



The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://ve4.net/warc/>

September 2003

VE4BB

Free to Members

Welcome Back Get Together
Time to swap stories of DX
confirmed and lost.

Date: September 8th, 2003

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

The President's Call By Louis, VE4PLJ



Hello every one, and I hope every one is doing well. By the time you read this newsletter. Summer will have come to an end, and cabins will have been locked up. But not all cabins. Lets not for get the ones that stick it out till the late fall, and get in some of that last fishing in.

This article that I am writing will be my last. I will be stepping down as of September 1st 2003 as your President. This was not an easy decision for me. There has been some new development in my life this summer. Now that I am ?? years old. I have finally picked my career in life, and even started my own business. Some of you may have heard me talking about Toastmasters. Toastmasters are a public speaking group. I got involved in it just over a year ago, and have advanced very fast at it. In order to get my name known in public speaking. I have to compete in public speaking contests, and it will take lots of my time.

The executive along with the three new added ones is a strong group. They welcome your thoughts, and your ideas. So come out to the next meeting and meet your new executive. Bye

Other Important Dates:

Articles: August 26th - Deadline for September Articles

WARC: Oct 20, Nov. 10, Dec 8-Cafeteria, Jan. 12, Feb 9, Mar. 8, Apr. 19-Cafeteria, May 10, Jun. 14 - Monthly Meetings
Nov. 2 - Flea Market
April 25 20004 - Flea Market

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn
Annual Picnic
Christmas Party

ARES: Sep 14 - Terry Fox Run
Sep 21 - Parkinson Superwalk

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
Daily 14:30 UTC MB Wx Net 3743 KHz
Weekdays 9:00 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 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

WARC: Executive for 2003 - 2004

Past President	Louis Gaudry	lsgaudry@mb.sympatico.ca
President	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Pat Giesbrecht	339-3018
Secretary	Ed Horton	885-4084
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Glen Napady	ve4gwn@rac.ca
Field Day	Vacant	
Flea Market	Vacant	
Director at Large	Bob Hrabí	ve4zap@rac.ca

Minutes for W.A.R.C. June 9th, 2003
Submitted by Ruthie, VE4CRS

Meeting called to order at 1935 hours.
 Introductions - 40 members and 3 guests attended.

Motion to accept May minutes

as printed in Newscaster by Derek VE4HAY, seconded by Tedd VE4VID. Carried It was noted that Eric VE4EWN was thanked for helping at Flea Market but actually wasn't there!

Old Business

By-laws: - A 5 minute debate was allowed for each by-law amendment proposal.

- A. Motion to change By-law 5:1 by Glen VE4GWN to the following: - The funds of the corporation shall be deposited in a chartered financial institution and withdrawals shall be made only on the joint signatures of the Treasurer and one of two other board members with signing authority. Seconded by David VE4DAR. Motion carried.
- B. Motion to change By-law 7:1 by Dave VE4KU to the following: - The custodian of the call VE4BB shall be any member of the board of directors who is qualified to hold the licence, failing this, any qualified member of the club at the board's discretion. Seconded by Tedd VE4VID. Motion carried.
- C. Motion to change By-law 3:3 by Jeff VE4MBQ to the following: - The Board of Directors shall be elected annually by ballot by a majority of the members present and in good standing at a meeting called for that purpose. The number of Directors elected in excess of nine (9) may be varied from time to time at the discretion

of the Board of Directors. The officers of the corporation shall be appointed from among the Directors elected from the general membership as follows: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Flea Market Coordinator, Field Day Coordinator, Program Coordinator, Membership Coordinator and One (1) Director at Large. Seconded by Jim VE4GZ. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Open invitation received from Interlake Amateur Radio Club to join them for Field Day, June 28 & 29 and their Yard Sale and Flea Market. Letter signed Keith Lindstrom VE4FR.

Treasurer's Report Fred VE4FV

For May 2003.
 Revenue \$ 80.00
 Expenses \$100.28
 Bank Balance \$5818.23

Programs Glen VE4GWN

Asked for suggestions for programs for next year.
 September meeting general get-together.

Membership Mark VE4MAB

152 paid members. Mark is taking renewals for next year.

RAC Adam VE4SN

The director will be unavailable for a few weeks.
 Education: - Holy Cross School in St. Boniface may be interested in holding classes for Amateur Radio. He is looking into it. Possibility of a few more schools.

Ares/Marathon VE4MBQ

1. Five long-serving Amateur Radio Volunteers were among 27 volunteers recognized by the MB Marathon organizers Thursday 29 MAY at the "25 Unsung Heroes" Dinner held at the Best Western Victoria Inn. They were: Ellis "Al" Seddon VE4AJO; Ed Richardson VE4EAR; Dick Maguire VE4HK; Tom Mills VE4SE; Kelly Taylor VE4XT
2. The three Amateur Radio organizations that have participated in Marathon Communications for least 20 years were recognized in the program: WARC, MRS, University of MB Amateur Radio Society.
3. There are 75 amateur radio operators and assistants that have volunteered for the 2003 MB Marathon. One more volunteer is needed.
4. Amateur Radio briefing for the MB Marathon is TUE 10 JUN 1900h MB Sports Federation 200 Main Street, Rm

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>

229. Parking is available in the underground parkade. Bring parking ticket for validation at Reception Desk.
5. Next WPGARES General Meeting is TUE 24 JUN 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library. Bob Poole VE4MAQ is scheduled to speak about Kildonan ARES. No July General meeting is planned. Next scheduled General Meeting after June is TUE 19 AUG.
 6. WPGARES needs more volunteers for the NWIRA Regatta 21-21 AUG at the WPG. Rowing Club. Contact Jeff VE4MBQ.

Field Day John VE4QV

Field Day 2003 SAT & SUN 28-29 JUNE.

Fort Whyte Centre Adventure Site, 2505 McGillvary Blvd., 1.2 Km SW of the corner of Kenaston and McGillvary. Look for the Bison Sign! We will have 24 hour access. Washrooms and water are available. No direct usage fee, but a donation of \$75.00 would be appreciated. Free camping. Not a lot of space. BBQ SAT night. Field Day positions that need to be coordinated: Food/BBQ; Publicity; Transportation; Setup/Teardown; Technical/Power; We are looking for volunteers for these positions. Information at <http://ve4.net/warc/> or ve4qv@rac.ca or tel: 488-6811

Ham Fest

11-13JULY at Peace Gardens. Great prizes. Are all welcome and are encouraged to come out!

New Business

Elections:

Nominated for new Board Members: - Bob VE4ZAP; Pat VE4PLG; Ed VE4EIH.

Motion to close nominations by Derek VE4HAY, seconded by Jeff VE4MBQ. Carried.

Motion following slate be accepted as WARC Board Members for 2003-2004 by Glen VE4GWN:

- Louis VE4PLJ
- John VE4QV
- Fred VE4FV
- Glen VE4GWN
- Mark VE4MAB
- Bob VE4ZAP
- Pat VE4PLG
- Ed VE4EIH

Seconded by Dick VE4HK. Carried.

Welcome WARC's new Board of Directors for 2003-2004.

Good and Welfare

Thanks to outgoing Board Members, Ruthie VE4CRS and Rick VE4RA.

- ☒ Vern Dutton is still in hospital. Is getting stronger and may be moved to rehab section. Members send best get-well wishes for a speedy recovery.
- ☒ David VE4DAR's recommendations:
 - 1) A flip chart – easier to present By-law amendments and Board slate.
 - 2) One executive member be given job to review By-laws, suggest amendments, ask members, then bring to executive for finalizing.
 - 3) Give members copy, receive feedback.
- ☒ WSC 20 years old.
- ☒ Suggestion to put By-laws on WARC web site.
- ☒ Silent Key: VE4CZ, Ed Kowalchuk.

Business meeting adjourned at 2045 hours.

Adam VE4SN completed his presentation on propagation. Thank-you Adam!

50/50 draw: Ken VE4AFL.

At this point, I would sincerely like to thank the executive and all the members of WARC for a wonderful, enlightening 3 years that I served on the Executive. Thank you also for your kind words of appreciation and fellowship. It was a learning experience for me, a chance to get to know many members and appreciate how lucky I am to belong to a great group of people. So, again, thank you for 3 "radio-active" years! Ruthie VE4CRS

**Promote Amateur Radio
By Derek, VE4HAY**

46th Jamboree on the Air - 18-19 October 2003

Are you looking to help promote Amateur Radio. Well here is the perfect opportunity to do so. Call your local scouting association and ask for the contact person of the troop closest to you.. Give them a call and mention that you are willing to provide a station for the upcoming Jamboree on the air (JOTA).

JOTA is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Guides all over the world make contact with each other by means of amateur radio. It is a real Jamboree during which Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, thus contributing to the world brotherhood of Scouting The JOTA is a world-wide event. Units may operate for 48 hours or any part thereof, from Saturday 00.00 h until Sunday 24.00 h local time. It is for members of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), and also for members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

RAC Bulletin

<http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbullemail.htm>

RAC Bulletin 03-017E**WRC-2003 Drops Morse Requirement**

The World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-2003) held in Geneva, Switzerland, 9 June to 4 July, 2003, has dropped the Morse code examination requirement for radio amateurs. In the face of pressure by some administrations to retain Morse testing, the conference decided to keep Morse as a recommended amateur qualification, but that it would be up to individual administrations whether or not they retain a Morse examination requirement. The dropping of Morse testing was one of a number of changes to Article 25 of the Radio Regulations that will take effect on Saturday, 5 July. This change does not mean that Industry Canada will automatically or immediately drop Morse testing. Industry Canada will likely want to determine the wishes of Canadian radio amateurs and will have to determine what Canadian regulatory changes, if any, first will be necessary. Radio Amateurs of Canada has already commenced discussions with Industry Canada on the future of Morse testing in the meetings of the Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board (CARAB). RAC Vice-president Regulatory Affairs, Jim Dean, VE3IQ, the amateur radio member on the Canadian delegation, participated in the review of the radio regulations pertaining to the Amateur Service.

RAC Bulletin 03-015E**WRC-2003 Revises Call Sign Formation**

At World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 held in Geneva, Switzerland, 9 June to 4 July, 2003, two principal revisions were made to the ITU Radio Regulations concerning the formation of call signs in the Amateur Services. The prohibition against prefixes of amateur station call signs commencing with a digit when the second character is the letter O or the letter I, has been removed. This has little direct impact for Canadian amateurs but will provide additional prefix options and greater flexibility for administrations assigned prefixes beginning with a digit followed by a letter. Thus 7O7 is now a legitimate amateur radio prefix. Of more direct interest to Canadian amateurs is the fact that, provided Industry Canada approves, call signs may now be formed with a group of four characters (suffix), of which the last must be a letter, following the national identifier. Thus call signs such as VE5RCMP, VE3IARU, VE3P27U and VE200AA now will be permitted. RAC's Vice-president Regulatory Affairs, Jim Dean, VE3IQ, participated in the WRC-2003 review. RAC will work with Industry Canada on the necessary amendments to the Department's amateur radio call sign policy.

RAC Bulletin 03-016E**Amateurs make gains on 40 Metres at WRC-2003**

The Amateur Service made significant gains at WRC-2003 (Geneva, Switzerland, 9 June to 4 July, 2003) in its quest for increased global allocations and a shift of the Broadcasting Service out of the 40 metre band. The Amateur Service sought to regain the band's 1939 status of an exclusive allocation of 300 kHz worldwide, free from the present interference of broadcasters in Europe and Asia. With six options on the table at the onset of the conference, it was quickly evident that the negotiations would be very difficult and success could be achieved only through compromise. Very intense negotiations lasted right until the second last day of the four-week conference, but when the dust had settled, it had been agreed that on 29 March, 2009, amateurs in Asia, Europe and Africa will gain access to 7100 to 7200 kHz and the incumbent broadcasters will have moved higher in frequency and out of that portion of 40 metres. Amateurs in the Americas retain their allocations but will then have 200 kHz free from Broadcast interference.

The Amateur Service was the only Service to gain an HF allocation at WRC-2003. Gaining spectrum through a move of the powerful, well-entrenched Broadcast Service was a historic first. RAC representatives in the negotiations were RAC Vice-president Regulatory Affairs, Jim Dean, VE3IQ, on the Canadian delegation, and RAC Vice-president Government and International Affairs, Ken Pulfer, VE3PU, who attended as a member of the IARU team. The leadership and support provided by the Canadian delegation headed by Industry Canada, was outstanding and instrumental in the success achieved.

RAC Bulletin 03-018E**Morse Requirement Remains in Canada Pending Review of WRC Decisions**

In the wake of the decisions regarding Morse qualifications made at the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC)-2003, Industry Canada's Amateur Radio Service Centre and RAC have received numerous queries about the status of Morse examinations in Canada and the qualifications required for HF operation. Canadian radio amateurs are advised that Basic and Morse Qualifications are still required for operation below 30 MHz and that this requirement will remain pending a review by Industry Canada of the impact of the WRC-2003 regulatory changes on the Canadian radio regulations, policies and procedures. While the new international regulations, which dropped Morse from the Treaty requirements and left a Morse qualification to the discretion of administrations, became effective 5 July, 2003, each administration (country) still must individually decide whether it will retain a Morse qualification requirement. Canada must now decide what it will do. RAC will be working with Industry Canada on the

review of the impact of the new international regulations and will keep Canadian amateurs informed through Bulletins, the RAC web site and "The Canadian Amateur". Amateurs should send their comments and views on Morse retention or deletion to their RAC regional Director.

RAC Bulletin 03-012E -

Two way transatlantic QSO from Newfoundland

The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland (MRCN) takes pride in announcing a historic achievement: the first two way transatlantic LF QSO from Newfoundland. The event marked the culmination of five months of intensive research and experimentation within MRCN and the collaboration of radio amateurs in the US and UK and of course, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). We are gratified by the success of our experiments, and especially by the cooperation in the traditional amateur spirit that made it possible, said Joe VO1NA, who headed the project with MRCN and completed the contact with Jim Moritz MOBMU. In Newfoundland, a 125 watt transmitter assembled from junk box parts was used to send slow speed Morse on 137.777 kHz while over 3700 km away near London, a 1200 watt Decca amplifier transmitted on 135.922 kHz. Loop aeriels two metres in diameter were used to receive the signals and communications were maintained between the two stations from about 0050-0330 UTC on 12 June. This date was chosen based on the predictions of Alan Melia G3NYK, an LF propagation expert, who first copied the Newfoundland station on 2200 metres a fortnight earlier. Larry Kayser VA3LK who completed a transatlantic QSO just over two years earlier was also acknowledged. The MRCN resumes experimentation on 60 metres next weekend in Phase 3 of their propagation experiment. Both experiments were proposed in cooperation with Radio Amateurs of Canada and the approval of Industry Canada with a view to assisting RAC to secure additional Amateur allocations in the RF spectrum and promoting interest in 2200 metres. Additional information may be found on the MRCN web site by searching for VO1MRC with your favourite search engine.

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RAC Bulletin 03-020E

News Section Back on RAC Website Along with National Morse Code Survey

After a period when no volunteer was available to write the material, we are delighted to have a website news section again, with lots of current amateur radio news. A News button will be added to the home page. Meanwhile you will find it at <http://www.rac.ca/news>

With the WRC-03 activities behind him; Ken Pulfer VE3PU feels he can contribute to this important function. In addition to the national and international news items there is extensive commentary on WRC-03, and where we go from here under the Canadian News link. There is a National On-Line Morse Survey to record your vote on the important issue of Morse examinations.

You can register your vote at <http://www.rac.ca/news/msurvey.htm> Please read his well-considered overview on the Morse issues before you cast your vote. He includes the potential impact of our decision on reciprocal operating privileges for Canadians operating in the USA and abroad and for foreign visitors to Canada. The results of the survey will be considered by the RAC Board of Directors in arriving at a recommendation for Industry Canada, who must make the final decision for Canada

VE4MA sets another 10 GHz Record By W0ZQ

On July 29, 2003 at 23:50 UTC VE4MA (EN19lu) in Winnipeg worked W0ZQ/0 (EN34is) in Minneapolis on 10 GHz rain scatter. The contact mode was CW. WinGrid version V3.7 puts this contact distance at 393.7 miles (635 km) while BD puts this contact at around 392.9 (632 km). This contact appears to be a new US to Canada 10-GHz DX record and may be the second longest 10-GHz rain scatter contact in North America.

VE4MA was operating from home running 50 watts into 60ft of elliptical waveguide to 5 ft of 1/2 inch Superflex (rotator loop) to a 18 inch offset dish at 50 feet.

W0ZQ/0 was operating portable from 44d 46' 24" N and 93d 17' 05" W (Burnsville, MN). The portable station consisted of a DB6NT transverter, a one watt amplifier, and a 22 inch offset dish mounted on a 4 foot tripod.

Severe thunderstorms were occurring in northern Minnesota at the time of the contact. VE4MA to W0ZQ/0 signals were S9 plus with the typical rain scatter (aurora like) tone. W0ZQ/0 was 55A to 57A at VE4MA 73, Jon, W0ZQ

MANITOBA MARATHON

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ

Sunday 15 JUNE was the 25th Anniversary Manitoba Marathon. An annual event that has seen Amateur Radio involvement almost since its inception. As part of Marathon 25th Anniversary celebrations five long-serving Amateur operators were recognized with twenty-two other long-serving Marathon Volunteers at the "25 Unsung Heroes Dinner" held 29 May at the Best Western Victoria Inn. The Amateur Radio honorees were:

Ellis Seddon VE4AJO
Ed Richardson VE4EAR
Dick Maguire VE4HK
Tom Mills VE4SE
Kelly Taylor VE4XT

In addition, Amateur organizations that have been involved for twenty years or greater received recognition in the printed program for the dinner. Those groups are:

Manitoba Repeater Society, Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society

This year's Amateur operation was once again organized as a WARC-WPGARES partnership with approximately seventy-eight Amateurs and assistants. Thanks to volunteer operators: VA4AA, VE4s: ACX, AFL, AJO, AJR, AND, BN, BMF, BSR, CDP, CLK, CRS, DAR, DAN, DDW, DKY, EAR, EH, EIH, ESX, EY, EWN, FV, GLS, GWN, GWB, GZ, HAY, HAZ, HGD, HK, HQ, JHJ, KAZ, KLM, KU, MAQ, MAB, MBQ, MHZ, MJM, MMG, NAT, NQ, ODB, OHB, PLG, PZL, QB, QV, QEW, QSG, RCJ, RST, SE, SN, STS, SYM, TRO, TJR, UK, VV, VZ, WF, WRN, WTS, XT, XYL, YG, YU, YYL, ZAP. Gisele, Betty, Luke, Danielle, and Kyle.

Using the RAC costing formula, the Amateur contribution just in terms of time donated would be worth over five thousand dollars (\$5600) !

The Marathon Amateur operation would not be the success that it is without the support of a number of organizations: Manitoba Repeater Society, University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society, Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club, Interlake ARES, South-Central ARES, Kildonan ARES, Manitoba Marathon, Rogers AT&T Wireless, Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, and WPGARES.

In addition several individual Amateurs loaned pieces of gear for others to utilize, thanks to VE4s: AJR, CLK, DDW, ESX, HAY, HGD, GWN, KAZ, MBQ, MJM, QB, SE, VB, WTS.

A 2003 Manitoba Marathon Amateur Radio Report/Lessons Learned was provided to those volunteers whose e-mail addresses we have as well as to WARC President. In closing I'd like to thank my deputies Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ and Robert Stegmaier VE4RST for their dedication!

HF Radios for Newcomers from Richard Hayman, K3DML

posted on June 10, 2003 on eHam.net

If ham radio is as important to you as it is to me and we want to retain all of our frequencies, we all have to do more to populate the airwaves with newcomers. Newcomers come in many shapes and sizes: he/she can be an experienced ham trying out a new mode, or a recently upgraded ham who now wants to try the HF bands, or someone who is completely new to the hobby - licensed or not.

When I first started in radio, "elmers" were easy to find. They were nice, helpful and enthusiastic people who readily shared their hobby with others. Of course, life seemed simpler back then. SSB was the "new" mode when CW and AM ruled the day. FM was virtually unheard. Radio sets were full of tubes and large discrete parts - in a word - easy to operate and fix (because you could read the markings on the parts - actually the parts were fairly large and my eyes were much younger back then).

While I certainly don't yearn for the good old days (mainly because ham radio was a relatively expensive hobby in the 1950's), I do think our hobby has less fascination and wonderment today. Wanna talk to someone far away? Just pick up the telephone (long distance calls are so cheap today), or if you're outside use your cell phone, blackberry, pager, or FRS radio. Almost forgot, use the Internet to chat, email, send pictures, even videophone (Old word for web cam). And, one more thing, you can do all this with your battery operated laptop sitting in a Starbucks connected to their WI-FI HotSpot high-speed Internet connection while you drink your \$3.00 coffee beverage.

Fortunately, I think I can solve one part of the problem. I want to make it really easy to transition hams from VHF to HF by helping out with their first "real" radio.

There are several objectives to overcome:

- ☒ Getting started on HF for little money
- ☒ Getting equipment that is easy to operate and works well
- ☒ Putting up that first antenna "cheaply"
- ☒ Not getting stuck if HF is not their thing.

I believe that any experienced ham can do this in his spare time. It's simply an extension of the hobby and it's fun. Here are the steps to get started as an HF elmer. It requires you to tie up a few hundred dollars in a radio until it's bought by the new Hf'er.

- ① Decide what type of HF transceiver radio you feel is best for a newcomer. It's probably one that you owned at one time, like an IC-735 or a TS-130S or better. I suggest a radio that is 100% solid state as tuning up a PA with tubes is more complex. Also newcomers will

probably think a TS-520, TS-820S, or FT-101 is too old because it has tubes.

- 🔗 Look for a good transceiver. Hunt it down in QST, eHam.net, eBay, qsl.net, qrz.com, estate of a SK, your local ham club or hamfest. Challenge yourself to buy it as cheaply as you can. Certainly less than \$250.00. I bought two very nice TS-130S transceivers for under \$250 each and found Radio Shack switching power (25 amps) supplies for \$60 new.
- 🔗 Build a simple dipole for 40 meters. If you find an antenna tuner for less than \$50.00 attach ladder line to the dipole. Otherwise use coax and a PL-259.
- 🔗 Advertise to your local ham clubs that you have a good basic HF radio for sale and if a newcomer buys it, you will sell it for what it cost you with the following money back guarantee: use 30 days, 90% back; use less than 2 years, 50% back.
- 🔗 Help a newcomer get on the air and do it again if you had fun and made new friends.
That's it.
73, Dick, K3DML, PS I have 4 radios ready to go.

WPGARES **Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ**

Bob Poole VE4MAQ provided an informative presentation about Kildonan ARES at our June General meeting. The membership decided at the June meeting to vary the dues structure by adding a "family" membership component. The second WPGARES member in a household that is a spouse or child of the first member will only be required to pay half of the annual membership dues. Annual dues were due in June.

WPGARES members are still staffing VE4WWO for the Manitoba ARES Readiness Net. Thanks to VE4s RCJ, TJR, MMG, and HK who have recently volunteered for Exercise 32.

Thanks to Joe Konkin VE4WF and David Wood VE4KU who operated VE4EOC for Exercise-34. This was a mock activation of the City of Winnipeg Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) held 20 JUN. A number of local amateurs assisted by checking in to our exercise net. Thanks to VE4s MGR, EDE, YU, ALF, WSC, KEH, YYL, PLG, AND, BTY, EWN, BBM, ESX, GWB, DAR, ACX, DSE, EIH, JNF, HGD, IJL, MBQ and VA4s AA, RMM, NRM. The briefest of video clips was televised on Shaw cable in late July. I am able to access a copy of the raw tape showing what goes on in the City EOC and plan to show it at a meeting later in the year.

The CANWARN Summer Severe Weather Season wraps up SUN 07SEP. There have been a number of CANWARN Nets run this year. The ARES members that

volunteer as VE4WWO Net Controllers are generally on-call 0930-1730h or 1730-2130h daily for at least one week - several do more than just one week. While you don't have to be an ARES member to be a CANWARN Spotter you do have to be an ARES member to be a WWO Net Controller. Thanks to the 2003 VE4WWO Net Controllers VE4s:WF, AJR, VID, RCJ, HGD, KEH, TJR, KAZ, RST, HAZ, ALW, AEY, MMG, SE, JNF, GWN, WTS, EH, ACX, DWG, MBQ

There were two WPGARES Alerts as a result of Summer Severe Weather. ALERT-35 took place TUES 01JUL because of Tornado Watches issued for most of southern Manitoba. A telephone fan-out was done and an Alert Net run for almost 6 hours (intermittently after the first hour or so). Thanks to Manitoba Repeater Society for use of VE4WPG and to Interlake Amateur Radio Club for use of VE4ARC. Thanks to these WPGARES members who participated: VA4AA, VE4s: KEH, SE, XYL, YYL, HK, MMG, DAR, STS, ACX, GWN, EAR, EIH, ESX, RCJ, MGR, CRS, FV, MBQ

ALERT-36 occurred SUN 13JUL as a result of an unexpected Tornado Warning that was issued for Winnipeg. A telephone fan-out was done (quite disjointedly as a result of many "phoners" coming back from Peacegardens Hamfest) and an Alert Net was run on VE4WPG for approximately 30 minutes until the Warning was cancelled. Thanks again to Manitoba Repeater Society and VE4s: DWG, GWN, YYL, KEH, CDP, YU, RST, JNF, HK, EIH, CLK, WTS, MAB, RCJ, XM, GLS, MBQ

At press time we have approximately 25 volunteer operators for the NWIRA Regatta 21-23AUG at Winnipeg Rowing Club. Also at press time Exercise-37 was pending. This was a familiarization session for our members at the City EOC scheduled for WED 27AUG. Further details next month.

We are still in need of additional volunteers for Terry Fox Run SUN 14SEP (approx 0900-1400h) and Parkinson Superwalk SUN 21SEP (approx 0900-1300h). The Terry Fox briefing will likely be held TUE 09SEP 1900h location TBA - please monitor the MRS Net THURS 04SEP or SUN 07SEP for details. The Parkinson Briefing will be at the start of our next General meeting TUE 16SEP 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street.

**DIAMOND
IMAGE**

Floyd Rolph VE4 FDR

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Contest Calendar

September

MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint		2300Z	Sep 1
All Asian DX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Sep 6
Quick PSK63 Contest		0000Z	Sep 6
IARU Region 1 Field Day	SSB	1300Z	Sep 6
North American Sprint	CW	0000Z	Sep 7
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest		1100Z	Sep 7
YLRL Howdy Days		1400Z	Sep 10
WAE DX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Sep 13
Louisiana QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 13
	And	1400Z	Sep 14
ARRL September VHF QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 13
North American Sprint	SSB	0000Z	Sep 14
FISTS Coast to Coast Contest		0000Z	Sep 14
Tennessee QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 14
QRP ARCI End of Summer PSK31 Sprint		2000Z	Sep 14
AGB NEMIGA Contest		2100Z	Sep 19
ARRL 10 GHz Cumulative Contest		0600L	Sep 20
	And	0600L	Sep 21
SARL VHF/UHF Contest 1000Z			Sep 20
Scandinavian Activity Contest	CW	1200Z	Sep 20
Collegiate QSO Party		1200Z	Sep 20
South Carolina QSO Party		1300Z	Sep 20
QRP Afield		1500Z	Sep 20
Washington State Salmon Run		1600Z	Sep 20
	And	1600Z	Sep 21
Panama Anniversary Contest		1200Z	Sep 21
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint		0000Z	Sep 22
CQ/RJ Worldwide DX Contest	RTTY	0000Z	Sep 27
Scandinavian Activity Contest	SSB	1200Z	Sep 27
Texas QSO Party		1400Z	Sep 27
	And	1400Z	Sep 28
Alabama QSO Party		1800Z	Sep 27

October

SARL 80-Meter QSO Party		1700Z	Oct 2
TARA PSK31 Rumble		0000Z	Oct 4
Oceania DX Contest	Phone	0800Z	Oct 4
EU Autumn Sprint	SSB	1500Z	Oct 4
California QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 4
QCWA QSO Party		1800Z	Oct 4
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest	SSB	0700Z	Oct 5
YLRL Anniversary Party	CW	1400Z	Oct 8
10-10 Day Sprint		0001Z	Oct 10
Oceania DX Contest	CW	0800Z	Oct 11
EU Autumn Sprint	CW	1500Z	Oct 11
Pennsylvania QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 11
	And	1300Z	Oct 12
FISTS Fall Sprint		1700Z	Oct 11
Iberoamericano Contest		2000Z	Oct 11

North American Sprint	RTTY	0000Z	Oct 12
YLRL Anniversary Party	SSB	1400Z	Oct 15
JARTS WW RTTY Contest		0000Z	Oct 18
ARCI Fall QSO Party		1200Z	Oct 18
Worked All Germany Contest		1500Z	Oct 18
W/VE Islands QSO Party		1600Z	Oct 18
Asia-Pacific Sprint	CW	0000Z	Oct 19
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest	CW	0700Z	Oct 19
Illinois QSO Party		1800Z	Oct 19
CQ Worldwide DX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Oct 25
Int. Fall Contest	CW	0001Z	Oct 25

News from the Net

VE4MA- Wins Microwave Development Award

Barry Malowanchuk, VE4MA, is the winner of the ARRL Microwave Development Award. The award recognizes his many contributions to microwave equipment design and development. On August 18, 2001, after several years of hard work, Malowanchuk and Al Ward, W5LUA, completed the world's first 24-GHz Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) contact (see "The Journey to EME on 24 GHz," Oct 2002 QST). He'll receive a \$100 ARRL gift certificate and an engraved plaque. --ARRL

Web Pages for Youth

Harmonics Web pages open up the possibilities of ham radio for youngsters: An eight-year-old kid's first crystal set, built with the help of his grandfather. Hearing radio signals without electricity. That was how many veteran Amateur Radio operators were introduced to the magic of radio in past eras. The new century offers many avenues--including the Internet--through which youngsters can experience the same magic. With that in mind, ARRL Field and Educational Services introduces the Harmonics Web pages <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/youth/>. "The mission of the new Harmonics kids' pages is to expose children to the possibilities of Amateur Radio, not clobber them over the head with a pile of technical information," said Educational Programs Coordinator Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS. The Web pages currently feature the first of a number of age-appropriate activities for kids. Web visitors can play games, download informative printouts to color, read news articles about other kids involved with ham radio, work puzzles, click on live links, listen to audio samples of Morse code and space station contacts and much more. Throughout the site, kids are greeted by colorful cartoon "ham-sters" who explore the world of Amateur Radio along with the young people visiting the site. The pages target kids aged 5 to 15. Harmonics invites them to get acquainted with the basic concepts of Amateur Radio through

immediate personal interaction and by discovering how other kids are using ham radio for personal communication and to expand their exploration of science and technology. Wolfgang says Harmonics will include more games and a QSL card template with drag-and-drop interactive design in the near future.

Ham Radio in Space:

Happy Birthday AO-40 Its time to celebrate the launch anniversary of an important ham radio satellite. Beginning September 16th, at 0000 UTC and ending November 17th at 0000 UTC AMSAT is sponsoring an on-the-air bash to celebrate AO-40's 3rd Birthday. All hams worldwide are welcome to participate in this on-air bash. The only acceptable modes are SSB, CW and digital operations and the AO-40 command team requests that CW and digital operations be performed with minimal power to keep the AGC down. More information can be found at www.amsat.org and click on the words AO-40 Birthday Bash -- AMSAT

WRC 2003 decisions on other matters of interest to Canadian Amateurs **From the RAC Web Site - Canada News**

Synthetic Aperture Radars in the 70 cm Band

During the past seven years, ITU studies have been conducted concerning the possibility of sharing the 420-470 MHz band between a proposed new allocation, to be used by satellite borne synthetic aperture radars (SARs) to measure ground moisture, and other existing users in the range. These users include ground-based, ship and airborne radars, fixed and mobile operators, and a variety of other smaller users, such as amateur radio, wind profiler radars and rocket launch vehicle destruct systems. The studies, in which the IARU, represented by VE3PU, was one of the major players, concluded in early 2003, with a technical description of the constraints on the SAR design necessary to ensure minimum interference. These constraints were contained in a revised ITU Recommendation that was approved just before the WRC.

Many countries, to meet perceived environmental needs, came to the WRC with proposals for a secondary SAR allocation, subject to the approved constraints. ESA, NASA and the Canadian Space Agency were also strongly supportive. Furthermore, fixed and mobile interests in most administrations succeeded in focusing the proposals on the range 432-438 MHz, in spite of evidence that all existing services would be protected by the constraints.

On the world scale, there was very little opposition to the allocation, with only the USA and a couple of South American countries openly opposing, and a few countries

such as India and some of the Arab bloc prepared to put up an argument. The IARU also vigorously opposed, but had no formal right to speak at the conference.

Because VE3PU had chaired the ITU-R drafting group working on the sharing studies for many years, he was in fact given several opportunities to voice IARU objections, but of course they carried little weight in the final decision. The US opposition faded away early in the discussions, as did the Arab objections, and the allocation was one of the first to reach plenary.

Although the allocation will go ahead, it is unlikely that a SAR will be launched before 2010, if ever, and if it does eventually fly, we feel confident that the design constraints will ensure that most amateurs will never see any significant interference in our weak signal or satellite bands at 432 and 435-438 MHz.

Allocations for Feeder Links to Little LEOs below 1.6 Ghz

The so-called "little LEO" (Low Earth Orbit) satellite systems are commercial versions of amateur digital, store-and-forward, messaging satellites. They are still looking for world wide spectrum allocations in which to operate.

This is a serious concern for amateurs since we remember that in preparation for the WRC 97, the little LEO proponents wanted to use the 2 metre amateur band and only after vigorous opposition, dropped the proposal.

At this conference, the USA, backed by a few third world countries proposed spectrum allocations for "feeder links" (i.e. control signals) around 1400-1600 MHz, and "service links" (i.e. up-bound data links) around 450 MHz. They already have frequency allocations for downward data links.

The feeder link proposal was strongly opposed by most countries, since the frequencies around 1400 to 1600 MHz are extremely heavily used by many services. In spite of this opposition, the US succeeded in getting allocations provisionally approved, subject to the conduct of more studies to demonstrate that there will be no interference. If these studies are successful, the allocation may be put into effect at the next conference. We must continue to monitor this item, because if they succeed with the feeder links, then the need for service links will not go away.

Allocations Below 1 GHz for Little LEO Service uplinks

At this WRC, there was also a "little LEO" agenda item looking for up to 7 MHz of spectrum below 1 GHz for service links. The specific US proposal was focused on a band just above 450 MHz, - uncomfortably close to our 70 cm band.

Opposition to this proposal was also extremely strong, and during the pre-conference ITU-R studies, we were able to get virtually all countries to recommend "no allocation".

To our surprise, the Little LEO proponents in the USA decided to give up early on this one, and the “no change” proposal was rapidly approved in committees. The fact that the proponents fought long and hard, and eventually succeeded on the feeder link question under Agenda Item 1.16 however, is a clear warning that we can expect another onslaught on the VHF bands at a future conference.

New Allocations to Wireless LANs at 5 GHz

Agenda item 1.5 dealt with allocations to a number of services in the 5 GHz band, of which the most difficult and controversial were related to a proposed primary allocation to the mobile service to be used by devices permitting wireless connections within computer networks (which I will refer to as WLANs).

To date, most such devices operate in the 2.4 GHz band, but already at the WRC, many delegates were using dual-band cards in their laptops, because the 5 GHz network was faster and, in general, easier to access

There is the potential that emissions from very large numbers of such devices, numbering in the millions, will interfere with commercial satellite receivers, and so this issue was hotly debated. To further complicate the issue, some Region 2 countries including Canada wish to allow such cards to be connected to outside high gain antennas, so that they can extend local networks to provide communications between computers in different buildings.

RAC wanted to ensure that both indoor and outdoor WLAN transmitters would not cause significant problems for the Canadian amateur and amateur satellite services in this band. (Since our allocation is secondary, we must accept such interference).

WRC 03 decisions imposed new restrictions on 5 Ghz WLAN power and antenna gain to protect other services and should also afford us a good deal of protection. So, although the primary mobile allocations were approved, they are not expected to cause us much harm.

Harmonized Bands for Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR)

This agenda item surfaced in the lead up to WRC-2000 when commercial interests promoting harmonized frequencies for public services realized that adding disaster relief would strengthen their arguments. They managed to convince some administrations to support them. At WRC-2000, Resolution 645 was introduced calling for Global Harmonization of Spectrum for Public Protection and Disaster Relief, and asking that studies be carried out by the ITU-R. Working Party 8A conducted the studies in preparation for WRC-2003.

The IARU was concerned with two aspects of PPDR developments at WRC-2003 - the identification of bands or frequencies that might affect amateurs, and the CEPT

concept of a “tuning range” in the band 390 to 470 MHz. CEPT wants to standardize equipment that can operate at any frequency used by any of its member countries within this range, and also wanted to impose this idea on the rest of the world. CITEL countries on the other hand are focusing on the 880 MHz band as well as some 700 MHz spectrum from the UHF TV allocation, expected to become available when digital transmission is introduced in this frequency range.

At WRC 03, the concept of a tuning range was not accepted. In the end, bands identified for PPDR do not affect amateurs. A new Resolution was approved by WRC-2003, for introducing the necessary changes to the Radio Regulations and calling for ongoing technical studies for implementing harmonized PPDR. No changes to frequency allocations were proposed. On the positive side, the Resolution contains references to the role that the amateur services play in disaster communications, and encourages removal of administrative barriers to cross border movement of disaster communications equipment.

Issues Related to Unwanted Emissions

There were two aspects of this agenda item of interest to amateurs.

The first relates to spurious emissions, that is, signals produced by a transmitter at some frequency outside the allocated band (often harmonics), which may interfere with other receivers. There are international regulations setting limits on such spurious emissions, and the levels for amateur transmitters are clearly defined. We are interested in ensuring that these limits are not tightened to the point where home constructed amateur equipment could not meet them. The very sensitive receivers used by radio astronomers and remote sensing satellites are susceptible to spurious emissions, and users of those services are continually trying to update the limits to provide additional protection. This topic was not a major issue for us at this conference.

A second problem is concerned with what amateurs call “splatter”. In other words, a poorly designed or operated amateur transmitter can cause interference to other amateurs using a nearby frequency.

To date, there have been no international regulations governing the level of such splatter, although the radio astronomers and passive sensor people have been trying hard to see such regulations put into effect.

The threat to amateurs occurs when one of our bands is immediately adjacent to a passive sensor band, and amateurs operating near the band edge might cause problems.

With support from the Canadian delegation, we were able to ensure that none of the amateur bands were mentioned in any new regulatory constraints approved at the conference. There are however, two 2007 agenda items

related to ongoing studies of such band pairs, and these should be monitored in the ITU-R

Allocations and Regulatory Issues for the Space Science Services

This agenda item proposed an allocation of up to 3 MHz, in the range below 1 GHz, for uplink control signals used in deep space operations. RAC's concern was the possibility of new allocations in the 144, 220, and 440 MHz bands.

A new allocation was discussed at the WRC, but at 260 MHz, to meet the needs of Russia and a few neighboring countries. Finland and Lithuania as well as the Arab countries opposed the allocation, but eventually their concerns were met and the allocation was approved. There are no adverse effects for amateur radio in Canada.

Radio Navigation Satellite Service (RNSS) Issues

The Radio Navigation Satellite Service, or RNSS, (better known to most people as GPS, or Global Positioning Systems), operates in several bands between 1100 and 1300 MHz. There are two other RNSS systems that occupy this band, the Russian GLONASS system, and a proposed new European system named GALILEO. The GALILEO allocation between 1260 and 1300 MHz (approved at WRC 2000) overlaps our amateur and amateur satellite allocations, but to date does not pose much of a threat.

However, other spectrum users such as airborne and ground based radars are more concerned.

The issue to be settled at this conference was, what limits or constraints, if any, should be placed on GPS and GALILEO satellites to protect the other services?

After much heated debate, it was agreed that existing GPS systems put into operation before 2000 would not be subject to constraints, but that limits would be imposed on all new systems.

From an amateur point of view, these new constraints will just provide a little extra protection for us as well, and so this decision was a positive one from RAC's point of view.

From the Planning Chair: Glen, VE4GWN



It seems like only yesterday I was at Field Day and I promised myself that I would keep an ongoing note through the summer for the Newscaster. I didn't and I know that Derek is waiting for me to write this, and to let you know how far behind I am, tomorrow I'm off to the MARM hamfest.

This summer I have been on the go with personal things, and haven't been able to do as much with this hobby

as I would have liked, but such is life. I will say that by what I have heard, things are going well without me. Field Day (I did attend this one) was a great success, my thanks to John VE4QV, and everyone who helped him with this event, I don't know who everyone was, therefore I will not list them and risk leaving someone out. The International Hamfest was a huge success, as was Camp 807 (although wet). The Manigotagen Amateur Radio Club is running a basic course, and their repeater is on the air. My hat is off to Ron VE4PL who has been the root of this. I know that Ron has had much help, mainly with the VE4TGN repeater (146.910-). David VE4DAR and his crew have been organizing the Prairie Dog Central DXpedition. This is NOT a WARC event, but I know that many WARC members (my self included I hope) will be joining David on this trip. Mark VE4MAB has been keeping the WARC web page up to date <http://www.ve4.net/warc>

I have sent out some e-mails trying to get programs for the upcoming year. I don't know if I will be keeping the planning chair (I hope to) but that is a different story. I'm not going to list what I have arranged here for two reasons: first is because it will leave me with little to write for the next Newscaster, and second is because I haven't received my conformation for October yet. The September 8th meeting will be a coffee meeting, and a chance to meet the new Board of Directors, and let us know what you hope for us to do this year. Mark (or who ever) will be there to take membership.

As normal I will ask for any ideas, or offers for meetings to let me know by e-mail: ve4gwn@rac.ca, phone: 831 8082, or on the VE4WPG repeater. I am looking for someone who can give a presentation on IRLP (history, interface ect) and APRS.

QTX~ By Derek, VE4HAY

Did you know -

VE4UHF is now on the air in downtown Winnipeg!! Initial results are good, but does have some shadows in certain directions.. Power out is 25 watts into a 9db antenna 325 feet above local ground level.

☛ Check this site for a good follow up to the Propagation presentation that VE4SN gave at the last two meetings.

<http://www.geocities.com/k2cddx/propagation.html>

☛ Looking to practice your theory check out these sites from Australia

[Http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice.html](http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice.html)

[Http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice2.html](http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice2.html)

[Http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice3.html](http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/novice3.html)

[Http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/aocp.html](http://www.wiavic.org.au/edu/exams/aocp.html)

Ever thought of Operating Amateur Radio from a Moving Train

Take a ride in our time machine, as we clickety-clack down the tracks into yesteryear. You'll enjoy a trip aboard our vintage train, just as early settlers once did. Travel in the comfort of one of our fully restored, historic wooden coaches, built between 1901 and 1913. History surrounds you, as you imagine former dignitaries, farmers and prime ministers, who once travelled this great land of ours by rail - just like aboard The Prairie Dog Central. You may even be sitting in the same seat as one of these great Canadian pioneers once did



On September 20th, 2003 - VE4 Amateur Radio Operators are planning a **4 hour DX-pedition** on the rails of the Prairie Dog Central.

<http://www.vintagelocomotivesociety.mb.ca>

The plans as they currently exist are to operate **2 Metre, 6 Metre and HF** from the moving train as well as at the stop over in Warren MB. Operating times will be scheduled on a first ticket purchased, first operated basis. Activities for non-hams are being arranged at the stop-over. Bring the family for a nice outing, while you take your turn at operating.

40 Metres - 7.260 MHz 20 Metres - 14.260 MHz 6 Metres - 50.238 MHz

September 20th, 2003 11:00 am - 3:00 pm \$20.00 per person

By your tickets at the WARC Meeting

Please make cheque for tickets payable to RRDX

For Ticket Info - contact the Event Manager David, VE4DAR @ 489-4106

Technical Support please call Bob, VE4RCJ @ 477-9125

Operating times scheduled on a First Ticket Purchased - First Operated Basis, until all spots are filled. To book your operating time please call Wayne, VE4WKL @ 224-1449

Check the web site for more information: http://www.ve4.net/warc/RR_DXpedition

Remember to bring a lawn chair and a picnic lunch for yourself -

CW Operators - Bring your own Key