



The **NEWSCASTER**

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

October 2011

IRLP # 1066 on VE4WRS 145.450-

VE4BB

Annual General Meeting And More

Date: Monday, October 17, 2011 (3rd Mon)
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Dakota Collegiate - (In the theatre)
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)
Remember to renew your membership!

Other Important Dates...

Newscaster: Deadline November 2, 2011

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates
November 14, 2011
December 12, 2011
January 9, 2012

WSC: 2nd Thursday of month
Breakfast—Garden City Inn

ARES: Tuesday, October 18, 2011
Manitoba EMO Interlake Regional
Emergency Manager—Shelley Napier

Other: October 16, 2011
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Fall Flea Market
Heritage Victoria Community Club

WARC Executive for 2011-2012...

President	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Vice-Pres.	Gordon Jewsbury	ve4ok@shaw.ca
Treasurer	Bob Jacobs	rcjacobs@hotmail.ca
Secretary	Jim Sutton	Jim.Sutton@AAAalarms.ca
Membership	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Programs		
Past President	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca

The President's CQ - Garth, VE4GWB

Trick or Treat. October is here and coming in with some nice warmth, went for a swim in my brothers pool in the first weekend of October which was nice. So get those last minute antenna or tower projects up before is too late. Missing something to get it finished? Be sure to come down to the fall Flea Market to find it to complete the project.

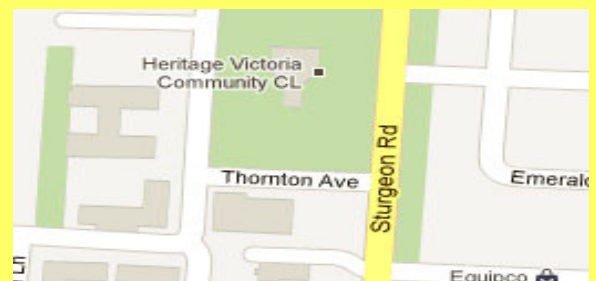
Thank you to everyone that renewed their membership at the September meeting and through the mail at VE4WSC. If you have not done so a membership form can be downloaded from our web site, or you can catch me at the WARC table just inside the gathering area at the Flea Market.

Don't forget to visit the ARES silent auction table for a chance to win some nice prizes and MRS will also be their collecting dues for the 2012 season. It is very important to support the local clubs as fundraising and memberships are the main form of income.

With Thanksgiving on the 2nd Monday of the month our regular meeting will be Oct 17 the following the Flea Market. Hope to see you all their sharing stories of all the stuff you trucked home from the day before.

Hope you all have a great Thanksgiving.

WARC Flea Market at Heritage Victoria CC Sunday, October 16, 2011



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

***WARC Meeting Minutes,
September 12, 2011
Taken by Jim, VE4SIG***

Called to order 1934 hrs by VE4GWB

Introductions -

we had one visitor in our midst - Mike who is interested in getting his license

VE4GWB introduced himself as the President and thanked VE4MAB for nine years of service on the executive

He then introduced the new executive

VE4OK	Vice President
VE4RCJ	Continues on as Treasurer
VE4SIG	Continues on as Secretary

We have no Program Director and are sharing the duty.

As you can see we are working shorthanded and would appreciate the assistance of anyone who wants to help.

Minutes of the previous meeting were introduced for approval - moved by VE4HK and seconded by VE4SE

Correspondence -

VE4MAB reported the Millennium library gave us 22 (now 30?) boxes of old QST and CQ magazines dating back to 1939. Some are going to MARM to replace their missing issues and some will be distributed to students on the new course and the others? EBay was suggested.

Secretary Report -

NTS

ARES -

VE4MBQ reviewed the report published in the September issue of the newscaster

RAC -

VE4HAY reported on the successful AGM in St John's NL and that RAC had successfully negotiated access to the 60M band which will consist of a number of channelized frequencies some of which will correspond with the US Band Plan and some will be Can only. VE4VZ asked if the Russians were showing up on 60M as they

seem to be everywhere else.

Also reported that MRS has changed the Autopatch to a VoIP provider - you will now have dial 1-204 before any local call as the number originates now out of Edmonton. It will also not accept lllloooooonngggg DTMF tones so keep your entries .

VE4VZ also asked if members of the WPS were aware of our exemption under the new driving law. VE4HAY said he had heard of only one amateur being pulled over. VE4VZ then asked what was the status of the D-Star Repeater.

VE4HK informed us that they were in the process of getting the proper equipment so there will be 3 proper duplexers and 3 proper antennas for the installation and it should be up and working in the next month or two.

Education -

VE4DAR informed us that WARC had ordered 12 text books and already nine of them were spoken for. He said a course had been initiated by VE4ESX as many of his sailing friends were interested and VE4VB had offered to run it in his basement. They are now running it from the seniors club and it starts Sept 22nd and runs every Tuesday and Thursday until November 22nd,

He also put forward a proposal which he has probably written up in this issue to hold a series of graduated sessions with youth who might be interested - he is currently planning one for the FGH Cadet Corps on Sep 28th

1/2 hour session to introduce people to the hobby then a 1 hour session consisting of 4 stands where each group spend 15 minutes before moving on to the next one

-Phonetic Alphabet, etc, etc.

3. WARC creates a 15 hr course that mimics the UK/AUs Foundation course and graduates can get a certificate

When asked if the membership was in favour of pursuing this the majority said yes (although it was not put to a formal vote)

Peace Garden Ham Fest -

VE4EN reported that for the 1st time in many years the majority of attendees were American (70%) they will be looking for a big turnout for 2013 which would be the 50th anniversary of the HamFest.

³
MARMFest -

VE4SE reported they had 126 attendees and it was the biggest flea market he had ever seen. There was 83 for supper and the MRS AGM was well attended.

DX -

VE4SN reported 20m is good with openings on 15m. many African stations have been heard. The American Astronomical Society has reported that the number and intensity of sunspots has been decreasing recently so DX may get harder and harder

More can be found at <http://www.space.com/11960-fading-sunspots-slower-solar-activity-solar-cycle.html>

Flea Market - VE4HK reminds everyone the flea market is on October 16th - 12 tables are still available.

VE4GKS -

informed the meeting that MicroHighTech is now stocking insulators (plastic ones - sorry Rolf), Anderson PowerPoles and RigRunners Power Distribution units

Good & Welfare -

someone reminded everyone that VE4IHF the International Ham Fest Repeater has been moved to Adam Lake just north of the Peace Garden. It is on 146.8525 and 444.32 with no tone.

End of meeting approved by VE4HK and seconded by VE4VZo

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Winnipeg ARES
By Jeff, VE4MBQ

Ten Winnipeg ARES members & affiliates provided volunteer Amateur Radio communications SAT 10 SEP for the Parkinson SuperWalk that started and ended at the Franco Manitoban Cultural Centre on Provencher Blvd. Thanks to our volunteers VE4s:

GKS, GWN, YYL, DJS, BOY, HK, VID, STS, MMG and VA4IAM.

Special thanks to John VE4JAH for moving our Boler trailer back & forth and to Dick VE4HK for coordinating the event for ARES.

On-call staffing for VE4WWO in the Prairie & Arctic Storm Prediction Centre ended SUN 11 SEP for this season. We ran 6 Severe Weather Nets this past season between 27 MAY & 18 AUG. Those nets ranged 1 to 6 hours. Our 17 weeks of daytime 0930-1730h and 16 weeks of evening 1730-2130h on-call shifts were filled by the following twelve ARES members:

VE4s AJO, ALW, GKS, GWN, CDM, HAZ, DWG, BN, KEH, EH, ESX and MBQ.

Each of the above ARES members were on-call an average of three weeks each over the course of the season. We really need additional CANWARN Net Controllers, if interested please get in touch soon so that we can give you an idea of what to expect and perhaps do some "Elmering" over the winter. Ellis VE4AJO could probably find other things to do in the summer besides being on-call for five weeks (not all at once) and Bill VE4ALW and Gerry VE4GKS could also probably find other activities besides taking four weeks each of on-call duties.

Elsewhere in this month's newsletter you will find an outline of "Reportable" Winter Weather for CANWARN Spotters that was recently verified with PASPC Severe Weather Program Manager James Cummine.

Our SEP General Meeting featured Randy Hull from the City of Winnipeg. Randy gave us a great presentation "Why Plans Fail". I still heard people that were at the meeting talking about the presentation a week later. Randy distributed "Thank-You" letters to the forty-six ARES members & affiliates that supported City of Winnipeg Flood Operations this past spring. If that wasn't enough, Randy also provided some door prizes for the meeting. I will be bringing the letters to the next couple of ARES & WARC meetings for those of you that were unable to attend the SEP General Meeting.

Our next General Meeting, TUE 18 OCT 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street will feature Manitoba EMO Interlake Regional Emergency Manager Shelley Napier who will be reprising her presentation from the 2011 Manitoba Disaster Management Conference "Exercise Shooting Star".

As announced at the SEP General Meeting, our Annual General Meeting has been put off until 18 NOV. At press time, nine members still have not paid their 2011-12 ARES dues that were due in JUN.

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Fall Flea Market

Yes, it is that time of year again! The WARC Flea Market is rapidly approaching. As I write this announcement, it is only 50 days away!

WARC's favourite semi annual get together, also known as the WARC Flea Market, is scheduled for

Heritage Victoria Community Club Sunday, October 16, 2011

The Community Club is located at 950 Sturgeon Road, just a hop, skip, and a jump north of Ness Avenue.

Do you have a basement cluttered up with high class junkie, looking for a new home? Do you want to sell some excess ham gear? Do you want to make a few dollars, to spend on newer and better "stuff"? Do you want to make the XYL happy? The WARC Flea Market is the perfect place to look after all that, and more.

Simply phone or e-mail Ruth VE4XYL to book your table. She can be reached at 837-6915 or ve4se@mts.net.

Tables are only \$5.00 each for WARC members, and \$10.00 each for everyone else. There are only 30 tables available for sale, so better hurry.

Admission is unchanged at \$3.00 per person.

Plan to arrive at 9:30 am. Ruth's Kitchen will be on hand, with the best coffee in town, along with delicious muffins, and Ruth's fabulous bunwiches, made with TLC. Have a nice visit with all those folks you never see, except at the Flea Market!

Doors open for buying at 10:30. The sale should last til about noon.

Be sure to visit the Manitoba Repeater Society table to prepay your 2012 dues. Stop by the Winnipeg ARES table, as well, for a chance to win a nice prize. Don't forget to ask Adam VE4SN, who has the QSL: bureau for Manitoba, to check for your outstanding QSL cards.

Be sure to mark your calendar, right now, for Sunday, October 16, 2011

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Dick Maguire VE4HK
Flea Market Coordinator

Sailors Like Radio By David VE4DAR

Seventeen students began an Amateur Radio Operator Basic Certificate Course on September 22 at the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club classroom. Basic 5 is an initiative of Richard VE4ESX (Course Coordinator), David VE4DAR (Chief Instructor) and Walter VE4VB (Assistant Chief Instructor).

It's called "Basic 5" to distinguish our training materials from previous courses at Red River College. We acknowledge and are grateful for support received from WARC and WSCRC.



Our Instructors

It all began with Richard and Lisa's successful sail on Lake Winnipeg this summer. They used the on-board HF station to maintain contact with family and friends in Winnipeg, and to receive weather reports from Ellis VE4AJO. When sailor buddies asked about getting a ham ticket, Richard talked with Walter, and Walter generously offered to teach three at his home. When the word got out, they called David for help with organizing a larger course. So here we are with 17 Basic 5 students.

Classes are being held Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 1830 – 2130 hours. Fifteen instructors have been drawn from David's cadre developed over the past five years. Each is teaching at least one lesson. We are all thankful for their time, effort and personal expense spent on lesson and materials preparation and instructing. Adam VE4SN will administer the final exam on November 22.

Jim VE4SIG developed a survey, which was given to the students at the first class. Our purpose was to find out why we've had such a nice response to this class as compared to cancelling two classes at RRC because of insufficient enrolment.

Read Jim's article to see the surprising results, which should influence future recruitment.

"When you drink water, you gotta thank the man that dug the well." I remember and give thanks to the late Sandy Sandwith VE4SZ for teaching me and showing how to put together these courses.

His Chapter Quizzes have been used in classes across Canada. Thank you, Sandy.



Basic 5 Class Sep 27, 2011

Where do all the students come from? By Jim, VE4SIG

Well, we seem to have a Basic Course going with great success. At this point 17 students are enrolled. Given that we were unable to get more than 3 students last year for the course at Red River I was curious as to why this course was bursting at the seams. With the permission of Chief Instructor, VE4DAR, I had the students fill out a short survey on the 1st night and I will summarize my findings

(NOTE: I'm not a statistician or even play one on TV, my methodology is probably flawed so take this with a large grain of salt)

The first question I asked was how they found out about the course; the vast majority had heard about it from an individual (another Ham) with a couple being sailors from the Yacht Club that formed the original group of interested students and a smattering of people from other sources. At least 3 or 4 people had found out about the course through web-based means ("new media" appears to work and costs nothing)

I asked if they already knew someone who was a Ham. - The vast majority said Yes - they knew a Ham well (Eleven vs. one who knew a Ham only somewhat) with four saying they didn't know a Ham at all.

The conclusion I draw from the answers to these two questions is AS INDIVIDUALS WE ARE OUR OWN BEST ADVERTISING - people become interested in Amateur Radio as they see you doing it, talking about it, whatever - HAMS BRING OTHER PEOPLE INTO

THE HOBBY. Go out and talk to people - let them see what fun you are having! (this dovetails nicely with my other article about annual events we could be using to showcase Amateur Radio)

I was curious about the price sensitivity of the students - I had always contended that the course at Red River was not more popular as it was over-priced (\$150) and felt this was confirmed when a course for only \$50 was over-subscribed. I was surprised to find that almost half (7) would be willing to pay a maximum of \$150 for the course. I suspect that this price is still high and I'm looking for someone with a polling background to tell me responders will often inflate the amount they say they would pay for something as they don't want to appear cheap. (Or I could just be dead wrong about the cost thing). But obviously the lower the price the wider a population it interests)

Were potential students aware they did not need CW to get a license? Only four said no (while 12 said yes) so it appears Morse-phobia is not a major issue (although at 25% it shows some people may still be thinking that).

Was the scheduling of the course convenient for students - when given choices the majority (12.5 - one person split their vote between two choices) picked the schedule we were using - 2 nights a week for 3 hours each.

While 3 would have preferred one night a week and a 1/2 vote was cast for an all day course on one weekend day (eg- nine weeks of Sundays)

So we appear to have hit the sweet spot for scheduling.

Now I'm wondering about putting a survey together for the end of the course and thinking up questions for it -

If you have any ideas please let me know. Jim.

D-Star mobile and handheld Amateur radios are available from your Winnipeg ICOM Dealer...

Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.

197 Leila Avenue, Winnipeg, MB
204-783-1885
Contact George Hill, VE4GDH

Visit Icom on the web..
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amateur/amateur.html](http://www.icomcanada.com/products/amateur/amateur.html)

*Come See Us At our
New Location*

WSCRC Sept. Board Meeting ***By David VE4DAR***

President Ed VE4OAK chaired the September 21 Board Meeting of the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club attended by 14 Board Members and two guests. The recent passing of members Bob Caron VE4ACT, Mary Bell XYL of John Bell VE4OL, and George Gillespie VE4GNG was acknowledged with a moment of silence.



After dealing with routine matters such as minutes, there was lively discussion on the major challenge facing the club: how to deal with growing expenditures during a time of decreasing donations and a diminishing active membership? One bright light was the recent Picnic, which had a good turnout and made a profit. Also, it was noted that WSC IRLP is working fine.

The Basic 5 group was given permission to hold their Basic Certificate course at the Seniors and keys were given to Walter VE4VB. Fifteen students have registered.



Alf VE4ALF is still looking for Duty Officers to cover Tuesdays and Fridays, when the club has to close early. Ed VE4YU played a wonderful recording Kay VE4YF taking checkins for the MRS Net from 1999, and Ed and Adam VE4SN checking into the Net from Mexico.

Parkinsons Superwalk ***September 10, 2011*** ***By Dick, VE4HK***

The annual Parkinson Superwalk was held Saturday, September 10, 2011, starting and finishing at the Franco Manitoban Cultural Center.

The participants could choose from a 2 km walk or a shorter 1 km walk. Each participant accepted donations for the Parkinson Society.

Winnipeg ARES was invited to provide radio communications at strategic locations around the course. The course was very short, so we were able to use 146.460 simplex.

We used the WARES Boler trailer for the base. This worked out very well. Previously, our base station was located in the main auditorium, which was extremely noisy.

The walk began at 10:00 am, and was all over by 11:00 am. There were no problems throughout the event.

Thanks to the following WARES volunteers for their assistance.

Coordinator	Dick VE4HK
Net Control	Gerry VE4GKS Glen VE4GWN
Course 1 (corner Des Meurons and Rue de la Cathedrale)	Rosi VE4YYL
Course 2 corner Tache and Provencher	Dave VE4DJS
Course 3 (corner Rue de la Cathedrale and Langevin)	Juanito VE4BOY
Bike 1	Dick VE4HK
Bike 2	Tedd VE4VID
Water Station (corner Rue de la Cathedrale and Tache)	Bob VE4STS
Water Station	Ian VA4IAM
Medic Shadow	Mariska VE4MMG
Amanda's Shadow	John VE4JAH

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Dick Maguire, VE4HK

Parkinson Superwalk
WARES Coordinator

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Contest Calendar

Extracted From
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

For October ...

- YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest 1400Z, Oct 7
to 0200Z, Oct 9
- Makrothen RTTY Contest 0000Z, Oct 8
to 1559Z, Oct 9
- Oceania DX Contest, CW 0800Z, Oct 8
to 0800Z, Oct 9
- Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB 1200Z, Oct 8
to 1200Z, Oct 9
- Pennsylvania QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 8
to 0500Z, Oct 9
and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 9
- Arizona QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 8
to 0600Z, Oct 9
and 1400Z-2359Z, Oct 9
- EU Autumn Sprint, CW 1600Z-1959Z, Oct 8
- FISTS Fall Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, Oct 8
- North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 9
- UBA ON Contest, CW 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 9
- 10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint 0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
- NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Oct 12
- NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Oct 12
- RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 12
- CQ SA SSB Contest 0000Z, Oct 15
to 2400Z, Oct 16
- 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW 0001Z, Oct 15
to 2359Z, Oct 16
- ARCI Fall QSO Party 1200Z, Oct 15
to 2400Z, Oct 16
- New York QSO Party 1400Z, Oct 15
to 0200Z, Oct 16
- Worked All Germany Contest 1500Z, Oct 15
to 1459Z, Oct 16
- Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 16
- UBA ON Contest, 2m 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 16
- Illinois QSO Party 1700Z, Oct 16
to 0100Z, Oct 17
- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Oct 17
- ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Oct 17
to 2400Z, Oct 22
- Araucaria VHF Contest 0000Z, Oct 22
to 1600Z, Oct 23
- ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Oct 22
to 2359Z, Oct 23
- FOC QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Oct 22
- Microwave Fall Sprint 0600 local - 1300 local, Oct 22
- RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 27
- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 29
to 2400Z, Oct 30
- 50 MHz Fall Sprint 2300Z, Oct 29
to 0300Z, Oct 30

Into November ...

- Ukrainian DX Contest 1200Z, Nov 5
to 1200Z, Nov 6
- ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 5
to 0300Z, Nov 6
- High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z-1700Z, Nov 6
- DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Nov 6

Good Luck In The Contest !!

RAC/ARES NATIONAL EMCOMM FREQUENCIES		
SSB	Frequency	Tactical
75M - LSB	3.675 MHz	Alfa
40 M - LSB	7.135 MHz	Bravo
20 M - USB	14.135 MHz	Charlie
17 M - USB	18.135 MHz	Delta
15 M - USB	21.235 MHz	Echo
10 M - USB	28.235 MHz	Foxtrot
CW	Frequency	Tactical
80 M	3.535 MHz	Golf
40 M	7.035 MHz	Hotel
20 M	14.035 MHz	India
17 M	18.075 MHz	Juliette
15 M	21.035 MHz	Kilo
10 M	28.035 MHz	Lima
Digital	Frequency	Tactical
80M	3.596 MHz	Mike
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
20 M	14.096 MHz	Oscar
17 M	18.096 MHz	Papa
15 M	21.096 MHz	Quebec
10 M	28.096 MHz	Romeo

<http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/racaresfreqs.htm>

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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



Are you a
RAC member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

RAC Bulletin 2011-032E

New Office Administrator

2011-10-02

I am pleased to announce that the Radio Amateurs of Canada has recently recruited Frank Greene as Office Administrator. Frank's appointment comes after an extensive search for just the right person to manage our head office.

Frank comes to RAC with an extensive management and business background. He has worked in sales and marketing, accounting and administration, human resources, staff coordination, facilities management, and project management, and has participated in several consulting assignments from capacity planning to disaster contingency planning.

His mission is to provide exemplary service to our members. Don't hesitate to contact Frank when an issue arises.

On behalf of the RAC Board and Executive I want to welcome Frank to the Radio Amateurs of Canada.

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW
President and Chair Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Bulletin 2011-031E

RAC Insurance Program for 2012

2011-10-02

\$10,000,000 Total Liability Coverage to continue....
Liability coverage raised to \$5,000,000 from \$3M/event with no increase in premium....

Equipment loss/damage to continue at no increase in rates....

Home, Car and Travel Health coverage coming !

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce that the highly popular RAC Insurance Program will

be available again in 2012, and with increased coverages at no increase in rates. The Program provides several types of coverage including liability insurance for Club activities and its members, equipment loss/damage coverage for Affiliated Clubs and their RAC members, and new this year will be the availability of additional insurance coverage for a RAC member's house, car and travel health insurance, which will be of particular interest to Snowbirds. All of these coverage's are the best available in Canada and are offered at an extremely competitive rates. The RAC Insurance Program is provided as a benefit of membership for RAC Affiliated Clubs and their RAC members.

Highlights of the Program for 2012 include:

- Liability Insurance for Affiliated Clubs of \$10,000,000/\$5,000,000 per occurrence for 2012 at the lowest cost in Canada.
- Equipment loss/theft/damage coverage for only \$10/\$1000 of actual equipment value per year.
- RAC members of Affiliated Clubs in the program get liability coverage extended for their home stations at no charge.
- Liability coverage's for portable operation, advertising liability and personal injury.
- Home, Car and Travel Health coverage coming soon.

Complete details of the 2012 RAC Insurance Program and how to apply for or renew coverage can be found on the RAC website at <http://www.rac.ca/insurance2012>.

For questions concerning policy and coverage details please contact Jerry Beneteau VE3EXT, the RAC Insurance Program Advisor, at ve3ext@primus.ca

For questions about how to apply or renew, please contact Linda Friars VE9GLF, the RAC Insurance Program Administrator at ve9glf@nbnet.nb.ca

Applications for 2012 are available on the RAC Website and must be received by the RAC Insurance Program Coordinator by November 15th for new applicants and December 1st for renewals. Please note the new address.

The applications should be sent to :
RAC Insurance Program Coordinator
PO Box 51
Saint John, NB E2L 3X1

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW
President and Chair Radio Amateurs of Canada

Consider Joining RAC Today!

<https://www.rac.ca/store/membership-form-e.htm>

Looking at the Calendar—Jim, VE4SIG

Did you know that September 17th was Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day? About a week before a reminder popped up in my email which didn't leave a lot of time to arrange anything.

What's Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day you ask – well it's an ARRL event that occurs every year on the 3rd Saturday in September. They've cleverly picked this month as there is no other big events going on and it's a good way to kick off the year for clubs by having some sort of display in a mall or, really anything. So I'm thinking about it and vowing to be better organized next year (this really is a problem with the club being on summer hiatus I find it hard to get back up to speed come September – heck I haven't even managed to file our corporation papers yet!) it occurred to me how many opportunities we have every year to do something to introduce people to the hobby. I'd like to take this opportunity to list all the events that we could do something with.

September – as well as the aforementioned Public Awareness Day, this weekend (30 Sep – 01 Oct) is Culture Days. All over the city (actually all over the country) thousands of events are occurring to give the public a chance to get a little “cultured”. Browsing through the enormous list of events on the Internet it occurred to me “if hobbies like knitting and chess can be highlighted; why not Ham Radio?” (In fact the family and I just came back from the Culture Days event at the St. Norbert Farmer's Market which consisted of a couple of ladies doing some weaving (one of which admitted “I'm not sure what kind of culture this is”).

October – JOTA, the “Jamboree on the Air” is happening for the Boy Scouts October 15-16th (again probably too soon for us to get anything going and it also overlaps with the Flea Market – let's try and schedule next year's Flea Market on a different weekend). Would we be interested in doing something in the future – I know we haven't determined what but let's first figure out if there's an interest then we can figure out what.

If we do want to do something I would say lots of advance communications to the local Scout Troops is necessary as it seemed that talking the Provincial Council and hoping they would pass this on to the local Troops did not work. I know there is a document on the RAC website (from 2004?!) about JOTA which makes me wonder if RAC has any kind of relationship with Scouts Canada at the National level like ARRL does with BSA to make Scouts more aware of what we could do for them.

January – the second Sunday in the New Year is Kids Day, an ARRL event. Now before anyone says it's not a

RAC event – who cares – we've got an opportunity to do something and get a press release out and give some kids a chance to touch a radio. Again are we interested in doing something? – if there's the interest then we'll figure out what – perhaps we partner with the Children's Museum or the Aviation Museum to set up a public station that kids can come and try.

February - If the Scouts are going to do it then the Guides will too – Guides on the Air (GOTA) is on the 18-19th of the month. If there's interest in the club to do something – then we'll figure out what we can do (a little secret – I just found myself married to a Guider; despite never having been in the Guide movement as a child my wife has decided she wants to help mould the young women of tomorrow – so I might have some sort of in on this!).

May – late in May every year, Heritage Winnipeg has a weekend event called “Doors Open Winnipeg” in which the public get a chance to traipse around inside buildings they don't normally get to see or if they do they get to be shown them through the eyes of an experienced guide who can tell them all sorts of things they never knew about the buildings they thought they knew. I know of a building in St. Vital with a bunch of mysterious antennas on the roof that people driving by may have wondered about, oh and it's in a historically significant building (did I mention there's a museum on the main floor that would probably also be open for the event?)

Don't get your twin-lead in a knot – I know it's not our building! Or Club! But if another organization wanted some help in being able to show off their facilities I know I'd be happy to help (I think the current Basic Course being run out of their class room is a demonstration of how well the hams in this town can get along to achieve a common goal).

Which brings us to June – I know, Marathon and Field Day, but did you know that the 3rd Saturday is the other ARRL Kids Day? Unfortunately this puts it on the 16th, the day before Marathon but if a couple of people are interested...we could go see if someone like the Children's' Museum is interested in a special event.

So it appears we have a lot of opportunities to get Ham Radio into the public eye – all we need is some people who are interested in doing it. Any takers?

By the way all these events (and more) are listed on our Club Calendar on the WARC Website. What? You didn't know we had an online calendar?! Its right there in the left hand column – you can see it either under Calendar” (sneaky huh!?) or WARC Events – if you have anything you'd like to have added to the Calendar just let anyone on the Executive know.

**MANITOBA ARES
CANWARN PROGRAM
"REPORTABLE" WINTER WEATHER**

*By Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ,
EC Winnipeg ARES
Capital Region DEC*

(REVISED DEC 2008, VERIFIED OCT 20101, VERIFIED SEP 20112)

LOW VISIBILITY (<1 KM FOR SNOW OR BLOWING SNOW, <1/2 KM FOR FOG)

FREEZING RAIN or FREEZING DRIZZLE or ICE PELLETS

SNOWFALL ACCUMULATIONS OVER 5 cm

RAIN THAT CHANGES TO SNOW or FREEZING RAIN (or Vice Versa)

Spotters are encouraged to pass along any reports of power outages or dangerous roads due to weather conditions.

There will not generally be an amateur net in operation, so phone your report in via the 1-800 number received at Spotter Training.

The PUBLIC number is 1-800-239-0484

CONSIDER Participation in:

MMWX NET 3743 kHz LSB approx 0830h local

MMWX Net Manager may collate severe winter weather reports and forward to PASPC.

1.Verified with James Cummine Severe Weather Program Manager PASPC 14 OCT 2010

2.Verified with James Cummine again 20 SEP 2011.

*The Newscaster
From your editor Mark, VE4MAB*

WARC memberships expired on September 30, 2011, and this will be your last issue if you have not yet renewed your membership.

Garth, VE4GWB, will be accepting membership renewals/applications at the Fall Flea Market and at the October Annual General Meeting on October 17, 2011.

Remember, it's *YOUR Newscaster.*

Make it so by submitting your articles, photos, ideas, tips and tricks, to share with your fellow hams.

VHF Nets

MRS Nets - 147.390 Mhz +

Sundays & Thursdays at 9:00 pm

This net covers Winnipeg and the MRS linked repeater system, and includes various announcements on amateur radio activities, plus Dick's "Swap and Shop"

Seniors Morning Net 147.390+ Mhz

Weekdays at 9:00 am

This net covers Winnipeg and hams of all ages are welcome to join in this net which is always a lot of fun!

IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project)

Net - 145.450 Mhz - Node # 1066

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

This net connects you with the world using your VHF rig and using the internet as the backbone!

Six Meter Net - 50.238 Mhz

Wednesdays at 9:00 pm

HF Nets

MB Evening Phone Net - 3747 Khz

Daily at 7:00 PM CT

Prairie Traffic Net (CW) 3660 Khz

Daily at 01:30 UTC

Aurora # 2 Net 7055 Khz

Daily at 02:30 UTC

MB Wx Net 3743 Khz

Daily at 8:30 AMC

ARES Manitoba Monthly Readiness Net

4TH Sunday of each month

4:00 PM to 4:20 PM -7,075 Khz

4:00 PM to 4:15 PM -3,675 Khz LSB

Also.. VE4WRS IRLP, VE4ARC/TEU, Interlake, VE4FFR Flin Flon, IRLP Reflector 9003 to Flin Flon/Swan River/Pinawa, VE4SIX/DARC repeater, VE4TPN/VHF Thompson.

The Newscaster is the Official Publication of

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

Printed courtesy of

Floyd Rolph, VE4FDR, at "Diamond Image"

Please send your submissions/comments to the editor

Mark Blumm, VE4MAB, at ve4mab@mymts.net

The November issue Deadline is Nov 2, 2011