



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc/>

December 2002

Free to Members

Christmas Party

In the cafeteria
Bring the YL, XYL, OM
Hang out with your fellow hams

Date: December 9th, 2002
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: December 31st - Deadline January Newscaster

WARC: January 13/03, - Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention Unit February 10, March 10, April 14 - Cafeteria, May 12, June 9

WSC: Dec 8th - Open House - Talk to Santa
Dec. 10 - Xmas Party Assiniboia Christian Centre
Dec. 18 - Annual General Meeting - All to Attend
June 9 - 20th Anniversary of WSCRC

ARES: Dec 7 - CANWarn Recognition Day

Other:

Nets: Daily 01:00 UTC MB Evening Phone net 3760 KHz
Daily 01:30 UTC Prairie traffic Net (CW) 3660 KHz
Daily 02:30 UTC Aurora #2 net 7055 KHz
Weekdays 9:00am Seniors morning net 147.390 MHz
Wed. 9:00 pm Six Meter net 50.240 MHz.
Thursday 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 1:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

The President's Call By Louis, VE4PLJ



Hello everyone. Well it looks like winter is here. We may not have much snow but it is cold. We had another fine turn out at the last meeting, and the program on moon bouncing was great too. This month is our Christmas party. We hope to see a big turn out. So come on down, and bring a friend. We will also be having a HT decorating contest. The only rule is that you must be able to use it.

If any one knows of a person that has been just thinking of becoming a ham. This would be a great time to bring them. So lets see if we can break a W.A.R.C record. See you at the party.

From the Planning Chair: Glen, VE4GWN



Well I never thought that EME was as difficult as it is. Thanks to Barry, VE4MA, I now know that it isn't easy. Thank you Barry for giving us that eye opening presentation, I wish you the best of luck with your 47 GHz. tests. I must apologize because I have been trying to include a photo of each presenter, and I forgot my camera.

As we all know December means only one thing, that's right HT decorating!! December 9th will be the WARC

WARC: Executive for 2002-2003

Past President	Darcy Wilson	VE4DDW
President	Louis Gaudry	lsgaudry@mb.sympatico.ca
Vice-Pres	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	rmaman@mb.sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Glen Napady	ve4gwn@rac.ca
Director at Large	Rick Allan	rickalla@mts.net

Christmas party. Ruth, VE4XYL and her helpers (I can't list them as I don't know who they are) will be providing the normal munchies. Your executive will be doing the serving. For the HT decorating contest the HT MUST be useable!

For January I am expecting members of the Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention Unit. They will be giving a presentation on Personal Safety. I hope that everyone will find this both interesting and useful.

I have two possible events for February, I'm still waiting for a reply from one. I'll keep you posted.

The II PPCLI Cadets (2nd Battalion Princes Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry) has invited us to do a presentation. We haven't confirmed a date yet, but we are looking at a Saturday afternoon in January. We have been given a two-hour minimum window to work with. I am looking for someone to organize this event. So far I have someone to do a presentation on APRS. I am also looking for someone to do IRLP; and for someone to help me set up an HF station (on 20 meters); a CW demonstration; 2 meter voice and what ever else we can come up with.

I went to Derek's, VE4HAY, to check out the trailer he has. As of this time the executive hasn't discussed it, but if we do go for this endeavour we will require a list of people who can tow it, and even more important, a place to store it, and work parties. More on this in the New Year.

73, Hope to see you at the Christmas Party, and for those who can't make it, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and a Happy Hanukkah, etc.

WPGARES
Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Three WPGARES members (GWN, YYL, KAZ) provided mutual aid support SAT 16NOV for Sun Valley ARES who were providing medical communications during the Festival of Lights Parade.

At our November meeting we viewed a short Canadian Forces video "Train for War, Strive for Peace" , thanks to CAPT Ron Shaw. Due to illness, the presentation "Packet Operations at Head of the Red Regatta" was rescheduled to January 2003. Amateurs in and around Winnipeg who may be interested in ARES or in a particular guest speaker are usually welcome at our General Meetings during the education portion unless the session is advertised for WPGARES members only. Generally non-members will be excused from the business meeting.

A slight update in our preparedness/response: Duty EC and an operator will attend VE4EOC upon request of an authorized civic official or upon discretion of Duty EC.

CANWARN Net Controllers will be operating VE4WWO in the Prairie Storm Prediction Centre as part of NWS-ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day SAT 07DEC (URL is hamradio.noaa.gov). Our main goal will be to make contact with CANWARN Net Controllers in Alberta and Saskatchewan, as well as NWS Offices in North Dakota and Minnesota. Planning meeting at PSPC TUE 03DEC 1900h for CANWARN Net Controllers that have signed up for this event.

First call for volunteer operators for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races 15, 16FEB 2003. Anticipate ARES volunteer briefing TUE 11FEB 1900h, location TBA. We are looking for one or two amateurs with snowmobiles this year. Anyone interested can e-mail: ve4mbq@rac.ca

Our next General Meeting is TUE 17DEC 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Jay Anderson, Warning Preparedness Meteorologist PSPC will be speaking about the 2002 Summer Severe Weather Season.

Industry Canada Amateur Centre
 Voice 1-888-780-3333 (toll-free)
 Fax: 1-613-991-5575
 Email: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca
 Web: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/spectrum

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Minutes for W.A.R.C. November 18th, 2002

Submitted by Ruth, VE4CRS

Executive regrets secretary Ruthie VE4CRS and membership Mark VE4MAB.

Louie VE4PLJ called the meeting to order at 19:30 hrs. beginning with introductions. There were 43 members and 2 guests present.

MINUTES.

Motion to accept the minutes as printed. Moved by Bill VE4DL, seconded by Dick VE4HK. Spelling correction on page 2 of the newscaster to read interment instead of internment. Carried.

TREASURERS REPORT.

Fred VE4EV reported bank balance to date is \$6896.20

PROGRAMS.

Glen VE4GWN for December. Our annual Christmas party. There will be food, some entertainment, some prizes as well as a prize to the best Christmas decorated Handie Talkie which must still be operational. January 2003 will be the Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention Unit.

The executive have purchased 2 Amateur Radio Study guides that are available at a cost of \$35.00 to anyone interested in starting the basic course.

An invitation to WARC has been received from the 2nd PPCLI cadets for a presentation on Amateur Radio. Glen needs member volunteers to help him organize as well as do presentations.

WPGARES

WPGARES clothing order (t-shirts and touques) has been received. Clothing will be available for pick-up prior to tomorrow's ARES meeting - I hope to be there by 1830h. We got a break on the price of the touques, cost to WPGARES members is \$10 each, t-shirts are \$18.50 each. Please make payment by cheque payable to "Winnipeg ARES" or have exact change if paying by cash. Have a couple extra shirts and touques available. We are in the process of some pre-incident planning with WPS Disaster Team and City of Winnipeg Emergency Program. Emergency response agencies in Manitoba are going away from "Emergency Site Management" doctrine in favour of "Incident Command" doctrine. I recently attended a one week Incident Command Course at WPS Academy that was run by Office of the Fire Commissioner. Hope to get WPGARES AECs on future Incident Command courses. We will be operating VE4WWO in the Prairie Storm Prediction Centre Saturday 07DEC during NWS-ARRL SKYWARN Recognition Day. Likely operating

0800-1700h local. URL for SRD is hamradio.noaa.gov Next WPGARES General Meeting is TUE 19NOV02 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Topic is an overview of Head of the Red Regatta Packet Operations. Wayne VE4WR reported on a simulated tornado touch down an communication exercise held in Altona. There seem to be a lot more training needed for exercises such as this in the event that some disaster really happens.

DX Slueths. No report

Rac. No report

NEW BUSINESS.

The executive have thought of getting name tags and club hats. A show of hands indicated the idea of name tags but no interest in hats. Tom VE4SE made mention of magnetic backs on the name tags instead of the pin type

TRAILER.

Derek VE4HAY made a presentation to the membership about trailer he has available for the clubs use to help promote Amateur Radio (see article elsewhere in newscaster) wherever radio communication are being used. Motion moved by Vern VE4VQ and seconded by Wayne VE4WR that the executive see the trailer and establish the feasibility and estimated costs to the club, eg. Insurance liability, towing and maintenance with a report at a later date. Carried

BUDGET.

Fred VE4FV presented the 2002-2003 budget. The estimated yearly income needs to be \$4700.00. Moved by Tom VE4SE seconded by Derek VE4HAY that the budget be accepted as presented. Carried.

PRIZES.

The 50/50 draw of \$28.00 was won by Vern VE4VQ and the member ship draw was won by Rick VE4RA.

The meeting adjourned at 20:30hrs.

Following the coffee break Dick VE4HK introduced Barry Malowanchuk VE4MA who did a spectacular presentation with slides and descriptions of the EME "Earth Moon Earth" moon bounce signals. Thanks Barry

Help promote HAM Radio

An invitation to WARC has been received from the 2nd PPCLI cadets for a presentation on Amateur Radio. Glen needs member volunteers to help him organize as well as do presentations.

News from the Net

IARU Administrative Council WRC-03 Preparations

Preparations for next year's World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) dominated discussions during the annual meeting of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Administrative Council. The gathering, November 7-8 in San Marino, reviewed WRC-03 agenda items of importance to amateurs, including harmonization of amateur and broadcasting allocations in the vicinity of 7 MHz. Several of those attending the San Marino session will head directly to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Conference Preparatory Meeting in Geneva November 18-29 (see below).

The Administrative Council reviewed and refined IARU strategy for WRC-03. Other WRC-03 agenda items of concern to the amateur community include possible revision of Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations. Article 25 includes the current requirement to demonstrate Morse code proficiency. In San Marino, the Council reaffirmed its policy supporting the removal of Morse code testing as an ITU requirement to obtain an amateur license to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz. -- *ARRL*

WRC-03 ISSUES TO GET FIRST WORLDWIDE AIRING AT CPM

Amateur Radio will be represented as preparations for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) take a big step forward November 18. That's when the WRC-03 Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) <> convenes for two weeks in Geneva. Sumner says that only a small portion of the paper pile-- such as the question of a worldwide 300-kHz allocation in the vicinity of 7 MHz-- directly affects Amateur Radio, however.

Other amateur issues include a request to allocate up to 6 MHz of spectrum for so-called synthetic aperture radars (SARs) from 420 to 470 MHz to be operated under the Earth Exploration Satellite Service (Active). The ARRL and the IARU oppose SARs in the most active portions of the amateur 70-cm band. CPM delegates also will deal with the amateur allocation in the vicinity of 5 GHz, which is facing growing competition from so-called Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) and other unlicensed services.

Article 25, which-- among other things-- deals with the requirement to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code to operate below 30 MHz, has been another high-profile issue for amateurs. It's virtually certain that a Morse examination will no longer be a requirement. But the updated Radio Regulations could include language making clear that administrations may continue to require code tests if they wish. -- *ARRL*

IARU News

The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual meeting on 7-8 November 2002 in San Marino, prior to the Conference of IARU Region 1. The dominant topic was the review of preparations for next year's ITU World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC), which has on its agenda a number of items of importance to the amateur services. At its San Marino meeting the Administrative Council took the following actions

A working document on the present and anticipated future requirements for radio spectrum allocations to the amateur and amateur-satellite services was reviewed and updated, particularly to reflect progress made by member-societies in achieving access for amateurs in the LF band in the range 135-200 kHz.

It was noted that a memorandum of understanding has been signed by the European and Inter-American telecommunications organizations (CEPT and CITELE respectively) that may assist in the further development of an international roaming license for radio amateurs. This is an example of the growing importance of inter-regional cooperation and sharing of information, including the desirability of regional IARU Executive Committee meetings having representation from the other regional organizations.

The Council affirmed its policy on Morse code as adopted in Guatemala City in October 2001, supporting the removal of Morse code testing as an ITU mandatory requirement for an amateur license to operate on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Council approved the suggestion from Region 1 for the theme of World Amateur Radio Day, 18 April 2003, as "Amateur Radio supporting technology education in the classroom." World Amateur Radio Day marks the anniversary of the founding of the IARU in 1925. --*ARRL*

ACA 420-430 MHz

The Australian Communication Authority has released a paper on the 420 to 430 MHz band, and the future does not look good for continued Amateur access to the segment. It points out that the International Telecommunications Union is studying allocations to meet the future needs of disaster relief organizations, including Fire, Police, and Ambulance services. VK is a strong supporter of harmonized allocations. The matter will be discussed further at the World Radio Conference being held in June 2003. -- *WIA Qnews*

Transatlantic VHF contact a no-go:

Groups of amateurs from Germany, Canada and Ireland had no luck in their attempt to make the first two-way transatlantic VHF contact in conjunction with this week's Leonid meteor shower. The effort was, in part, a quest for the Brendan Trophies <http://www.irts.ie/brendan.htm> offered by

the Irish Radio Transmitters Society <http://www.irts.ie/>. One group was on the Irish coast, while the other operated from Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) club station <http://www.sonra.ca/> VO1AA, located at Signal Hill National Historic Site of Canada. -- ARRL

IARU Region I Conference concludes in San Marino.

Some interesting papers discussed at the Conference included one by the OVSV Radio society of Austria which discussed the practice of split frequency operation as used by Dxpeditions and rare stations. OVSV says in the absence of a recommended maximum split, stations are using up to 50 kHz or even more! OVSV recommended 5 kHz. -- WIA

Amateur Internet Linking Systems (AILS) Fact Sheet

The Amateur community has reviewed the just released consumer information paper and have expressed concerns to the ACA/WIA Liaison Committee on a number of issues arising from the paper. The WIA view is that re-transmission of Novices by linked repeaters on non-Novice bands is not an unearned privilege of any significance or practical value, especially as there are very few Australian linked repeaters operating in non-Novice bands. This is even more the case with links to overseas repeaters that cannot even be heard in Australia and cannot be expected to comply with Australian licence conditions. The most workable solution to an increasingly complicated problem, as AILS becomes more common, would be to simply take the view an amateur station, operating through a repeater or AILS mode, is complying with the conditions of the authorising licence (like any other amateur), by transmitting on frequencies authorised by the station licence. These views have been articulated in a recent letter sent to the ACA by the WIA/ACA liaison committee. The ACA's response is expected shortly. --WIA

INTERFERENCE TEMPERATURE

Robert F. Gonsett, W6VR, Editor THE CGC COMMUNICATOR SAYS TO WATCH FOR "WHITE SPACES" AND DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE "INTERFERENCE TEMPERATURE"

The FCC's Spectrum Policy Task Force has presented its recommendations to modernise the Commission's rules that guide how the nation's spectrum is managed, and to evolve from a traditional government-based "command and control" model to a more flexible, consumer-oriented approach. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reporting on ARNewsline says, "New FCC policies will take advantage of all empty and underused spectrum, possibly by using time sharing techniques. Recent tests conducted in five major U-S cities show that there are many under utilised spectral parcels available for sharing. What is evident is that

the FCC is looking at ways to better utilise every hertz from D-C to light and beyond. And if a mandatory sharing of most spectrum is put in place there's a good chance that all hobby and personal radio -- including ham radio -- will be sharing in some future yet to be established all-digital domain." The Commission has not, of course, endorsed any part of the report as yet, there may be some vigorous debate ahead.

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-228242A1.doc -- WIA

BEACON CAUSES QRM

Now the story of a UHF beacon with a signal that was a bit to good. Within 48 hours of turning on his new 1296,300 Mhz beacon in Derry, New Hampshire, Ed Parsons K1TR, received a phone call and a signal report from the Chief Engineer at the Millstone Hill Observatory in Westford, MA. This would turn out to be the first, last and only QSN report the beacon would receive. The good news: the observatory hearing it loud and clear! The bad news: The observatory was hearing it loud and clear. So loud that the engineer told K1TR that the beacon's signal was impacting the observatory's capability to track satellites in certain directions. Also, that the recipient of the satellite tracking information, the US Air Force, would not be pleased. It seem that the Air Force radar uses about 8 Mhz of spectrum centered at 1295 Mhz. They use an 80-foot dish for an antenna. The K1TR beacon was less than 30 miles line of sight from the observatory. So now Ed's 23cm beacon is off the air while he finds a new home for it. --SARL

Digital Radio Mondiale

Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) is a project aimed at revitalising the short-wave, medium-wave and long-wave broadcast bands. This is achieved by using digital signals to provide to provide listening quality close to that of FM broadcast. Radio amateurs and shortwave listeners can become part of the DRM Software Radio Project. They may also be among the first to access the initial DRM programs when test transmissions begin in the near future. The project works by adding an extra down-converter board to existing receivers and using the DRM software to decode the signal via a PC soundcard. Radio amateurs and shortwave listeners wishing to get involved in the project should visit <http://www.drmrx.org> -- IRTS

DARC Membership Vote on Morse Code Requirement as an Examination Criteria for HF Access

A postal vote has been taken within the DARC membership. The questions were if being in favour with the existing situation (5 wpm obligatory Morse code examination

for hf access) or abolition of this hurdle. The evaluation under legal control brought the following result:

- 17455 answers have been received
 - 8530 voted in favour of keeping the existing situation
 - 7781 are in favour of abolition
 - 1133 votes are nullify
 - 11 abstained
- DARC

Contest Calendar

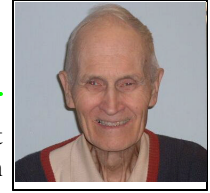
December

QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Sprint	2000Z	Dec 1
QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	1800 L	Dec 4
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z	Dec 6
PSK31 Death Match	PSK 0000Z	Dec 7
TARA RTTY Sprint	RTTY 1800Z	Dec 7
TOPS Activity 80m Contest	1800Z	Dec 7
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z	Dec 14
Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	0200Z	Dec 15
AGB Party Contest	2100Z	Dec 20
OK DX RTTY Contest	RTTY 0000Z	Dec 21
Croatian CW Contest	CW 1400Z	Dec 21
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z	Dec 26
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z	Dec 28
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z	Dec 28
Original QRP Contest	CW 1500Z	Dec 28

January

AGB NYSB Contest	0000Z	Jan 1
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z	Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z	Jan 1
AGCW QRP Winter Contest	1500Z	Jan 4
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z	Jan 4
Hunting Lions in the Air	0000Z	Jan 11
Midwinter Contest	CW 1400Z	Jan 11
North American QSO Party	CW 1800Z	Jan 11
NRAU-Baltic Contest	CW 0530Z	Jan 12
NRAU-Baltic Contest	SSB 0800Z	Jan 12
Midwinter Contest	Phone 0800Z	Jan 12
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z	Jan 12
LZ Open Contest	CW 1200Z	Jan 18
MI QRP January	CW 1200Z	Jan 18
North American QSO Party	SSB 1800Z	Jan 18
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z	Jan 18
Hungarian CW	0000Z	Jan 19
CQ 160-Meter Contest	CW 2200Z	Jan 24
REF Contest	CW 0600Z	Jan 25
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z	Jan 25
UBA DX Contest	SSB 1300Z	Jan 25

Our Electro Magnetic World By Vern, VE4VQ



The May, 2002, issue of Sciences et Avenir, from France, has a long article on the problems being caused by the electromagnetic fields in which we now live. Miscarriages, leukemia in children, damage to the immune system, depression and suicides - it appears to be time to rethink the world around us and how we live our daily lives.

The Tesla, T, is the name of the unit used when measuring electromagnetic fields. It is defined as "the SI unit of magnetic flux density, equal to one weber per square metre or 10,000 gauss. Abbr: T. (Tesla)"

A millionth, 10⁻⁶, is represented by the Greek letter, mu. Because this computer does not permit printing this symbol, mu will be used in what follows. For example, a quantity of 500 micro Tesla will be represented as 500 muT.

Stating that 0.2 muT is the level that should not be exceeded, the authors of the article start by itemizing ten situations.

1. Coffee percolator: 0.2 muT. No danger.
2. Electrical razor - between 15 and 1000 muT.
3. Hairdryer - up to 2000 muT if held too close to the head.
4. Vacuum cleaner. Future mothers should learn to stay at least 30 cm (12 inches) from the motor when using it.
5. Halogen lamps. Even at a distance of 30 cm (12 inches) the magnetic field measures as much as 2 muT.
6. Computer monitor. Up to 0.7 muT and up to 7 muT at the rear of the monitor. Obviously parents should try to keep their children from playing computer games.
7. Microwave oven: almost 10 muT.
8. TGV (Train of Great Velocity - in France): 50 muT.
9. Electrical toothbrush: up to 60 muT.
10. Radio alarm clock: eight hours at 2 muT.

The study on miscarriages was carried out in California by a Dr. De-Kun Li. A thousand pregnant women wore an EmdexII dosimeter for a day. The dosimeter recorded the intensity of the magnetic fields to which the wearer was exposed during 24 hours. It was found that those women who found themselves in a magnetic field for only a short time during the 24 hours had twice as many miscarriages as had those women not so exposed.

There is much more in Dr. Li's paper but the above should be sufficient to alert pregnant women to the dangers of electromagnetic fields.

The automobile is another source of e-m fields. The products of 19 manufacturers were studied using a type of field-meter made by Wandel & Goltermann that is recognized, world wide, for measuring magnetic fields. Studies were made with the engine idling and with the car in motion. The meter was placed at seven points in the six-seat car. The driver, fortunately, sits in a field of less than 0.2 muT. However, a field greater than 10 muT was measured just behind him in the middle of the car. Volvo, for one, is taking steps to ameliorate the situation but that still leaves many models of other manufacturers to be a concern.

Cab drivers and long-haul truckers are at heightened risk because of the many hours they spend in their vehicles. Nor is the motorcyclist immune. Bicycles, anyone?

No-Code International TM

<http://www.nocode.org/> is a organization dedicated to the abolition of the Morse code testing requirement as a prerequisite for any class of Amateur Radio license. NCI TM will continue as a lobbying organization as long as the manual telegraphy testing requirement exists.

What we believe. We want to make a few points crystal clear:

1. NCI is not opposed to manual Morse code operation. But CW is just another mode and should not be afforded any special priority over others. It is available to those who wish to use it. Morse proficiency should not be required for those who do not wish to use the mode.
2. Manual radiotelegraphy communications has been superceded by more modern, reliable, accurate, faster and efficient means of communication.
3. Requiring manual telegraphy proficiency is not compatible with the radio amateur's mandated objective of contributing to the advancement of the radio art.
4. No evidence exists that Morse proficiency is an indicator of a desirable, motivated or better qualified operator.
5. The Morse code requirement serves as an advancement barrier to many otherwise qualified individuals.
6. The value of Morse code communications in the Amateur Service is primarily recreational in nature and manual telegraphy proficiency should no longer be a compulsory licensing requirement for any class of Amateur Radio license

Notes on Communications Trailer

Background

In an effort to promote Amateur Radio itself and the efforts of Amateur Radio in the community, I have been working on obtaining a vehicle or trailer that could serve as a mobile base of operations for when Amateur Radio is used to provide any public service.

My vision of this mobile unit is that it would be pre-wired for 12 volt devices, and 120 volt devices, would have tilt up antenna supports, antennas, VHF/UHF repeater, work area and chairs for operators. Any expensive gear, (i.e. radio's, laptops etc....) would be stored in a secure place like a home or at VE4WSC. The mobile unit would travel from event to event and would be painted as a mobile billboard, with Amateur Radio club logo's and information. Any sponsors of the unit would also have their logo's on it.

After seeing the mobile unit that is being used by the Lake of the Woods Amateur Radio Society, and what they are doing with their unit to promote Amateur Radio, I decided that the perfect unit would be a trailer.

Pro's

- ☺ A trailer is less expensive to purchase as compared to a bus, or milk truck type unit.
- ☺ The maintenance of a trailer is minor as compared to a truck.
- ☺ Yearly insurance of a trailer is less cost that a vehicle.
- ☺ A special drivers license is not required.
- ☺ Easier to store that a bus or large truck

Con's

- ☹ It needs to be towed by someone who has a hitch (full size car or truck)
- ☹ Where to store the unit when not is use.

The Gift

So once the decision of what to get was made I set out trying to find a suitable unit. I looked first at used RV's, but the cost of these was just too much. I then started looking at used ATCO type office trailers. While the price on these was more reasonable, the availability of these is scarce. I finally located a suitable trailer at the end of October and purchased it by one of my companies. Now I am prepared to lease it (at the token rate of \$1.00/year) indefinitely to both WARC & ARES, for their use jointly, in an effort to provide a working / playing environment to promote Amateur Radio. The only thing I ask is that the trailer have my comp any logo and name on one portion of it, as one of the many possible major sponsors.

Now what will it be used for

As of November in the year 2002 there is a number of events that happened that the trailer could have been used for:

1. Manitoba Marathon,
2. Field Day
3. Terry Fox Run for Cancer
4. Parkinson Superwalk
5. Head of the Red Regatta
6. Festival du Voyageur Sled Dog Races
7. Prairie Fire Regatta
8. Corporate Rowing Challenge
9. National Team Handball
10. Mall Displays

What else could it be used for:

- ☒ ARES S.E.T.'s.
- ☒ Hobby Conventions - parked outside and tours provided
- ☒ Visiting youth groups (Scouts, Guides etc....)
- ☒ Club functions (such a monthly Contest event, i.e. Canada Day Contest)
- ☒ Anything else that will provide a service to the community, or be used to promote Amateur Radio.
- ☒ Long term (week or more) emergency response where outside agencies do not have a mobile office to use, and where the city or provincials units are not suitable or are not being used.

What should it not be used for:

- ☒ Personal use
- ☒ Emergency response- Immediate or short term use.

Will it provide the needed exposure that Amateur Radio is looking for?

Well, that all depends on if it is used. Just using it for the dozen events noted above will make it worthwhile. But once the exposure is out there and Amateur Radio is brought out of the back room and into the view of the public, we just might have more events to do and we just might gain a number of new people to the Amateur Radio fraternity.

Even if this brings us one new Ham a year, then will it not be worthwhile. Even if this does not happen, at least we have a place to operate out of when we do the events that we are currently doing.

News Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club

By Gil Frederick, VE4AG, President

Upcoming Events that we wish to bring to your attention are as follows:

OPEN HOUSE at the CLUB - on SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

From 12 noon to 3 p.m., we will have members welcoming parents and children, mostly from the area around the Club. But we invite people from anywhere, town and country, to come and see what is actually on the 2nd floor of the old fire hall on St. Mary's at St. Anne's in St. Vital that is part of the life of senior citizen Hams.

- ☒ Children will be encouraged to talk to Santa by radio-
- ☒ attendees will be given a tour of the facilities, and the antique collection (electronic and computer).
- ☒ Light refreshments will be available.

If you would like to help, your attendance at this time would be very welcome.

CHRISTMAS DINNER and Party: on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10.

It takes place again at the Assiniboia Christian Centre, 3390 Portage Ave. at Rouge Road, and there is ample parking, and total facilities to handle wheelchairs, etc. It is held in the Gym, with lots of space to move around. Come anytime after 11 a.m. - dinner will be served from 12 noon onwards. This is your time to come and socialize with members that you only see once a year!

- ☒ The turkey dinner will be everything you expect in a full-course meal - there will be musical entertainment, and a sing-a-long.
- ☒ TICKETS, which are \$15 each, are available from a Duty Officer at the Club, or an Executive member; we can even arrange delivery if that is desired.
- ☒ But PLEASE, get your tickets NOW!!! We have to have the count for the caterers very soon now.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

This takes place on WEDNESDAY, December 18 - beginning at 10 a.m.

This is the BIG meeting for ALL members. We vote for the new Board for 2003, receive Committee reports, and conduct whatever other business comes to the floor in the form of a motion. All members have a voice input, and voting rights in all proceedings. This is YOUR club - this is the General Meeting - so please try and come out. Hope to see you there.

For those unable to make it up the stairs - or for other reasons, you will have a full report of what went on, in the SPARKS newsletter, coming out in late January.

The current 'Sparks' has been distributed. It includes the above notices, a complete list of members as of Nov. 20 – and an article about Hams in a medical rescue operation, from the Red Deer (AB) Express.

We welcome a new (old) member. Ernie Flight, VE4FE, who years ago when he lived in Winnipeg was VE4EO – as an active member of the Club once again. And thanks to Roy Coldwell, VE4ROY, and Ray Bond, VE4BND, who have been added to the roster as duty officers.

The Basic course class of 14 will have written their exams by the time you read this, and we hope we have that many new Hams joining our ranks.

3 of our members, Bert Andrews-VE4AND, Vern Dutton-VE4VQ, and Gil Frederick-VE4AG, attended the Memorial Service for a founding member, Gar Evans, ex-VE4AND, who died in late November.

And from the entire membership of the WSCRC, we send our very best wishes for a Happy Christmas to all.-



Editors Ramblings
By Derek VE4HAY

Did you Know

I tried to search the net for Clip art of Santa using his Amateur Radio, and I could not find any. So if you have some clip art of Santa taking to you, please sent it to me, for next year.

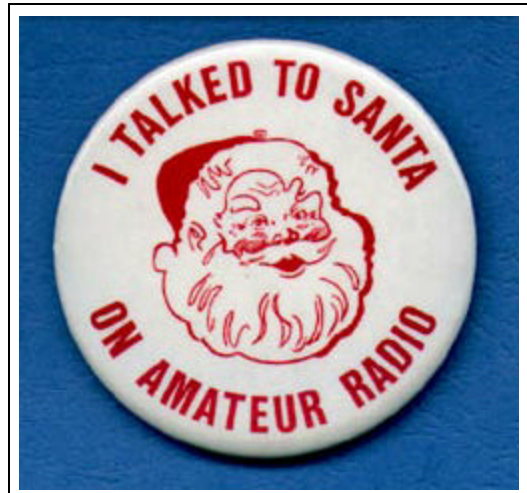


Borrowed from Radio Amateurs of Canada

The year is coming to a close. It's time to think back on all those contacts you made this past year. That great DX, the new grid square, the yl across town. I hope that everyone had a banner year. Now it's time to ask a favour of everyone. With the Holiday Season fast approaching, I would like everyone to get on the air and promote Amateur radio, promote Winnipeg, and promote Canadian contacts. All of this will cumulate with the RAC Winter Contest, on Dec 28th, 2002 at 0000Z. Please see the RAC web site for more info <http://www.rac.ca/CANWIN.htm> Please take the time to enter this contest. The VE4RAC callsign will be on the air as a Multi transmitter-, Multi operator, and if you would like to be one of these operators, please get in touch with Adam, VE4SN who is doing the coordination for the callsign.

The entire executive and myself would like to wish everyone a very Merry Holiday season and the best contacts in the New Year

73



DIAMOND IMAGE

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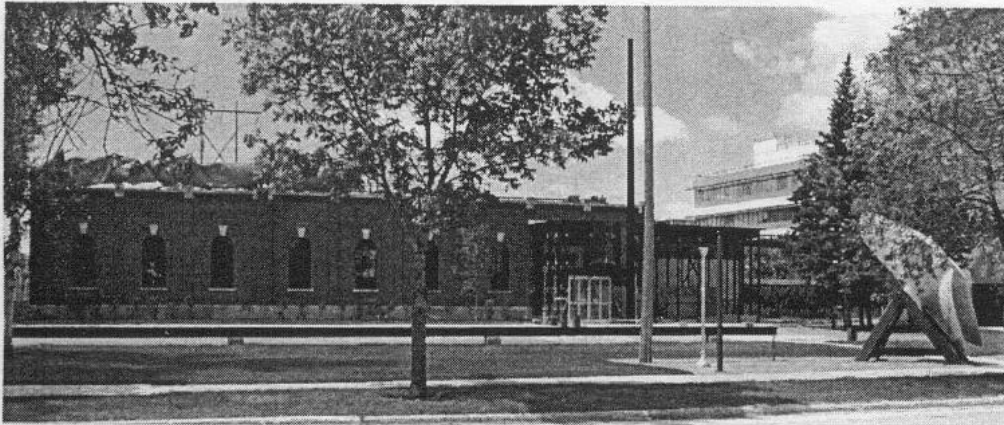
- Balloon bouquets & decorating

- Gifts

- Printing eg: Business cards, letterhead, envelopes

- Wedding invitations





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PLAN A TRIP TO THE MANITOBA ELECTRICAL MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTRE

Do you remember life before colour TV? Can you imagine life without TV? No matter how young your memory is, you'll find something to learn and lots to enjoy at the Manitoba Electrical Museum & Education Centre.

The Museum houses some of the most unusual contraptions in electrical history including a necktie iron and hot dog cooker. There's also a gizmo that irons your pants -- while you are wearing them! A very large collection of electrical artifacts, archival photographs, documents and interactive educational displays helps tell the story.

You'll find the Museum at 680 Harrow Street, near Manitoba Hydro's Taylor Avenue building in Winnipeg. It's open for public touring Monday through Thursday afternoons, or by appointment.

Treat your family, your group and your imagination to a trip through Manitoba's electrical history. Admission is free. Call (204) 477-7905 for more information or to book a tour.

