



The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

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

Summer 2005

VE4BB

Free to Members

MARMfest

Come out and enjoy a fun day with
your friends

Date: August 19 & 20

Time: <http://www.mts.net/~dsnydal/bboard.html>

Place: Austin Manitoba

Other Important Dates:

WARC: October 1st - Youth training starts

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

ARES:

Other: July 22-25 - Saskatchewan Ham Fest - Saskatoon

July 22-25 - RAC AGM - Saskatoon

Aug 19-20 - 10th. MARMFEST - Austin MB

Nets: Daily 09:00 pm	MB Evening Phone net 3747 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. 02:00 UTC	MB IRLP Net 147.27 MHz +
Wed. 9:00 pm	Six Meter net 50.238 MHz USB
Thursday 9:00 pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 9:00 pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

International Amateur Radio Union Report from the President Region 2 W6ROD Rod Stafford

Public Relations Project

Have there been discussions in your amateur radio society about promoting amateur radio in your country? That is a topic that seems to always come up whenever the subject turns to growth in amateur radio. If amateur radio is to grow in your country and if your society is to increase its membership numbers then an effort must be made to tell the public about amateur radio. Each and every member society in Region 2 could be involved in promoting amateur radio as long as there are amateurs willing to do a little work. A little work that could turn out to be a lot of fun.

I suggest one way to promote amateur radio is to speak to non-amateur radio groups about amateur radio. For example in almost all of the countries within Region 2 there are organizations like Rotary Clubs Lions Clubs etc. As a part of each and every meeting the local chapters of these international service organizations feature a speaker that makes a presentation about a wide variety of subjects. In preparing for every meeting these organizations are looking for someone to come to their meeting and make a presentation. What better way to explain amateur radio than to a group that wants to hear about it?

Service clubs like Rotary or the Lions Clubs are not the only groups where your society could make a presentation. Look around your city or community and you'll find groups

WARC: Executive for 2004

Past President	Louis Gaudry	lcaudry@mts.net
President	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Vacant	
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

involved in various activities that would welcome a talk about amateur radio.

Most of these organizations set aside about one-half hour or so for their guest speaker. I don't know many hams who wouldn't be able to talk about their involvement in amateur radio for half an hour. Most of us can talk about ham radio for a lot longer than that. The problem is to get all you want to say about ham radio into a talk in a limited amount of time. It can be done.

For example a typical presentation might involve a ham talking about what attracted him or her to amateur radio. Was it someone who was a ham who helped the speaker get licensed. That would lead to a discussion about what it takes to get licensed. Hopefully your society is conducting amateur radio classes to help people obtain their amateur license. The talk could proceed with a short discussion about various activities within amateur radio that many hams enjoy such as DXing emergency communications contesting digital communications etc. The presentation might also include a short demonstration of amateur radio. Possibly a VHF contact or two on one of the local repeaters could be arranged. The ham speaker might arrange before the meeting to have a few amateur radio friends listening to the local repeater and at the appropriate time make contact with the amateur who is giving the presentation. Certainly a part of the presentation ought to include some information about amateur radio emergency communications during times of natural disasters. If there are not any local stories to tell about how amateur radio assisted in recovering from a disaster then discuss how the hams in a nearby country helped the authorities during such a crisis. In other words tell the audience the "fun" aspects of amateur radio and tell them the "benefits" of amateur radio to their community. Many will be surprised and delighted to hear that amateur radio is alive and well in the age of the internet and

the computer. In fact a portion of the presentation could include how hams are using computers in advancing technology within amateur radio.

The presentation should last 15 or 20 minutes so as to allow for questions at the end. There will be questions. People attending the meeting will want to know more about amateur radio than you've been able to explain to them in 20 minutes or so. These are just suggested topics. It can be interesting and fun for a group of hams to get together and develop their own ideas about what ought to be included in the presentation. If you would like assistance from IARU Region 2 then contact your Area Director listed at the end of this newsletter. The Area Director is ready and willing to assist in this effort.

The benefits of such a public relations effort are obvious. First of all your society is promoting amateur radio to the community. It gets the members of your own amateur society involved in doing something for amateur radio. Secondly many local civic and governmental leaders attend meetings of service clubs. The more they know and understand about amateur radio the better. They will understand the value of amateur radio to the community. Thirdly a certain number of the people hearing about amateur radio will be interested enough to obtain their amateur license. The more people you talk to the more people that will become licensed.

The individuals who are selected to make these presentations should be members of your society who are experienced and knowledgeable about amateur radio. They should feel comfortable talking to groups. Also they should be persons who will make a good impression.

I urge you to begin such a project in your society. Your society will benefit and amateur radio will benefit. Let your Area Director know your society is starting such a project and keep the Area Director informed of your progress in promoting amateur radio.

If you have any comments about this project or any of the other subjects in the Region 2 E-News please don't hesitate to contact me directly at w6rod@iaru.org. One of purposes in distributing this newsletter is to try to establish an exchange of ideas with the Member Societies in Region 2. If you have an idea that will promote amateur radio within the region contact me to discuss the matter.

(ed's note: - Radio Amateurs of Canada is a member of the IARU on behalf of all Canadian Radio Amateurs. RAC must pay a membership fee to IARU based on the number of Amateur Radio Operators in Canada even if they are not members of RAC. Your support is appreciated.)



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

RAC - Midwest Director's Report

By BJ, VE5FX

There are still two major HamFests in the MidWest coming up - an opportunity to exchange fleas and renew friendships.

SaskHamFest 2005 Don't forget: The RAC Annual General Meeting will be held at the SaskHamFest in Saskatoon. To see all of the planned activities and to sign up on-line to attend this Centennial Event, check out <http://www.saskhamfest.com> - this is really a "Must Do" event.

- ☛ Earle Smith (VE6NM), RAC's President - will be present and heading up the Annual General Meeting.
- ☛ Ed Frazer (VE7EF), the Director from BC, will be doing a presentation on repeater frequency co-ordination.
- ☛ Adam Romanchuk (VE4SN), Assistant Director from Winnipeg, will be present to check DXCC cards.
- ☛ John Iliffe (VA3JJ), RAC's First Vice President, will be present.
- ☛ Joel Weder (VE6VOX), the Director from Alberta, will be present and serving as RAC's official photographer.
- ☛ Tim Ellam (VE6SH), will be speaking on Amateur tower issues.

And, of course, I will be there with the RAC display, merchandise and the Incoming QSL Bureau.

MARMFest - This is the eleventh annual occasion for this HamFest, to be held on August 19 & 20 at Austin, MB. See <http://www.mts.net/~dsnydal/bboard.html> for details.

There is not much to report from the Board of Directors' TeleConference, held on Tuesday evening: There is STILL no information from Industry Canada on the Morse code and callsign (RIC-9) issue. They promised to respond before summer and nothing has been received yet. When they DO respond, RAC will issue a bulletin and I will send out a supplemental bulletin to VE4 & VE5 recipients. In the mean time, if you wish to obtain HF access, why wait for IC? Visit your Designated Examiner and write your 5 wpm CW test and it's done!

Has your club looked into the benefits of subscribing to the RAC insurance plan? There is a very good chance that it will allow you to satisfy your insurance requirements while saving a considerable amount of money. Check it out on the RAC WEBSITE at <http://www.rac.ca>

Has your club considered lending their support to the RAC Youth Education Program? This program continues to grow, having just added another participating school at Sault St. Marie, ON. Perhaps you know of a school program that might be interested in joining the YEP? If so, let me know - I will follow up to the teacher and school.

WARC's Training for Youth Program

Progress Report by David VE4DAR

WARC's Training Committee continues to plan and prepare for the Basic Qualification course scheduled to begin **October 1, 2005**. A Letter of Understanding between WARC and the 199 Air Cadet Squadron is now in place. Eight instructors have been recruited and trained over three sessions. Teaching aids available at the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club were repaired and inventoried. Other items for the course are being acquired. Lesson planning and preparation will continue over the summer. Applications for the course from youth who are not Air Cadets will be accepted at a date to be announced early in September.

WARC - Field Day 2005

For Photo's check out these Photo sites (Select Slide show for best viewing)

<http://ve4vzdigipix.photosite.com/FieldDay2005/>

http://gnapady.photosite.com/F_D_2005/

http://www.mts.net/~ve4wsc/fd_2005.htm

<http://va4cq.d.gotdns.org/fieldday/>

Satellite Interest Group - SIG

If you are interested in learning about satellites or you are currently working satellites a special interest group is forming in Winnipeg. You do not have to be working satellites to join the SIG just to have an interest in how the satellites work and how to access them. This is not a club and there will be no fees. The idea of the SIG is to share ideas and knowledge as well as to have regular meetings.

If you are interested please contact
Gerry VE4GTB 269-4273 for more info.

Calendar

July

CQ Worldwide VHF Contest		1800Z	Jul 16
North American QSO Party	RTTY	1800Z	Jul 16
RSGB Low Power Field Day		0900Z	Jul 17
SSA Månadstest nr 7	CW	1400Z	Jul 17
Månadstest nr 7	SSB	1515Z	Jul 17
The Great Colorado Gold Rush	CW	2000Z	Jul 17
RSGB 80m Club Championship	Data	2000Z	Jul 21
Great Lakes Sweepstakes		0000Z	Jul 23
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest	CW	0800Z	Jul 23
RSGB IOTA Contest		1200Z	Jul 30
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees		1700Z	Jul 31

August

ARS Spartan Sprint August	CW	0200Z	Aug 2
SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest CW/SSB/FM		1700Z	Aug 4
TARA Grid Dip Shindig		0000Z	Aug 6
10-10 Int. Summer Contest	SSB	0001Z	Aug 6
National Lighthouse Weekend QSO		0001Z	Aug 6
AM-test -	AM	0700Z	Aug 6
European HF Championship		1200Z	Aug 6
ARRL UHF Contest		1800Z	Aug 6
North America QSO Party	CW	1800Z	Aug 6
RSGB RoPoCo 2		0700Z	Aug 7
SARL HF Phone Contest		1230Z	Aug 7
NCCC Thursday Sprint		0230Z	Aug 12
WAE DX Contest	CW	0000Z	Aug 13
Maryland-DC QSO Party		1600Z	Aug 13
	And	1600Z	Aug 14
SSA Månadstest nr 8	SSB	1400Z	Aug 14
SSA Månadstest nr 8	CW	1515Z	Aug 14
NCCC Thursday Sprint		0230Z	Aug 19
SARTG WW	RTTY	0000Z	Aug 20
	And	1600Z	Aug 20
	And	0800Z	Aug 21
RDA Contest	CW/SSB	100Z	Aug 20
ARRL 10 GHZ and Up		0600 local	Aug 20
Keyman's Club of Japan		1200Z	Aug 20
SEANET Contest - All		1200Z	Aug 20
North American QSO Party	SSB	1800Z	Aug 20
New Jersey QSO Party		2000Z	Aug 20
	And	1300Z	Aug 21
SSA Portabeltest Höstomg	CW/SSB	0700Z	Aug 21
NCCC Thursday Sprint		0230Z	Aug 26
ALARA Contest		0600Z	Aug 27
Hawaii QSO Party		0700Z	Aug 27
SCC RTTY Championship		1200Z	Aug 27
TOEC WW GRID Contest	CW	1200Z	Aug 27
YO DX HF Contest		1200Z	Aug 27
FRACAP Contest	SSB	1201Z	Aug 28

Ohio QSO Party		1600Z	Aug 27
SARL HF CW Contest		1230Z	Aug 28
Kentucky QSO Party		1600Z	Aug 28

September

SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest CW/SSB/FM		1700Z	Sep 1
NCCC Thursday Sprint		0230Z	Sep 2
All Asian DX Contest	Phone	0000Z	Sep 3
Russian "Radio" RTTY WW	RTTY	0000Z	Sep 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint		0400Z	Sep 3
AGCW Straight Key Party		1300Z	Sep 3
IARU Region 1 Field Day	SSB	1300Z	Sep 3
RSGB SSB Field Day		1300Z	Sep 3
FISTS Straight Key Week	CW	0001Z	Sep 4
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest		1100Z	Sep 4
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint		2300Z	Sep 5
ARS Spartan Sprint September	CW	0000Z	Sep 6
WAE DX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Sep 10
CIS DX RTTY Contest	RTTY	1200Z	Sep 10
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint		1300Z	Sep 10
Arkansas QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 10
	And	1800Z	Sep 11
SOC Marathon Sprint	CW	1800Z	Sep 10
ARRL September VHF QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 10
North American Sprint	CW	0000Z	Sep 11
Tennessee QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 11
ARCI End of Summer	PSK31	2000Z	Sep 11
YLRL Howdy Days		1400Z	Sep 14
SARL VHF/UHF Contest		1000Z	Sep 16
AGB NEMIGA Contest CW/SSB/DIGI		2100Z	Sep 16
ARRL 10 GHZ and Up Contest		0600 local	Sep 17
Scandinavian Activity Contest	CW	1200Z	Sep 17
Washington State Salmon Run		1600Z	Sep 17
	And	1600Z	Sep 18
QCWA Fall QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 17
North American Sprint	SSB	0000Z	Sep 18
Panama Radio Club Ann.	Phone	1200Z	Sep 18
SSA Månadstest nr 9	CW	1400 Z	Sep 18
SSA Månadstest nr 9	SSB	1515Z	Sep 18
CQ Worldwide DX Contest	RTTY	0000Z	Sep 24
Tesla Cup	Phone	0000Z	Sep 24
Tesla Cup	CW	0000Z	Sep 25
Scandinavian Activity Contest	SSB	1200Z	Sep 24
Texas QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 24
	And	1400Z	Sep 25
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest		144 1600Z	Sep 24
		532 1900Z	Sep 24
Alabama QSO Party	CW/Phone	1800Z	Sep 24
UBA ON Contest	6m	0600Z	Sep 25
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint		0000Z	Sep 26

Tom Blair VE4MJ/VE4TOM SK Submitted by Dick VE4HK

Tom Blair VE4MJ/VE4TOM passed away on June 10 after a short illness. He was well known to the old time hams in Manitoba. He was a private person with an offbeat sense of humor.

Tom was on the executive of the Winnipeg Repeater Society in the late 1970's and early 1980's. (The predecessor of the Manitoba Repeater Society). Tom serviced VE4WPG and VE4MAN including working at the 800 foot level of the CBC Starbuck tower. Back then VE4MAN was 800 ft up the tower He also repaired MRS and other repeater group equipment in the Prairie Mobile Communications workshop. He was also trustee for VE4RAG repeater at Elie MB. Tom was instrumental in bringing VE4GIM repeater into the MRS fold.

In addition to his other duties VE4TOM was the Manitoba Frequency Coordinator for many years. He did an outstanding job of allocating repeater pairs for clubs and individual owners in this province. This was a behind the scenes job but a crucial function. Tom had to work closely with frequency coordinators in Saskatchewan North Dakota Minnesota and Ontario to ensure there was no interference between different repeaters. I cannot remember hearing of any squabbles or problems with any of his allocations.

Tom taught chemistry at Joseph Wolinsky the High School of the Gray Academy for 30 years. He was acknowledged as an outstanding instructor. He tutored students after their graduation. He was deeply respected by students and staff alike.

Gray Academy is planning a scholarship in Tom's name for highest academic achievement in Chemistry for a grade 12 graduate each year. I feel it would be very fitting for amateurs to contribute to this scholarship. I personally plan to make a donation.

Contact Peggy Rybachuk at the B.J.E. off ice of the Gray Academy at 477-7425 for further information. When phoning please mention that you are from the Amateur Radio Community. Make cheques payable to the Gray Academy. You will be receiving a statement for tax purposes. Mrs. Cicely Blair Tom's mother has requested that all names contributing to the scholarship be listed on one sheet in lieu of her receiving individual cards.

Gray Academy of Jewish Education
A202-123 Doncaster Ave.
Winnipeg MB R3N 2B4

Camp 807 The 26th Annual Northwestern Ontario Hamfest sponsored by the Rainy Lake Amateur Radio Club.

RLARC will be the host for CAMP 807 2005, and they would like to extend an invitation to all Amateur Radio operators, their families, and other interested persons to participate in this annual family event. It's shaping up to be a great weekend! The Camp 807 committee hopes that you can include our region's annual Ham Radio gathering in your summer plans.

CAMP 807 2005 will take place the weekend of **July 29th, 30th, and 31st** at the Holiday Village Trailer Park and Campground, 1101 Mill Road by the overpass in East Fort Frances.

There will be no RV camping at this site (new owners of property, no town licence to use as an RV campground) - but the activities will take place at this site. Across the road is the park, with space for about 20 RV's, on a first-come, first-served basis, and tenting area. There is also a sandy beach for swimming. Additional details will be posted as they become available. A final meeting before the onset of Camp 807 will be held on July 4th (tentative date).

The VE3RLC repeater on 146.820 (-600) in Fort Frances will be used as the talk-in frequency. Club members will be monitoring the repeater in order to provide directions and assistance to those travelling to the event. More info: <http://camp807.tripod.com/2005>

SIG - Satellite Interest Group

On June 9 2005 at 19:30 the Manitoba Satellite Interest Group held their inaugural meeting. Fourteen amateur radio operators attended the meeting which was held at the Winnipeg Seniors Radio Club. It was decided that the group would meet on the last Wednesday of each month with the next meeting to be held on Wednesday June 29 2005. All in attendance were unanimous in trying to put a Satellite Station together for the upcoming Field Day at Birds Hill Park. Alan Thoren VE4YZ showed the group the Satellite equipment on hand at the senior's club and was able to operate satellites SO-50 and AO-51.

If you are interest or would like to find out more about Satellites Operating contact Gerry Baker VE4GTB at 269-4273 or ve4gtb@amsat.or or Stefan Wagener at 669-9789 or ve4nsa@amsat.org.

News from the Net

WANNA GO TO THE MALL?

Pittsburgh USA' Uniontown Amateur Radio Club invited local military personnel and their families to Military Appreciation Day at the Uniontown Mall where the Amateur radio operators made radio contacts with family members of military personnel stationed around the world. -- *WIA*

Amateur Radio Begins 'Podcasting' (Jun. 19 2005)

'Podcasting' - in which broadcasts are downloaded from the Internet for later playback on Ipods - has been much in the news recently. You won't be surprised to hear that there is now an amateur radio podcast. If you have a broadband Internet connection you may want to give it a try. Type <http://www.podcast.net> in your web-browser and type 'Amateur Radio' in the search field and you will see a list of the latest 'This Week in Amateur Radio International' bulletins. Click on the links and make sure your speakers are turned on. -- *(RSGB2)*

Regulatory changes in Europe

Sweden's telecommunication regulatory agency PTS has taken steps to deregulate Amateur Radio and essentially no longer requires a government license. Effective last fall the PTS turned over Amateur Radio operator certification to the Society of Swedish Radio Amateurs (SSA) that country's IARU member-society. Under the new regulatory regime the SSA administers testing and issues operator certificates and call signs which have SA prefixes and three-letter suffixes. There's no longer a Morse code requirement for HF access.

Czech Republic has begun issuing Novice class licenses with OK9-prefix callsigns on 160 80 15 and 10 meters power output of 10 W. The Malta Communication Authority has extended HF privileges to "codeless" Class B licensees. Licensees in Malta still must pass a Morse code examination to operate CW on the HF bands". -- *WIA News*

Morse code is alive and well

It's just over two years ago the mandatory requirement of Morse code proficiency tests for access to the high frequency amateur bands was removed. That historic decision at the World Radiocommunications Conference 2003 resulted in many countries ending the code requirement. But what if any impact has that decision had on the use of Morse code by radio amateurs? There appears to be no sign of a demise of CW interest and operation. Listen to the HF bands and often there more simultaneous CW contacts than there are on phone. Sometimes there's plenty of QSOs on the bottom end of the

band and no phone contacts to be heard. DXpeditions and some special event stations demonstrate that those which include CW in their operation have great successes. Contesting is another area of CW strength. Morse code operator clubs are attracting new members. Requests for CW learning materials regularly appear on the ham wanted and for sale sites along with second hand straight keys and paddles. Manufacturers of paddles seem to be doing very well. New model ham rigs continue to have in-built CW keyers. Samuel Finley Breese Morse would indeed be pleased to hear that the telegraphic code which bears his name and created a revolution in world communications is being conserved for the future by radio amateurs. -- *WIA News*

Philippines Hams may lose 70 CM (July 15 2005)

Hams in the Philippines are wondering how long it will be before they are ordered off of the 70 centimeter band. This, after that nations National Telecommunications Commission announces the inclusion of all of that band in spectrum it is considering being made available for broadband wireless networks. The regulatory agency made the suggestion in a Memorandum titled "Frequency Band Allocations for Broadband Wireless Access." The surprise was the inclusion of 410 to 495 MHz in nine bands. This includes the Amateur and Amateur Satellite spectrum including the internationally agreed to allocations. Jose Mari Gonzalez, DU1JMG, is the Manila based president of PARA which is the Philippines national Amateur Radio society. He says that PARA opposes both the memorandum and the potential loss of 70 centimeters. He notes that 430 to 440 MHz includes the international amateur satellite band. He says that if and when the Philippines National Telecommunications Council decides to remove 70 centimeter access from ham radio that his organization will file an official complaint to the IARU. This would likely lead to a complaint by the IARU to the International Telecommunications Union that would hopefully warn the NTC not to change the internationally agreed frequency allocations. For its part, the Philippines National Telecommunications Council says it proposes to reallocate

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spectrum for broadband wireless networks in line with the thrust of the government to promote and facilitate the development of information and communications technology. Right now only about 5% of the population in The Philippines has access to the Internet, much less broadband, and this is partly due to the lack of infrastructure. -- *WIA News*



Slitent Keys

VE4RGC - Robert Cowie June 15
VE4NF - William Keys June 26

VE4MT/ VE4TOM - SK

June 10th 2005

Tom was first licensed in 1977 under the call sign VE4MJ. In 1977 we were playing around on 223.500 MHZ simplex (national calling frequency.) Tom put the first 220 repeater up in Manitoba using some surplus Midland radios 223.340/224.940 VE4RPT circa 1981. He was very dedicated to the Winnipeg Repeater Society in the early eighties. He loved going to the hamvention in Dayton Ohio and I recall meeting him there every year for at least the past decade probably 15 years. He became involved as repeater frequency coordinator for Manitoba for perhaps 18-20 years starting again in the early eighties. Tom was never active from home in Charleswood always mobile. As time went on he became more involved on the commercial side of things at Prairie Mobile. He also provided and maintained the VE4RAG 147.740/240 repeater located at Elie MB at a Prairie Mobile site. Tom made himself ! available if Barrett (VE4ABA) had to get up on the Richardson bldg. to look at the 220 MHZ machine. In addition he was around to look at Bruxelles 146.280/880 repeater. He was never heard on 6 meters or HF as far as I know. He also held the call VE4TOM. During his tour with MRS (Manitoba Repeater Society) formerly the Winnipeg Repeater Society he was very involved with the Starbuck MB repeater located on the CBC tower.

MARMfest 11th Annual August 19 & 20th, 2005

Friday evening Campfire & Sing-a-long
Saturday Night Dance & Party
Manitoba Repeater Society Meeting - Saturday 2:00 PM
Ladies Activities
MARM - Annual General Meeting Sunday - 2:00 PM
Prizes to be won
125 registered last year
APRS - 144.390
Talk in

1st. Field Day Contact By Aruni VE4WMK

I was so excited to make my first FD satellite contact on AO-51 V/S mode. Having had only limited experience on this mode with only 4 contacts the previous night it was a real challenge for me. On Saturday 25th at 18:15 UTC I tried to make a contact with a FD station but unfortunately the pass was so crowded that many stations stepped over me. I only managed to make a contact with AI7W from this pileup though I copied 6 more stations.

On Sunday 26th at 15:57 UTC I made my first FD satellite contact on behalf of our club station VE4BB-3A-MB. That contact was with VE3RC (Ottawa Amateur Radio Club). This single contact made my day on FD!!! I almost had the station K8DAC but was interrupted by another station. I copied 10 more stations on this pass. As a portable station using 2 Icom IC-W32A HT's an Arrow antenna our homebrew 4 turn Helix and the AIDC 3731 down-converter we successfully managed to make this contact. I had to log callsigns control Doppler and press the PTT on transmit while listening to the downlink through headphones. My Dad was steering antennas with the Helix / downconverter in his left hand and Arrow in right hand also listening to the bird through headphones. I have programmed the receiving HT for Doppler from 145.260 MHz to 145.140 MHz in 5 KHz steps (25 steps). Doppler controlling was just a matter of turning the knob on receiving HT for best signal but was challenging. All these kept our 4 hands fully operational. My 6 year old brother Supun also had his first FD excitement on a satellite listening to AO-51 through headphones. Although it was just one FD contact it's an unforgettable experience!!!

Youth Education Project (YEP)

The article below is just one report that was submitted this year as part of YEP. If you are an educator or would like to get involved in YEP please contact your RAC director for information on the program.

Chestermere Amateur Radio Program 2004-2005 Final Report

It is hard to imagine that only a little over one year ago we started using amateur radio in our classroom. It has become so woven into the fabric of my classroom that I truly can't imagine what it was like without radio. Nor could I ever go back and not use it.

Here are the highlights of our year:

Eco-pals- In conjunction with Neil Carleton (VE3NCE) our classes participated in a program called Eco- Pals. This program randomly links schools across the country in a variety of different projects. However our initial proposal came in with a special request that we be partnered together and be allowed to introduce an amateur radio component. This opened up the whole world to us as we took the Eco-Pals project into a variety of directions. We started off with a project called "Class-to-Class" in which we exchanged artefacts that described our areas. At the same time kids were matched up with a student in the other class and had the opportunity to introduce themselves to their partner on the radio. We followed this up with regular letters and a variety of other written projects. We started offering a Question of the Week a project that had one class ask a question on Monday that could be surveyed in both schools and then shared the results on Friday. The next week a group from the other school would send the question and then meet again on Friday to exchange results. We exchanged approximately 16 weeks worth of questions between the classes. Most recently we have started Audio Book Reviews- a chance to share your favourite book and assorted details with your Ecopal. We have thoroughly

entrenched amateur radio into this existing program to a point that I could not do the Eco-Pal program again without the radio component.

Antarctica- In September we had the opportunity to research life in the Antarctic and ask any questions of Bill Hance KD7CWA a satellite operator and amateur radio operator at Palmer Station in the Antarctic. It was an amazing opportunity to find out about an area that we knew virtually nothing about.

Mount Everest- as many other students across the country did we too joined in with R. Tait McKenzie Public School in Almonte Ontario and contacted Professor Sean Egan the University of Ottawa professor who was attempting to become the oldest Canadian to summit Mount Everest. Four students from the group of approximately 100 people who joined us for the event had a chance to ask Sean Egan questions about his experiences on Mount Everest. We had followed the expedition quite closely up until its tragic end.

Tasmania- Twice during the year we researched and sent questions to amateur radio operators in Tasmania. We then followed them up with a contact that allowed them to ask their questions live over radio. Where I would normally have used two primary classes for most radio contacts these two contacts were using a cross-section of other Grade Six students. These contacts went a long way to promote amateur radio in our community.

Australia- Where the Internet can answer a wide variety of questions we proved it is not the only way to find answers. We proved that the answers can come more quickly if you put in a CQ to the area you would like to know more about and ask them directly. Such was the case when we wanted to know about the constellations that could be seen in the Southern Hemisphere. Hank an amateur radio operator in Sydney Australia answered our call and our questions despite the fact that it was 2:45 am in Australia. This left a very strong impression on the kids in my classroom.

Looking for Digital - Try these frequencies

1.838 psk31	10.147 mfsk	21.335 sstv fax	50.255 JT44
	14.064 hell		50.260 FSK441
3.580 psk31 hell	14.070 psk31	24.920 psk31	50.270 FSK441
3.730 sstv fax	14.080 mfsk	24.929 mfsk	50.510 SSTV (AFSK)
	14.227 sstv fax		50.550 FAX
7.035 psk31 hell		28.070 psk31	50.600 RTTY (FSK)
7.037 mfsk	18.100 psk31	28.080 mfsk	
7.070 psk31	18.105 mfsk	28.120 psk31 hell	
		28.675 sstv fax	
10.137 hell	21.063 hell		
10.140 psk31	21.080 psk31	50.250 PSK31	

If anyone has a more extensive list, Please send it to me so I can share with everyone.

Scotland England- In order to introduce the entire program at the beginning of the year we placed a large number of CQ calls to various IRLP nodes around the United Kingdom. It was amazing for both the students and me to hear so many pleasant encouraging radio operators who were thrilled to be speaking to school kids. Their messages of support for amateur radio projects in schools were wonderful.

Mount St. Helens- During the eruptions of Mount St. Helens at the beginning of the year we had the opportunity to speak to an operator who was only 90 miles away from the active volcano and who could vividly describe the atmosphere around his area. Through his descriptions we could better understand the news that was being sent to us via the media.

England- most recently we have connected up with David Mackinder G4DWP in Lincolnshire England. David has an amateur radio club in his school and wrote looking for students with which he could connect his classes. After receiving permission from Industry Canada we tried a series of "Greeting Messages"- short introductions between students that do not violate our lack of a Third Party Agreement. David's students are currently working under a Foundation License and working towards their Basic License equivalents.

Teacher Professional Development- Virtually every morning for the past year Neil Carleton VE3NCE and I have chatted together via IRLP. Where this started off as an opportunity to plan ways we could connect our classrooms and students together it has become much more than that. Our conversations still seek for interesting new plans but they have become philosophical discussing the concepts behind education in two provinces. They have started looking forward to ways we can link classes in the school I will be in next year. They have become a very important source of professional development for me.

Related local events:

CARA Field Day - Our school has helped arrange a place for the Calgary Amateur Radio Association to hold a Field Day in late June. This will help promote amateur radio with the community as the students will be invited to visit the field station at the High School east of the town of Chestermere and participate in a field day. They will have the opportunity to witness and join in worldwide QSO's.

UPCOMING:

Summits of Canada - In 2005-06 an expedition of climbers from across Canada will challenge the highest peaks across Canada. Amateur radio will travel along with them as they plan to use radio to communicate with the kids across the country who participate in the RAC YEP. This will be an exciting chance to follow a unique climbing experience and share in the experiences. More to come from this.



Saskatchewan
Centennial
Hamfest 2005

1905-2005

July 22-24
Saskatoon



RAC

**The Radio Amateurs of
Canada Annual
General Meeting**
will take place at the
Saskatchewan Hamfest in
Saskatoon on July 23rd.

Preliminary information is available on the
hamfest web site
<http://www.saskhamfest.com/>

If anyone is planning on going please let
others know at the WARC meetings
so that maybe we can car pool and show up as
a group. Would anyone be interested in
coordinating this little jaunt to our
neighbouring province ?

And all the very best for an excellent summer break!

Bj. Madsen - VE5FX

RAC MidWest Regional Director

Chairman - RAC Youth Education Program

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