



# The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club  
<http://www.WinnipegARC.org>

January 2012

IRLP # 1066 on VE4WRS 145.450-

VE4BB

## *U of M Satellite Team*

Date: Monday, January 9, 2012

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Dakota Collegiate - *See you there!*  
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

## *The President's CQ - Garth, VE4GWB*

I hope everyone has enjoyed the Holidays. The weather has been unusually warm with a lack of snow on the ground, but no complaints. Although it might be too nice to put up those antennas you got for Christmas.

Thank you to all that came out to the December Christmas party. We had a good attendance and I'm glad to see the new hams that made it out and brought their YL or XYL's. Thanks again to Ruth VE4XYL for her work in putting together one of the most enjoyed presentation's of the year, all the nice goodies and even eggnog.

*Speaking of presentations we have a few good ones coming up...*

This month the U of M satellite team will be providing an overview of the project and highlight some of the communication elements that use amateur bands (2m and 70cm) to talk to the ground station. In February we will see a demonstration of the new D-STAR repeater and its capabilities and how to use them.

If you have young Harmonic's interested in computers these might be good presentations to bring them along and show how Ham radio is working along with them. March is open and April brings Home Brew night so start getting those projects together.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year and the best of hamming in 2012.

73's for now, Garth, VE4GWB

### *Other Important Dates...*

News caster: Deadline February 1, 2012

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates  
February 13, 2012  
March 12, 2012  
April 9, 2012—Home Brew Night

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

ARES: Tuesday, January 17, 2012  
Sir Wm Stephenson Library  
765 Keewatin Street  
Presentation: Dr. Gord Giesbrecht  
(Professor Popsicle)

Other: WARC Spring Flea Market  
Sunday, April 15, 2012  
Heritage Victoria CC

### *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 Programs	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Past President	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca

*WARC has a New Web Site....*

<http://www.WinnipegARC.org>

### *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,  
December 12, 2011  
Taken by Jim, VE4SIG***

Called to Order 1950 hrs

***Introductions –***

A great turnout, only made better by the inclusion of 7 XYLs, a prospective Ham and six of the new graduates of the Basic Course

Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting

Moved by VE4DAR and Seconded by VE4GWN.

***Secretary's Report –***

Nothing to report

***Treasurer's Report –***

Books have been audited – no major issues found in account at end of Nov \$6865.35  
outstanding cheques (\$670.75)  
balance \$6194.60

***Membership –***

We stand in the mid-eighties and three more applications were filled out during the meeting.

***Programs –***

to-nite is the Christmas party

***January –***

UMSATS

***February –***

D-Star Demo

***Winnipeg ARES Report –***

Jeff, VE4MBQ—There is a report on page 4 of the DEC Newscaster. VE4ARC is down and currently being rebuilt by Yori VE4ACX, should be more info at next week's ARES Meeting.

**Manitoba ARES**

There have been a number of informal queries regarding VA4DIG lately. Due to a number of issues that were identified last winter, a decision was made to try to get away from running three bands on one feed-line / one antenna and splitting up into separate feed-line & antennas and trying to acquire band-specific duplexers. VA4DIG was shut down before Flood Operations got underway.

Early this fall there was a major mechanical upgrade

project in the building where VA4DIG is located began and we had to wait for that to be wrapped up – the repeater is in the elevator penthouse. Some of the new antennas that were ordered arrived damaged recently – we are waiting for replacements. We also must wait for Government Services to do some drilling into external walls where the new masts will be installed.

***RAC Report –***

by Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW

Still awaiting approval of access to 60M band – Apr/May 2012 perhaps? It will be announced in the Canada Gazette so when it appears be sure to comment on it positively.

RAC is rebounding both fiscally and in membership numbers.

RAC is looking for a PR Director, a Treasurer and a Client Service Director.

***Education –***

By David, VE4DAR. Nine new hams graduated from the basic course all with Honours. And six were here to-nite.

CW Course2 starts 10 Jan

CadetCourse1 for FGH cadet corps – is a WARC initiative. A 12 hour course being run by VE4DAR and VE4DXR. Instructors have been assigned. Starts Dec 27<sup>th</sup> over Xmas break and finishes April 1<sup>st</sup>. Graduates will get a Certificate of Achievement which hopefully will encourage them to complete the basic course.

VE4DAR moves that "WARC SPENDS UP TO \$150 TIO PROMOTE HAM RADIO AMONGST YOUTH IN 2012" . Seconded by VE4Ok. VE4VZ suggest the amount be \$300 which is seconded by VE4MBQ. Voted on and overwhelmingly approved.

***DX—***

By Adam, VE4SN  
Bands are still wide open.

***New Business***

VE4HK presented WAW (Worked All Winnipeg) awards to VE4DXR (who only got his call sign on Nov 25<sup>th</sup>) and VE4OK.

He presented the club with a check for \$757 which was a donation from VE4MT who had his gear sold when he moved out of his home and split the money between WARC and WSC.

<sup>3</sup>  
VE4SIG reported on the activities of UMARS on behalf of VE4SCH. They have graduated 5 new hams earlier this month might include a Bunny Hunt. More information in January.

VE4SIG informed the membership that Jan 8<sup>th</sup> is ARRL Kids day and asked if anyone was interested in doing anything in support of it. Although it appeared there was no support for it, several people came up to me later and indicated they would be interested in setting something up – arrangements to use the Seniors Club are being made.

Also Feb 18-19<sup>th</sup> is the “Guides on the Air” event and at least 3 units in Winnipeg are interested in doing something. Arrangements to use the Seniors Club are being made and VE4's DXR, RCJ, DAR and CRS have indicated they would be interested in helping. Anymore female members interested so the guides see Ham Radio as girl-friendly?

VE4SIG informed the club the executive had decided to provide a \$100 Scholarship to the Manitoba Science Symposium for a project involving electronic communication and in return we would be able to staff a booth at the Science Fair April 27-29<sup>th</sup>. VE4's VZ, JNF and RCJ indicated they would be interested in helping out.

VE4JNF reported that the Appeal of his non-conviction for using a radio in his car had been thrown out of court so hopefully no one else would have the same problem.

VE4SIG won the 50.50 draw of \$37 dollars and VE4BTY won a door prize.

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](mailto:spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca)  
[http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h\\_sf01709e.html](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

## *WARC Spring Flea Market* *By Dick, VE4HK*

What is a poor, lonely ham to do on those long, dark winter nights, when the bands are dead and nobody is on the local repeaters?

Why not clean up the old hamshack? Track down all those old HW101's, IC22A's, SWR meters, coax cable, VOM's, baluns, etc that you haven't used for years. Box them up, then phone Ruth VE4XYL, to book a table for the Spring WARC Flea Market, on April 15.

Ruth can be reached at [ve4se@mts.net](mailto:ve4se@mts.net) or 837-6915. Think how happy the family will be to see a tidy shack! Think how happy buyers at the Flea Market will be to have new toys!

Tables are only \$5.00 each for WARC members, and \$10.00 each for everyone else. Book early, and avoid the rush.

The Flea Market will be at our favourite location, Heritage Victoria Community Club 950 Sturgeon Road.

Listen to the nets, and watch upcoming Newscasters for updates.

73

Dick Maguire VE4HK  
Flea Market Coordinator

## *Winnipeg ARES* *By Jeff, VE4MBQ*

Our December General Meeting featured two presenters:

South Interlake Emergency Measures Board Municipal Emergency Coordinator Jim Townsend VE4CY delivered a presentation on his district as well as portable VHF radio kit that can be set up in any of the EOCs in his district.

Manitoba ARES Northern & Special Projects DEC Wayne Warren VE4WR gave us a presentation on a transportable/portable repeater kit for the ERTS System.

Two ARES members will be attending the WEM Course in mid-JAN. The next WEM Course is 13-15 MAR.

The January 17, 2012, ARES presentation is by Dr. Gord Giesbrecht (Professor Popsicle) on Hypothermia

## *Roving Reporter VE4DAR—“David’s Page” Education*

The Basic 5 Course initiated by Richard ESX, David DAR and Walter VB graduated nine students, all with the Basic + Certificate. Thank you to the instructors and to WSCRC and WARC for their sponsorship.

A Basic 6 Course is being considered for 2012. Interested persons are asked to email Walter VE4VB at [walter.bez@gmail.com](mailto:walter.bez@gmail.com) indicating their name, email address and phone number. Walter will contact you with further information.

A CW Course begins at WSCRC on Tuesday, January 10. To register, email Adam SN at [ve4sn@rac.ca](mailto:ve4sn@rac.ca) or call Adam at 339-3316. Cost is \$10.00 including exam fee.

WARC is developing an Introduction to Amateur Radio Course aimed at Youth.

The first trial of this initiative, Cadet 1, begins December 27 with the Fort Garry Horse Army Cadets at McGregor Armoury. Cadets will receive a Certificate of Completion from WARC. The 12-hour program is intended as a stepping-stone to the Basic Certificate.

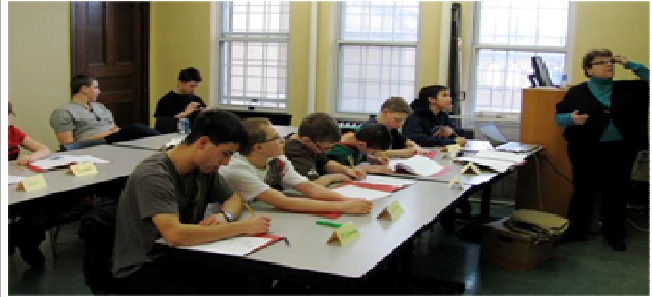
### *Cadet Course 1 Begins*

We started Wed Dec 28 with 10 boys and girls, aged 14 – 16 years, from the 1226 Fort Garry Horse Army Cadet Corps at McGregor Armoury in Winnipeg. The Cadets are enrolled in WARC’s Introduction to Amateur Radio, a 12-hour Course designed to get them interested in our hobby.



Ruthie VE4CRS instructing Army Cadets

Their final lesson includes a 20-question quiz. Those who get 70% or better correct will receive WARC’s Certificate of Completion that day. Our hope is they will choose to continue learning to get their Basic Certificate.



Fort Garry Horse, Cadet Course 1, Dec 2011

This course is brand-new, being designed and taught by WARC’s volunteer instructors. Although the first lessons were day-time during Winter Break from school, the majority of lessons will be Sunday evenings, Feb – Apr 1.

We thank the members of WARC for your encouragement and support.

### *History of the WARC Newscaster*

The *Newscaster* was started, edited and named by Ed Henderson VE4YU in 1986, while he was Vice President of WARC. Ed served as Editor until 1988, when Tom Smith VE4SI took over for a short time. Over the next six years (1988 – 1993), Jim Townsend VE4CY edited our newsletter. Next, Albert Sousa VE4AS filled in for five months. So far, Derek Hay VE4HAY was the longest serving Editor, from 1993 – 2008 (16 years). Our current Editor, Mark Blumm VE4MAB, has been editing the *Newscaster* since 2008.

What does the Editor do? The Editor selects and prepares written material and photos to fit a format and sends it to a printer or by the Internet to readers. “Input! Input!” The biggest challenge may be getting others to submit articles or photos for consideration. If submissions are few, the Editor has additional work composing articles, taking photos, or spending hours searching on the Internet for items. Then it’s a struggle to compose 10 or 12 pages with the right balance of local and world news in a style that keeps your readers interested and entertained.

I thank Ed, VE4YU, for the historical content of this article. We all thank the previously mentioned Editors and contributors for their efforts and persistence in making the *Newscaster* informative and entertaining.

Happy New Year!

*WSCRC Board Meeting Photos*  
*By David, VE4DAR*



**Bert VE4AND addressing WSCRC meeting**



**Stan Miner receiving WSCRC Honour Roll**

*WARC Christmas Party Photos*  
*By Mark, VE4MAB*



**Leor, VE4DXR, receiving his Worked All Winnipeg Award**



**Gord, VE4OK, receiving his Worked All Winnipeg Award**



## Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

### For January ...

Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Jan 7 to 1500Z, Jan 8
QRP ARCI Pet Rock Celebration	1500Z-1800Z, Jan 7
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 7 to 2400Z, Jan 8
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 7 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 8
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 8
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 8
Midwinter Contest	1000Z-1400Z, Jan 8
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2359Z, Jan 8
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Jan 9
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 11
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 11 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 12
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 13
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 13
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest	0000Z, Jan 14 to 2400Z, Jan 15
WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 14 to 1200Z, Jan 15
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 14 to 2359Z, Jan 15
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 14 to 0600Z, Jan 15
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0630Z-0830Z, Jan 15
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0900Z-1100Z, Jan 15
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 16
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 18
AWA Linc Cundall Memorial CW Contest	2300Z, Jan 18 to 2300Z, Jan 19 and 2300Z, Jan 21 to 2300Z, Jan 22
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 19
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 20
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 20
YL-ISSB QSO Party, SSB	0000Z, Jan 21 to 2359Z, Jan 22
LZ Open Contest	0000Z-0400Z, Jan 21

Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 21 to 1159Z, Jan 22
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Jan 21
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 21 to 0600Z, Jan 22
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 21 to 0359Z, Jan 23
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 25
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jan 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 26
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 27
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Jan 27
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 27
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 27 to 2200Z, Jan 29
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 28 to 1800Z, Jan 29
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 28 to 1200Z, Jan 29
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 28 to 1300Z, Jan 29
SPAR Winter Field Day	1700Z, Jan 28 to 1700Z, Jan 29
WAB 1.8 MHz Phone	1900Z-2300Z, Jan 28
Classic Exchange, CW	1400Z, Jan 29 to 0800Z, Jan 30
QRP ARCI Fireside SSB Sprint	2000Z-2359Z, Jan 29

### For February ...

NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 3
YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2400Z, Feb 5
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
Black Sea Cup International	1200Z, Feb 4 to 1159Z, Feb 5
EPC WW DX Contest	1200Z, Feb 4 to 1200Z, Feb 5
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 4
AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 4
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 4 to 0100Z, Feb 6
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 4 to 1759Z, Feb 5
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 5
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Feb 8

Follow us on Facebook at ..

**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB**

Follow us on Twitter at ..

**@VE4BBWARC**

**Good Luck In The Contest !!**

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***RAC Bulletin 2011-046E***  
***New Membership rates***  
***2011-12-20***

***IMPORTANT NOTICE***  
***REGARDING MEMBERSHIPS***

It has been many years but the Radio Amateurs of Canada have finally raised the membership rates.

Rates had previously been raised for United States and International Members to take into account the increased mailing costs for non-Canadian residents.

Canadian membership rates are among the lowest in the world and will remain so. A membership in the Radio Amateurs of Canada will continue to be less than a tank of gas and the increase is less than a cup of coffee for most memberships.

These price changes are now reflected on the RAC website.

**Membership: Full Regular \$52.00, Full Family \$25.00, Full Blind \$25.00, Full Maple Leaf Operator \$100.00 Associate Regular \$52.00, Associate Family \$25.00, Associate Blind \$25.00, Associate Corporate \$150.00, Associate U.S. \$90, Associate International \$130**

The above Membership Dues are subject to GST and/or HST from your province of residence.

5% - AB, MB, NT, NU, MB, PE, QC, SK, YT

12% - BC

13% - NB, NL, ON

15% - NS

Frank Greene  
 Office Manager - Radio Amateurs of Canada

***RAC Bulletin 2011-044E***  
***New Manager of NARED, the National Amateur Radio Emergency Database***  
***2011-12-10***

Doug Mercer VO1DM CEC RAC Vice President Field Services is pleased to announce the appointment of Pat Barrett, VE3RNH Manager NARED effective immediately.

Pat has an extensive management background and most recently sat on the Ontario Restructuring Commission chaired by RAC Director Bill Unger VE3XT. Pat is active with ARES, the Barrie Amateur Radio Club, and speaking with her she is looking forward to moving NARED forward, adding her knowledge and experience.

If you have ideas or suggestions I know she would like to hear from you. Contact her at [ve3rnh@rac.ca](mailto:ve3rnh@rac.ca).

In making this announcement, also would like to extend a warm 'thank you old friend' to Merv Halvorsen VE3TSA the outgoing NARED Manager. Merv, I knew I wouldn't have you for long, and sincere thanks for all of your efforts.

73

Doug Mercer VO1DM  
 Vice President Field Services - Radio Amateurs of Canada  
 P.O. Box 1042 Goulds  
 Newfoundland Labrador A1S 1H2  
 Tel.: 709-364-4741  
 Cell.: 709-697-3319  
 E-mail: [dougvo1dtm@gmail.com](mailto:dougvo1dtm@gmail.com)

" We're ALL about Amateur Radio! "

" Tous ensemble pour la radioamateur! "



Are you a  
**RAC** member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

Consider Joining RAC Today!

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

***Midwest Director***

*Derek Hay, VE4HAY*

Still looking for someone who is willing to be a deputy director. Please contact me at—[ve4hay@rac.ca](mailto:ve4hay@rac.ca)

***Ham Radio in Hollywood:***

***Comedian Tim Allen Stars as Radio Amateur on New TV Show "Last Man Standing"***

Time to "Hog the remote" on Tuesday nights and check out ABC's Last Man Standing! Tim Allen's character is Mike Baxter—KA0XTT.

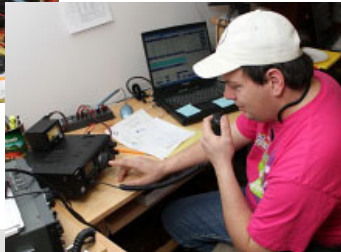
Lucky guy! Icom America provided Mike's Ham Shack with an ICOM IC-9100 HF/6 meter/2 meter transceiver as well as an IC-92AD handheld transceiver! Hmm.. Wonder if we'll catch him on D-Star ???

## *RAC Winter Contest ... In Good Hands*

*Photos by Mark, VE4MAB*



**RAC President Geoff,  
VE4BAW, on the air at  
the VE4RAC Station**



**WARC President Garth,  
VE4GWB, at the mike!**



**Jim, VE4SIG, logging  
another contact!**

*Great Contest!*

### *From Your Editor*

*Mark, VE4MAB*

We all owe a big "Thank You" to Floyd, VE4FDR, of Diamond Image, who for the past many years has provided WARC with printed issues of the *Newscaster* as his way of contributing to the Amateur Radio community providing tremendous savings to our members.

As we begin 2012 we are faced with exploring other options for distribution of the *Newscaster* which include switching to a PDF only version, or PDF and mailings to members without an e-mail address. An e-mail only version however would simply maintain our current budget.

Please keep in mind that when think of the costs involved in the operation of all amateur radio organizations like WARC, they are not simply monetary numbers on the financial statements. The costs are also in the form of the time and efforts of the many people involved, from the executive members, directors, committee members, instructors, volunteers and contributors like Floyd, who give countless hours of their time to make all the organizations work.

Not a bad return for a the price of a membership!

### 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!

### D-Star Nets ...New to Winnipeg on VE4WDR

**UHF 444.575+ DV Port B and/or**

**VHF 145.490- DV Port C**

TransCanada D-Star Net - Fridays at 8:00 pm

On "Free Star" Reflector 21 ( XRF021BO )

Ham Nation D-Star Net - Tuesdays at 9:15 pm

On "DPlus" Reflector 14 ( REF014CL )

### 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**

Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark VE4MAB, - [newscaster@WinnipegARC.org](mailto:newscaster@WinnipegARC.org)