



The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

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

March 2007

IRLP # 1066

VE4BB

Radio in Aviation

David Silverthorne - Nav Canada

Date: **March 12th 2007**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

WARC: April 9 - Home Brew Night
April 15 - Flea market
May 14 - Industry Canada ISOC direction finding
June 11 - Field Day Primer - Elections
June 17 - Manitoba Marathon
June 24&25 - Field Day

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

ARES:

Other: April 18 - World Amateur Radio Day.

WARC: Executive for 2006- 2007

Past President	John Pura	ve4qv at rac.ca
President	Geoff Bawden	ve4baw at rac.ca
Vice-Pres	GeorgeMoodie	geomoodie at yahoo.com
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	rmaman at mts.net
Treasurer	Pat Geisbrecht	ve4plg at mts.net
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab at rac.ca
Program	Derek Hay	ve4hay at rac.ca
Director at Large	Raymond Hall	ve4rq at rac.ca

And now for a word from the President ...

By Geoff, VE4BAW

And a happy March to all of you: In like a lion out like a lamb is the saying. Late February was looking more lionish than lambish, perhaps a sign that Spring will come at the end of March. Another thing that might be ready to improve beside the weather is the solar cycle... the Solar Cycle looks like it's at rock bottom and the ionosphere will shortly be on the way back.

I find it fascinating that we [most of the vox populi] collectively tend to think of the sun as having rock-solid unchanging behaviour forgetting that the eleven year sunspot cycle is clear evidence of the variable nature of our personal star. We radio guys and gals are aware of the changing nature of the sun and the fact that those eleven year cycles do not reproduce each other perfectly – their curves change from cycle to cycle. It is not hard for me to imagine that there are longer term cycles [how long have we actually watched the sun?] or shorter term changes that can affect climate. What caused the so called Little Ice Age of Medieval Minimum where the Thames River froze in winters from 1607-1814 and glaciers expanded in the northern hemisphere? At one time Greenland [Greenland? Not Glacierland or Snow Island – the Vikings called it Greenland] had several Viking Colonies and one colony was able to construct a Cathedral rivaling those in Europe. The ability to construct a cathedral does not suggest a subsistence economy – it means that wealth was being generated. The years 1645 to 1715 passed without sunspots, this is called the Maunder Minimum, and is also the coldest part of the Little Ice Age. No sunspots were seen for over 60 years and profound cooling of the Northern Hemisphere occurred at the same time.

There is a scientific discipline called “Solar Weather” and many satellites and scientific stations collect data to understand just what the sun is up to. [The 10 cm flux that

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

Freq	Prov/State	Net	UTC
3.860	MN	Minnesota Net	23:00
3.747	MB	Evening Phone Net	00:00
3.937	ND	North Dakota Net	00:30
3.744	SK	SK Public Service Net	01:00
3.750	NWON	NW Ontario Net	01:15
3.740	AB	AB Public Service Net	01:30
3.660	MB, SK, AB	Prairie Traffic Net	01:30
3.743	MB	Mb AM WX net	02:30
145.450	WW	MB IRLP net	02:00 Wednesday
3.743	MB	Mb Morning WX net	02:30
147.390	MB	Seniors Net	09:00 Local
0.000	MB	MRS Net Thursday	17:00 Local
147.390	MB	MRS Net Sunday	17:00 Local

we are so interested in is measured in Penticton, B.C.]. We use the data from these sources to estimate HF propagation and the data we use is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of data collected. The tip of the iceberg is all we actually know about the behaviour of our star. There is much to learn about our sun and its effects on the blue marble that we live on.

And now for something completely different ... you will remember the planning session that we did at the January General meeting and the SWOT exercise. Your executive has been digesting the information and took a shot at developing a vision/mission statement [you know .."the vision thing"]. The diversity of interests and membership is something to be cultivated and not discouraged ... AR has tremendous scope from CW to satellite to 2M to HF to digital ...well you know that there is tremendous scope. The need to increase public awareness and public respect for AR was also identified. I would argue that without public interest and respect we would find it hard to resist those who would grab spectrum and otherwise further restrict AR. BPL, spectrum shrinkage, antenna restrictions will all continue and expand unless the public values AR. Targets and goals were also discussed ... without goals how do you know when you have arrived?

The vision/mission thing ... a joint vision/mission statement was arrived at our executive meeting. It is very much of a draft and requires discussion at a General Meeting.

The purpose of WARC is to increase public awareness and respect for Amateur Radio and to provide education and support in all aspects of the hobby to our members in a social atmosphere.

This is a bit of a mouthful and may require some wordsmithing but it captures the intent that arose at our January general meeting. It captures the broad technical diversity of AR as well as preserving the social nature of the club and as Dylan [the singer not the poet] sang "if you are not busy being born you are busy dying".

One of the key objectives was – Make WARC exciting. To do this some goals were proposed:

- Undertake an awareness campaign for 2007
- Support education for 30 something's
- Set a membership goal [say 150 for 2008 and 175 for 2009]
- Establish a financial plan
- Establish a clubhouse [to provide facilities to support education, support the social aspect, provide a meeting area, a radio shack, storage, and a focal point to raise public awareness]
- Keep brainstorming to discover the WOW factor.

Amateur Radio Service Centre - Industry Canada
 P.O. Box 9654, Postal Station T
 Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 6K9
 Telephone: (613) 780-3333
 Toll free: (888) 780-3333
 Fax: (613) 998-5919
 E-mail: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca
http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01709e.html

IRLP Node 1066
 145.450 MHz -600 KHz
 (VE4WRS)

Comments or if you just want to reach us :
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5

We have had some feedback on our discussions. David [ve4dar] took the time to write a proposal that established a "how to" in terms of developing a broader base of involved and skilled members through a committee system. His proposals would be in support of the vision/mission and goals. Dave's proposals were attached to the last Newscaster [I know that you have carefully filed that issue away for future reference].

All of the forgoing needs to be chewed on at a general meeting and we plan to do that at our Homebrew night. That gives us just over a month to ponder these and other ideas that you might come up with. If you do have any ideas don't hesitate to email me at ve4baw@rac.ca.

Program Chair By Derek, VE4HAY



Last month we had Rick VE4OV doing a great presentation on NVIS antennas. For short haul communications. This was very interesting and eye opening to many who were there. And I am sure that as soon as the weather breaks you will see a number of dipoles erected not very high off the ground. From Rick presentation he provided the following short haul net schedule. (see Page 2).

The Hourly prediction software is called HAMCAP ver 1.4 by VE34NEA <http://www.dxatlas.com/HamCap/> and the manual is at <http://www.voacap.com/hamcap-guide.html>

The Hourly Area prediction maps can be found at http://www.ips.gov.au/HF_Systems/4/1/1

This month we will have David Silverthorne, a 25 year tech with Nav Canada, who will talk to us about how the aviation world uses radio to communicate. We all know about VHF for line of sight, but what happens when the aircraft is over the horizon and still needs to be in contact. What bands do they use? What Antenna systems? How well does it work. Amateur radio is not so different from the commercial services, but our contacts are not a matter of life & death or collision avoidance. Is there a magic formula in the aviation world?

**DIAMOND
IMAGE**

Floyd Rolph VE4 FDR

835 Cavalier Drive Tel: (204) 888-3227
Winnipeg, MB R2Y 1C6 Fax: (204) 831-6400

- South Western & Victorian home decor
- ty Beanie Babies
- Balloon bouquets & decorating
- Gifts
- Printing eg: Business cards, letterhead, envelopes
- Wedding invitations

IRLP Help wanted By Derek, VE4HAY

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club and the Manitoba Repeater Society have jointly put up the IRLP system on the VE4WRS repeater. The joint project is to be MRS supplying the radio side of things and WARC supplying the Computer & internet side of the operation, with the two groups coming together by a wire on the passing of the audio. While this sounds great on paper, in reality it has not been. WARC started out with proper intentions, but fell short when the person involved backed off the project and MRS took up the slack. MRS is now requesting that someone from the WARC membership would volunteer to take over the administration of the IRLP system.

Administrative duties for the site include but are not limited to, login procedures, audio alignment procedures, and other basic file management pertaining to IRLP. Technical background is best but as Amateurs most of us qualify here.

- ✓ Basic computer skills are required by anyone who wants to be the administrator.
- ✓ ability to run remote login software at home on a secure network/system. SecureCRT is recommended.
- ✓ command line entry and GUI Linux in particular Red Hat-9+
- ✓ ability to maintain strict security with passwords, IP addresses, etc.
- ✓ some experience setting audio levels, FM deviation, and some knowledge of repeater setup and maintenance.
- ✓ Someone that our host site will allow physical access to the secure VE4WPG site

Participants should have at least some of the above qualifications. Keep in mind that once the access passwords are given out anyone with remote access has the capability of changing audio characteristics of the IRLP system, changing passwords, modifying audio files (IDs), and timers for basic repeater function.

Those of us who are members of both clubs should contact the WARC executive if they are interested in being the potential IRLP system administrators. MRS will arrange with Dale, VE4DRC for access and training information.

**Home brew night is coming
Are you ready....**

Calendar

March

10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/Digi	1800Z	Mar 1
ARRL Inter. DX Contest	SSB	0000Z	Mar 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint		0400Z	Mar 3
	And	0430Z	Mar 3
	And	0500Z	Mar 3
	And	0530Z	Mar 3
Open Ukraine	RTTY	2200Z	Mar 3
	And	0000Z	Mar 4
	And	0800Z	Mar 4
DARC 10-Meter	Digital	1100Z	Mar 4
RSGB 80m Club	Data	2000Z	Mar 5
ARS Spartan Sprint		0200Z	Mar 6
AGCW YL-CW Party		1900Z	Mar 6
Pesky Texan Armadillo Chase	CW	0400Z	Mar 8
RSGB Commonwealth		1000Z	Mar 10
AGCW QRP Contest		1400Z	Mar 10
Oklahoma QSO Party		1400Z	Mar 10
	And	1400Z	Mar 11
EA	PSK31	1600Z	Mar 10
DIG QSO (10 & 20 m)	SSB	1700Z	Mar 10
	And 80M SSB	0700	Mar 11
	And 40M SSB	1100	Mar 11
SOC Marathon Sprint	CW	1800Z	Mar 10
North American Sprint	RTTY	0000Z	Mar 11
Idaho QSO Party	All	0000Z	Mar 11
UBA Spring Contest	CW	0700Z	Mar 11
Oklahoma QSO Party (2)	All	1400Z	Mar 11
NSARA Contest (1)	CW/SSB	1600Z	Mar 11
Wisconsin QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 11
SKCC Sprint	CW	0200Z	Mar 14
RSGB 80m Club	CW	2000Z	Mar 14
SARL VHF/UHF Contest		1600Z	Mar 16
	And	1600Z	Mar 17
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest		0001Z	Mar 17
BARTG Spring	RTTY	0200Z	Mar 17
Russian DX Contest		1200Z	Mar 17
DARC HF-SSTV Contest	SSTV	1200Z	Mar 17
AGCW VHF/UHF	144	1600Z	Mar 17
	And 432	1900Z	Mar 17
CLARA & Family HF	CW/SSB	1700Z	Mar 17
Virginia QSO Party		1800Z	Mar 17
UBA Spring Contest	6m	0700Z	Mar 18
SSA Månadstest nr 3	CW	1400Z	Mar 18
ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint		1500Z	Mar 18
9KCC 15m-Contest	CW/SSB	1600Z	Mar 18
SSA Månadstest nr 3	SSB	1615Z	Mar 18
Run for the Bacon QRP		0100Z	Mar 19
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug		0030Z	Mar 22
RSGB 80m Club	SSB	2000Z	Mar 22
CQ WW WPX	SSB	0000Z	Mar 24
QRP Homebrewer Sprint		0000Z	Mar 26

April;

RSGB RoPoCo		0700Z	Apr 1
RSGB 80m Club Championship	CW	2000Z	Apr 2
ARS Spartan Sprint		0100Z	Apr 3
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL	CW	1400Z	Apr 3
10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/Digi	1700Z	Apr 5
SARL 80m QSO Party		1700Z	Apr 5
ARLHS Annual Spring Lites QSO		0001Z	Apr 7
QCWA QSO Party	All	1800Z	Apr 7
ARCI Spring QSO Party		1200Z	Apr 7
SP DX		1500Z	Apr 7
EA RTTY	RTTY	1600Z	Apr 7
Missouri QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 7
	And	1800Z	Apr 8
FeldHell Spring Sprint		1800Z	Apr 7
	And	1400Z	Apr 8
UBA Spring Contest	SSB	0600Z	Apr 8
SARL Hamnet 40m Sim Emerg		1200Z	Apr 8
Low Power Spring Sprint		1400Z	Apr 9
144 MHz Spring Sprint		1900 L	Apr 9
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL	SSB	1400Z	Apr 10
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug	CW	0030Z	Apr 11
RSGB 80m Club Championship	SSB	2000Z	Apr 11
JIDX	CW	0700Z	Apr 14
DIG QSO Party (10-20 m)	CW	1200Z	Apr 14
EU Spring Sprint	CW	1600Z	Apr 14
Michigan QSO Party	CW/SSB	1600Z	Apr 14
Georgia QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 14
	And	1400Z	Apr 15
Yuri Gagarin International DX	CW	2100Z	Apr 14
DIG QSO Party (80 m)	CW	0700Z	Apr 15
DIG QSO Party (40 m)	CW	0900Z	Apr 15
SSA Månadstest nr 4	SSB	1400Z	Apr 15
SSA Månadstest nr 4	CW	1515Z	Apr 15
Run for the Bacon QRP		0100Z	Apr 16
222 MHz Spring Sprint		1900 L	Apr 17
RSGB 80m Club	Data	2000Z	Apr 19
TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix		0000Z	Apr 21
Holyland DX Contest		0000Z	Apr 21
ES Open HF Championship		0500Z	Apr 21
	And	0600Z	Apr 21
	And	0700Z	Apr 21
	And	0800Z	Apr 21
Sun 2200 Kids Roundup	Phone	1400Z	Apr 21
EU Spring Sprint	SSB	1600Z	Apr 21
Michigan QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 21
EA-QRP 20-10m	CW	1700Z	Apr 21
	80m	2000Z	Apr 21
	40m	0700Z	Apr 22
	20-10m	1100Z	Apr 22
Ontario QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 21
YU DX Contest		2100Z	Apr 21
	And	0900Z	Apr 22
432 MHz Spring Sprint		1900 L	Apr 25
SP DX	RTTY	1200Z	Apr 28

Helvetia	1300Z	Apr 28
Florida QSO Party	1600Z	Apr 28
	And 1200Z	Apr 29
Nebraska QSO Party	1700Z	Apr 28

Marathon ... it's coming !

By Geoff, VE4BAW

Well, ok, ... it's over three months away [June 17th!] ...but let me tell you what your cheerful Amateur Radio Marathon Organizing Committee is up to. That committee, by the way, is composed of John Foster [ve4jnf] Roster Coordinator, Albert Sousa [va3as] Desktop Publisher, Don Gerrard [ve4dwg] Database Development, and yours truly [ve4baw] as General Coordinator. Jeff Dovyak [ve4mbq] is our liaison with Wpg. ARES. It's a good crew.

We published a registration form in both the last Newscaster and this one. Why a registration form you ask ... well the info we have on Marathon volunteers has aged; people move, contact info changes, and a few people [very few] move on to different interests. The registration form is designed to make our job easier .. we can be assured of getting hold of you and be assured that you are still interested. The info from the registration will be entered into our database and then John will establish the roster based on the info. He will contact you to confirm your task. I am going to ask Derek [nicely] if he can publish the roster with the Newscaster [say the May issue]. If you filled out a form at last years Marathon Briefing and the info is still accurate we will use that info. Many have sent in updated forms for this year and I thank you profusely! [it's all about making life easy for us].

Meanwhile, we will work with the Marathon authorities to ensure that we have all the Marathon info and Albert will update the briefing booklet that we pioneered last year. ["Every year and in every way we get better and better"].

Speaking of working with the Marathon Authorities, they are refreshing their approach to the Marathon's organization to meet the challenge of a growing number of runners and the growing supports necessary to serve the Marathon. They recognize the need to modernize. More news about that later.

If you are interested in being a part of the Marathon, please fill out the form and send a copy to ve4baw@rac.ca. John Foster [ve4jnf] will contact you as we get closer to Marathon day! Have a great month! I am looking forward to balmy breezes and sunny hot days.

Windows cheap of free software favorites.

By: Mark Johnson KCØSHM

Extracted from the Red River Radio Flyer Feb/07

Over the last few years I have tripped over a few neat programs that I thought were worth mentioning... quite ham radio, but most of us have a PC next to the transceiver so I thought it fitting to share.

Alcohol 120% - the name is odd, but it is a cool program. It creates a virtual CD-Rom drive on your PC that will mount an ISO image of a CD. Works great to keep the kids from scratching the heck out of their games. <http://www.alcohol-soft.com/>

Microsoft virtual PC 2004 – If you like to tinker with computers and tend to mess them up often... program lets you create virtual computers and run them from within windows. It was a \$300 program up until a month or so ago, now the Borg is giving it away. <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/virtualpc/downloads/sp.mspcx>

Testdisk-6.2 – if you have ever wrecked a hard drive and wished you could undelete something... need this. <http://www.cgsecurity.org/wiki/TestDisk> Incidentally, this program got me to quit crying once.

AVGFree antivirus – Free antivirus software. Better than nothing for that second hand laptop you use to program radios with... don' want to sink the \$50 FOR Norton. <Http://free.grisoft.com/doc/1>

Real VNC – Remote control a computer via a network or internet. Great when you need to troubleshoot a PC for your Mom when she lives 1,200 miles away. I recommend that you understand networking and security risks if you use this. <http://www.realvnc.com/>

Cute PDF – An Adobe printer, allows you to print to an Adobe file from any application. <Http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp>

PuTTY – A terminal emulator program. <http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/>

Angry IP scanner – Network scanning tool for when you can' remember the IP address of the computer next to you. <Http://www.angryziber.com/ipscan/>

WinISO – Create ISO image backups of your legally obtained software. This is a great companion to the alcohol 120% application listed previously. <http://www.winiso.com/>

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

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

News from the Net

Space Comm's

Astronomers from the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics in the US have unveiled a new initiative aimed at detecting extraterrestrial life and we in VK are playing more than a 'bit' part.

The project, which is due to kick off in early 2008, will use a new radio telescope to search other planets for radio transmissions similar to those that are generated on Earth.

At present, most attempts to find alien life look for radio signal that are deliberately beamed across space. But the new initiative by the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre is different in that it will look for the residue of radio transmissions sent from one place in a planet to another.

It will search the part of the electromagnetic spectrum that is used on Earth for radar, television and FM radio broadcasts. David Aguilar, director of communications at the Centre for Astrophysics, said: "We may pick up spurious signals from people that never meant for us to hear them and get an inkling that something's going on."

A new low-frequency telescope is currently being built here in the Australian outback to detect these weak signals. The outback was chosen because it is remote enough to avoid most radio interference. The researchers behind the project believe that they will be able to detect Earth-like radio signals within a distance of 30 light years. There are more than 1,000 stars within this area. --RSGB

THE ON-LINE HAM RADIO PODCLASS

Now, anyone, anywhere can get the knowledge to become a United States radio amateur. This, according to John Martin, KF8KK and Mike Dell, N7LMJ who are producing a new free podcast that will teach any listener everything that he or she need to know to get their Amateur Radio license. John and Mike are both Amateur Extra class licensees with nearly 50 years combined experience in the hobby. Their Ham Radio Podclass can be found at ww.hamradioclass.org It's truly the latest in go anywhere on-line learning today, be it aimed at the US Market. --arnewsline

NEW VIDEO TELLS NCDXF STORY

The Northern California DX Foundation has released a new promotional video explaining the many aspects of the organization and its work. Produced by James Brooks, 9VIYC, the 10 minute show highlights the many accomplishments of the Foundation. This includes its educational programs, its commitment to sponsorship of DXpeditions, its support for the World Radiosport Team Championship games and the joint NCDXF IARU International Beacon Network, DVD copies will be available in the coming weeks, but the show is available now

for viewing on-line under the "Videos" section of the groups website at www.ncdxf.org. It can be viewed or downloaded from the Goggle Video at

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1969114446660423090> -- WIA

NEW HAM-SATS GET OSCAR DESIGNATIONS

Two new ham-sats now have official OSCAR designations. AMSAT OSCAR coordinator Bill Tynan, W3XO, has renamed the RAFT One as NAV-OSCAR-60 or NO-60. Also, the ANDE satellite is now NAV-OSCAR-61 or NO-61. Midshipmen at the United States Naval Academy's Satellite Laboratory designed and built RAFT One and ANDE orbital communication packages under the watchful eye of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. -- WIA

AMSAT OSCAR 27 is back

After working on several problems with the A-F-S-K modem on board AO-27, the controllers were able to upload the flight n code. As a result, AO-27 is now running the E-O-S software and sending good back telemetry and the analog repeater has been turned back on. The Command Team asks that all users keep in mind that AO-27 is 13 years old and that it takes some work to keep it going. More information is on-line at www.ao27.org -- WIA

CQIR - Ireland Calling:

In 2007 the IRTS celebrates the 75th anniversary of its founding in 1932. As part of the jubilee celebrations the Society has organized an International Radio Contest, "CQIR - Ireland Calling". For this event, references to Ireland mean the island of Ireland and it's offshore islands - both EI and GI. CQIR is a once-off event with a difference - the difference being that we overseas Entrants with 75 or more QSOs have the opportunity to win a trip to Ireland! Full rules and county codes on www.irts.ie -- WIA

Software Defined Radio

SoftRock 40

Sounds like a new FM station, doesn't it? In actual fact, it is an incredibly cheap introduction to software-defined radio (try about 40 bucks), where most of the attributes of your receiver, like modes, bandwidth, AGC, etc. are defined by freeware that works in conjunction with your PC's sound card. The result is said to be a very credible receiver that can cover a chunk of two adjacent ham bands. Check it out:

<http://www.amqrp.org/kits/softrock40/version5.html> -- WIA

NEW CARIBBEAN RADIO DATABASE

Version 2.0 of the Caribbean Radio Database is now available on line fom Flavio Archangelo, PY2ZX. It is

being released following several years of monitoring by PY2ZX from his home in Brazil and correlating that information with other material published in hobby radio magazines. Its on line at

http://geocities.com/py2zx/caribe_2.0.xls
--WIA

IARU - 70 & 23 Cm band plans

The next International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Interim Conference will be held in Vienna, Austria from February 24th to the 25th. Among items being discussed are a new 70cm and 23 cm band plan for radio gateways and the need for minimum requirements for a valid digital QSO. WSJT developer Joe Taylor, K1JT, has compiled a document regarding this somewhat controversial proposal. More is on-line at <http://www.iaru.org> --WIA

Winnipeg ARES supports the Festival du Voyageur

Twenty-one (21) WPG ARES members & affiliates provided volunteer Amateur communications 3, 4 FEB during the Rivers West/Festival du Voyageur Sled Dog Races in Winnipeg. Conditions were pretty extreme & organizers cancelled the event half way thru on Sunday. The 2007 Rivers West / Festival du Voyageur Sled Dog Races took place Saturday and Sunday February 3-4 2007. The event was based at The Forks in Winnipeg and ran from the Forks, south on the Red River. Members mainly worked outdoors through the event and assist in radio communications by being placed at key locations along the course, or by shadowing organizers. The event runs in most any weather, and due to the variable weather that we in Manitoba endure, in past years we have dealt with anything from -4C to around -40C. This year's event endured temperatures mostly around -40C, and on the Sunday afternoon, the races were actually cancelled by the organizers due to hazardous wind chill values. A brief write-up and photos can be found at:

<http://www.winnipegares.ca/festivalDuVoyageur2007complete.htm>

--RAC

Daylight Savings Changes This Year

In most of Canada Daylight Saving Time used to begin at 2:00 a.m. local time on the first Sunday in April. On the last Sunday in October areas on Daylight Saving Time return to Standard Time at 2:00 a.m. During Daylight Saving Time turn your clocks ahead one hour.

NEW! In 2007 Daylight Saving Time begins on the second Sunday in March and ends on the first Sunday in November. This pattern will be followed by all provinces which observe

daylight saving time and each province has amended their legislation to reflect this change. Previously, Canada had observed Daylight Saving Time from the first Sunday in April until the last Sunday in October.

This change in Daylight Saving Time will keep Canada's Daylight Saving Time pattern consistent with the United States which enacted into law a broad energy bill that will extend Daylight Saving Time in the same manner.

Year	DST Begins at 2 a.m.	DST Ends at 2 a.m.
2005	April 3	October 30
2006	April 2	October 29
2007	March 11	November 4
2008	March 9	November 2
2009	March 8	November 1
2010	March 14	November 7

WARC Spring Flea Market By Dick, VE4HK

The days are finally getting a little longer. Spring is still a glimmer on the distant horizon. Soon enough, the snow will be gone. Now is the time when a good ham's thoughts turn to WARC Flea Market. The Flea Market will be held on Sunday, April 15, at Heritage Victoria Community Club, 950 Sturgeon Road.

Ruth VE4XYL has already sold several tables. If you have as much junk as I do, better book a table quickly. Tables are still the same popular price of \$5.00 for WARC members, and \$10.00 for non members and commercial vendors.

Admission: \$3.00 per person

Times: coffee, snacks and eyeball QSO's at 8:30 am

Vendor doors open at 9:00 am

Buyers doors open at 10:00 am

Door prize draws 11:30 am

Talk in will be on 147.390 MHz positive offset, VE4WPG repeater

Come early to enjoy camaraderie with you friends, then join the crowd in the main hallway. You are sure to find something valuable to take home.

If you have any questions or suggestions, contact me at 256-3143, ve4hk@rac.ca, Saturday mornings at the Golden Arches, or the next WARC meeting.

Minutes for February 12th, 2007

Submitted by Mark, VE4MAB

Geoff called the meeting to order at 1933 hours with 32 members present.

A motion to accept the January minutes was made by VE4VZ. Seconded by VE4MBQ with corrected date -- carried.

DX Report

Adam, VE4SN, reported having troubled contacting VE7RG and that VE7CT also reported hearing nothing from North America. He stated band conditions are improving saying 20 meters was wide open on this date with stations heard from Europe, Japan, Aruba, Moldavia and the Bahamas. Adam also commented that SSB is going to become more crowded due to the US deregulation's.

ARES Report

Jeff, VE4MBQ, reported nine WPGARES members did a repeater coverage test Sunday, January 28, 2007, on the Red River between The Forks and St. Vital Park. Thanks to participants and WPS River patrol Section, Yori Tsuji for the use of VE4TWO, WSCRC for hosting VE4TWO, Bert Andrews for letting Yori in at WSCRC and the Interlake ARC for the use of VE4ARC. Twenty-one WPGARES members and affiliates provided volunteer Amateur communications on February 3 and 4, 2007, for the Rivers West Sled Dog Races. Probably the coldest weather we have operated in! Twenty photos are posted on the ARES web site and Jeff will list the participants in the next Newscaster report. Thanks to: Yori Tsuji for the use of VE4TWO, WSCRC for hosting VE4TWO, Bert Andrews for letting Yori in at WSCRC and the Interlake ARC for the use of VE4ARC. WPGARES is still looking for volunteer operators for the Klondike Derby on March 3 and 4, 2007, from approximately 0830-1630 hours at Camp Amisk just off the South Perimeter Highway.

Marathon Report

Geoff reported there are 50 volunteers signed up for this years coming Manitoba Marathon event and pointed out John, VE4JNF will be working on scheduling the volunteers. He thanked Albert, VA4AS for all his work on the booklet further saying the Marathon promised there would be no last minute changes.

IRLP

Derek Hay spoke on the IRLP system. MRS is asking for our assistance in looking after the software portion of the system and asked for a volunteer with knowledge of Unix/Linux to take on the task of maintaining the system which can be accessed from the volunteer's home. Jeff,

VE4MBQ said he knew of someone he had in mind and would ask. Rick, VE4OV, said he would ask one of his staff members, who is also a Ham.

Newscaster

Derek asked for articles for the Newscaster

Vice-president

Geoff spoke on the executives efforts to fill the position of Vice-president that was vacated by George, VE4GOM, when he stepped down due to other commitments. Geoff asked for those interested to see him at the coffee break or send him an e-mail. Jeff, VE4MBQ, said he had someone in mind for the position of Vice President.

Field Day

Geoff asked Rolf, VE4VZ if he was still going to look after this year's field day. Rolf said he would if he got some assistance and if someone would take care of the booking the site. Geoff said that would be arranged and Rolf accepted to look after Field Day this year.

Vision for WARC

Geoff presented from the executive meeting the vision for WARC as a result of the SWOT from the January 2007 meeting.

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

Since most amateurs don't start at 9 years Geoff questioned if we were focusing on the right age group and that our goals are to increase public awareness, fund education, set membership goals, financial goals such as a clubhouse and to find the "WOW Factor", what will make WARC exciting.

Treasure's Report

Pat, VE4PLG, presented the present financial status of WARC

Bank Balance on February 12, 2007	\$ 5893.62.
\$ 500 remains in reserve for the WARC self insurance fund	

2008 Convention

Derek, VE4HAY, spoke on the 2008 RAC convention to be held in Winnipeg. No budget has been decided yet as he can't get pricing this fare in advance and advised the site has been booked. Derek said he is working on only having to pay for the conference and "breakout" rooms. Derek spoke on the costs for advertising and said the layout for printing materials would be minor as the advance

registrations will be posted in TCA and the event will be advertised on the nets and by e-mail.

Speaking of TCA Derek handed out 2 TCA magazines to non-RAC members.

Membership

Membership now stands at 123 with one renewal and welcoming new member Gray, VE6DOX.

Programs

Tonight's program is going to be NVIS by Rick Lord, VE4OV and the March 12, 2007 presentation will be by a representative of Nav Can on aviation communications.

Good and Welfare

Tom, VE4SE donated several magazines, TCA and CQ passing them on from VE4DL.

New Business

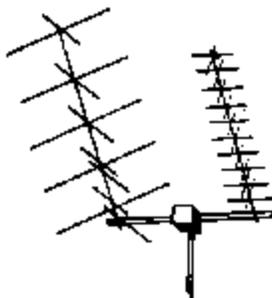
Dick, VE4HK, said MRS is looking for at technician to help with their repeater system. Persons interested are to contact him.

Dick spoke on the Flea Market saying it will be at the same location as always, the Heritage Victoria Community Centre and those with questions can see him at coffee.

Rolf, VE4VZ, asked if the club that since we have 2 meter radios would the club consider purchasing an HF radio for use at field day, specifically a 450 or older radio with an automatic tuner since we have relied on operators bringing their own radios. Derek commented he couldn't see the club laying out \$ 1500 for a 24 hour event.

Rolf made a notice of motion
that the club consider purchasing an HF radio for use at field day, specifically a 450 or older radio with an automatic tuner

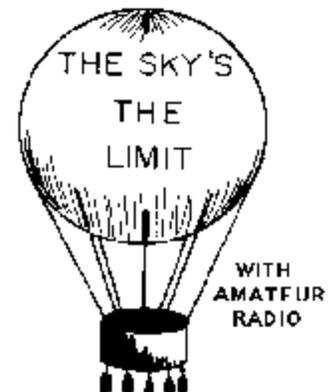
Wayne, VE4WR suggested to wait till the club could be notified. Jeff, VE4MBQ commented the membership would be notified since it would be in the minutes. Wayne then 2nd the motion. - motion tabled till next meeting - Meeting adjourned.



Education Committee Needs

The education committee has sent an email to the WARC executive and is looking for the following. While your executive is doing a lot of work already, we need the members to step forward to help the hobby & the club. Please contact anyone on the executive (front page of this newsletter) and let us know how you will help out !

- ☛ The current and all future radio classes would highly benefit from more “visible” amateur operator participation, willing and eager to teach and share their experience. We are looking for dedicated folks, willing to work with teenagers and to explain to them the fascination of a hobby that is based on communication that according to them doesn't make much sense since it could be much “easier” handled by email, MSN and the Internet. They are looking for intellectual challenges and not necessarily CW “war stories” from the “good old times”.
- ☛ We are looking for experienced radio operators that could oversee and help with the design, assembly, and testing of VHF and UHF equipment for the WinCube project (Advanced ticket).
- ☛ We need folks willing to demonstrate HF operation in the classes.
- ☛ We need amateur radio operators to help us chase and recover the balloons in May and July. We will pay for gas and an evening barbeque and provide the additional radio, TNC and laptop with mapping software.
- ☛ Most of all we hope to see some interest and active participation from our fellow hams. At this point we only have Gerry (VE4GTB) and I. Even Jeff our co-instructor (from Maples) who is helping in teaching the current class is without a ticket. If our student and teachers ever see any value in this hobby and not just a means of... of the cor... amateur r... to make r... appreciat... They, / (VE4WM... other yo... our future



WPGARES

By Jeff, VE4MBQ Emergency Coordinator

Our FEB General Meeting saw an examination of our 2m Beam Kit. Seems like it took longer to stow than to put together! Thanks to Tom VE4SE & Ruth VE4XYL for getting it to the meeting and thanks to Dick VE4HK, Kent VE4KEH and Yori VE4ACX for packing it up.

Nine WPGARES members and affiliates did a Test Net exercise SUN 28 JAN on the Red River from The Forks to St Vital Park, examining communications for Sled Dog Races. Thanks to volunteer operators VE4s: GWB, BOY, WTF, SBS, LIT, HK, GWN, SE, MBQ

Twenty-three WPGARES members and affiliates provided volunteer Amateur communications 3, 4 FEB for the Rivers West/Festival du Voyageur Sled Dog Races. That was the coldest weather that we have operated in. ARES volunteers arrived on time, properly dressed and fully equipped (as expected). Thanks to our volunteer operators VE4s: MMG, HAZ, KAZ, XM, GWB, SE, XYL, GMT, ACX, DWG, RS, RAI, BOY, EIH, CLK, MAB, WTF, SBS, LIT, HK, GWN, TRO, MBQ

Thanks also to our supporters for both the Test Net & Sled Dog Races: Yori VE4ACX for use of VE4TWO Portable Repeater, Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club for hosting VE4TWO, Bert VE4AND for attending WSCRC to allow Yori in several times, Interlake ARC for use of VE4ARC, Winnipeg Police Service River Patrol Section – Kerry Walker, Ray Duma & Mike Brako (we didn't want to put people on the ice before knowing that our locations were safe). There are a number of photos on our web-site: <http://www.winnipegares.ca/festivalDuVoyageur2007complete.htm>

Our next General Meeting is TUE 20 MAR 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library. 765 Keewatin Street, we will be viewing a video about the 1998 Ice Storms in Quebec.

QTX~

By Derek, VE4HAY



Did you know

Section 44 of the *Radiocommunication Regulations* A person who operates radio apparatus in the amateur radio service must hold an Amateur Radio Operator Certificate with Advanced Qualification in order to "SOR/2000-78 (a) install or operate a transmitter or a radio frequency amplifier that is not commercially manufactured, for use in the amateur radio service; This means that in order

to operate a modified radio in the amateur frequency band, you must have advanced qualifications. This being said, a commercially available radio that is not intended for use in the amateur radio service can only be operated by an amateur with advanced qualifications as well. It would be viewed as a modified receiver even though it was purchased like that from the manufacturer. An amateur radio operator with basic qualifications is limited to using a commercially available radio intended for use in the amateur radio band.

☞ WARC now has a vision - see the front page of the newsletter.

☞ The Venue for the 2008 Winnipeg Hamfest has been chosen - The Hilton Suites Hotel. Details on programs are now being worked out. We are still looking for someone to take over this chair position. A lot of the work has now been done, so maybe it's time for you to step to the plate and help out....

☞ You can still get a VE4 license plate for your car. Please see the attached form

**Semi- Annual
WARC
Flea Market**

**April 15, 2007
Heritage Victoria
Community Club
950 Sturgeon Rd.**

Vendor doors open at 9:00 am
Buyers doors open at 10:00 am
Door prize draws 11:30 am

\$3.00 Entrance fee
Tables are \$5.00 for WARC members,
\$10.00 for non-WARC members and commercial

Dick ,VE4HK is the Coordinator. If you would like to volunteer for various jobs please contact him.

Ruth VE4XYL and Tom VE4SE will be selling tables, please contact them at 837-6915
or at 605 Bruce Ave