



The

NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.virtualmultimedia.com/warc/>

January 2003

Free to Members

Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention Unit

Date: January 13, 2003
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: January 28th - Feb Newscaster deadline

WARC: February 10, VE4KQ "My 40 years on 50 MHz"
March 10, April 14 - Cafeteria, May 12, June 9

WSC: January 15th - Board meeting - All invited
June 9 - 20th Anniversary of WSCRC

ARES: January 21 - Meeting - Packet Operations
February 11 - Sled Dog Races - briefing

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 50.238 MHz.
Thursday 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 1:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club by Gil Frederick, VE4AG, Past President

Our Annual General Meeting was held at the Clubrooms on December 18, 2002, with 31 members in attendance. Our prime order of business was the election of the new Board for 2003 – Executive and Directors. We thank the following who were nominated and allowed their names to stand for election– all were elected by acclamation:

President Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN
Vice President Willard Elliott, VE4WJE
Secretary George Gillespie, VE4GNG
Treasurer Ed Henderson, VE4YU.

The Past President is Gil Frederick, VE4AG (this position not requiring a vote).

Board members are:

Bert Andrews, VE4AND; Paul Palace, VE4PXP; Henry Hessner, VE4AUT; Colin McBeath, VE4JCM; Bill Shipley, VE4BYL; Albert Diamond, VE4AX; Lila Forrester, VE4LIL; Grant Delaney, VE4HGD; George Moodie, VE4GOM; Paul Champagne, VE4OPC; Norm Coull, VE4EH; Harry Tapper, VE4HST; Fred Venema, VE4FV; Irv Cosgrove, VE4UG, Roger Carbotte, VE4ROG.

Auditors elected for the Fiscal Year 2003 are Gladys Haldane-Wilson, VE4GE and Harry Tapper, VE4HST.

The first Board meeting of 2003 will take place on Wednesday, January 15th, at 10:00 a.m. All members of the Club are invited to attend.

President Gil had the privilege of honouring, on behalf of the Club, 2 of our members who have been valuable assets

WARC: Executive for 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

of the Club over many years – Harsha Godavari, VE4SAI and Tom McRae, VE4TSM. Both received framed Roll of Honour certificates. Duplicates of these will be hung with the others in the Boardroom at the Club.

Willard, VE4WJE, gave a report of the Ham courses run by the Club during the past year. The CW course held in January saw 5 passing; the Basic course starting in September and ending early December had 14 registered, 13 completing the course, and all 13 passing, with an overall average of 80%. Our big thanks goes to Sandy, VE4SZ for his efforts in preparing the best training course given by clubs, anywhere!

Fred, VE4FV, has the club’s ATV station up and running very well – demonstrations will be given at times arranged with Fred if members want to see it in action. A recent event saw a contact with John, VE4CCW, in excellent colour and detail. Very impressive, Fred.

We have had a few of our members become Silent Keys over the past year: Keith McConnell, VE4BC, on February 21; Joe Butchard, VE4NY, on February 23; Eugene (Chick) Chackowsky, VE4AFD, on November 26; and Gar Evans, VE4ANT, in the month of November.

At the December meeting, we welcomed 2 new members; Robert Carstens, VE4NK and Roger Carbotte, VE4ROG, bringing our total membership to 189.

In mid-November, the Club had an Open House, ably coordinated by Ed, VE4YU. The premises were re-arranged to show the Antique items in a well-ordered display, with labels

attached; and seasonal decorations gave the rooms a festive appearance. Cookies and refreshments were available, and we had over a dozen members attending to make sure all facets of the operations of the club were covered for presentation to our visitors. While the number of visitors was low, it was a good chance for the Club to gain PR – especially in the articles appearing in all the Winnipeg community newspapers; and the members had a good sociable time together.

Social activities play a big part in the events of the Club – and December saw 2; the monthly breakfast, and the annual Christmas Dinner/Party. Our breakfast convener, George, VE4GNG (his last before ‘retiring’) tells us that the average attendance was 31 for 2002. Thanks for the many years of service in this regard, George, and for those special ‘prizes’ that you made up for the winners of the breakfast draws.

The Christmas dinner was what everyone expected – salad, a full plate of turkey with all the trimmings, hot food hot and cold food chilled, great apple pie and ice cream for dessert – and a very tasty fruit punch. Each table had a small plastic-canvas box with mint treat, crafted by Gladys, VE4GE. Our kudos to Ed, VE4YU and the fine job he did with the ‘Intermods’ musical program. It was a pleasure to join the group, with Paul, VE4PXP on the guitar, and me (Gil, VE4AG) on the synthesizer keyboard. The recitations by Adam, VE4SN and Ruth, VE4XYL were enjoyed by the listeners, as was the singing by the Intermods. The applause was ‘music’ in return. We had excellent door prizes, such as 2 Alto’s dinner buffets, a one-night’s stay for 2 in a deluxe double room at the CanAd Inn where we hold breakfasts, many items (lamps, framed pictures, a book) donated by George, VE4GNG, a 3-pce canister set donated by Gil, VE4AG and xyl Beryl, 2 gift baskets by Gladys, VE4GE, . And beautiful craft items - dolls, a candy-filled house, and sweater made by Gladys, VE4GE for the raffle; another for the raffle came from Dick Higgins, VE4RHG, and there was a scarf donated by Audrey Keber, xyl-VE4ALF. Our ticket sales were only 83, down from last year – but many could not attend because of illness or other commitments. We had the honour of the presence of our St. Vital Councillor, in the person of Gordon Steeves. Gord is a great supporter of the Club with the city echelon, and with a yearly per capita grant. Expressions of having it again at the Assiniboia Christian Centre, with the same caterer (Roman’s Catering) were made by many, and arrangements are now being put in place.

And, in closing, we wish all our readers a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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.gc.ca/radioamateur.e>

Comments or if you just want to reach us :

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<http://www.ve4.net/newsletters.html>

**From the Planning Chair:
Glen, VE4GWN**



I trust all have had a great Christmas and A Wonderful New Year (it still isn't Christmas as I write this)

I would like to thank the following for putting together that great Christmas Party we had:

- ✦ Ruth, VE4XYL; Sue, VE4SYM for there work preparing and serving the food and those who helped carry things in and out for them (that includes you Tom, VE4SE)
- ✦ Paul, VE4PXP for the main entertainment
- ✦ Eric, VE4EWN for the reading that he had done
- ✦ .. Tedd, VE4VID and his wife Sheila for judging the HT decorating contest (with no notice)
- ✦ Tim, VE4TJR for being the photographer
- ✦ Fred, VE4TRO for getting Santa to come
- ✦ Louis, VE4PLJ for providing the background music
- ✦ everyone who entered the HT decorating contest
- ✦ and of course everybody that showed up. Without members we would have no club.



Congratulations to the winners of the HT decorating contest they were: 1st place Louis, VE4PLJ and 2nd Betty, VE4BTY. Tedd and Sheila both said that it was a very close contest all around.

I still haven't received an offer from the floor for somebody to organize the visit to the PPCLI Cadets. I guess I'll just take this task on. I would like more volunteers to help with this event. I hope to have an HF station, APRS station, maybe someone to demonstrate IRLP, and of course a CW display/demonstration. I hope to have a date for this by the January meeting.



Field Day is coming soon! I have one person who said he may help put it together *BUT* he would like two or three helpers to come forward **no later then** April.

Up coming meetings are like this

(subject to change with little notice!)

- ☞ January, Winnipeg Police Crime Prevention on Personal Safety
- ☞ February, Bruce VE4KQ "My Forty Years of 50 MHz"
- ☞ March, we will be going on a Field Trip to Manitoba Electrical Museum
- ☞ April, Home Brew Night
- ☞ May, Adam VE4SN will be giving a presentation on propagation
- ☞ June, elections, field day discussions and coffee (I had many requests for this)

Local HAM receives National Award

Canadian amateur honored with automotive journalism award: ARRL member Kelly Taylor, VE4XT, was named Canada's top automotive writer in October. He's received the 2002 Automobile Journalists Association of Canada Journalist of the Year award, presented by Jaguar Canada. "This award is given each year to the journalist who displays the best automotive writing in Canada," says the rightfully proud Taylor. "It is the top recognition that a Canadian automotive journalist can receive and is judged by some of the top journalism educators in the country." Taylor is employed as the automotive editor at the Winnipeg Free Press in Manitoba. - ARRL

WSCRC to give a MORSE CODE COURSE

The Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club is once again offering a 5 w.p.m. Morse Code Course to anyone who wishes to learn this fascinating language. So far, 13 have signed up. If you hope to get your Ham Ticket – why wait for the Basic course to start – get the CW part first!

Classes begin on **Tuesday, 7 January 2003**, and will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week, running from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There is a fee of \$10.00, payable at first session.

Instructors are: Bruce Massey, VE4GR, Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN and Ed Henderson, VE4YU.

To sign up, contact Sandy Sandwith, VE4SZ, at 633-2877 or e-mail ve4sz@rac.ca; or phone the Club at 233-3122.

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.

Contest Calendar

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

February

10-10 Inter. Winter Contest	SSB	0001Z	Feb 1
Minnesota QSO Party		1400Z	Feb 1
FYBO Winter QRP Field Day		1400Z	Feb 1
Delaware QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 1
Mexico RTTY International Contest		1800Z	Feb 1
North American Sprint	Phone	0000Z	Feb 2
Six Club 2nd Winter Contest		2300Z	Feb 7
CQ/RJ WW RTTY WPX Contest		0000Z	Feb 8
Asia-Pacific Sprint	CW	1100Z	Feb 8
Dutch PACC Contest		1200Z	Feb 8
YL-OM Contest	CW	1400Z	Feb 8
FISTS Winter Sprint		1700Z	Feb 8
OMISS QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 8
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest	CW	2100Z	Feb 8
North American Sprint	CW	0000Z	Feb 9
QRP ARCI Winter Fireside	SSB	2000Z	Feb 9
ARRL School Club Roundup		1300Z	Feb 10
ARRL Inter. DX Contest	CW	0000Z	Feb 15
YL-OM Contest	SSB	1400Z	Feb 15
CQ 160-Meter Contest	SSB	2200Z	Feb 21
REF Contest	SSB	0600Z	Feb 22
UBA DX Contest	CW	1300Z	Feb 22
North American QSO Party	RTTY	1800Z	Feb 22
Russian PSK WW Contest		0000Z	Feb 23
High Speed Club CW Contest		0900Z	Feb 23
North Carolina QSO Party		1700Z	Feb 23
CQC Winter QSO Party		2200Z	Feb 23

Minutes for W.A.R.C. December 9th, 2002 Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS

The party was called to order by President Louis VE4PLJ at 1930 hours. Introductions followed, all in a great party mood! 65 members and guests participated. A good time was had by all.

Motion to accept November minutes as printed in November Newscaster by Tedd VE4VID. Seconded by Gord VE4GF. Carried.

Glen VE4GWN presented program plans. Cadets: - Mid to end of January presentation on Amateur Radio. Glen explained program and goals, and asked for volunteers: - coordinator and presenters.

January meeting: - Winnipeg Police on personal safety;
February meeting: - VE4KQ "My 40 years on 50 Mhz".

... and now the party begins!

*Eric VE4EWN read "Night Before Xmas" amateur radio version from RAC magazine.

*Paul VE4PXP entertained us with his renditions of songs galore! Bravo Paul!

*Tedd VE4VID and his wife Sheila were appointed judges of the "HT" contest.

*There were eleven cleverly decorated entries, including a half-eaten donut HT by VE4JNF.

*Ruth VE4XYL and Sue VE4SYM coordinated the scrumptious food. All was eaten and thoroughly enjoyed by all. WARC Exec. helped serve. Thank you ladies for the wonderful fare.

*Fred VE4TRO was our jolly young Santa, ho-ho-ho, and presented members with gifts!

HT contest participants were the following VE4's: - PLJ, GWN, EIH, JNF, YYL, EWN, HK, QV, SE, BTY, and OL.

And the winners were: - first place - Louis VE4PLJ; second place - Betty VE4BTY. Thank you all for your wonderful creative endeavors!

13 gifts or prizes were drawn. The following VE4's were the lucky recipients: - OL, JS, HK, SE, AKB, GF, MAB, UB, MMG, CS, WJE, XYL, and KOR.

...and we talked and shmoozed, and ate and drank, and we all wished each other Best Wishes for the Holiday Season.

...and from this writer, and on behalf of your WARC executive, Happy Holidays, Merry Xmas and Happy New Year. May you enjoy good health, happiness and success this coming New Year. May WARC recruit new enthusiastic members and may our seasoned members volunteer for our many projects. Most important, may there be peace in the world for all God's children.

WPGARES
Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Thanks to Don VE4DWG and Tim VE4TJR our website under the new domain is active. The URL is:
<http://www.winnipegares.ca>

Nine WPGARES members operated VE4WWO in the Prairie Storm Prediction Centre (PSPC) SAT 07DEC during



the ARRL-NWS SKYWARN Recognition Day. We were on the air for nine hours, made 41 IRLP contacts and 21 HF contacts,

appeared to be the only Canadian Weather Station that was participating. Participants were VE4s: HK, KU, WF, AJR, MMG, TJR, SE, GWN, MBQ.

Special thanks to UMARS for use of their IRLP node, Dave VE4KU for fixing the HF antenna by flashlight, and Glen VE4GWN for being the QSL Manager.

Our December General Meeting featured Jay Anderson, Warning Preparedness Meteorologist from PSPC. Jay spoke about the 2002 Summer Severe Wx Season. Jay mentioned that PSPC needs more snowfall accumulation or snow-depth measurements OUTSIDE Winnipeg. Passed info thru MMWx Net and MEPN via Gord VE4GLS. Likely that there will be more of a CANWARN Winter Program now. CANWARN Spotter Training tentatively booked in Winnipeg, the second Saturday of May - if interested register with your local ARES EC. Welcome to our newest member Kent Haase VE4KEH. Our next General Meeting is

TUE 21JAN 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Scheduled topic is Packet Operations at Head of the Red Regatta.

Volunteer operators are required for Festival du Voyager Sled Dog Races 15,16FEB. Volunteer briefing is TUE 11FEB 1900h, location TBA. MBQ will advise you where the briefing location is. To sign up please contact MBQ asap.

Planning meetings are getting underway for 2002 Manitoba Marathon which will be held SUN 15JUN. Last year's volunteers ought to be getting an e-mail in late January or early February. Anticipate an article in FEB WARC Newscaster from our volunteer coordinator Robert VE4RST.

Welcome New Graduates
By L.T.Sandwith, VE4SZ

Basic Class Graduates - 2 Dec 2002

Name	Preferred callsigns
Henry Delorme	VE4HXD
Jody Maple	VE4PYT
Roger Carbotte	VE4ROG
Bruce Folkett	VE4BMF
Stephen Penteley-Toth	VE4PTS
Natalie Hasell	VE4NAT
David Carlsen	VE4WXG
Ron Unruh	VE4DSC
Wayne Mooney	VE4RWM
Warren Weldon	VE4WRN
Darwin Duckworth	VE4DKY

Special Note: Roger Carbotte passed his Morse code also and is being filed with this report.

Earlier Graduates of Basic Course:

Ray Bond VE4BND

Mike Sanders, VE4MS - SK

RCMP Staff Sargeant (Ret'd) VE4MS Michael Allen Sanders, aged 65, lost his lengthy battle with heart disease on Friday, December 20, 2002. Since 1963 he has been a HAM radio operator, holding licenses in Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Manitoba, his last call sign being VE4MS

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45th Jamboree On The Air Report

1st Sun Valley Venturers and Rovers Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Amateur radio, cold weather camping andsnow!?

Don't those words just roll off the tongue like they belong together? NOT!! When you're from South Australia, anything below 15 degrees Celsius is considered cold.

Well, that's what our Australian guest Advisor tells us anyway. John Richardson, VK5HJR, came to us last March on a "working holiday" and asked Manitoba Council to hook him up with a Venturer Company that was interested in Amateur Radio. Well that meant us, and he has been a valuable addition ever since. It was really a very cold and windy weekend. The nights got to about -10 to -15 and the daytime highs were only up around the zero mark. We all survived, but did plan to bring more warm clothes next year. Yes, even John made it through the weekend although I think he had everything he owned on. He did complain while he was vertical but was able to get a good nights sleep. That's OK though, I complained about the cold too, as it seemed like winter camping, even with the snow, and just standing around tends to get one cold. (Note to self: Don't have any drinks less than 3 hours before bedtime in cold weather)

You might remember us from CJ'01. We operated the Amateur Radio station VY2CJX in the X-Centre, along with members of the 49th Port Coquitlam Venturers from British Columbia, who by the way, we were able to contact this year during JOTA by both VHF-IRLP and HF. It was great talking to them again.

The Company had been making plans to have a big JOTA event this year and John came up with lots of ideas that he said were working over in Australia. John told us that down under, they routinely put 300 to 500 youth through their JOTA stations during the weekend. Well we thought that to be a rather lofty number, but vowed to give it our best shot.

This year, we were recognized by the Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization and Manitoba ARES as an official Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) unit in Manitoba. We are a viable emergency communications group that will be called upon in the event of a disaster like an ice storm, tornado, flood, etc. or for any other communications emergency.

Plans were made to operate remotely like we would have to do if called upon as an ARES station. We decided to operate from Bird's Hill Park, just north of Winnipeg, and we would camp out for the weekend, killing two birds with one

stone. We planned to operate on various modes, which included HF, VHF, and VHF-IRLP.

John got one of his mates in Australia to send over a box of official Australian JOTA 2002 badges and a copy of their JOTA activity book, which we revised to reflect our operation. We advertised at the Service Area Scouters meeting and at the Manitoba Council office for Scouting groups to come and join us on Saturday or Sunday and had several responses. We ended up having members of 1 Beaver Colony, 2 Cub Packs, 3 Scout Troops, 2 Venturer Companies and 2 Rover Crews visit with us. A total of about 50 visitors.

Visitors were welcomed and given a short talk on how radio works and then split into small groups to visit the various radio stations. We made lots of contacts on HF although most were from North America and also lots of contacts on VHF-IRLP. The most interesting contact on IRLP was McMurdo Station in Antarctica. The radio tent was quite crowded during this QSO and the operator there took the time to answer the many questions that his captive audience had. It was a very good geography lesson. John was able to talk to his mates in Adelaide, South Australia too. We used the IRLP repeater so much, that it shut itself off because it was overheating. We did manage to use it again later though. On HF, we contacted many North American JOTA stations and there were lots of good conversations with them and our Scouting youth. For a small fee, all of our visiting youth received an Australian JOTA 2002 badge, a JOTA activity book, a JOTA participant card, a drink and snacks. Everyone seemed to have a good time.

Back to the subject of cold weather.

I am not sure who was the originator of JOTA, but he obviously did not live in Canada, specifically, Winnipeg. If he had, and wanted to combine it with camping, he would have held it in June or July.


Anyway, we plan to be bigger and better next year. Hmmm, maybe indoors.....

**DIAMOND
IMAGE**

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Peter Coles VA4NNR Worked All Continents (WAC) Award Requirements

In recognition of international two-way amateur radio communication the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) issues Worked-All-Continents certificates to amateur radio stations of the world.



Qualification for the WAC award is based on an examination by the International Secretariat, or a member-society, of the IARU of QSL cards that the applicant has received from other amateur stations in each of the six continental areas of the world. All contacts must be made from the same country or separate territory within the same continental area of the world.

All QSL cards (no photocopies) must show the mode and/or band for any endorsement applied for.

Contacts made on 10/18/24 MHz or via satellites are void for the 5-band certificate and 6-band endorsement. All contacts for the QRP endorsement must be made on or after January 1, 1985 while running a maximum power of 5 watts output or 10 watts input.

The following information should be helpful in determining the continental area of a station located adjacent to a continental boundary. North America includes Greenland (OX) and Panama (HP). South America includes Trinidad & Tobago (9Y), Aruba (P4), Curacao & Bonaire (PJ2-4) and Easter Island (CE0). Oceania includes Minami Torishima (JD1), Philippines (DU), Eastern Malaysia (9M6-8) and Indonesia (YB). Asia includes Ogasawara Islands (JD1), Maldives (8Q), Socotra Island (7O), Abu Ail Island (J2/A), Cyprus (5B, ZC4), Eastern Turkey (TA2-8) and Georgia (4L). Europe includes the fourth and sixth call areas of Russia (R1-6), Istanbul (TA1), all Italian islands (I) and Azores (CU). Africa includes Ceuta & Melilla (EA9), Madeira (CT3), Gan Island (8Q), French Austral Territory (FT) and Heard Island (VK0).

Application forms should be directed to the address below. After verification, the cards will be returned and the award sent soon afterward.

There is a \$5.00 fee for Canadian stations. Sufficient return postage for the cards, in the form of a self-addressed stamped envelope or IRCs, is required. Canadian Amateurs must have current RAC membership.

Dave Reid, VE6BIR
1918 - 12 Street S.W.
Calgary, AB
T2T 3N2

Click here for a [WAC AWARD APPLICATION FORM](#)

RAC Bulletins

www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbullemail.htm

02-091E Canadian Callsign Database

It has become apparent, through examination of records maintained by Industry Canada and by Radio Amateurs of Canada, that the Canadian callsign database is becoming corrupted by inaccurate information. One of the prime reasons for this is the failure of some Radio Amateurs to advise IC of address changes.

Amateurs are reminded of Section 14 of Radiocommunication Information Circular 2 (RIC-2), which states: "The holder of an Amateur Radio Operator Certificate shall notify the Department within thirty (30) days with respect to a change of mailing address."

Please note that this refers to a MAILING address and that it is not an option but a requirement.



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News from the Net

WRC-03 CONFERENCE PREPARATORY MEETING EXPANDS 40-METER OPTIONS

Paul Simon sang of 50 ways to leave your lover, but participants at the just-ended Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 heard just five ways to fix 40 meters, plus a sixth that would just leave things as they are.

"The five options for change all represent improvements in the amateur band, although two fall short of fulfilling the 300-kHz worldwide requirement," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. He attended the Geneva gathering in his role as International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) secretary. "All six options maintain the existing 300-kHz exclusive amateur allocation in Region 2."

T

he objective of the CPM was to complete work on a 700-plus page extensive technical CPM Report, which outlines methods to address the more than three dozen items that are on the WRC-03 agenda. As for amateur issues, Sumner says 7-MHz realignment or harmonization "is one of the most difficult issues facing WRC-03." As he explains the situation, three major interests -- amateurs, shortwave broadcasters, and users, mainly military, of the fixed and mobile services -- have a stake in the outcome.

The IARU is on record as supporting a 300-kHz worldwide amateur allocation in the vicinity of 7 MHz. Sumner said achieving this would require the fixed and mobile services to make room for broadcasters and for the broadcasters to change their operating frequencies. The five methods for change the CPM Report describes include a variety of transition schedules to ease the impact on these other services.

- ☛ * Method A would shift Region 1 and 3 broadcasters up by 200 kHz to 7300-7550 kHz in two stages and would provide the same band for broadcasting in Region 2.
- ☛ * Method B is similar but would have amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 sharing the upper 100 kHz of their newly expanded band with fixed and mobile.
- ☛ * Method C would provide just 200 kHz for amateurs in Regions 1 and 3. Amateurs in Region 2 would continue to contend with broadcasting interference from Regions 1 and 3 in the 7200-7300 kHz segment.
- ☛ * Method D, proposed by Canada at the CPM, would provide 300 kHz worldwide for amateurs by shifting broadcasters in Regions 1 and 3 up by 200 kHz but would not expand the Region 2 broadcasting allocation. This plan would minimize the impact on fixed and mobile services in Region 2.

- ☛ * Method E, proposed by the Republic of Korea at the CPM, would provide amateurs in Regions 1 and 3 with an additional 100 kHz shared with fixed and mobile (7100-7200 kHz). As with Method C, however, Region 2 amateurs would continue to face broadcasting interference from Regions 1 and 3 in the 7200-7300 kHz segment.
- ☛ * Method F, proposed by Australia at the CPM, would simply maintain the status quo. This plan reflects concerns about the impact of realignment on military and national security communications capabilities.

"There is no guarantee that proposals will be limited to the six methods described in the CPM Report," Sumner said.

Amateur Radio was well represented at the CPM. Chairing the CPM was Eberhard George, DL7IH, of Germany. A three-member IARU team was headed by President Larry Price, W4RA, and included Sumner and Wojciech Nietyksza, SP5FM. ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, served as a member of the US delegation. He also was named to chair the ad hoc group that dealt with the substance of the 7-MHz text. Several other amateurs were on their national delegations, some of them specifically to represent Amateur Radio and others in professional capacities. IARU Vice President David Wardlaw, VK3ADW, was on the Australian delegation. Sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the CPM drew more than 1000 participants to Geneva during the last two weeks of November. Over the next three months, regional telecommunications organizations and groups (CEPT, CITEL, and Asia-Pacific Telecommunity, the African Telecommunications Union, and Iran and the Arab States) as well as individual administrations will be developing their proposals for WRC-03, which takes place in Geneva next summer. --ARRL

FIRST AMATEUR TRANSATLANTIC HF DIGITAL VOICE QSO REPORTED

Radio communication pioneers Ten-Tec and Thales have announced that they've used an Amateur Radio linkup to span the Atlantic on HF digital voice for the first time. Ten-Tec's Doug Smith, KF6DX, and Thales' Didier Chulot, F5MJN, successfully transmitted and received HF digital speech signals November 22 between Paris, France, and Ten-Tec's Sevierville, Tennessee, headquarters.

"We view this as a significant accomplishment," said Smith. "Amateur Radio has long been at the forefront of technological development. It's nice to be able to show that our legacy is alive and well." Tests are being conducted under the auspices of ARRL's Digital Voice Working Group,

which Smith chairs. A written report on the tests is due in January.

Calling it "a major breakthrough," a Ten-Tec news release said the two amateur stations "demonstrated the advantages of digital audio during the conversation, including noise-free, FM-like reception and the potential for simultaneous voice and data." The feat was accomplished on 15 meters using Ten-Tec transceivers and Thales Communications Skywave 2000 digital audio software. Operating as F8KGG, Chulot spoke with Smith for several minutes over the HF digital link, operating within a 3-kHz bandwidth.

Smith said he and F5MJN used unmodified Ten-Tec transceivers in upper-sideband mode, although AM or FM mode also would work. No additional hardware was required beyond the cables connecting the transceiver and the microphone to the PC sound card. Smith said audio quality was roughly the same as a conventional telephone circuit. An Amateur Radio version of the Thales system is expected to appear on the market early next year. "At this stage, the system is experimental-only for ham radio, but it looks like it's going to take off," Smith predicted.

In terms of Amateur Radio, Alinco was the first manufacturer to come out with a digital voice option for some of its transceivers. ICOM debuted its D-Star digital "concept radio" system last May at the Dayton Hamvention--where Smith chaired the Digital Voice Forum--and demonstrated it at the ARRL-TAPR Digital Communications Conference in September. The unit, which operates on 1.2 GHz, was scheduled to hit the ham radio market this fall.

Technical details of the Thales system will appear in an article "International Digital Audio Broadcasting Standards: Voice Coding and Amateur Radio Applications" in the January/February issue of QEX, which he edits. The article is available on the ARRL Web site

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/x0301049.pdf>.

He also has authored two articles on digital voice in QST: "Digital Voice: The Next New Mode?"

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0201028.pdf> in the January 2002 issue, and "Digital Voice:

An Update and Forecast"

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0202038.pdf> in the February 2002 issue. Additional images and background are available on the TAPR Web site <http://www.tapr.org>. Look for the Digital Voice Forum page and the presentation by Cédric Demeure.--Ten-Tec news release; Doug Smith, KF6DX --ARRL

NEW ZEALAND - ZS - ON THE AIR

New Zealand is one of very few countries in the world where licensed amateurs visiting from overseas can immediately operate without the hassle of getting a licence and without paying a licence fee. Yes a visiting amateur can walk down the gangplank from the arrival aircraft into the terminal building and start operating on 144 MHz and above with the callsign ZL/(homecall)! -- NZART

KENYA

The Amateur Radio Society of Kenya has been advised by the Legal Officer of CCK, the Kenyan licensing authority, that the US/Kenya Reciprocal Agreement is now in force and that US citizens with FCC licenses may apply for and be granted licenses. It has taken the IARU Society close upon ten years to achieve this. The ARSK site at <http://www.qsl.net/arsk> gives all relevant details and the application form can be downloaded from the CCK website at <http://www.cck.go.k> -- WIA-Queensland

RUSSIA - UA - HIGH FLYING

November 28, the Russian Space Agency launched the Algerian AISat-1 satellite along with a new Russian bird known as Mozhayets-- a navigational and scientific satellite. One of its experimental payloads is an Amateur Radio telemetry beacon that has been christened RS-20. M RS-20 is transmitting CW telemetry on 145.818 and 435.319 MHz. (arr letter) -- WIA

Proposed global emergency service band

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) is seeking to identify globally or regionally harmonized frequency bands to meet the future needs of emergency services.

In Australia the ACA has identified 420-430 MHz as the most suitable band to accommodate the need of public protection and disaster relief organization, such as the police, fire, ambulance and State Emergency Services (SES).

As we know that band has already been allocated to police and emergency services in Perth, Western Australia.

In an information bulletin, the ACA says it strongly supports the ITU initiative for harmonized bands which will be considered at the World Radiocommunications Conference in June 2003.

The ACA says a number of Australian state governments are planning to replace their current generation mobile networks. Preparations are also underway for the communication requirements for the Commonwealth Games to be held in Melbourne in 2006.

The ACA stresses that no decisions on the need for, or the timing for use of the 420-430 MHz band have yet been made.

Some industry sources say that the 10 MHz bandwidth of 420-430 MHz is not big enough for future requirements under the proposed harmonized band.

As a precaution, the ACA has decided to reduce the licence periods for users of the neighbouring 403-420 MHz band. It will only reissue such licences for a maximum period of one year while the future of the band is considered.

The 403-420 MHz band has a number of radio users which pay considerable amounts in licence fees. The ACA has undertaken to consult with users in the 403-430 MHz band - there are 27,000 licences issued for that band. --WIA-Victoria

Netherlands poised at WRC03 starting block

Dutch radio amateurs are to be among the first to benefit from the expected abolition of mandatory Morse code tests for amateur licensing.

Prominent DXer Rob Van Den Ent PE9PE says that the Netherlands radio administration, Agentschap Telecom, has announced it will act immediately on the decision from the World Radio Conference 2003.

Rob PE9PE has told WIA Victoria's "Morse code watch" that the announcement was made at the recent national convention of the IARU radio society of the Netherlands, (Vereniging voor Experimenteel Radio Onderzoek) VERON.

The decision to act immediately will mean no-code VHF/UHF licensees in Holland gaining instant access to HF bands, and the 5wpm tests imposed for HF licences as an interim measure until the WRC03 decision, being abolished.

VERON had earlier been a strong supporter for the adoption of the interim 5wpm which has since been implemented by common European licensing system, CEPT.

The statement by Agentschap Telecom is probably the first by a radio administration anywhere to declare that the WRC03 decision will mean instant changes to the licensing system.

Other radio administrations, including VK's Australian Communications Authority are not so ready to act on the WRC03 decision.

In Australia's case the ACA expects at least a six month delay before VK radio amateurs can benefit from the expected abolition of mandatory code tests.

The ARRL in the USA had also balked at including a WRC03 sunset clause on Morse code when it introduced 5wpm at the maximum code test speed in that country.

Meanwhile Russia and Germany are among the few countries remaining in support of Morse code being retained.

The Russian Federation opposes no-code licensees on HF, and the IARU radio society in Germany, (Deutscher Amateur-Radio Club) DARC wanting it to remain a licence option.

The German radio administration has clearly stated it supports no-code post WRC03, and so does the rest of Europe.

WRC03 will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, 9 June to 4 July. --WIA Victoria

The President's Call **By Louis, VE4PLJ**



Well another month has gone by, and so has a year. I hope everyone had a great Christmas. At our December meeting we had our annual Christmas party, and the turn out was great. From what I could see everyone was enjoying them selves. The turn out for the first HT decorating contest was very good. Maybe we can do it again next year. We also want to thank Ruth Mills VE4XYL and her helpers for organizing the great snack she had set up. The entertainment was very enjoyable to. Thank you very much Paul VE4PXP for bringing your guitar and singing for us. Our program director Glen VE4GWN has been very busy with planning programs for the following months. For our first meeting of 2003 lets see if we can have a big turn out. See you then.

Editors Ramblings **By Derek VE4HAY**

Did you Know

Industry Canada has put out a video on Towers and your community Check out the wed site below for the Real Video Presentation: Let's Talk Towers

[Http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf05469e.html](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf05469e.html)

It's the start of another year, but without your help it will not be a good year. It seems that my article cupboard is as bare as Old Mother Hubbard. So if you could be so kinds as to donate an article or two, I would be ever so grateful.

Everyone has seen the Band Plans that ICOM has put out. But they are in a American format, and while useful, it is not Canadian. So I have consulted the RAC band plans and have created a chart for you. I am attaching for those who have get their newsletter via E-mail. Just one of the benefits of doing so. And if you would like to start to receive your newsletter via E-mail, please let Mark, VE4MAB (address on front page) know, and you will soon receive your newscaster in glorious colour -- 73

Happy New Year and the best of DX.