



The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

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

September 2007

IRLP # 1066

VE4BB

Space Station QSO Stefan, VE4NSA

Date: **September 10th, 2007**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: **Dakota Collegiate**
661 Dakota Street

Other Important Dates:

WARC: Oct. 15, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, Xmas Party-, Jan. 14, 2008, Feb. 11, Mar. 10, Apr. 14, Home Brew, May 12, June 9

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

ARES: June 26 - MB Government Air Services Hanger

Other: Oct 19-21 - JOTA

NOTE: Meeting Location Change

We have need effectively kicked out of the St. James School Division and any of their schools because 51% of our members do not reside in that school division. However we have found another school division who will allow us to be in their schools. All meetings for the rest of the school year will now be at Dakota Collegiate, 661 Dakota Street. Just south of St Mary's Road. Click this goggle map link for location.

<http://maps.google.ca/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=Dakota+Collegiate,+winnipeg,+MB&ll=49.842245,-97.077556&sspn=0.018045,0.039825&ie=UTF8&z=16&iwloc=addr&om=1>

A long link, but it should be click-able to those who receive this by email. Please note that the parking lot is a one way entrance & exit. So please enter off of Belveau and exit onto Dakota.

**Ottawa ARC 11th
Annual Hamfest &
RAC Annual General
Meeting.
Saturday, Sept 1st**

Place: Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds,
3832 Carp Road (at Falldown Lane),
Ottawa (Carp), Ontario.

<http://www.oarc.net/fleamarket/index.html>

WARC: Executive for 2006- 2007

Past President	John Pura	ve4qv at rac.ca
President	Geoff Bawden	ve4baw at rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Albert Sousa	albert.sousa at shaw.ca
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		

Our Vision - To increase public awareness and respect for Amateur radio; to provide education and support in all aspects of the hobby to our members in a social atmosphere.

Freq	Prov/State	Net	UTC
3.860	MN	Minnesota Net	23:00
3.747	MB	Evening Phone Net	00:00
3.937	ND	North Dakota Net	00:30
3.744	SK	SK Public Service Net	01:00
3.750	NWON	NW Ontario Net	01:15
3.740	AB	AB Public Service Net	01:30
3.660	MB, SK, AB	Prairie Traffic Net	01:30
3.743	MB	Mb Morning WX Net	14:30
145.450 -	WW	MB IRLP Net	02:00 Wednesday
147.390 +	MB	Seniors Morning Net	09:00 Local
147.390 +	MB	MRS Net Thursday	21:00 Local
147.390 +	MB	MRS Net Sunday	21:00 Local

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

...and now a word from the President about our summer of Hamfests and astronauts [look up, way way up, and Stefan ve4nsa will call the ISS]. I will also touch upon our September meeting with our need to make a decision regarding a clubhouse and then outline our challenging 2007-2008 year including WARC hosting the RAC's national general meeting ... [I have been accused of rambling ...]

It has been an exciting summer with several enjoyable Hamfests – the International Hamfest at the International Peace Gardens, Camp 807 at Dryden and the Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum Hamfest at Austin [MARM]. At the Peace Gardens Derek, ve4hay, Yuri, ve4acx and I picked up prizes for both the International Hamfest and MARM from the nice man from the Burghardt Amateur Center. These were antennas for some lucky recipients at those Hamfests. Not that I want to provide commercial exposure but it was good to see a vendor show up at a Hamfest – he had to drive from South Dakota – not too far but far enough to show that there are still enough amateurs to attract commercial interest.

Hamfests are places to meet old friends, make new ones and to learn from others [at least I need to learn from others!]. At the International Peace Gardens I participated in my first Fox-Hunt. There I was minding my own business when Bill, ve4alw, turned to me and asked, “I need a partner for the Fox Hunt, how about you?”. I wasn't exactly sure how a Fox Hunt worked but immediately agreed. As it turns out there is a rivalry between Bill and some American Amateurs for the Fox Hunt title and Bill is apparently a “Top Gun” or is that a “Top Fox”? This June was no different – Bill rolled up his sleeves and assembled his 3 element homebrew 2 meter quad, a vision in plastic tubing and wire, attached it to his attenuator and jumped into the passenger seat of his car. “You're driving” he declared. Good thing too, I thought, as I had my driver's license much longer than my radio certificate. Off we went in search of the rabbit with a burning desire to take top honours and go home with the prize – a mag mounted 2 meter antenna.

We followed the competitor's blue pick-up truck out onto the roadways of the Peace Gardens in searching of the taunting rabbit. Bill was animated but focused, and used his knowledge of the Peace Gardens and his years of experience to outline a masterful tactical plan to find the rabbit. It was warm, bright and sunny, a perfect day, and the Garden was full of carefree weekenders. As we wound our way past picnickers, kite flyers, campers, children holding balloons, and numerous other citizens of the two countries engaged in

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IRLP Node 1066
145.450 MHz -600 KHz
(VE4WRS)

Comments or if you just want to reach us :

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
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carefree activities, I wondered what they thought of the strange object sticking out from the vehicle. Few would have any idea what Bill's plastic device was for. [Excuse me sir, do you know where I parked my flying saucer? I seem to have forgotten.].

Bill was intent on getting a bearing on that rascally rabbit; "come on and find me" taunted the voice at intervals. "It's important to figure out whether the rabbit is in Canada or the US as the roadway is a one way loop and if you cross into Canada and the rabbit is in the US we would have to go all the way around and we would lose", he explained. "I'm just the driver" I declared. He judged it safe to enter Canada – the rabbit had hopped the border. We drove along the winding narrow asphalt road and suddenly Bill's head snapped over to the left, "Stop the car!" he commanded. He grabbed his HT, blurted "I am going up the track over there". I stopped the car and noticed on my left a dirt vehicle track disappearing up into the woods. Bill jumped out of the vehicle and vanished into the woods. "Is someone going to find me?" pleaded the rabbit. Minutes passed. "Can no one find me – I am all alone!" espoused the rabbit. It felt as if hours were passing – and speaking of passing so did our competitor in their relentless search for the hidden broadcaster. There were three amateurs in that pick-up and they had two shiny 2 meter Yagi beams to hunt the hidden teaser. "I am still waiting – no wait! - I've been found!" moaned the rabbit. Bill had done it.

Congratulations Bill – my first Fox Hunt and you made it look deceptively easy! Enjoy your new antenna.

Club 807 was well organized and a lot of fun ... it was my first time at this Hamfest and the event was held at the Birchland Trailer Park and Mini Golf, a family run business, just to the west of Dryden. The recipe for finding a ham convention in a trailer park is straightforward; drive around and look for antennas and call-sign plates, then stop.

Members of the Breakfast Club [on the 147.030 (-) Kenora repeater, every morning at 7:30 on and "on the links" through NW Ontario], Woody ve3jja and Hank ve3grx, have told me that 807 is not an area code but a vacuum tube that looks like a beer bottle. [I would not care to dispute the opinion of those honourable gentlemen]. Camp 807 circulates through a series of locations. Next year it will be in the Kenora area – last year [2006] it was at Warroad, Minnesota. 2006 would have been too exciting for me – a tornado ripped through the campground and damaged vehicles and destroyed trailers. John, ve4ol, lost his Boler trailer– smashed like an eggshell by the raging wind. [He replaced it with a fiberglass trailer with really cool tail-lights

and fins – very retro!]. Police evacuated the campground just before the tornado stormed through the gathered tents and trailers. Picnic kiosks and a robust wooden observation tower vanished as if they had never been there; vehicles and trailers were destroyed or damaged. Fortunately no amateurs or their families were injured.

2007 was less dramatic and a good thing too. There was a flea market, an excellent steak dinner and a most unique auction. Left over "antiques" and passed over [and abandoned] "treasures" from the flea market were auctioned off with the highest bidder gifting the "treasure" to a lucky recipient who no doubt appreciated the uniqueness of whatever the darned thing was and looked forward to hauling the stuff home. The proceeds from the auction went to the hosting radio club. A musical concert was held Saturday night in the picnic kiosk. Three generations of the talented and musical Moody family serenaded the amateurs. People are full of surprises – while monitoring 2 meters at my cottage I had heard Scott Moody ve3xt a number of times and he always seemed be half way up a tower trying to fix some repeater. Little did I know that he is not an electrical technician but a cabinet maker and on that beautiful Saturday evening I heard him play a violin – not terribly unusual you say as many people can play an instrument– but he made the violin. It is the world's only "Moodivarius". His father and son rounded out the trio. (Later that night during some conversation I noted to a woman that I understood that Scott had made the violin. "Yes, my son is very talented" she observed. Yes he is and now I know who Scott's mom is.)

Many thanks to the Amateur Radio Society of Dryden for being the hosts of Camp 807.

Manitoba has many fine spots to visit and relax at, and the Museum at Austin is one of them, with a fine campground and entertaining attractions. Just south of the highway at Austin you can find one of Manitoba's contributions to the nation; Canada's only amateur radio museum. The Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum [MARM] is on the grounds of Manitoba's Agricultural Museum which is home to the annual Thresher Reunion and Rodeo. If you are not a member of the Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum, well, what are you waiting for?

I can't say that I have ever been to the Reunion but I know that they are virtually alone in Canada in operating antique steam powered equipment; few provinces have the expertise to maintain and operate those old steam powered tractors. The Amateur Radio Museum not only has a large

Amateur Radio  A Community Resource

collection of radio equipment but also has an operating station and a repeater [ve4mtr, 146.310 (+)] as well as four beacons [28.193 MHz, 144.281 MHz, 432.300 MHz, and 50.018 MHz]. All in all MARM is quite a lively centre of amateur radio. Dave Snyder, ve4xn, is in the RAC Hall of Fame for his national contribution in establishing the museum.

The MARM annual Hamfest was quite a bit of fun with a bonfire on the Friday night, a flea market on the Saturday [I left some money .. I bought a couple of MARM HTX-202 transceivers] and a roast beef dinner. As usual there was a MRS meeting in-between. The weather was great and the company fine.

The usual suspects were present and helped out – Tom, ve4se, Ruth, ve4xyl, and Sue Collings, ve4sym, were busy organizing, helping out, and registering amateurs. Dave Snyder, ve4xyn, deserves thanks for providing leadership for the event. I am sure that there were many others who helped out and I apologize for not knowing and mentioning all their names.

Look up, way way up and stare at that bright light moving across the night sky. In October of 1957 that light would have been Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, now it could be the largest artificial object ever placed into space, the International Space Station [ISS]. On that station men and women live and work and some take the time to talk to ground based mortals. Some ground based mortals dream of talking to the people in the sky. Stefan Wagener, ve4nsa, is such a mortal. He dreams big, he wants to build satellites [ok just a little one – the Wincube], launch balloons with technical packages built by high school students [you would have seen a tethered one at the last WARC Field Day] and he wanted to help school kids talk to an astronaut. With some help he succeeded [two out of three are done – the satellite isn't finished yet]. Not only does he and his merry band of satellite aficionados want to build a satellite they built a ground station to talk to it [and the rest of the amateur satellites]. Frankly this raises the bar for Homebrew Night. How can you compete with that? Oh, did I mention that he and Jeff Cieszecki organized regular Saturday morning amateur radio training sessions for students at Maples Collegiate, Kildonan East and a high school in Thompson.

Back to astronauts and space... each year a group of technically savvy people from a variety of walks of life including the aerospace industry, amateur radio and the military teach a group of very bright high school students about aerospace principles. This occurs at 17th Wing at their training centre. There is a week of practical training and lectures exposing young minds to the fun of science and its applications in space. There are lectures on the science

of rocketry, this year WARC [Albert Sousa va4as and yours truly] participated by speaking on the joys of amateur radio. A helium filled balloon with APRS was launched into the sky to be chased by students and helpful amateur volunteers like Woody, ve3jja, who came from Sioux Narrows to help.

Stefan, Jeff Cieszecki [ve4czk- he both taught and learned on those Saturday mornings] and Al Thoren [ve4yz] put the jewel in the SpaceCamp's crown and set up a satellite ground station on the roof of the training centre and prepared to talk to the ISS. On Thursday morning, July 12th, in the presence of proud parents, print, radio and TV media, military members, and amateurs, history happened. The lecture theatre was full of excited people watching two large screens one showing the track of the ISS as it crossed a map of the earth as well as a photograph of the astronaut that would soon [hopefully] return the amateur radio communication. Speakers from the federal and provincial governments, Manitoba Aerospace, and WARC were the warm-up acts for the main event. It was a privilege for me to be invited to be present and a greater privilege to be allowed to speak on the role, joy and benefits of amateur radio and WARC.

An intense and focused Stefan explained to the anticipating crowd what the next few minutes should and would bring. "The circle on the screen is the radio footprint of the space station which is the region on the ground that is in range of the amateur radio equipment. I will call the space station by its call sign using my call-sign and the astronaut will respond and will answer the questions posed by the students".

We all waited breathlessly as the circle slowly crawled across the face of Manitoba, and when the circle touched Winnipeg Stefan made the call "NA1SS, VE4NSA", and almost instantly, came the words; "VE4NSA, NA1SS" with full quietening; loud and clear. American astronaut Clayton Anderson, from his lofty perch in outer space, had returned Manitoba's call. You could sense the excitement, see the grins in the room and hear the crowd breathing again. A chill went down my back-bone. I felt like a kid. The tenseness in Stefan's face evaporated into a broad and relieved grin.

For the next ten minutes students lined up to ask questions of the cheerful spacefarer. Students identified themselves by name and with call-signs that they had earned during their Saturday morning lessons. They looked excited and alive and I am sure that they would remember this event for the rest of their lives. After a very short ten minutes, Stefan declared to Astronaut Clayton, "We are coming to Loss of Signal" and regretfully signed off. Clapping, cheers, and handshakes erupted. It was a good time.

You probably didn't need to read this to find out what went on.. I am sure that you followed the story on TV and radio and in the newspapers. It's all good.

Summer was good but now fall is arriving and WARC will be meeting again. We have a new location: Dakota Collegiate. No fault of our own but we were evicted from our home of many years at Sturgeon Creek on Ness Ave. as the school division made changes in the use of that school.

At our first meeting we need to deal with the issue of whether or not we want to develop a club house. There are strong and logical arguments on both sides of the issue. Cost, logistics, organizational perseverance are on the con side. A centre for amateurs to assemble, a place to train, a place to show off amateur radio to the public is part of the pro argument. Bring your arguments and be prepared to listen to others.

In closing this long exposition I would like to note that 07/08 will be a very busy year. We will be hosting the annual RAC general meeting and putting on an associated HamFest which will be second to none. Be prepared to help out. I would like us to consider making an annual contribution [skilled amateurs not money] to the next Space Camp as well as make a contribution to the ham education of youth. All things we can discuss at our upcoming general meetings.

See you at Dakota Collegiate on September 10th!

Program Chair **By Derek, VE4HAY**



This summer brought about the opportunity for newly licensed kids who were taking part in Space Camp 2007 to have a QSO with the space station. While the pass overhead was just about 10 minutes long, the preparation was months in the planning. This month we will have VE4NSA who was instrumental in setting up the now famous QSO. Find out what was involved, and how this one event is helping to promote Amateur Radio among the youth. Stefan, VE4NSA will be giving us a run down at this month meeting on all it took to bring the QSO to a reality.

Future meetings. I am looking for anyone who would like to make a presentation at one of our meetings, or anyone who has ideas on radio related topics. Please send me an email.

MB Students talk to Space Station

A dozen Manitoba students were able to talk to the International Space Station via Amateur Radio on July 12th. The short 10 minute window only allowed just under half of the 27 students to ask the pre-submitted questions to American astronaut Clayton Anderson. The students were part of the Manitoba Space Adventure Camp being held at Canadian Forces School of Aerospace Studies at 17 Wing Winnipeg. With the help of Stefan, VE4NSA and a dedicated group of Ham's who were there to assist him, the students got what maybe a once in a lifetime chance to talk to the space station. The planing for this event took about a year, but it was the last 2 months where things really started to take off. Stefan made a presentation at the last WARC meeting of the year in June, saying the possibility may exist for a contact in July. They tested their equipment at the WARC Field Day site, and they started to plan for the antenna and cable installation, just in case NASA placed them on the schedule. With about one week notice, they were told that it was a go. A plea went out to the amateur community for help, and members of WARC stepped forward to assist where they could.

To the delight of the students, Stefan established contact, and the kids asked their questions. Some of the students were so thrilled they forgot what the response was to their questions. They described the whole contact as awe-inspiring and unforgettable, something they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Space camp was put on by volunteers from Win-Cube, a group of aerospace professionals who have started a project to design, build and launch cube sized satellites (cube-sat's) containing amateur radio. The multi year project was announced just about 1 year ago. Just last week the group launched a high altitude balloon containing an Amateur radio transmitter. The Space Station QSO event was covered by the local Television stations, and newspapers, with some exposure for amateur radio.

DIAMOND IMAGE

Floyd Rolph VE4 FDR

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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



Minutes for June 11, 2007

Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS

Meeting called to order at 1935 hrs. 24 members and 1 guest attended. Introductions followed.

Motion to accept minutes for May meeting as printed in Newscaster by Derek VE4HAY, seconded by Glen VE4GWN. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

John VE4QV donated an HF rig to the club. A plaque will be attached to it in memory of his father. An AT500 Tuner has been purchased and is being delivered. They will be used for Field Day. A box purchased by WARC exec. will be used for storage.

Correspondence

Correspondence is being carried out with the St. James school division as we are being "expelled" from our meeting place at Sturgeon Creek Collegiate after 15-18 years convening there. The executive is looking for a new location. Some suggestions were made from the floor. Members will be advised where the new location is. Listen to your radio and/or watch for an email re same.

Treasurer's Report

Bank balance at end of May 2007: - \$6,876.11.

RAC

AGM will be held Sept. 1, 2007.

DX

Poor conditions and bad sun spots!

Watch for the following:

Nigeria, 5N – Marek, SQ8JCA is QRV as 5N2/SQ8JCA from Cogi for June. Activity on 80 to 6 meters.

Rwanda, 9X - Vlad, UA4WHX is QRV as 9XOVB from Kigali. Activity on 160 to 10 meters. Length of stay is unknown.

Bahrain, A9 – Juma, A92GT has been active on 15 meters, QSL via EA7FTR.

ARES

Next meeting at MB Government Air Services on Tues. June 26, 2007. Look for email notification.

Satellite

- Space camp will be held July 10 – 13, 2007. Working to schedule contact with space station at camp.

- Setting up ground satellite at Field Day, same will be set up at space camp.

- Launch of Satellite – hopefully 08/09.

- Balloon testing - 3 schools are building for high altitude balloon launch – up to 30 kms. Also trying for space camp.

- Need volunteers to track balloon. It's up for about an hour and a half, then comes down.

Marathon

Pre Marathon meeting at 200 Main St., Sports Federation Building, 1900hrs. Participants will receive roster, t-shirt, etc.

Field Day

- Howard VE4ISP and Jerry VE4ACE are taking over for Rolf VE4VZ. Any and all input please send to VE4ISP@rac.ca.

- Volunteers and support are needed from everyone in the club. There will be 2/3 stations.

- Computers are needed. For software solutions speak to Mike VE4KLM.

- Bring friends and family.

- Be at Senior's club at 0800 hrs Sat.

- Tent – VE4GF is looking after.

- Trailer – Derek VE4HAY will be bringing out his trailer. Help is needed in installing window and insulation.

Programs

- Derek VE4HAY is looking for programs for next year and is open to any or all suggestions from members.

- Derek described his experiences at the Dayton Flea Market. Incredible!

Elections

John VE4QV chaired elections.

- Thanks to past executive!

- Present executive is standing for nomination, accept for Raymond VE4RQ who is stepping down.

- One more nomination is needed. Floor opened for nominations.

- Albert VA4AS is nominated.

- Motion to elect nominated roster by Glen VE4GWN, seconded by Dick VE4HK. Carried.

- Congratulations to new executive!

Membership draw

– antenna kit – Betty VE4BTY.

50/50 draw - Alan, VE4YZ

2 Icom hats – Glen VE4GWN and Alan VE4YZ.

Meeting adjourned at 2030hrs.

Contest Calendar

September

All Asian DX	Phone	0000Z	Sep 1
Russian RTTY WW	Rtty	0000Z	Sep 1
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint		0400Z	Sep 1
	And	0430Z	Sep 1
	And	0500Z	Sep 1
	And	0530Z	Sep 1
RSGB SSB Field Day	SSB	1300Z	Sep 1
IARU Region 1 Field Day	SSB	1300Z	Sep 1
DARC 10-Meter	Digital	1100Z	Sep 2
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint	CW	2300Z	Sep 3
ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Sep 4
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 7
AGCW Straight Key Party	CW	1300Z	Sep 7
WAE DX	SSB	0000Z	Sep 8
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 8
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint		1300Z	Sep 8
Arkansas QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 8
	And	1500Z	Sep 9
ARRL September VHF QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 8
SOC Marathon Sprint		1800Z	Sep 8
North American Sprint	CW	0000Z	Sep 9
Tennessee QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 9
ARCI End of Summer Digital Sprint		2000Z	Sep 9
YLRL Howdy Days		1400Z	Sep 11
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 14
SARL VHF/UHF		1600Z	Sep 14
	And	1600Z	Sep 15
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 15
ARRL 10 GHz and Up		0600L	Sep 15
Scandinavian Activity	CW	1200Z	Sep 15
South Carolina QSO Party		1300Z	Sep 15
QRP Afield		1500Z	Sep 15
Feld Hell Sprint		1500Z	Sep 15
Washington State Salmon Run		1600Z	Sep 15
	And	1600Z	Sep 16
QCWA Fall QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 15
North American Sprint	SSB	0000Z	Sep 16
Run for the Bacon QRP		0100Z	Sep 17
144 MHz Fall Sprint		1900L	Sep 17
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	CW	0030Z	Sep 20
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 21
Scandinavian Activity	SSB	1200Z	Sep 22
CIS DX		1200Z	Sep 22
AGCW VHF/UHF	(144)	1600Z	Sep 22
	(432)	1900Z	Sep 22
SKCC Weekend Sprint		0000Z	Sep 23
222 MHz Fall Sprint		1900L	Sep 25
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Sep 28
ARRL EME		0000Z	Sep 29
CQ Worldwide DX	RTTY	0000Z	Sep 29
CQIR - Ireland Calling		1200Z	Sep 29

Texas QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 20
	And	1400Z	Sep 30
FISTS Coast to Coast		1700Z	Sep 29
UBA ON	CW	0600Z	Sep 30

October

ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Oct 2
YLRL Anniversary Party	CW	1400Z	Oct 2
German Telegraphy		0700Z	Oct 3
432 MHz Fall Sprint		1900L	Oct 3
SARL 80m QSO Party		1700Z	Oct 4
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Oct 5
TARA PSK Rumble	PSK	0000Z	Oct 6
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Oct 6
Oceania DX	Phone	0800Z	Oct 6
International HELL-	(80m)	1400Z	Oct 6
	(40m)	0900Z	Oct 7
California QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 6
EU Autumn Sprint	SSB	1600Z	Oct 6
PRO	CW	1600Z	Oct 6
	And	0600Z	Oct 7
UBA ON	6m	0600Z	Oct 7
RSGB 21/28 MHz		0700Z	Oct 7
YLRL Anniversary Party	SSB	1400Z	Oct 9
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint		0001Z	Oct 10
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	CW	0030Z	Oct 10
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Oct 12
Makrothen	RTTY	0000Z	Oct 13
	And	1600Z	Oct 13
	And	0800Z	Oct 14
Microwave Fall Sprint		0600L	Oct 13
Oceania DX	CW	0800Z	Oct 13
Pennsylvania QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 13
	And	1300Z	Oct 14
EU Autumn Sprint	CW	1600Z	Oct 13
FISTS Fall Sprint	CW	1700Z	Oct 13
North American Sprint	RTTY	0000Z	Oct 14
UBA ON	SSB	0600Z	Oct 14
ARRL School Club Roundup		1300Z	Oct 15
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Oct 19
JARTS WW RTTY	RTTY	0000Z	Oct 20
ARCI Fall QSO Party		1200Z	Oct 20
Worked All Germany		1500Z	Oct 20
Feld Hell Sprint	HELL	1500Z	Oct 20
W/VE Islands QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 20
50 MHz Fall Sprint		2300Z	Oct 20
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint	CW	0000Z	Oct 21
UBA ON	2m	0600Z	Oct 21
Illinois QSO Party		1700Z	Oct 21
Run for the Bacon QRP		0100Z	Oct 22
NCCC Sprint	CW	0230Z	Oct 26
CQ Worldwide DX	SSB	0000Z	Oct 27
ARRL EME		0000Z	Oct 27
10-10 Int. Fall		0001Z	Oct 27

News from the Net

JPL Congratss AMSAT-DL on VOYAGER 1 Intercept

The Flight Team that oversees NASA's Voyager One deep space probe has congratulated AMSAT Germany on its reception of a signal from the spacecraft. In March 2006, the signal from Voyager 1 was received by the AMSAT D-L team using the 20 meter dish in Bochum. Voyager 1 is the furthest object away from earth to be built by humans. As a token of their collective appreciation, the controllers not only confirmed the reception report. They also sent Amsat Germany a photo of the Voyager Flight That picture can be found on line at http://www.amsat-dl.org//index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=142&Itemid=97

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Irish Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September. The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, and they figure CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest. The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two Irish people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. The IRTS have encouraged all Irish operators to be active during the Contest.

Is it an contact or not ?

Ray VU3ORN reports that at the International Amateur Radio Union leaders meeting recently in Vienna, they came up with a definition of what constitutes a valid Amateur Radio contact. At least on the VHF and UHF bands in ITU Region 1. According to the newly crafted regulation, the minimum requirement for a valid QSO on VHF and higher bands is a contact is one where both operators during the contact have mutually identified each other, received a report, and received a confirmation of the successful identification and the reception of the report. The report emphasizes that the responsibility always lies with the operator for the integrity of the contact. It also says that this ruling is 'technology neutral' and applies to all analogue and digital modes. -- *WIA*

Television interference

All radio amateurs are aware of the potential for interference to radio, TV and other communication services, causes of it and cures. Often a plain language or very basic explanation is required for the public including our neighbours to reach an understanding of what is occurring and why. This is important because the presence of an amateur radio station can give rise to a perception that it is causing interference, when in reality it could be any number of other resource of interfering radiating. An excellent resource is the Radio Spectrum Management of New Zealand website which addresses all general types of interference with text, television reception screen shots, and a video and an MP3 audio file. The material is right up to date and describes the effects of interference on both analogue and digital broadcasting services. So whether you're a radio amateur experiencing an interference problem, or just needing to learn more about it, visit the Radio Spectrum Management website, google it or use the URL that is included in the text edition of this broadcast. <http://www.rsm.govt.nz/cms/reception-problems/how-can-i-fix-my-interference> -- *WIA*

MB IRLP Net is growing By Ron, VE4MGR

"The Friendly Manitoba IRLP Net " held each and every Wednesday on the Western Reflector # 9250 located in Las Vegas Nevada. The average check ins for this open is 25. There has also been a wide use daily after the seniors net is over to qsy to ve4wrs for the " Kabara Net " held daily on reflector # 9205 and later on in the evening to the Saskatchewan Net on reflector # 9300 every evening @ 2200 hrs. On each and every Friday is an International Net by VA7MWR Ron in Clinton British Columbia, this net is @ 7:00 p:m . This is also the net that VE4ALF Alf , won a nice little Alinco hand held transceiver, single band, just for checking in. I'm quite sure there is a fair amount of use on the IRLP network by other user's of VE4WRS, Tuesday's for one, there are 3 check in nets one after the other.

MB IRLP Net is held on VE4WRS , 145.450 - @ 0100 UTC or 8:00 p:m CDT on Wednesday evening.

What have you done to "promote amateur radio this week"

That line we credit to an old News stalwart, Peter Parker with using in his old VK1 and VK3 casts many years ago and it still stands true -- *WIA*

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Howard really needs to be congratulated for staging what would have been a great Field Day station, if only Mother Nature would have cooperated just a little bit further. All in all, it could have been worse. We found out later that the storm was a F3 tornado around Pipestone and Pelican Lake, before it blew out and travelled across the province to us and then to the Whiteshell where it damaged a number of cabins. The picture was taken from a balloon camera.

Field Day

Bird's Hill Park - June 23 - 24, 2007

Well, Filed day has come and gone, thank goodness..... Wondering why I would say such a thing. Well it had to be the worse Filed Day event WARC has ever put on. But hey, before you go to far, it had nothing to do with the fact that VE4ISP took over the reins from VE4VZ who left for Germany at the last minute. No, Howard along with his co-hort, Gerry, VE4ACE did a terrific job of planning for Field Day. Planning everything right down to the last detail. Everything except, not arrange for the storms to actually miss the Field Day site. While Howard may be all powerful and have a few strings he can pull to get things done. He was no match for Mother Nature, who just would not let Howard off that easy. While we did not feel the full brunt of the storm, that travelled to the Whiteshell Provincial Park and damaged some 1500 cabins, we did get a nice warm up act for the brewing storm

It all started just before sundown. The sky started getting dark and lines of clouds from the North through the East to the South all seemed to lead to one spot in the sky. A very dark and getting darker spot in the sky. Then lighting started and we decided it was time to shut down the operating stations, unplug the antennas, shut off the generator and close-up the tents. As we watch the storm approach, we heard stories over the Canwarn net of powerful straight line winds in the Stonewall area. Right where the dark cloud on the horizon was. We watched as the clouds mover closer and closer. Luckily they stayed slightly North of us. But as it turns out not quite far enough North.

Everyone took cover quickly as the rains and wind hit. While a car is not the safest place in a wind storm, there was no where else to go. The only other option was a tent. And as the picture following will tell you, the tent was not a good idea either. Slightly larger than pea size hail was seen between the heavy down pours of rain. That was if the windshield wipers could keep up to let you look through the window. At one point Phil, VE4QB turned on his lights and I saw in my side mirror that the operating tent was taking a beating. So I moved my truck beside it to try to block the wind, But it was to late, the tent was already flattened. All I could do was block the wind from ripping it apart as it waved in the fierce winds.

Over the radio Gerry, VE4ACE said that the tent he had set up for VE4ISP was picked up and carried away by the winds. From Winnipeg we heard stories of power outages, street flooding, hail and winds.

An hour later, when the rains let up VE4ACE's tent was found at the tree line, with articles from the inside scattered

along the way, and with several inches of water inside. Gerry, VE4GTB's awning trailer awing took a beating as did WARC's dinning tent and the public tent we borrowed which, was anchored won with large metal stakes. All 4 side of the tent had blown out but, it still survived without getting ruined. The operating tent however was flattened. A couple of poles collapsed, and there was pools of water lying on the roof. We dumped the roof and looked inside to find radio's computers, monitors & power supplies all with water on them. The floor and the power bars were under several inches of water. The only radio to survive was my own radio which was in the communication trailer I am slowly setting up, as well as the satellite radios, that were stored away just as the storm hit. All equipment was moved to the communications trailer to spend the night drying out.

Lighting continued until around 6:00 am with rains on and off through the night. At 7:30 am, those that braved the night in the their cars and trailers came outside to survey the damage. We were back on the air (one station only) at 7:45 making contacts and scoring points. Slowly as more people come out from the city we started taking down our antennas and cleaning up the site.

Did we survive Field Day -- YES. Did we survive the Storm -- YES. Could we have done better -- YES. And in a real emergency, we would have. But as it was only Field Day, we saw no reason to damage any equipment any further by getting on the air during the night.

QTX~

By Derek, VE4HAY



Did you know

- ☞ That complete audio of the MB Space Camp contact with the space station can be found at the following site <http://appspacesol.com/ARISSaudio.MP3>



***What have you done to "promote
amateur radio this week"***