The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
http://www.mts.net/~warc

HomeBrew Night

Is your Project Ready

Date: **April 14, 2008**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: **Dakota Collegiate**
            661 Dakota Street

Other Important Dates:

WARC: May 12   An Introduction to Digital HF Radio, PSK,FSK, and Beyond .. or What a sound card is really for
        June 9   Marathon Field Day, Hamfest briefing

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

ARES: April 8   WRHA briefing
        April 22   Canadian Forces - Signals

Other: April 2   Marathon committee meeting 185 Smith
        April 21   Hamfest meeting VE4WSC clubroom
        Jul 11-13 45th International Hamfest
        Aug 8-10   Winnipeg Hamfest & RAC AGM

WARC: Executive for 2006- 2007

Past President	John Pura	ve4qv at rac.ca
President	Geoff Bawden	ve4baw at rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Albert Sousa	albert.sousa at shaw.ca
Secretary	Ruthie Maman	rmaman at mts.net
Treasurer	Sue Collings	collings at mts.net
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab at rac.ca
Program	Derek Hay	ve4hay at rac.ca
Director at Large	Vacant	

And now for a word from the President
By Geoff, VE4BAW

I am sure that we are all eagerly waiting for spring to arrive … my father wanders round saying that we all have cabin fever and I think that he is right. Ah, Spring and a meaningful start to Solar Cycle 24 … is that too much to ask?

While we are asking for things I have a list:
Home Brew projects are needed for Home Brew night …

- We need persons willing to stand up and serve on the Club Executive [we need at least a new program director and secretary! .. both are retiring … I should check to see if we have a defined benefits package or it's equity dependent],
- We need someone to help John Pura [Past President] in forming a nomination committee to recruit a whole new executive,
- We need speakers to make presentations at the August HamFest, don't be shy, you know more than you think and we want to know what you know! [I am going to do a presentation on HF digital radio if you can believe it…]
- We need volunteers for the Marathon [check out the article in this issue for more details]..
- We need commercial vendors for the Ham Fest [don't be shy – come and show your wares to the cash rich amateur radio community].

I am sure that there is more that I could ask for [world peace?, Pam Anderson to settle down?] but I want to be realistic.

Ah Spring … my best antennas are at my cabin [higher wires anyway] and I am keen to get there and try my luck with Solar Cycle 24. I suspect that my antennas at home are really NVIS [NEVIS?] you know the ones that Rick Lord

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	19:00 local
3.937	ND	North Dakota Net	00:30
3.735	SK	SK Public Service Net	01:00
3.750	NWON	NW Ontario Net	01:15
3.700	AB	AB Public Service Net	01:30
3.660	MB, SK, AB	Prairie Traffic Net	01:30
3.743	MB	Mb Morning WX Net	14:30
145.450	WW	MB IRLP Net	02:00 Wednesday
147.390 +	MB	Seniors Morning Net	09:00 Local
147.390 +	MB	MRS Net Thursday	21:00 Local
147.390 +	MB	MRS Net Sunday	21:00 Local

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

[ve4ov] is always on about .. cloud warmers [is that Near Vertical Incident System?]. I am looking forward to trying PSK31 and RTTY with my new RigBlaster, FT-897D with antennas which actually have some altitude. SSB really died for me about last November, which is why I went into digital; now I can reach Spain again. For a while I thought my radio was broken!

Anyway … look forward to seeing you at the Home Brew meeting!

Minutes for March 10, 2008
Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM by Geoff VE4BAW. Intros followed. 40 members and 2 guests attended.

Motion to accept minutes of Feb. meeting as published in Newscaster by Glen VE4GWN, 2nd by David VE4DAR. **Carried**. Business arising from minutes: - Doug VE4DDS was given the prize he won at Feb. meeting.

Correspondence
Letter received from city re city-antenna citing committee. Derek VE4HAY explained the gist of the letter, stressing the importance of having a rep from Amateur Radio sitting on this committee. Letter is tabled. Wayne VE4WR and Derek VE4HAY and Rolf VE4VZ will be representing us on the committee. Thank you Wayne and Rolf for volunteering! First meeting – March 26th.

Treasurer
 * A special events account was opened to handle the moneys of the Ham Fest. This account will later be used for WARC's self insurance account.
   * Income for Feb. = $140.50
    Expenses = $124.18
    Bank Balance = $6,915.21
    Balance event account = $120.00

Marathon
Meeting will be held April 2nd at 7:00PM, 185 Smith St. Albert VA4AS will be doing desk top publishing.

DX
 * New cycle 24 – sporadic.
 * DXpedition to Clipperton Island, TX5C. On 20m . It is south of Baha Penninsula, west of north top of South America. All modes, all bands.

Hamfest
 * Still in need of volunteers! (so what's new??!!)

* Alan VE4YZ coordinating communications.
* Effort to publish MB Blue Book as part of Hamfest. Please email updates to bluebook@ve4sss.ca
* Prizes: - Dick VE4HK in charge of getting the "Big Ones". David VE4DAR in charge of getting the smaller ones. The goal is to have at least one prize for every participant.
* Need volunteers to run the show. Email Derek closer to date to volunteer. Need people on committees, in particular, Program committee.
* Derek handed out back editions of RAC mag to those who aren't RAC members.

Field Day

* Suggestion to change venue, from tornado alley, Birds Hill Park to Fort Whyte. Goal is to attract politicians and to do some PR. Fort Whyte is in the city. John VE4QV to help with the venue. Show of hands if members agree. Affirmative.
* Coordinators needed. Will be approaching VE4ISP. Members wishing to volunteer please contact anyone on executive.

ARES

Report from VE4DJ: - no flood forecast.
* ARES has done well in MB. Planning to revamp ARES on national basis.
*WPGARES – meetings will be held 4th Tuesday of the month.
* UHF repeater for ARES

New Business

* June elections for officers approaching. Secretary and Program Director are stepping down. Geoff VE4BAW reminded members the importance of these 2 positions and requested members to begin thinking about it. David VE4DAR suggested shadowing/trying on the position.

Good & Welfare

* MRS annual meeting on April 10th, 7:00PM at WSC.
* David VE4DAR commented on Randy Hall's appearance at senate sub-committee re handling of municipal planning emergency services. Excellent presentation!

Motion to adjourn by Glen VE4GWN, seconded by Rolf VE4VZ. **Carried**

50/50 draw of $16.00 won by Roger VE4RLF, donated back to the club. Thank you Roger.
Membership draw: - Tom VE4HQ.
Presentation by Bill VE4DL. Bill donated 5 prizes won by: VE4's ACX, AJO, WSP, MAB and Bud. Thank you Bill!

WPGARES
By Jeff, VE4MBQ -Emergency Coordinator

Fourteen ARES members and affiliates provided volunteer Amateur Communications for Scouts Canada Klondike Derby 1, 2 MAR at Camp Amisk. Thanks to VE4s: ACX, EH, TRO, RLF, GWN, CIB, WTF, HK, KAZ, DGS, AJO, SE, MAQ and MBQ. Special Thanks to Yori VE4ACX for use of the VE4TWO Portable Repeater and to Bob VE4MAQ for Coordinating this event.

Don Gerrard VE4DWG, gave us a very informative presentation on the Winnipeg Sports Car Club Ice Race Series at our MAR General Meeting. There are several well-known Amateurs involved as volunteers.

We are having a special WRHA briefing TUE 08 APR 1900h at Deer Lodge Centre, 2109 Portage Avenue with regard to WRHA Exercise Able Receiver. You must check in with ARES ID at the Security Desk prior to 1900h, to be directed to the appropriate meeting room. As previously reported this exercise will be similar to last year's City of Winnipeg Exercise West Wind but from the point of view of a health authority. The new date for the exercise is THURS 12 JUN.

Our next General Meeting will be TUE 22 APR 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin St. SGT. Tony Skinner from the Canadian Forces will be giving us a presentation generally on the Canadian Forces and specifically on the Signal Operator Trade.

Manitoba Marathon
By Geoff, VE4BAW

Marathon .. June 15th, It's the 30th Year!

This year will be the 30 annual running of the Manitoba Marathon and the 30th year in which radio amateurs have provided radio communication.

Your Marathon Committee is on the job organizing the amateur's participation.

Ed Coull, ve4eh will be Net Control Supervisor for Medical once again this year and will also serve on the Manitoba Marathon Medical Committee. Rob Stegmaier, ve4rst, an experienced Marathon organizer will also serve on the Marathon Medical Committee. John Foster, ve4jnf, will provide logistics, Derek Hay, ve4hay, will again serve as Net Control Supervisor for the Hospitality Net. Albert Sousa, va4as, will continue in his role as Desktop Publisher. Don Gerrard, ve4dwg, has been working hard on the amateur data base management. Jeff Dovyk, ve4mbq, will be working on the roster and I will be general coordinator.

We are going to try for an automated email contact this year. Thanks to Don for working on that technology. Since not everyone has email we will also be providing copies of the data base information [current contact information as well as last years roster] at WARC and ARES meetings. We will be looking for confirmation that our contact information is accurate and confirmation of your desired position on the run.

At the next WARC meeting [which is Home Brew Night] I will have the roster from last year and contact information [how to reach you]… please take the time to check out and initial your contact information and desired position. I have already received five confirmations of attendance, contact information and desired position [and I haven't even asked yet!].

Book June 15th 2008 in your calendar for the run; book June 10th at 7:00 for the usual Marathon Briefing.

Enclosed in this months Newscaster is the Marathon Registration Form … fill out and email back to me at ve4baw@rac.ca as confirmation of both your contact information and desired position on the run or better yet come to the WARC Home Brew Night and see me in person

Contest Calendar

April

Contest	Mode	Time	Date
10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/Digi	1700Z	Apr 3
SARL 80 m QSO Party	SSB	1700Z	Apr 3
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL	CW	1400Z	Apr 4
LZOCC 40 m Sprint	CW	0000Z	Apr 5
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	CW	1200Z	Apr 5
SP DX		1500Z	Apr 5
EA RTTY		1600Z	Apr 5
QCWA Spring QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 5
Missouri QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 5
	And	1800Z	
Yuri Gagarin International DX		2100Z	Apr 5
UBA Spring	SSB	0600Z	Apr 6
RSGB RoPoCo 1		0700Z	Apr 6
RSGB 80m Club Championship	CW	1900Z	Apr 7
ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	0100Z	Apr 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	CW	0030Z	Apr 9
YLRL DX-YL to NA-YL	SSB	1400Z	Apr 11
Montana QSO Party	CW/Phone/Digi	2300Z	Apr 11
JIDX	CW	0700Z	Apr 12
DIG QSO Party (10 -20 m)	CW	1200Z	Apr 12
PSK 31 Flavors	PSK	1200Z	Apr 12
Radio Maritime Day		1200Z	Apr 12
EU Spring Sprint	CW	1600Z	Apr 12
Georgia QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 12
	And	1400Z	Apr 13
Yuri Gagarin International DX	CW	2100Z	Apr 12
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon		0000Z	Apr 13
UBA Spring	SSB	0600Z	Apr 13
DIG QSO Party (80 m)	CW	0700Z	Apr 13
International Vintage 1	AM/CW/SSB	0800Z	Apr 13
DIG QSO Party (40 m)	CW	0900Z	Apr 13
SSA Månadstest nr 4	SSB	1400Z	Apr 13
SSA Månadstest nr 4	CW	1515Z	Apr 13
International Vintage 2	AM/CW/SSB	1700Z	Apr 13
MOON	CW/Digi/SSB	1800Z	Apr 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship	SSB	1900Z	Apr 16
Holyland DX		0000Z	Apr 19
TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix		0000Z	Apr 19
ES Open HF Championship		0500Z	Apr 19
	And	0600Z	Apr 19
	And	0700Z	Apr 19
	And	0800Z	Apr 19
Kids Roundup	Phone	1400Z	Apr 14
Feld Hell Sprint	Hell	1500Z	Apr 19
EU Spring Sprint	SSB	1600Z	Apr 19
Michigan QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 19
Motorola QSO Party	CW/SSB	1700Z	Apr 19
EA-QRP 20-10m	CW	1700Z	Apr 19

Amateur Radio ⚡ A Community Resource

EA-QRP 80m	CW	2000Z	Apr 19
EA-QRP 40m	CW	0700Z	Apr 20
EA-QRP 20-10m	CW	1100Z	Apr 20
Ontario QSO Party		1800Z	Apr 19
And		1200Z	Apr 20
YU DX		2100Z	Apr 19
And		0900Z	Apr 20
Run for the Bacon QRP		0100Z	Apr 21
SKCC Sprint		0000Z	Apr 23
RSGB 80m Club Championship	Data	1900Z	Apr 24
SP DX	RTTY	1200Z	Apr 26
Helvetia		1300Z	Apr 26
QRP to the Field		1500Z	Apr 26
Florida QSO Party		1600Z	Apr 26
And		1200Z	Apr 27
Nebraska QSO Party	CW/Phone/Digi	1700Z	Apr 16
EUCW/FISTS QRS Party	CW	0001Z	Apr 28

May

AGCW QRP/QRP Party	CW	1300Z	May 1
10 meter NAC	CW/SSB/FM/Digi	1700Z	May 1
MARAC CW QSO Party	CW	0000Z	May 3
10-10 Int. Spring QSO Party	CW/Digi	0001Z	May 3
7QP 7th Call Area QSO Party	CW/SSB	1300Z	May 3
US IPARC Annual	CW	1400Z	May 3
Day of the Portuguese Navy	CW/SSB	1500Z	May 3
Day of the Portuguese Navy	PSK31	1500Z	May 3
Indiana QSO Party	CW/Phone	1600Z	May 3
ARI Int. DX	CW/SSB/RTTY	2000Z	May 3
New England QSO Party (1)	All	1959Z	May 3
New England QSO Party (2)	All	1300Z	May 4
US IPARC Annual	SSB	1400Z	May 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	CW	0100Z	May 6
Nevada Mustang	CW/SSB/RTTY	0001Z	May 10
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party	CW	1000Z	May 10
A. Volta RTTY DX	RTTY	1200Z	May 10
CQ-M Int. DX	CW/SSB	1200Z	May 10
SL	CW	1200Z	May 10
SL	SSB	1200Z	May 10
Mid-Atlantic QSO Party	CW/Digi/Phone	1600Z	May 10
FISTS Spring Sprint	CW	1700Z	May 10
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	CW	0000Z	May 11
EUCW Fraternizing CW QSO Party	CW	1800Z	May 11
MARAC SSB QSO Party	SSB	0000Z	May 17
EU PSK DX	PSK31	1200Z	May 17
H. M. The King of Spain	CW	1700Z	May 17
Manchester Mineira AA CW	CW	1500Z	May 17
Feld-Hell Club Sprint	Feld-Hell	1500Z	May 17
Baltic	CW/SSB	2100Z	May 17
SSA Portabeltest Våromg.	CW/SSB	0700Z	May 18
SSA Månadstest nr 5	CW	1400Z	May 18
SSA Månadstest nr 5	SSB	1515Z	May 18
Run For The Bacon QRP	CW	0100Z	May 19
MOON	CW/Digi/SSB	1800Z	May 21

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	CW	0030Z	May 22
CQ WW WPX	CW	0000Z	May 24
ARCI Hoot Owl Sprint	CW	0000L	May 25
MI-QRP Club Mem. Day	CW	2300Z	Nay 26
SKCC Sprint	CW	0000Z	May 28
Digital Pentathlon (1)	PSK	1800Z	May 30
UBA-OSA WLC-contest	SSB	0600Z	May 31

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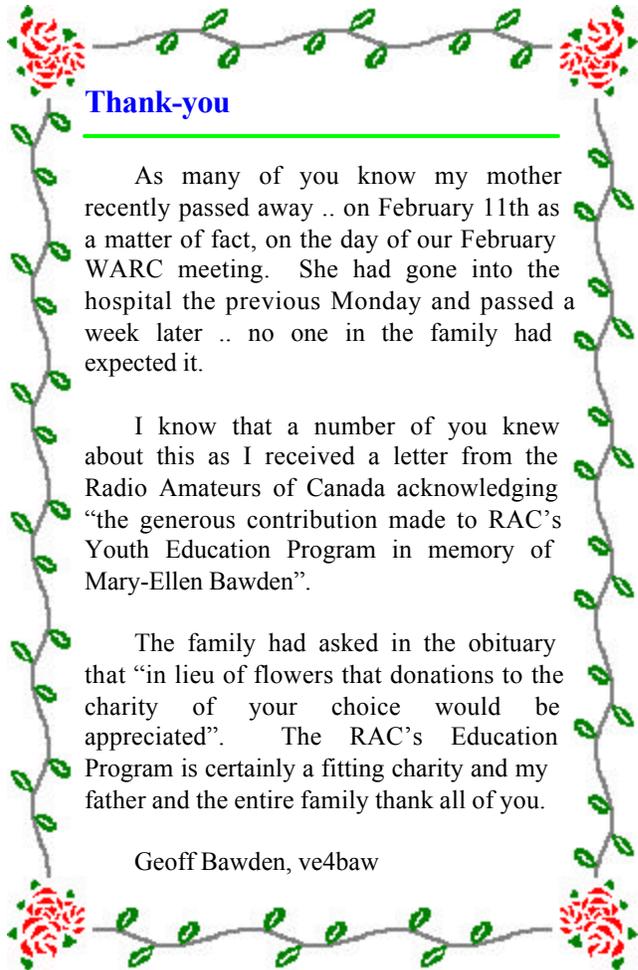
Thank-you

As many of you know my mother recently passed away .. on February 11th as a matter of fact, on the day of our February WARC meeting. She had gone into the hospital the previous Monday and passed a week later .. no one in the family had expected it.

I know that a number of you knew about this as I received a letter from the Radio Amateurs of Canada acknowledging "the generous contribution made to RAC's Youth Education Program in memory of Mary-Ellen Bawden".

The family had asked in the obituary that "in lieu of flowers that donations to the charity of your choice would be appreciated". The RAC's Education Program is certainly a fitting charity and my father and the entire family thank all of you.

Geoff Bawden, ve4baw

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*

Solar Storm
Science@NASA

March 10, 2006: It's official: Solar minimum has arrived. Sunspots have all but vanished. Solar flares are nonexistent. The sun is utterly quiet. Like the quiet before a storm

This week researchers announced that a storm is coming--the most intense solar maximum in fifty years. The prediction comes from a team led by Mausumi Dikpati of the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR). "The next sunspot cycle will be 30% to 50% stronger than the previous one," she says. If correct, the years ahead could produce a burst of solar activity second only to the historic Solar Max of 1958

That was a solar maximum. The Space Age was just beginning: Sputnik was launched in Oct. 1957 and Explorer 1 (the first US satellite) in Jan. 1958. In 1958 you couldn't tell that a solar storm was underway by looking at the bars on your cell phone; cell phones didn't exist. Even so, people knew something big was happening when Northern Lights were sighted three times in Mexico. A similar maximum now would be noticed by its effect on cell phones, GPS, weather satellites and many other modern technologies

Dikpati's prediction is unprecedented. In nearly-two centuries since the 11-year sunspot cycle was discovered, scientists have struggled to predict the size of future maxima—and failed. Solar maxima can be intense, as in 1958, or barely detectable, as in 1805, obeying no obvious pattern.

The key to the mystery, Dikpati realized years ago, is a conveyor belt on the sun.

We have something similar here on Earth—the Great Ocean Conveyor Belt, popularized in the sci-fi movie The Day After Tomorrow. It is a network of currents that carry water and heat from ocean to ocean--see the diagram below. In the movie, the Conveyor Belt stopped and threw the world's weather into chaos.

The sun's conveyor belt is a current, not of water, but of electrically-conducting gas. It flows in a loop from the sun's equator to the poles and back again. Just as the Great Ocean Conveyor Belt controls weather on Earth, this solar conveyor belt controls weather on the sun. Specifically, it controls the sunspot cycle.

Solar physicist David Hathaway of the National Space Science & Technology Center (NSSTC) explains: "First, remember what sunspots are--tangled knots of magnetism generated by the sun's inner dynamo. A typical sunspot exists for just a few weeks. Then it decays, leaving behind a 'corpse' of weak magnetic fields."

Enter the conveyor belt.

"The top of the conveyor belt skims the surface of the sun, sweeping up the magnetic fields of old, dead sunspots. The 'corpses' are dragged down at the poles to a depth of 200,000 km where the sun's magnetic dynamo can amplify them. Once the corpses (magnetic knots) are reincarnated (amplified), they become buoyant and float back to the surface." Presto—new sunspots!

All this happens with massive slowness. "It takes about 40 years for the belt to complete one loop," says Hathaway. The speed varies "anywhere from a 50-year pace (slow) to a 30-year pace (fast)."

When the belt is turning "fast," it means that lots of magnetic fields are being swept up, and that a future sunspot cycle is going to be intense. This is a basis for forecasting: "The belt was turning fast in 1986-1996," says Hathaway.
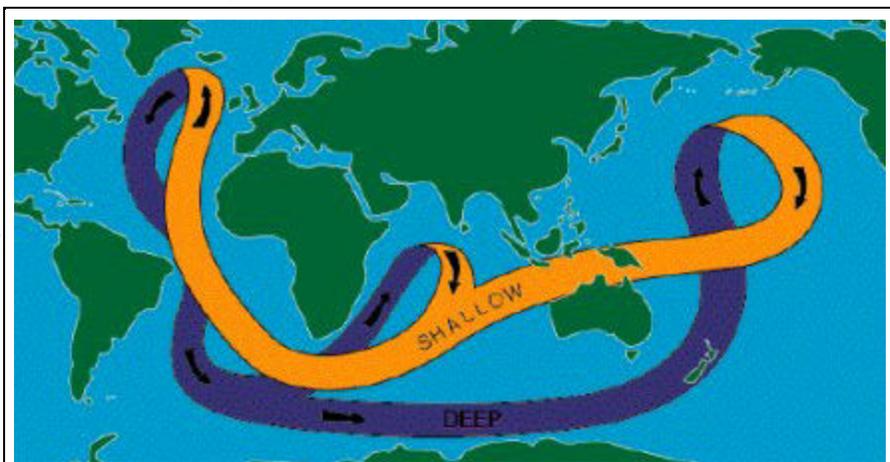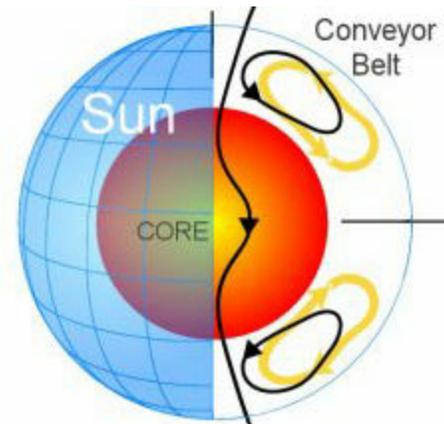
"Old magnetic fields swept up then should re-appear as big sunspots in 2010-2011."

Like most experts in the field, Hathaway has confidence in the conveyor belt model and agrees with Dikpati that the next solar maximum should be a doozy. But he disagrees with one point. Dikpati's forecast puts Solar Max at 2012. Hathaway believes it will arrive sooner, in 2010 or 2011.

"History shows that big sunspot cycles 'ramp up' faster than small ones," he says. "I expect to see the first sunspots of the next cycle appear in late 2006 or 2007—and Solar Max to be underway by 2010 or 2011."

Http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/10mar_stormw arning.htm

Computer Musings
By Doug, VE4TG

Well it seems that the era of the sub-notebook computer is upon us. A number of new products in this category have recently been announced. If you're considering getting yourself a new PC you might want think about buying a sub-laptop from ASUS. Their new offering is dubbed the ASUS Eee PC (pronounced eee as in the letter e) – see photo. The moniker Eee is said to be derived from Easy to learn, Easy to work, Easy to play. The Eee is one of the hottest selling computers on the market right now for a number of reasons including size, price and capability. It is available in several different colours and categories based on memory capacity and functionality. The cheapest version costs $299 and comes with 512MB Ram and a 2 GB Solid State Drive (SSD). The more expensive versions at $399 and $499 have more memory and up to an 8GB SSD. They come ready to go out of the box with Xandros Linux as the operating system. Other features include 3 USB ports, a 7 inch screen with 800 x 480 resolution, VGA out port allowing connection of an external monitor, an Ethernet port, onboard wireless, plus a microphone and speaker outlet. The installed software is configured in a Windows like environment with most common used applications available through a single mouse click. Word processing and an Excel type spreadsheet are available via OpenOffice.org which is a full-featured office productivity suite that provides a near drop-in replacement for Microsoft Office programs. These computers weigh in at less than a kilo and seem ideal for travel and student applications. Some may find the Linux software a bit daunting at first and although no knowledge of Linux is required to get maximum use, it would help if you want to do any customization down the road. Speaking of customization a lot of users are modifying their PCs by adding other operating systems and hardware upgrades. One interesting hack is covered here http://clumpc.com/?cat=17 . Rumour has it that future versions of the Eee will be upgraded in memory and come

preloaded with Windows XP. You can find a detailed review at http://eeepc.asus.com/global/product.htm

The Via Nanobook is another miniature size sub-notebook PC. The big difference between this computer and the ASUS Eee is the price which starts at $600 for the Nanobook and can be attributed to the inclusion of the Windows XP OS plus the 30GB hard drive. The screen size on this unit is also 7 inches with an 800 x 480 display. It has a somewhat quirky touchpad located at the top right of the keyboard just below the screen; although this may not be too bad given the small physical size of the unit. This is a full featured computer which will run the full gamut of Windows software and should be useful for portable computing away from the office, for student applications and non-memory intensive games plus web surfing. You can get more detailed information at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NanoBook .

If you want a really small computer you should take a look at the fit-PC. It is the size of paperback, has a 40 GB HD, no monitor or keyboard, two Ethernet ports, 2 USB ports, 256MB RAM and even has an RS232 or serial port allowing easy connection to ham radio gear. It comes preloaded with Windows XP or Ubuntu Linux at $299 but I suspect this price is for the Linux version. It's so small it will fit into a standard 5 inch drive slot on a normal desktop case allowing you to have a two-in-one computer. You can learn more about it at http://www.fit-pc.com/new/index.ph .

Speaking of Linux the latest Ubuntu 7.10 distribution appears to be on track to becoming the most popular Linux version ever issued. It is supported by the firm Canonical Ltd, a private company founded and funded by South African entrepreneur Mark Shuttleworth for the promotion of free software projects. A new upgradeable version is issued every 6 months; it is feature rich and easy to learn. You can download it at http://www.ubuntu.com or request a CD and they will mail you a copy free of charge; click on the Get Ubuntu link. They even offer a free training course that provides a beginner level introduction to the software. You can download the course in PDF format by going to https://wiki.ubuntu.com/Trainin and scrolling down to point 4 and then clicking on the link. Another recommended aid for beginners in Ubuntu is the book by Rickford Grant entitled Ubuntu Linux for Non-Geeks 2nd Edition available online at Amazon.com for around $27. It even comes with a free CD containing Ubuntu, has detailed information on installation and setup plus installation process for lots of software and an introduction to command line operations. I should mention that Ubuntu comes with a lot of neat software for Ham Radio applications including logging programs, radio control and a host of others. Well that's all for now, Happy Computing.

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

Hamfest

August 8 – 10, 2008

Hilton Suites – Winnipeg Airport
1800 Wellington Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3H 1B2
voice: 204-783-1700
tollfree: 1-800-HILTONS
fax: 204-786-6588

www.winnipegairportsuites.hilton.com

All bookings must mention Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club in order to get the negotiated group rate.

Hamfest Web site:
http://www.mts.net/~warc/hamfest

In conjunction with the

Radio Amateurs Of Canada

Annual General Meeting & Forum

Program Chair
By Derek, VE4HAY

Last month Bill VE4DL came out to inform us on a variety of electronic tips and things he has learns fom his many days as an engineer for Northern Telecom. I was totally amazed to the extent of work they did to diagnose a problem - such as when a shipment of parts went bad from just shipping them across the ocean, and the rolling waves causing the problem. Really how do you diagnose that ?? I'm sure that everyone came out of that presentation with at least one new piece of advice.

This month we will be having our annual Home Brew night. Have you noticed how each year the number of projects displayed get less and less. Well with the cold weather this year, you should have no excuse to bring something out. You have been hibernating long and hard. You have had plenty of time to build, test and modify at least one project so far. So please bring what ever you have out for all of us to see and learn from.

Next month we will have a presentation on Digital HF radio. This is an amazing part of our hobby, that can squeeze a signal into a very narrow band width, as well as pick out a signal, where you can not even hear it, with your ear. And we thought CW could always get through. Come out and really learn about weak signals.

News from the Net

WORKED GRIDS by VE2ZAZ

Bertrand Zauhar, VE2ZAZ, has released his new freeware WorkedGrids, ham log grid square mapping software. The program runs only under Windows. It displays a map showing the amateur radio grid squares contacted and logged in using third-party logging program. Up to four bands can be displayed concurrently on the map. The program reads plain-text ASCII log files generated by most logging programs. WorkedGrids is directed towards the VHF and above operators who collect grid squares for contesting or award purposes. More is on-line at www.ve2zaz.net -- *WIA*

QTX~
By Derek, VE4HAY

Did you know:
good sites to learn info on storm watching & communications. Much the same info we get for Canwarn training.

Http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/canwarn/protocol-e.html

Http://spotterguides.us/

Manitoba Marathon
Volunteer Information 2008
Marathon Day: June 15th /2008

CALL-SIGN: _____

Surname: _____   First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____   Postal Code: _____

Home Phone #: _____   Cell Phone #: _____

Email: _____   Work Phone #: _____

Birthday (dd/mm/yyyy) : _____   Race Weekend #: _____
　　　　　　　　(optional)

Volunteer Shirt Size (circle one)   S   M   L   XL   XXL   XXXL

Can the information above be provided to the Marathon Organizing Committee?   Y   N

Have you Volunteered for the Marathon in previous years (circle one)   **Y   N**

Which years? _____   What did you do? _____

What did you do in 2007? _____

What do you want to do in 2008? _____

Special Considerations: _____

Please Email to ve4baw@rac.ca
hand deliver to Geoff Bawden ve4baw at WARC Meetings or to Jeff Dovyak, ve4mbq at ARES meetings.
Schedule   June 10th, 2008 Marathon Briefing 7:00 pm [location TBA]
　　　　　　　　June 15th, 2008 Marathon Day 6:00 am

March 23, 2008