28.010 - 28.040 kHz

PHONE

\*80m: 3.650 - 3.750 kHz

\*40m: 7.040 - 7.100 kHz

20m: 14.150 - 14.290 kHz

15m: 21.150 - 21.250 kHz

10m: 28.300 - 28.400 kHz

\* Some of the frequency ranges listed above are NOT legal in the United States of America. As a substitute, USA operators should consider these alternatives.

USA PHONE

80m: 3.950 - 3.990 kHz

40m: 7.250 - 7.290 kHz

However because the ILLW is NOT a contest, you can operate on any authorized QRGs as per your licence, including the WARC bands. Please be sure to observe band limits for your class of licence and your country.

To assist other stations in the identification of lighthouse/lightship stations, we request that participating stations using CW add LS after their callsign at a lightship and LT at a lighthouse. SSB and other modes should use LIGHT, LGT, LIGHTHOUSE or LIGHTSHIP after their call. UK stations normally obtain a GB callsign with the letter L in the suffix and USA stations can request a Special Event callsign from the ARRL.

A list of the lighthouses/lightships of the world, currently 10,764 in 209 DXCC countries, plus their Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society (ARLHS) Number can be found at <http://arlhs.com/awards/arlhs-numbers.html>. The list is constantly being updating and added to as more data become available. You can help: If you see a correction or an addition needs to be made, please send an e-mail with the information to [K2JXW@arrl.net](mailto:K2JXW@arrl.net)

If you decide to join us, please register on-line at <http://illw.net/index.html> with details of your name, callsign to be used, lighthouse/lightship, Country, qsl route etc. Although registration is not compulsory, doing so enables us to maintain a detailed list of participants at <http://illw.net/2004.htm> showing QSL address, web site and any special event calls they may be using. E-mail addresses will be modified with unicode to minimize harvesting by spammers.

So come and join us in the fun of the weekend, already 78 stations have confirmed their participation, establish a station at a lighthouse, lightship or maritime beacon. If you are unable to find a lighthouse/ship you can still join in the fun by contacting the special lighthouse/ship stations. The more the merrier.

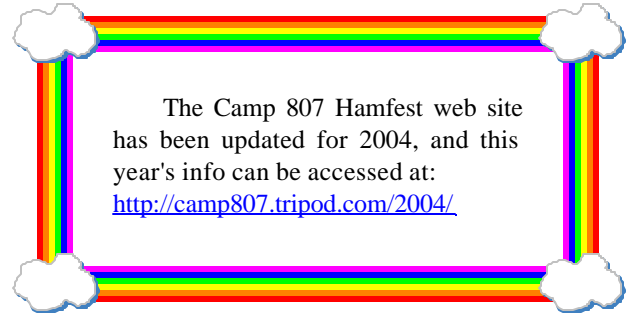
## Call for Blue Book Updates

The Manitoba Blue Book - a publication which lists all Amateur Radio operators in Manitoba, by Call Sign, Name & Location is preparing for another printing and is asking for any updates you may have. The book is only as good as its contents. If your information is not correct or you know of another hams information that is not correct, please submit it to [ve4ub@ve4sss.ca](mailto:ve4ub@ve4sss.ca)

We are also in dire need of advertisers to help offset the cost of printing. We no longer can count on getting the printing donated. Anyone wishing to advertise in the Blue Book should submit their ad copy in electronic form to [ve4ub@ve4sss.ca](mailto:ve4ub@ve4sss.ca)

Any clubs wishing to raise money by selling the blue book should contact Bill directly to discuss the requirements.

All proceeds from the sales of the Blue Book stay in Manitoba and help fund Amateur Radio projects



The Camp 807 Hamfest web site has been updated for 2004, and this year's info can be accessed at:  
<http://camp807.tripod.com/2004/>

## QTX~ By Derek, VE4HAY



Hey, don't panic the summer is not over. But I did not want to wait till September to keep everyone informed about what is happening in our little hobby of Amateur Radio. And as you are so kind as to elect to receive your newsletter by electronic means, I thought I would send along this little bonus of stuff for you to read about, with that beer on your back deck and your portable rig near by. I hope the summer has been good so far, and you are each getting a little time to play radio. At least in the evening while the mosquitoes are out.... Hi hi

## WARC Field Day 2004

<http://TRhind.photosite.com/FieldDay/>

## Manitoba Marathon

<http://trhind.photosite.com/ManitobaMarathon/>

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## MARMFEST - 10th Annual

August 21, 2004 Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum

<http://www.mts.net/~holderr/marm.htm>

