



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.WinnipegARC.org>

February 2016

Facebook [Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB](#) Twitter [@ve4bbwarc](#)

VE4BB

Introduction to Raspberry Pi

By Garth VE4GWB

Date: Monday, February 8, 2016

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Dakota Collegiate - Theatre *See you there!*
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

Other Important Dates...

Newscaster: Deadline March 2, 2016

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates...

March 14, 2016

ISS Telebridge update

April 11, 2016

Home Brew Night

WSC: 2nd Thursday of month
Breakfast - Garden City Inn

ARES: Tuesday, February 23, 2016
Sir Wm Stephenson Library
765 Keewatin Street -
Klondike Derby briefing

Other: - Radio Sport Manitoba
Presentation - Discover The HF
Experience on Saturday, April 2, 2016
-WARC Spring Flea Market
Sunday, April 17, 2016

WARC Executive for 2015-2016...

President	David Latour	ve4dla@gmail.com
Vice-Pres.	Rolf Bandlow	rolban@mymts.net
Treasurer	Bob Jacobs	rcjacobs@hotmail.ca
Secretary	Gerry Sherman	ve4gks@outlook.com
Membership	Ross Gibson	rossg@prefixservice.com
Programs	Peter Toth	ve4th@gmail.com
Director	Chris Dickens	dickens67@hotmail.com
Past President	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Public Information Officer....	Kurt Sargent	kurtsargent@gmail.com

From the President's desk ...

Welcome to February!

It's a good time to work on equipment and practice seldom-used skills in preparation for warmer weather to come. If you're an ice-fisherman, why not take a portable HF rig out and try a wire with a water counterpoise? It might scare the fish, or they might shoot up through the hole, ready-cooked! Let us know how you do.

I'm tracing (unsuccessfully) some problems with my mobile and updating an old Kenwood 221 to use as a spare. One day I will even get the loaner library up on our website. It's there for you, whether visible or no, so just send me a line to borrow some equipment you don't need to buy for yourself.

Peter is lining up some real talent for presentations and Rob is going all-out for the education branch. It looks like BSC11 will be well attended.

April is not that far away now, so think about your home-brew projects to bring and wow us, and start filling boxes with stuff for the Flea Market. As always, rent your table from Ruth, VE4XYL.

WARC's Spring Flea Market

Sunday, April 17, 2016

Heritage Victoria Community Centre
950 Sturgeon Road, Winnipeg, MB

Tables are only \$5.00 each for members of WARC, and \$10.00 for everybody else.

*To book your table contact Ruth VE4XYL at
VE4SE@MYMTS.NET*

*Admission to the Flea Market is \$5.00 per person.
Please bring exact change, preferably a \$5.00 bill*

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

WARC Meeting Minutes... missing

Editor's note:

No Minutes have been submitted for publishing for November & December of 2015 and now January & February 2016. After sending out Newscaster Deadline reminders the answer I get is this.. "Absolutely no-one wants to take minutes. Not a soul. Nada. zip"

The Minutes of both the General Meetings and the Executive Meetings are the club's record of activities. Many times these historical documents are referenced regarding votes, appointments and financial matters etc.

According to the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club By-Laws the first order of business at General Meeting is the reading of the previous months Minutes and the reading is substituted by publishing the Minutes in this newsletter to benefit members who cannot attend the meetings. The second order of business is "Business arising from the Minutes".

This club runs on volunteers and we are now just 4 months away from the Election of Officers for the 2016-2017 year. To in a way quote John F. Kennedy "Ask not what your club can do for you. Ask what you can do for your club". Perhaps your skills can fill this blank spot in your club newsletter.

Manitoba Repeater Society

The Manitoba Repeater Society operates and maintains a linked repeater system across southern Manitoba, including Winnipeg.

If you are a user of any of these repeaters, we urge you to support the group by becoming a member.

VE4MAN - Starbuck, VE4CDN - Morris,
VE4PLP - Portage, VE4MRS - Bruxelles,
VE4GIM - Gimli, VE4MIL - Milner Ridge
VE4EMB - Hadashville, VE4FAL - Falcon Lake,
VE4WPG - Winnipeg, VE4VJ - Winnipeg, VE4WRS
- Autopatch & IRLP link Winnipeg

Links to repeaters in Ontario, Brandon, Selkirk and soon to be the Dauphin & area.

info@mb-repeater-society.ca
<http://www.mb-repeater-society.ca/>
<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

BSC 11 Almost Full *By David VE4DAR*

Chief Instructor Rob Striemer advises, "Don't delay! Register now for Basic Short Course 11." That's because 19 students have already registered and space is limited. BSC 11 begins Saturday, February 20 at Shaftesbury High School in Charleswood.

Another reason to act now is to get started on the pre-course assignments: memorizing the phonetic alphabet, Canadian call sign prefixes, and the Q-codes. The course runs only four Saturdays with the final exam on March 19.

WARC's Basic Short Course 11

Runs ... 5 Saturdays - February 20, 27, March 5, 12 and 19, 2016 from 9am to 4pm

Now Accepting On-Line Registrations !

For your family, friends or co-workers who are interested in joining the hobby of Amateur Radio pass on the web link below...

http://winnipegarc.org/basic_course.html

D-Star's "D-Tip" Of The Month *By, Garth VE4GWB*

Running DPRS in DV-A mode, use your TX Message field to tell people where to find you.

Set your SSID to -5 and symbol to whatever you like. If running APRS separately all together you can still use the message field.

An example would be "ve4gwb-5 @ aprs.fi". On a side note, it is best to set the GPS to PTT and not beacon.

Newbie Net Underway *By David VE4DAR*

I'm told that seven sessions of the Newbie Net have been held so far. The Newbie Net is intended to give students and relatively new hams a chance to practice their on-air skills. We try to include some news and information not covered in the Basic Course. Visitors to Winnipeg are invited to participate as well.

The net is held Saturday mornings at 1000 hours on the VE4WPG repeater as authorized by the Manitoba Repeater Society. Currently, David VE4DAR is the net control operator. However, other operators have been recruited. Also, a net control operator's course has been planned for students at Shaftesbury High School in February. Rob, Adrian and I dream of youth running their own net, which links several school clubs in the Winnipeg area.

**Creating a Vision for a Resilient Future
Emergency Management in Manitoba
2020 and Beyond**
By Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Thanks to the support of Winnipeg ARES and RAC Field Services I took a vacation day and was able to attend the seminar co-organized by Manitoba EMO and the Association of Manitoba Municipalities. There were approximately two hundred attendees including many Emergency Management professionals, elected officials, academics and students from the Applied Disaster Management Program at Brandon University. There were two main presentations with panel discussions following each presentation. Climate researcher Dr Danny Blair from the University of Winnipeg presented in the morning, his 41 MB presentation, Coping with the New Normal can be found at <http://dannyblair.uwinnipeg.ca/presentations/blair-emo-14jan2016-final.pdf> while Wilf Falk Chief Manitoba Statistician's presentation Manitoba Communities' Demographic Future: The Way Ahead is available from VE4MBQ as a PDF.



Professor Danny Blair's Presentation
Photo Credit Ian Boughton VE4ILB

Amateur Radio was well represented at the seminar, attendees included:

From Manitoba EMO

Don Mackinnon VE4DJ - Director of Planning
Ian Boughton VE4ILB - Planning Officer
Nicki Albus VE4MMW - Training Manager
Natalie Hasell VE4NAT - Warning Preparedness Meteorologist Environment Canada
Jim Townsend VE4CY - Municipal Emergency Coordinator RMs of Rockwood, Woodlands, Armstrong and Town of Teulon
Bob Poirier VE4RCA - Principal Q Collaborations Inc.
Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ - EC Winnipeg ARES, A/SEC Manitoba ARES.



**VE4NAT, VE4MBQ, Jason Shaw WFPS,
VE4CY, VE4DJ**

Photo Credit Ian Boughton VE4ILB

Bottom line message from the day was that Climate Change is here, it is already happening and there is no more "normal".

***Discover The Magic Of The
HF Experience***

Radio Sport Manitoba is planning one-day program of presentations on HF radio and the various fun aspects of operating..

Saturday, April 2, 2016

Further details will be posted in the March issue.

Winnipeg ARES
Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ
ve4mbq@rac.ca

Our January meeting featured a thought-provoking presentation by Jack Peters VA4PNO regarding Requesting Emergency Medical Assistance by Radio along with a very effective simulation.

Thanks to the support of Winnipeg ARES Inc. and RAC Field Services I took a vacation day 14 JAN to travel to Portage la Prairie to attend the conjoint Manitoba EMO/Association of Manitoba Municipalities conference, Creating a Vision for a Resilient Future, Emergency Management in Manitoba 2020 and Beyond- if there is space my report will be printed separately in the newsletter.

The next Winnipeg ARES General Meeting is TUE 23 FEB 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Kee-watin Street [NB: that is the week AFTER our normal meeting schedule]. Bob Poole VE4MAQ is scheduled to deliver a briefing for Klondike Derby volunteers and Glen Napady VE4GWN is scheduled to present on personal equipment for Klondike Derby.

Contest Calendar

Extracted From

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

For February...

NRAU 10m Activity Contest 1800Z-1900Z, Feb 4 (CW)
and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 4 (SSB)
and 2000Z-2100Z, Feb 4 (FM)
and 2100Z-2200Z, Feb 4 (Dig)

NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Feb 5
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 5
YLRL YL-OM Contest 1400Z, Feb 5 to 0200Z, Feb 7
Vermont QSO Party 0000Z, Feb 6 to 2400Z, Feb 7
Triathlon DX Contest 0000Z-0759Z, Feb 6 (CW)
and 0800Z-1559Z, Feb 6 (SSB)
and 1600Z-2359Z, Feb 6 (RTTY)

10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB 0001Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7
Black Sea Cup International 1200Z, Feb 6 to 1159Z, Feb 7
F9AA Cup, CW 1200Z, Feb 6 to 1200Z, Feb 7
Minnesota QSO Party 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 6
FYBO Winter QRP Sprint 1400Z-2400Z, Feb 6
British Columbia QSO Party 1600Z, Feb 6 to 0400Z, Feb 7
AGCW Straight Key Party 1600Z-1900Z, Feb 6
FISTS Winter Slow Speed Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, Feb 6
Mexico RTTY International Contest 1800Z, Feb 6
to 1759Z, Feb 7

North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Feb 7
ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 12
NAQCC CW Sprint 0130Z-0330Z, Feb 19
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 19
Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 10
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Feb 10
and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 10
and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 11

RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 2000Z-2130Z, Feb 10
0145Z-0215Z, Feb 12
0200Z-0330Z, Feb 12
0230Z-0300Z, Feb 12
0000Z, Feb 13
to 2359Z, Feb 14

SARL Field Day Contest 1000Z, Feb 13 to 1000Z, Feb 14
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW 1100Z-1300Z, Feb 13
KCJ Topband Contest 1200Z, Feb 14 to 1200Z, Feb 15
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Feb 13 to 2400Z, Feb 14
Dutch PACC Contest 1200Z, Feb 13 to 1200Z, Feb 14
OMISS QSO Party 1500Z, Feb 13 to 1500Z, Feb 14
New Hampshire QSO Party 1600Z, Feb 13 to 2200Z, Feb 14
FISTS Winter Unlimited Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, Feb 13
RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest 1900Z-2300Z, Feb 13
PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint 0000Z-2359Z, Feb 14
Balkan HF Contest 1200Z-1800Z, Feb 14
Classic Exchange, Phone 1400Z, Feb 14 to 0800Z, Feb 15
and 1400Z, Feb 16 to 0800Z, Feb 17

QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 17
Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 17
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Feb 17
and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 17
and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 18

AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening 1900Z-2030Z, Feb 17

RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW

2000Z-2130Z, Feb 18
NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Feb 19
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 19
NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 19
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 20
to 2400Z, Feb 21

SARL Youth Day Sprint 0800Z-1000Z, Feb 20
Russian PSK WW Contest 1200Z, Feb 20 to 1159Z, Feb 21
Feld Hell Sprint 2000Z-2159Z, Feb 20
AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party 2300Z, Feb 20 to 2300Z, Feb 21

CQC Winter QSO Sprint 0100Z-0259Z, Feb 22
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0200Z-0400Z, Feb 22
SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Feb 24
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 24
Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 24
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Feb 24
and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 24
and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 25

UKEICC 80m Contest 2000Z-2100Z, Feb 24
NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Feb 26
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 26
NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Feb 26
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 2200Z, Feb 26
to 2200Z, Feb 28

REF Contest, SSB 0600Z, Feb 27 to 1800Z, Feb 28
UBA DX Contest, CW 1300Z, Feb 27 to 1300Z, Feb 28
South Carolina QSO Party 1400Z, Feb 27 to 0059Z, Feb 28

North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28

High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z-1100Z, Feb 28
and 1500Z-1700Z, Feb 28

CW 0700Z-1100Z, Mar 6
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Mar 6
SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest 1200Z-1400Z, Mar 6

RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 2000Z-2130Z, Mar 7
0200Z-0400Z, Mar 8

ARS Spartan Sprint 0200Z-0400Z, Mar 8

Manitoba Marathon

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

ve4mbq@rac.ca

The 2016 Manitoba Marathon will be SUN 19 JUNE. If you are a new Amateur we will pair you up with someone who has done the event previously.

The mandatory 2016 Amateur Radio Group Volunteer Briefing is TUE 14 JUNE 1900h Norwood Community Club 87 Walmer (Map 17 C8 in the Sherlock map Book), material distribution begins at 1815h

Please register on-line thru the terrific form that WARC Web-Master Mark VE4MAB has set up at:

<http://winnipegarc.org/marathon.html>

We need a completed new registration form from each Amateur Radio volunteer every year regardless of what Amateur organization they belong to.

Winnipeg Schools Amateur Radio Report **Submitted by Rob Striemer VE4SHS**

Shaftesbury Students Making Satellite Contacts

Students have been taking advantage of the recent lunch hour availability of satellite AO-85, AMSAT's Fox-1A, to make QSO's with people around North America. AO-85 was launched last October from Vandenberg California. At this point, students have logged many satellite contacts. The team is really excited to send out their first round of QSL cards. After having observed a number of tracking sessions, many students are now excited to make their first satellite contacts.

Tara Towns (VE4TET), Shaftesbury Grade 11 Student

RAC Grants and WARC Basic Qualification Course

Shaftesbury received grants from the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) totaling \$2400 to complete Canada's only ARISS Telebridge station VE4ISS. The station is operated by qualified students under the overall supervision of adults. Thank you RAC! The grant will be used to purchase a directional antenna kit, a lightly used HF transceiver, and a computer and software. Shaftesbury High School will again host the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club's Basic Qualification course from February 20 to March 19th. Several students and teachers from at least three Winnipeg high schools will be taking the course in addition to other Manitobans. Shaftesbury student Dylan Fijal (VA4DFJ) will be teaching the regulations section.

Amateur Radio and High Altitude Balloon (HAB) Projects in Schools

The Global Space Balloon Challenge (<https://www.balloonchallenge.org/>) this year runs from April 11 to May 9. Five Winnipeg High Schools participated last year in a mass launch from behind the high school in Morden Manitoba. The HABs are tracked using amateur radio APRS beacons. Fort Richmond Collegiate, Garden City Collegiate, St. James Collegiate and Maples Collegiate plan to launch their HABs with student experiments on Friday, April 29. May 6th is the backup date. Shaftesbury may not be participating this year.

Garden City Collegiate & Maples Collegiate Reports
The Garden City Collegiate (home of the Gophers) satellite tracking station should be up and running by the end of February. Alan Thoren (VE4YZ) and Rob Striemer have begun the clean-up and checks of the rig that has been unused since 2009. The only obvious problem noted so far is the azimuth rotor motor was unable to rotate the antennas. The problem may be the bearing. Work on the rotor will have to wait until spring. Staff and student hams at GCC should be able to get on the

air very soon. By March, it's expected that Garden City students will be in daily radio contact with Shaftesbury students about 12 kilometers to the southwest. This will enhance the high altitude balloon and amateur radio projects at both schools. With the help of the Winnipeg amateur radio community, we hope to add simple VHF/UHF rigs at Maples and Fort Richmond Collegiate. The situation at St. James Collegiate looks promising as they have had roof top antennas in the recent past.



Teachers and students at Garden City Collegiate met with Alan Thoren (VE4YZ), former owner of the FT-736R, SWR meters, LVB Tracker, rotor

and five antennas.



The Gopher Space high altitude balloon team from Garden City Collegiate made a special presentation to the Seven Oaks School Division board of trustees recently. The Gopher Space presentation included a video which really impressed the trustees. The 5 minute video of last year's HAB flight can be viewed from the Gopher Space web site at <http://gopherspace.pbworks.com>.

The board awarded the Garden City team \$2500 to fund their HAB projects and the offer was extended to "the Net Force" HAB team at Maples Collegiate. Garden City Collegiate is fully funding their student's tuition in WARC's basic qualification course starting in February.

Fort Richmond Collegiate – FRC

The FRC team led by teacher Jennifer Piasecki (VE4JPI) received a \$1500 prize from Samsung Canada for their first round win in the "Solve for Tomorrow" Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education contest. The FRC team has advanced to the semi-final round of the competition. If they win in the final, all Canada round, their WiFi HAB project will be fully funded and then some. Info here: <http://pages.samsung.com/ca/solvefortomorrow>. Otherwise, student hams at FRC are using their hand held radios daily at school as they work on their HAB project. A stripped down router is to go up on a balloon in their wide area network experiment.

Amateur Radios, Antennas, and more are available from your local

Winnipeg ICOM Dealer...

Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.

NEW LOCATION

2223 Henderson Hwy, East St. Paul, MB
(Just south of perimeter hwy)

Ph. (204)-783-1885 Fax (204) 779-7522
Contact George Hill, VE4GDH

Visit their web site..

<http://www.microhightech.ca/>

Dayton Hamvention...

I have TWO available seats/beds for Dayton Hamvention – <http://hamvention.org> May 20-22

Leaving Winnipeg early May 18th (overnight in Peoria) – returning May 23rd evening (overnight in Alexandria May 22).

We will split the gas and hotel 4 ways.

Contact Derek, VE4Hay@shaw.ca if interested

Found On The World Wide Web

First amateur radio in geosynchronous orbit will aid disaster communications...

<http://phys.org/news/2015-12-amateur-radio-geosynchronous-orbit-aid.html#jCp>

Mating a cell phone to a ham radio module...

<http://www.examiner.com/article/revolutionary-two-way-radio-for-smartphones-set-to-launch-2016>

Nostalgia Radio CJNU 93.7

CJNU 93.7 FM is where you'll hear the very best easy listening music that has been popular over the past eight decade !

Listen On-Line at ...

<http://www.cjnu.ca>

VHF Nets

MRS Nets - 147.390 Mhz +

Sundays & Thursdays at 9:00 pm

This net covers Winnipeg and the MRS linked repeater system, and includes various announcements on amateur radio activities and Dick's "Swap & Shop"

The Morning Net 147.390 Mhz+

Weekdays at 9:00 am

This net covers Winnipeg and hams of all ages are welcome to join in this net which is always a lot of fun!

Friendly Manitoba IRLP Net

Net - 145.450 Mhz - (Node # 1066)

On - The Great Lakes Reflector #9611

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

This net connects you with the world using the internet as the backbone!

Newbie Net 147.390 Mhz+

Saturdays at 10:00 am

This net is intended to give students and neophyte hams a chance to learn more about our hobby and to practice their on-air skills.

D-Star Nets on the VE4WDR System using

UHF 444.575+ DV Port B and/or

VHF 145.490- DV Port C

TransCanada D-Star Net - Fridays at 8:00 pm

On "Free Star" Reflector 21 (XRF021BO)

HamNation D-Star Net Wednesday at 9:15pm

On "DPlus" Reflector 14 (REF014CL)

Ozark Mtn. D-Star Net - Sundays at 8:00 pm

On "DPlus" Reflector 1 (REF001CL)

More nets <http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx>

HF Nets

MB Evening Phone Net - 3747 Khz

Daily at 7:00 PM Local Time (CT)

Prairie Traffic Net (CW) 3660 Khz

Daily at 01:30 UTC

Aurora # 2 Net 7055 Khz

Daily at 02:30 UTC

MB Wx Net 3743 Khz

Daily at 8:30 Local Time (CT)

ARES Manitoba Monthly Readiness Net

4TH Sunday of each month

4:00 PM - 4:10 PM -7,075 Khz

4:10 PM - 4:20PM -3,675 Khz LSB 5,375 USB

Manitoba IRLP Nodes - Use reflector 9003

Winnipeg VE4WSC (Node 1809) Pinawa VE4PIN

(Node 1981), Flin Flon VE5ROD (Node 1750),

DARC Swan River VE4SRR (Node 1700)

The Newscaster is the Official Publication of **Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**

Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark VE4MAB, - newscaster@WinnipegARC.org