



The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.mts.net/~warc>

December 2006

IRLP # 1066

VE4BB

Annual WARC Christmas Party

Come on out and enjoy the Christmas
spirit with your fellow Hams

Date: **November 13th, 2006**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

WARC: Jan. 8 - SWOT
Feb. 12 - NVIS- redux
Mar. 12 - Radio in Aviation
April 9 - Home Brew Night
April 15 - Flea market
May 14 -
June 11 -

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn
Dec. 5 - Christmas Party
Dec. 20 - Annual General Meeting

ARES:

Other: Dec. 30 - RAC Winter Contest

Nets: Daily 00:00 UTC	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 145.450 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 +

And now for a word from the President ... By Geoff, VE4BAW

A broadcast signal on 1860 Khz coming from the radio on a Saturday night at the lake. Now I didn't know a regular broadcast was there until I came across it while spinning the dial. 80 and 160 meters were both noiseless that night and the voices were clear and clean. I was quite surprised however to come across an amateur radio news broadcast. It sounded initially like an ARRL newsletter being read by someone with a southern US accent. Then Australian voices came out of the speaker and discussed the radio world in Oceania. Then another North American voice started providing info from RAC. I had never heard it before. A voice identified the station as being from Wentzville, Missouri, "The Gateway 160 Meter Radio Newsletter on 1860 Khz.". This Week in Amateur Radio was followed by the Houston AMSAT Net, and then the Radio Amateur Information Network. Stories about cubsats, special event stations, BPL, silent keys and ham events in the US, Canada and Australia came 5 by 9 + into the dark room. I spent a couple of hours peacefully listening to the radio and watching the ice close over the lake in front of my cottage. A week later I turned the dial to 1860 and was rewarded only with noise. Radio ... so delightfully unpredictable! Each Saturday at the lake I turn to 1860 and see if the amateur news is on.

Someone on HF ... I think some chap in Sicily, asked what my station was like and when I told him that I used solar power and was far from the crowd he sighed and said that 160 and 80 must be great due to the lack of interference.

WARC: Executive for 2006- 2007

Past President	John Pura	ve4qv at rac.ca
President	Geoff Bawden	ve4baw at rac.ca
Vice-Pres	GeorgeMoodie	geomoodie at yahoo.com
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	rmaman at mts.net
Treasurer	Pat Geisbrecht	ve4plg at mts.net
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab at rac.ca
Program	Derek Hay	ve4hay at rac.ca
Director at Large	Raymond Hall	ve4rq at rac.ca

I didn't quite know what he meant until later. He was right. I can hear any electrical device when I am listening on 160. I turn on an electric light and I can hear the snap! of the switch or the buzz of the ballast. If the kids turn on the TV I can hear the mumbled buzz of .. well something in the TV. My appliances are propane and thus silent. I heat with silent wood. I knew that the lake was quiet to the human ear but hadn't given any thought to how quiet it is to the electric ear.

Shame about the November meeting. We were told 4:23 on the Friday that the meeting had been cancelled... the school division advised that the custodians were holding a professional development day on Monday. The message was left on Ruthie [ve4crs] answering machine. Ruthie advised the Executive on Saturday Morning by email... I was at the lake – other Executive members were similarly distracted. When I phoned the school Monday morning, right after I read my email, I was told that gas repairs were being done and there would be no heat. When she phoned the division she was advised that the custodians were on a professional development [PD] day. I phoned the division and they confirmed the Friday decision by the head custodian to hold a PD day on Monday. I was told that the door would be locked and a sign posted cancelling the meeting. It was clear that we and 39 other permit holders in the division were out of luck. The December meeting will thus have a special bonus. The StreetPilot c320 with the extra memory and extended three year warranty will be drawn for some lucky member who signed up no later than noon on October 22nd. Is that somebody you?

Amateur Radio Service Centre - Industry Canada
 P.O. Box 9654, Postal Station T
 Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 6K9
 Telephone: (613) 780-3333
 Toll free: (888) 780-3333
 Fax: (613) 998-5919
 E-mail: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01709e.html

IRLP Node 1066
 145.450 MHz -600 KHz
 (VE4WRS)

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

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club News

by Adam, VE4SN



The calendar definitely displays the date as November 22 and the sun is shining, albeit somewhat closer to the horizon, the temperature hovers (hovers is a good word because it depicts height) around the 12 degree mark and I keep checking the street signs to make sure I am still in Winnipeg and not lost somewhere in Arizona! And then, would you believe it, Cottonwood Golf Course opens its Links for a late season round of golf.

But hold everything!! As true blue Winnipeggers we know this small shift in the normal Celestial Order will not last!! In fact, They, (They being the Environment Canada people) have boldly stated that we are about to be pelted with snow, more snow, maybe some freezing drizzle and plummeting temperatures down to around minus 15 degrees!! Oh well, it was nice while it lasted!

Anyway back to more serious things. For those of you who were able to take in any portion of Winnipeg's Grey Cup festivities.... wasn't that a party! We did ourselves proud. It's only too bad that the Bombers couldn't be out there in the game. I know that if the Saskatchewan Roughriders had made it, we would have had to set up a huge tent city to accommodate that whole province!

Speaking of parties and looking closer to home, the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club Annual Christmas Party is only thirteen days away on December 5th. If you haven't got your ticket as yet, you'd better hurry. Time has a way of zipping past!

The final Board meeting of 2006 was held in the club rooms on Wednesday, November 15. The next meeting is the Annual General Meeting to be held on December 20 in the Boardroom of the Winnipeg Retirees Association 600 St Marys Rd. (that's next door to our club rooms looking south). All members who are able should attend. Election of officers and a new Executive Board is top item on the agenda. Let's get a good turnout.

Finally, our monthly breakfasts have been quite successful over the past year with the November outing drawing 31 persons. Helen McMenemy, (XYL of Bill VE4WCM) was the lucky winner of the free breakfast. The next one is December 14, same time and same place. Plan to attend. It's a lot of fun and a real nice morning get together.

WPGARES**By Jeff, VE4MBQ Emergency Coordinator**

Welcome to Rolf Bandlow VE4VZ who joined WPGARES in late OCT.

Roger VE4RLF and Ed VE4OAK should have "graduated" from the City of Winnipeg Emergency Program "Winnipeg Emergency Management" course by the time you read this. Three WPGARES members are scheduled for 16-18 JAN and two are scheduled for 20-22 MAR. So far "our" two slots for 15-17 MAY haven't been filled yet. In the past year nine WPGARES members have attended the course (which is recognized by Manitoba EMO and PSEPC). Our station in the City of Winnipeg Emergency Operations Centre VE4EOC is undergoing some changes – more information next month!

Four ARES members are scheduled to attend another familiarization session facilitated by Wayne Warren VE4WR for VE4PSC in the Public Safety Emergency Preparedness Canada (PSEPC) Regional Office in Winnipeg SUN 26 NOV. The next Sunday PM session will likely be 28 JAN, so far we have one member booked then, we can accommodate up to five more.

Gerry Desjardin from Ski Patrol gave us an excellent presentation at our NOV General Meeting and also extended an opportunity to get involved with a SAR Exercise in Falcon Lake SUN 3 DEC. Information has been passed to North Eastman & South-Central DECs as it's way out of my district!

As stated last month we will be operating VE4WWO in the Prairie & Arctic Storm Prediction Centre for 24 hrs 1800h 01 DEC thru 1800h 02 DEC during the ARRL-NOAA SKYWARN Recognition Day. Currently thirteen ARES members have volunteered. Additional information can be found in the DEC 2006 QST on page 66.

WPGARES recently purchased an "Amateur Radio Pager" as featured previously in TCA to investigate ARES alerting. Total cost including shipping was \$138. I just got it two nights ago so it will be a while before I have anything to report. The fibre-optic cut outside Winnipeg in late AUG got me thinking again about alternates to telephone fan-out list (which I find very awkward & time consuming anyway).

Our next General Meeting will be TUE 19 DEC, I will be presenting on Call-Outs & Equipment. This is a good review session for experienced WPGARES Members and should be attended for sure by our newer members.

Fall 2006 WARC Flea Market Report**By Dick, VE4HK**

The Flea Market was held at Heritage Victoria Community Club on October 22. Thanks to an outstanding job by Ruth VE4XYL, all 30 tables were sold about a week before the Flea Market. One vendor backed out shortly before Sunday, and an other renter was a no show, which meant that 28 tables were filled with merchandise for eager buyers.

A total of 195 people attended the Flea Market, including buyers and vendors. From what I saw, all vendors did well, as did those people who found treasures on the tables.

The Flea Market is largely a social event. Many hams come simply to visit with friends they only see at the Flea Market. A very important component of the social aspect is food. Ruth VE4XYL and Mariska VE4MMG prepared a delicious spread of egg salad sandwiches, ham sandwiches, tuna sandwiches, along with home made muffins, coffee and soft drinks. Thanks to Ruth, all food and drinks sold out completely.

WARC made a profit, after all expenses of about \$800.00

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Flea Market, from set up crew, to Vendor Door, Admission Door, and of course, Ruth's Kitchen crew. Thanks also to all the vendors, and finally, to all who attended, and made the Fall Flea Market a success!

Thanks to: Pat Giesbrecht VE4PLG, Kent Haase VE4KEH, and Ruth Mills VE4XYL who were in charge of the admission door, vendor door and Ruth's Kitchen respectively. Thanks also to Ed Oakes VE4OAK, John Bell VE4OL, Rob McGill VE4ROB and his son Jeremy, Luke Dovyak VE4WTF, Yori Tsuji VE4ACX, Mariska Maguire VE4MMG, Betty Andrews VE4BTY, Mary Bell xyl of VE4OL, Cheryl Mills VE4CHR, and Judy Mills Jesson, xyl of VE4TAJ for volunteering in various areas. The Flea Market could not have been successful, without their assistance.

Minutes for October 16th, 2006
Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS

No minutes due to the last minute cancellation of the November meeting.

ISS beaming pictures in SSTV for anyone to capture.

An innovative space transmission system built by volunteers has started sending down pictures from the international space station to the whole wide world via amateur radio. Thanks to SpaceCam1, anyone with a police scanner or a suitable radio rig, plus a computer and the appropriate software, should be able to receive pictures from orbit, the project's organizers say. The SpaceCam1 slow-scan television system, which combines a couple of hardware gizmos plus the signal-coding software on one of the station's laptop computers, has been three years in the making. The project follows up on a less sophisticated system that was tested aboard Russia's Mir space station in its waning years.

"It's been fun, and this is just a steppingstone," said Miles Mann, project lead and chief executive officer for the MAREX amateur-radio club. MAREX was involved in the Mir project - and it teamed up with another volunteer group, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, for SpaceCam1's next-generation SSTV system.

SSTV basically means snapping a digital still image and translating the scan lines of that image into a sequential stream of data. That stream can be transmitted on a radio frequency, then decoded on the other end to reconstitute the digital image.

On the space station, the original image can come from something as simple as a Webcam, hooked up to an onboard laptop. Astronauts can point the camera at themselves, at the station interior or just set it up at one of the station's windows for a view of Earth below.

The data conversion is done through software on the laptop plus a little hardware interface known as a "VOX box." Then the data is beamed down to Earth via a radio transmitter.

Down on the planet, you can tune your scanner or radio receiver to 145.800 MHz on the 2-meter band, pick up the signal, have it converted automatically on your own computer ... and voila! you've made contact. (Here's a technical how-to with links to shareware sources ... or you can do a Web search for software.)

The equipment and the software was sent to the station last September on a Progress cargo craft, and since then the space station astronauts have been working off and on to get the system running. On July 30, they sent the first still image - and at least two more have come down since then.

Farrell Winder, a retired electrical engineer who is part of the SpaceCam1 team, said the transmitter's power levels had to be dialed down due to overheating.

"They had it set up on high power, and there's no convection cooling on the station because there's no gravity," Winder explained. During the current testing phase, the equipment will be running only intermittently, on low power. But eventually, the camera can be set for continuous operation.

"We have great confidence that it's going to give us hundreds of pictures a day," he said.

And that's just the start. Eventually, the system will be able to receive pictures sent up to the station from licensed ham-radio operators, Mann said.

Mann is already dreaming of the day when a SpaceCam can be fitted aboard a moon-bound spacecraft, to serve as a transmitter or even as a relay for earthly transmissions. A fair number of radio enthusiasts are already bouncing their signals off the moon to reach faraway earthlings, Mann noted.

"We'd be able to increase the number of people who can do that tenfold," Mann told me.

For the record, here's the full release from the SpaceCam1 team:

Amateur Radio established an exciting "first" for the international space station on July 30, August 12 and

**Did you received this newsletter
via the postal service?**

Do you have an e-mail account?

Would you like to have the newsletter delivered right to your desktop in glorious colour along with bones material, and web links to articles.

Then please send an email to Mark,
ve4mab@rac.ca and we will switch you over to the electronic version of the newsletter.

August 13, 2006. This event was the sending of still picture images from the ISS via amateur radio. Amateur-radio and shortwave listeners in many countries including England, Russia, Brazil and Australia were able to see these images from the ISS, which is orbiting Earth approximately every 90 minutes at an altitude of around 225 miles. These pictures were sent by ISS Commander Pavel Vinogradov, an amateur-radio Operator with call sign RV3BS.

The amateur-radio software program used to send pictures is called SpaceCam1. This project is currently being operated intermittently during the crew's free time. After testing is complete, the system will have the capability of sending several hundred images per day from the ISS Amateur Radio VHF link. With a direct onboard camera feed pointed out the window or in the cabin, each picture sent down could be of unique content.

SpaceCam1 was developed over a three-year span. The concept was initiated by the same group that developed the very successful amateur-radio TV system flown on board the Russian space station Mir, 1998-2001.

Those involved with this amateur-radio development are: Dr. Don Miller, W9NTP, Hank Cantrell, W4HTB Miles Mann, WF1F Farrell Winder, W8ZCF

While the Mir system was a hardware system, the ISS SpaceCam1 system is a software-based system which was developed primarily by Jim Barber, N7CXI, Silicon Pixels, working with the above team.

Several international amateur radio teams supported the final success of this system under the auspices of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) international working group.

In the United States, team members from AMSAT (Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation), and NASA, under the direction of Frank Bauer, K3HDO, supported systems integration, safety verification and extensive ground-based testing.

AMSAT member Lou McFadin, W5DID, was responsible for the integration hardware between the Kenwood D700 Radio Transmitter and the onboard computer, which comprise the SpaceCam1 system.

In Russia, Sergey Samburov, RV3DR, chief of the Cosmonaut Amateur Radio Department, RSC Energia in Korolev, Russia, coordinated Russian cosmonaut training, onboard procedure development, hardware and software flight manifest on a Progress launch vehicle.

The final image downlink tests from ISS, performed over the last few days, were coordinated by a team that included Miles Mann, WF1F, MarexMG CEO; Kenneth Ransom, N5VHO, NASA Amateur Radio Coordinator; and Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, in the United States; Sergey Samburov, RV3DR, in Russia; and Pavel Vinogradov, onboard the ISS.

We expect many additional pictures to follow as soon as final tests are concluded. SpaceCam1 has picture-receive capability aboard the ISS from Earth, which will be tested at a later date. ...

Anyone can receive picture signals from the ISS. See the MAREX-MG Web page, <http://www.marexmg.org> for details about receiving and tracking the ISS. See also the ARISS Web site, <http://www.rac.ca/ariss>. Being an amateur-radio operator is not a requirement for receiving transmissions from the ISS.

Amateur-radio contacts by the ISS crew with amateur operators on Earth give the crew a break from formal activity. We have learned from one of the recent crew members, Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, that it provides great pleasure and relaxation during off-duty time. It likewise gives amateur operators and schoolchildren on Earth a challenge and excitement of outer-space communications involving very interesting and educational pictures

Manitoba ARES CANWARN Program **"Reportable" Winter Weather**

"WHAT TO REPORT"

- ☛ Low Visibility
- ☛ Freezing Rain or Freezing Drizzle
- ☛ Snowfall Accumulations over 6-8 cm
- ☛ Rain that changes to Snow (when temps near Zero)

There will not generally be an amateur net in operation, so phone your report in via:

the 1-800 number received at Spotter Training
Or the PUBLIC number is 1-800-239-0484

☛ Consider Participation in:

MMWX NET 3743 KHz LSB 0830 Local

MEPN 3747 KHz LSB 1900 Local

MMWX Net Manager may collate severe winter weather reports and forward to PSPC.

RAC, ITU & WRC

By Earle Smith, VE6NM

2007 is going to be another important year for Amateur Radio worldwide. Leading up to the World Radio Conference 2007 (WRC 2007), key RAC members, such as Dr. Ken Pulfer, VE3PU, my Special Assistant for International Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, and VP International Affairs Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, will be involved in one way or another.

Why is this so important to Canadian Amateurs? It is very simple. The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) – at a WRC made up of one voting representative from each country around the world – determines the various radio worldwide frequency allocations, including those for the Amateur Radio Service.

Stop to think about this curious situation: large countries such as Russia, USA, Canada, and others with large Amateur Radio populations, have only one vote. And many small countries, with little or no Amateur Radio population, also have one vote. These smaller countries may not have an extensive knowledge about Amateur Radio or may not be interested in or supportive of the needs of the Amateur Radio Service. Their potential negative votes could have unfortunate consequences for us. It is essential to have a strong Amateur Radio presence at the WRC and its preparatory meetings, and to work with these countries not only to keep the Amateur Radio bands that we presently enjoy, but also to promote expansion of our experimenting and operating to other bands.

Obviously, it is important that Amateurs cooperate on a global basis to monitor what is going on at ITU and to work with these small countries to educate them on the benefits of Amateur Radio, which requires both skilled people and financial resources. This is done under the umbrella of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). IARU has no voting status at meetings of the ITU, however IARU is permitted to lobby voting country representatives and to present papers to certain preliminary committees. But how does Canada gain membership in IARU and help support it in its work? Very simple. As the Canadian national organization for Amateur Radio, RAC must pay the annual dues for membership in the IARU. These annual dues are based on the total number of certified Amateur Radio operators in Canada, not just members of RAC. This is a good time to remind you that you RAC members are carrying the ball for your Amateur friend or acquaintance who does not see the need to join RAC. Those non-joiners have the privilege of benefiting from your membership in RAC as you help RAC and IARU do their jobs!

Because your RAC Directors and Executive know that you want to keep our Amateur Radio allocations, some of

our longtime members are actively engaged in assisting the IARU in its work at the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva and elsewhere in the world. Individuals such as Dr. Ken Pulfer, VE3PU and RAC's VP International Affairs Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, are recognized by the IARU for their expertise, with VE3PU regularly participating in technical preparatory meetings in Geneva and VE2KA having acted on behalf of IARU in Iran and Senegal. Former VP Regulatory Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, will attend WRC 2007 on RAC's behalf as a member of the official Industry Canada delegation and has been involved in three years of continuous preparatory work that will continue through WRC 2007. Another well known RAC member, Tim Ellam, VE6SH, was recently elected Vice-president of the IARU and travels extensively in promoting Amateur Radio interests.

As you will no doubt by now realize from my comments, it is essential that RAC continue its strong advocacy role on behalf of Canadian Amateur Radio operators. This role can only continue, however, through the strong membership of Canadian Amateurs in RAC. Numbers count when seeking to influence both domestic government and international regulatory organizations. And this means that we need those of your friends who have not yet joined RAC!

I recently learned that some of our "naysayer" acquaintances have been accusing RAC of having a "too cozy" relationship with Industry Canada. Frankly, I find this somewhat amusing. We frequently disagree with Industry Canada on their approach to issues – such as enforcement and the low priority they give to your Amateur Radio Service – but as your advocacy body, there are other actions which we do encourage, such as the deletion of the mandatory Morse qualification for access to the HF bands.

While we recognize that successive annual budget cuts have decreased Industry Canada's ability to provide services the way that we think they should, we do encourage innovative methods of handling problems, such as interference, and we regularly meet with Industry Canada to that end as much as our finances and volunteer time permit.

Many of your Directors and Executive become frustrated at what we see as a lack of understanding by members and other Amateurs about the abilities of RAC to fix all of their problems. Many of you seem to have the idea that RAC has a large paid staff like the ARRL and should immediately respond to your pet peeve or complaint. Instead of complaining on 75 metre phone about a problem, why not volunteer to help us resolve your complaint? With the exception of our General Manager and her part-time paid staff the rest of us are unpaid volunteers. If more of you would volunteer to help out on some of the issues you lay on our doorstep it would be easier to resolve a problem. Something else to think about and then consider becoming part of the solution.

Calendar

December

EU-PSK-QRP	PSK	2000Z	Dec 1
ARRL 160-Meter		2200Z	Dec 1
New Mexico QSO Party	CW/Phone	0000Z	Dec 2
TARA RTTY Melee	RTTY	0000Z	Dec 2
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint		0400Z	Dec 2
	And	0430Z	Dec 2
	And	0500Z	Dec 2
	And	0530Z	Dec 2
TOPS Activity		1800Z	Dec 2
ARS Spartan Sprint		0200Z	Dec 5
10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/Digi	1800Z	Dec 7
ARRL 10-Meter		0000Z	Dec 9
28 MHz SWL	CW/Phone	0000Z	Dec 9
UBA Low Band Winter	CW/SSB/Digi	1800Z	Dec 9
NA High Speed Meteor Scatter		0000Z	Dec 10
Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	CW	0200Z	Dec 10
SKCC Sprint	CW	0000Z	Dec 13
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug	CW	0130Z	Dec 13
Russian 160-Meter		2100Z	Dec 15
OK DX	RTTY	0000Z	Dec 16
Memory Lives Forever"	CW/SSB	0500Z	Dec 16
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	PSK	0000Z	Dec 16
Croatian	CW	1400Z	Dec 16
SSA Månadstest nr 12	SSB	1400Z	Dec 17
SSA Månadstest nr 12	CW	1515Z	Dec 17
International Naval		1600Z	Dec 16
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew		2000Z	Dec 17
Run for the Bacon QRP		0200Z	Dec 18
RAEM		0200Z	Dec 24
SSA Jultest (1)	CW	0700Z	Dec 25
SSA Jultest (2)	CW	0700Z	Dec 26
DARC Christmas		0830Z	Dec 26
RAC Winter		0000Z	Dec 30
Stew Perry Topband Challenge		1500Z	Dec 30
Original QRP	CW	1500Z	Dec 30

January, 2007

ARRL Straight Key Night	CW	0000Z	Jan 1
SARTG New Year	RTTY	0800Z	Jan 1
SCAG Straight Key Day	CW	0800Z	Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year		0900Z	Jan 1
AGCW VHF Contest		1600Z	Jan 1
AGCW UHF Contest		1900Z	Jan 1
ARS Spartan Sprint		0200Z	Jan 2
10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/DIGI	1800Z	Jan 4
Original QRP Contest		1500Z	Jan 6
ARRL RTTY Roundup	RTTY	1800Z	Jan 6
EUCW 160m Contest		2000Z	Jan 6
	And	0400Z	Jan 7
Kid's Day Contest		1800Z	Jan 7

SKCC Sprint	CW	0200Z	Jan 10
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest		0000Z	Jan 13
Club PSKFest	PSK	0000Z	Jan 13
MI QRP January	CW	1200Z	Jan 13
SPAR Winter Field Day		1200L	Jan 13
Midwinter Contest	CW	1400Z	Jan 13
North American QSO Party	CW	1800Z	Jan 13
NRAU-Baltic Contest	CW	0530Z	Jan 14
Midwinter Contest	Phone	0800Z	Jan 14
NRAU-Baltic Contest	SSB	0800Z	Jan 14
DARC 10-Meter Contest		0900Z	Jan 14
SSA Månadstest nr 1	CW	1500Z	Jan 14
SSA Månadstest nr 1	SSB	1615Z	Jan 14
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	CW	0130Z	Jan 18
LZ Open Contest		0400Z	Jan 20
UT Contest	CW/SSB	0600Z	Jan 14
UK DX Contest	RTTY	1200Z	Jan 20
Hungarian DX Contest		1200Z	Jan 20
North American QSO Party	SSB	1800Z	Jan 20
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes		1900Z	Jan 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest		0100Z	Jan 22
CQ 160-Meter Contest	CW	0000Z	Jan 27
REF Contest	CW	0600Z	Jan 27
SARL Youth for Amateur Radio		0700Z	Jan 27
BARTG RTTY Sprint	RTTY	1200Z	Jan 27
UBA DX Contest	SSB	1300Z	Jan 27

Program Chair By Derek, VE4HAY



Sorry Folks, with a last minute call from the school division, we were informed that the school would be closed the night of our last meeting, and thus our meeting had to be cancelled. I hope everyone got the word. We tried our best, by sending out e-mails marked high priority, and went on some of the more used repeaters to spread the word. As communicators, I think we need to improve. Rick, VE4OV's presentation on NVIS will be moved to February.

This month will be our annual Christmas get-together. Some come on out, bring your better half and join in the sharing of friendship with your fellow ham. Once again Ruth, VE4XYL will be providing the libations for you to partake in.

Next month we will have a mini SWOT session to try to shape the future and the direction of our club. We will be looking for the Strengths & Weaknesses of the club as well as the Opportunities and the Threats to our club. Your participation in this quick session will be extremely valuable. So please try to attend.

I am still looking for more presentations, so please contact me if you have any ideas.

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
- ty Beanie Babies
- Balloon bouquets & decorating
- Gifts
- Printing eg: Business cards, letterhead, envelopes
- Wedding invitations



News from the Net

Morse for Kids

US security agency launch Morse code decryption website for kids The US National Security Agency and Central Security Service has launched a fun website aimed at educating children about Morse code and decryption. The site helps youngsters get used to the sound of Morse characters, challenges them to decode written Morse and finally sets them the task of translating random audio Morse words. The web address is

<http://www.nsa.gov/kids/home.cfm>. --WIA

AMSAT ANNOUNCES SUIT-SAT 2

A second disagreed Russian space suit may soon be orbiting the Earth loaded with ham radio gear as Suit-Sat 2. Delegates to the recent AMSAT Space Symposium in San Francisco were told that a second Suit-Sat is on the drawing boards and that it will be a bit more sophisticated than was Suit-Sat 1.

Lou McFadin, W5DID, headed the SuitSat-1 hardware team. According to the ARRL Letter, he told those at the symposium that SuitSat-2 will incorporate some features his team didn't have the chance to accomplish the first time around.

For example, this second Suit-Sat will have an onboard Amateur Radio transponder using digital signal processing technology. Solar panels -- something SuitSat-1 did not have -- will be used to energize the hardware and recharge SuitSat-2's batteries. With all of these improvements Suit-Sat 2 could have an operational lifetime of six months or longer.

While no specific date has been announced for it to be deployed, theoretically, an I-S-S crew could launch SuitSat-2 during a spacewalk as early as next fall.

Lou McFadin says the design team is looking at SuitSat-2 as a test bed for the hardware that AMSAT plans to launch on its Phase 3-E "Eagle Project." That ham radio

satellite will employ software defined radio technology. (AMSAT, ARRL, others)

QTX~

By Derek, VE4HAY



Did you know

Here is a Virtual Ionosphere For Amateur Radio - <http://qsonet.com/programs.html>

For some reason I have in my hands ½ of a power cable. It was given to me at Field day 2 years ago, and I was suppose to give it to someone. But I have no idea who. So if this is yours please call me. It is about 6" long with round lungs for connecting to posts and a 6 pin Modular female plug on the other end.

This month's newsletter is a little short for a couple of reasons. One of which is that the meeting was cancelled last month (beyond our control) and thus no minutes. But also because I need to quickly run out of the county. I was lucky enough to get on a curling team for a bonspiel in Edinburgh, Scotland. Unfortunately I also did not have enough time to get a CEPT license so I could operate while there.

For myself and on behalf of the entire Executive of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

**Merry Christmas
and the best of DX in the
New Year**

