



# The **NEWSCASTER**

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

May 2019

Facebook [Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB](#) Twitter [@ve4bbwarc](#)

VE4BB

## **WARC Centennial Hamfest & Field Day Planning Updates**

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 252  
426 Osborne Street, Winnipeg, MB  
(Across from the Winnipeg Transit garage)

### **Other Important Dates:**

Newscaster: Deadline May 30, 2019

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates **2nd Tuesdays**  
June 11, 2019 - TBA & Elections  
September 10, 2019 - Welcome Back  
October 8, 2019 - AGM  
November 12, 2019 - TBA  
December 10, 2019 - TBA

ARES: Tuesday, May 21, 2018 (3rd Tuesday)  
Sir Wm Stephenson Library  
765 Keewatin Street -  
Presentation  
CANWARN Net Controller Briefing

Other: The WARC 2019 Centennial  
Conference and Hamfest  
Sunday, June 2, 2019  
<http://WARC100.ca> Preregister and save \$\$

Marathon Briefing - June 11, 2019  
Manitoba Marathon - June 16, 2019

Field Day - June 22 to June 22, 2019

### **WARC Executive for 2018-2019...**

|                                |                  |                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| President                      | Colin Mantay     | ve4cem@rac.ca      |
| Vice-Pres.                     | John Romanec     | ve4vjr@gmail.com   |
| Treasurer                      | David Latour     | ve4dla@gmail.com   |
| Secretary                      | Gerry Sherman    | ve4gks@outlook.com |
| Membership                     | Jessy Blanchette | ve4jbb@gmail.com   |
| Programs                       | Roberto Urrea    | va4.rul@gmail.com  |
| Education                      | Roberto Urrea    | va4.rul@gmail.com  |
| Past President                 | Peter Toth       | ve4tth@gmail.com   |
| Public Information Officer.... | Vacant           |                    |

## **Celebrate WARC's 100th**

**WARC 2019 Centennial Conference  
and Hamfest - Sunday, June 2, 2019**

**Dakota Community Centre,  
1188 Dakota St., Winnipeg, MB**

**Flea Market, Door Prizes  
Silent Auction & 50/50 Draw (\*2)  
Commercial Vendors,  
QSL Bureau, Coax Cable Shop & More  
Exam Writing (Basic & Advanced)**

**"Bring your radio gear down (Amateur or CB) for free  
testing service courtesy of VE4ACX and WARC"**

**•Raffle to win an Icom IC-7300, Icom IC-2730, \$200  
gift card to Radioworld in Toronto, ON (\*1)**

**Doors open for coffee at 0830 - Vendor setup at 0900  
Open to the public 1000-1400  
Speakers are being planned  
Exams at 1000-1200 only**

**Ham vendor tables are \$20 (Includes 1 admission).  
Admission is \$15 at the door (\$10 for Pre-Registration)  
Children 12 and under plus 18 and under with  
Student ID are FREE admission!  
Commercial Vendor Tables \$50**

**You can save \$\$ - Pre-register via PayPal at  
[WARC100.ca](http://WARC100.ca)**

**There will be a  
WARC Centennial Celebration Supper  
on Saturday, June 1st starting at 6pm at  
The Hanger 121 Scurfield Blvd.**

**The dinner will include Steak Sandwich, French Fries,  
Coleslaw, and one beverage.**

**Tickets are \$20.00 and will be available to purchase  
from any of the members of the WARC 100 committee  
or by emailing [melissa@mrsfleury.com](mailto:melissa@mrsfleury.com)**

**Anyone wanting to attend must purchase their ticket  
no later than May 24th.**

(\*1) Lottery Licence # LGCA 5179-RF31414 (\*2) Lottery Licence # LGCA 5179-RF-31574

### **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**

<sup>2</sup>  
Members of the WARC100 Organizing Committee are pleased to announce the Speakers and Educational Component for the Centennial Hamfest on June 2nd.

Two rooms have been booked for our Speakers.

Sessions will run concurrently:

10:00 / 1 Gerry Hull W1VE/VE4CDX  
Introduction to HF and Operating Techniques

10:00 / 2 BJ Madsen VE5FX  
RAC Presentation and Information Session

11:00 / 1 Jessy Blanchette VE4JBB  
Introduction to FT8

11:00 / 2 William Franzin VE4WZ  
VA4WAN Presentation

12:00 / 2 Derek Hay & Group VE4HAY  
VHF/UHF Digital Modes Review (VE4DRK, William,)

12:00 / 1 Barry Malowanchuk VE4MA  
78 Ghz demonstration

1:00 / 1 Panel led by Gord Kosmenko VE6SV  
Ask the Experts Anything (VE4MA, VE4EAR,  
VE4CDX and more) - 100's of years of engineering and  
amateur radio knowledge in one room

There will be live stations operating from the  
Centennial Hamfest, using the special call VX4WARC.  
Some presenters will make use of the stations as part of  
their presentations.

### *Check Your Photo Albums !!*

The WARC 100 committee is looking for pictures and  
memorabilia members might have from over the years  
to display at the WARC Centennial Celebration  
Dinner.

Please contact Melissa at [melissa@mrsfleury.com](mailto:melissa@mrsfleury.com) if  
you have anything that you could share.

### *WARC Meeting Minutes April 9, 2019 Taken by Gerry VE4GKS*

Meeting called to order 00:31

Introductions as usual – a lot of new hams.

March minutes approved.

Treasurer's report –  
at the end of March \$11078 total, \$5872 working, \$1752  
in PayPal.

50/50 \$21.50 each to club & draw. VE4DRW is the  
winner.

Trailer is coming along.

ARES –  
still need some volunteers. Doesn't look as if Winnipeg  
will be deploying any field groups for flood work.

DX – solar flux is very low, so no good reliable DX.

This was followed by the home-brew night.



Drew VE4DRW - Home Made Antenna Section Jack



Dave VE4DTF - Decoder



Gerry VE4GKS

Jennings Vacuum  
Capacitor for ...

Magnetic Loop  
Antennas

3  
**Winnipeg ARES**  
**Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ**  
[ve4mbq@rac.ca](mailto:ve4mbq@rac.ca)

At press time, ARES members have not played a role in 2019 Flood Operations south of Winnipeg or in Winnipeg. Thanks to Winnipeg ARES members Garry Frankel VE4VD and Dave Stimpson VE4DJS who volunteered to be available as a deployable GO Team outside of Winnipeg if required. Thanks also to South Central ARES members Tedd Vidler VE4VID, Darcy Wilson VE4DDW and Brian Pettapiece VE4NQ who volunteered to make up another GO Team if required outside of their home communities. Early on we decided that we would not staff VE4EMO if there were no GO Teams in the field.

Although not involved in Flood Operations several ARES Units did ensure that their equipment at amateur-equipped Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) was good to go. We ensured that VE4EMO was ready to go on VHF/UHF once the HF antenna was identified as being out of service. Don VE4DWG reprogrammed VE4EMO and VE4EMC dual-band radios and spares to ensure that programming was up-to-date. Interim Updated Instructions for VE4EMO were shared with the VE4EMO Team.

Jim VE4SIG attended the Winnipeg EOC with me more than once to identify "our" feedline, survey the temporary EOC room and meet with Radio Shop personnel.



Jim VE4SIG checking feedline at VE4EOC with Dave VE4DJS's handy-dandy modern antenna analyzer  
*Photo-Credit J. Dovyak VE4MBQ*

Glen VE4GWN, John VE4JNF and Dick VE4HK all volunteered to establish a temporary Amateur Radio Station at a civic Reception Centre if we were so tasked (we have done that before).

Robert Morrison, Damage Prevention Coordinator from Manitoba Hydro gave us a fascinating presentation at our APR General Meeting on working

around and near buried utilities, the Click Before You Dig initiative and some other gems.

Glen VE4GWN and Jim VE4SIG will be staffing the Winnipeg ARES booth at the Community Emergency Preparedness Event at Sam Southern Arena SAT 11 MAY.

Our next General Meeting will be TUE 21 MAY, 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Topic will be 2019 CANWARN Net Controller Briefing presented by the writer.

It will be nice to stop logging in to WebEOC daily to see what's happening provincially and forwarding the daily SITREP to VE4s WR & GLS.

*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

**Manitoba Marathon**  
**Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ**  
[ve4mbq@rac.ca](mailto:ve4mbq@rac.ca)

The 2019 Manitoba Marathon will be SUN 16 JUNE. New Amateur operators will be paired up with Amateurs experienced with the event.

We still need approximately fifteen (15) volunteer operators, including six (6) experienced operators for backup. New Amateurs and Amateurs new to the Manitoba Marathon will be paired with someone who has done the Marathon previously.

Register thru the WARC web-site..

[http://winnipegarc.org/marathon\\_volunteer\\_form.html](http://winnipegarc.org/marathon_volunteer_form.html)

The 2019 Amateur Radio Group Volunteer Briefing is TUE 11 JUNE 1900h Crescentwood CC 1170 Corydon Avenue (Map 24 D2 in the Sherlock Map Book).

**print it on.ca**  
PROFESSIONAL IMPRESSIONS CREATED HERE  
**204.899.3350**  
1798 St Matthews Ave  
Winnipeg, MB R3H 0A5

**Discount for  
"WARC"  
members**

Print It On is offering WARC members  
a 15% discount on any size qty of QSL cards.

Be sure to present your membership card.

## Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

### May 2019

Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, May 8  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, May 8  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 8  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 9  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 10  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 10  
 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, May 11  
 to 2400Z, May 12  
 CQ-M International DX Contest 1200Z, May 11  
 to 1159Z, May 12  
 VOLTA WW RTTY Contest 1200Z, May 11  
 to 1200Z, May 12  
 Arkansas QSO Party 1400Z, May 11  
 to 0200Z, May 12  
 FISTS Spring Unlimited Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, May 11  
 50 MHz Spring Sprint 2300Z, May 11  
 to 0300Z, May 12  
 WAB 7 MHz Phone/CW 1000Z-1400Z, May 12  
 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint  
 0000Z-0200Z, May 13  
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB  
 1900Z-2030Z, May 13  
 Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, May 15  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, May 15  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 15  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 16  
 NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, May 16  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 17  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 17  
 Portuguese Navy Day Contest 0900Z, May 17  
 to 1700Z, May 19  
 UN DX Contest 0600Z-2100Z, May 18  
 NZART Sangster Shield Contest 0800Z-1100Z, May 18  
 and 0800Z-1100Z, May 19  
 Aegean RTTY Contest 1200Z, May 18  
 to 1200Z, May 19  
 EU PSK DX Contest 1200Z, May 18  
 to 1200Z, May 19  
 His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW 1200Z, May 18  
 to 1200Z, May 19  
 Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1759Z, May 18  
 and 2000Z-2159Z, May 18  
 Baltic Contest 2100Z, May 18  
 to 0200Z, May 19  
 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, May 20  
 SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, May 22  
 Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, May 22  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, May 22  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 22  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 23  
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data  
 2000Z-2030Z, May 22  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 24  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 24  
 CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 25  
 to 2359Z, May 26

QCX Challenge 1300Z-1400Z, May 27  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 27  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 28  
 Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, May 29  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, May 29  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, May 29  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, May 30  
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW  
 1900Z-2030Z, May 30  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, May 31  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, May 31  
 Into June 2019...  
 PVRC Reunion 0000Z-0200Z, Jun 1 (CW)  
 and 0000Z-0200Z, Jun 2 (SSB)  
 10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest  
 0000Z, Jun 1 to 2400Z, Jun 2  
 DigiFest 0400Z-1200Z, Jun 1  
 and 2000Z, Jun 1  
 to 0400Z, Jun 2  
 and 1200Z-2000Z, Jun 2  
 Wake-Up! QRP Sprint 0600Z-0629Z, Jun 1  
 and 0630Z-0659Z, Jun 1  
 and 0700Z-0729Z, Jun 1  
 and 0730Z-0800Z, Jun 1  
 SEANET Contest 1200Z, Jun 1  
 to 1200Z, Jun 2  
 UKSMG Summer Contest 1300Z, Jun 1  
 to 1300Z, Jun 2  
 Kentucky QSO Party 1400Z, Jun 1  
 to 0200Z, Jun 2  
 RSGB National Field Day 1500Z, Jun 1  
 to 1500Z, Jun 2  
 Dutch Kingdom Contest 1500Z, Jun 1  
 to 1500Z, Jun 2  
 IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW 1500Z, Jun 1  
 to 1459Z, Jun 2  
 ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Jun 4  
 Phone Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Jun 5  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Jun 5  
 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jun 5  
 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jun 6

### Good Luck In The Contest

*Amateur Radios, Antennas, and more ...*

**Winnipeg ICOM Dealer...**

**Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.**

**MOVED MARCH 1 !! 2 doors down to...**

2217 Henderson Hwy, East St. Paul, MB  
 (Just south of perimeter hwy)

Ph. (204)-783-1885 Fax (204) 779-7522  
 Contact George Hill, VE4GDH

<http://www.microhightech.ca/>

## *Electrical Noise Mitigated*

*By Gord VE4GLS*

Just thought I should share this with the group.

Had a Hydro lineman show up a few days ago to check on a few things in my farm yard, one of which was the high noise level from the primary line running through the yard. I gave him the results of testing I had done so far and where I believed the noise was being broadcast from, and brought out a small AM radio to demonstrate. He realized right away there was a problem. After some minor trouble-shooting the problem was found to be a lightning/surge arrester connected in series with the transformer. This is a 6KV device set to shunt any excess voltage to ground causing the fuse to pop open or blow. It was obviously conductive well below this voltage, and was quite warm when it was disconnected and removed. Primary line voltage here is 4400v. A new surge arrester device was installed and works properly. AC noise here is zero now.

According to the linemen these devices almost never fail. I am thinking lightning and other causes can occur often so there may be many of these devices that have not "failed" but may be generating RF noise as result of being somewhat conductive. The only easy way to determine this failure mode is to physically remove the device from the circuit and re-energize. I could see this being difficult to request from a utility company, it requires time and equipment (bucket truck) or a lineman to climb up a pole and play with high voltage. Add to this scenario that the type of RF noise is very difficult to pinpoint when there might be several of these devices within 100' in a busy business area etc. Much easier to locate in a rural environment.

Now this device is one of several possible noise generators on a typical electrical utility connection. If one is to report RF noise of this sort, please eliminate as many possibilities as you can, such as turning off your main breaker (and neighbors if you can get permission) and seeing if the noise persists. Do your diligence before calling them!



I attached a picture of the device so you can identify it, in the event this same problem occurs elsewhere.

Regards to all!

Gord VE4GLS

## *WARC Hamfest – Forum*

*By Derek VE4HAY*

### *Digital Voice in Winnipeg –*

*what are the options?*

In an effort to develop some education on the various digital formats available to Amateur Radio operators in Winnipeg, I am putting together a panel of experts on the topic. This panel will then be front and centre at one of the forums at the Winnipeg Hamfest June 2nd. Where we will discuss all things Digital Voice and where we are in Winnipeg.

The panel will be moderated so that this does not turn into a sales pitch, or does not slag one format against another. It will be an open discussion on each format type, where the expert can talk about their format and what is installed in Winnipeg for maybe ~10 minutes. Then the moderator will ask questions to get clarification on anything said and ask about future plans for each digital format in Winnipeg. The conversation will then be opened up to the audience for a town hall type Q&A.

If you believe you have more than average knowledge on any of the Subject listed below that is currently not assigned to a presenter, please contact Derek, VE4HAY@shaw.ca

- Digital Transmission Formats
  - o D-Star – Garth, VE4GWB
  - o Fusion I & II – William, VE4VR
  - o DMR – Shaun VE6??
  - o P25 -
  - o NXDN -
- Digital Network Formats
  - o Mototurbo – Rob, VE4RRB
  - o MARC
  - o Brandmeister
  - o IRLP
  - o Echolink
  - o AllStar link
- Hotspots – Garth, VE4GWB
- Transcoding – Dan, VE4DRK



Are you a  
**RAC** member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

# Spotlight on: Gerry Sherman VE4GKS

By David VE4DAR

What got you interested in Amateur Radio? I dabbled in electronics for years before I got my ticket.



Contacts or moments that stand out? In 1977, while in Denver on business, I bought an ICOM 22S transceiver (2m FM) before it was available in Canada. I worked with the Olympic Committee in 1980.

What have you got out of our hobby? I've met lots of interesting people. My particular interest has been electronics, and I've been deeply involved in that part of the hobby.

Public service? I had a VE3- call in Toronto and was with the Olympic Committee in 1980. CANWARN, ARES, and marathons.

Advice for new hams? Try many things. Take advantage of opportunities.

Future of Amateur Radio? It will always be around, although there will be many changes. I was out of the hobby for 25 years. When I returned, I got technology shock!

We are pleased to have you back, Gerry. Thanks for this.

Class or on your own? I studied on my own with no Elmer. I got my license in 1970. I also have an engineering certificate in electronics.

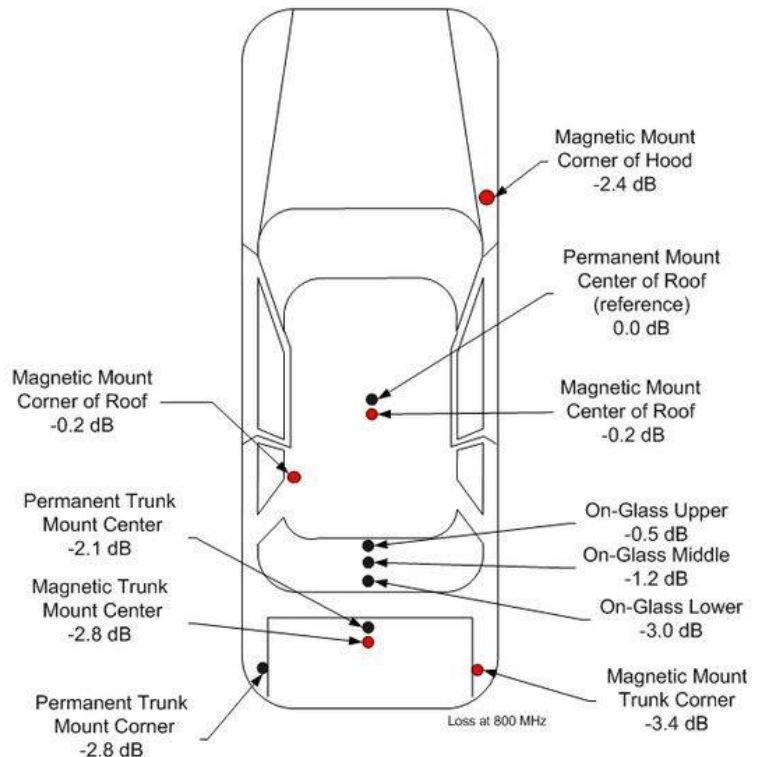
Build or buy your equipment? I tore apart an ARC 5 from World War 2 for parts; built my own first transmitter; built Heathkits and antennas.



© 2019 Jason Togyer W3MCK jtogyer@gmail.com CQ Magazine



## Mobile Antenna Mounting Consideration



A typical 5/8 wave 145 MHz (2 meter) antenna requires a ground plane of at least 42" in diameter. At 450 MHz just 15" is required and at 800 MHz a minimum of 8" is considered sufficient.

In terms of mounting mobile antennas on a vehicle, there are five general locations: the roof, front fender, rear fender, trunk and rear window glass (although other glass mount locations may be used). Of these, the center of an automobile roof is considered the best for mobile antenna placement, followed by the center of the trunk lid, the fenders, and then on-glass mounting.

# Manitoba Repeater Society

The Manitoba Repeater Society operates and maintains a linked repeater system across southern Manitoba, including Winnipeg.

If you are a user of any of these repeaters, we urge you to support the group by becoming a member.

VE4MAN - Starbuck, VE4CDN - Morris,  
VE4PLP - Portage, VE4MRS - Bruxelles,  
VE4GIM - Gimli, VE4MIL - Milner Ridge  
VE4EMB - Hadashville, VE4FAL - Falcon Lake,  
VE4WPG - Winnipeg, VE4VJ - Winnipeg, VE4WRS  
- Autopatch & IRLP link Winnipeg

Links to repeaters in Ontario, Brandon, Selkirk and soon to be the Dauphin & area.

[info@mb-repeater-society.ca](mailto:info@mb-repeater-society.ca)  
<http://www.mb-repeater-society.ca/>  
<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

**MRS Memberships Expired on December 31**

**You Can Renew Today On-Line**

The Manitoba Repeater Society Annual General Meeting was held Tuesday, April 23.

Elections were held during the AGM. The following MRS members were acclaimed to office for the 2019-2020 term.

These members were assigned the following offices...

|                |        |                 |
|----------------|--------|-----------------|
| President      | VE4HAZ | Harm Hazeu      |
| Vice President | VE4VR  | William Franzin |
| Treasurer      | VE4DRK | Dan Keizer      |
| Membership     | VE4PH  | Pete Haertel    |
| Secretary      | VE4HK  | Dick Maguire    |
| Technical      | VE4AAZ | Bill East       |
| At Large       | VE4HAY | Derek Hay       |
| At Large       | VA4AFK | Derek Vermette  |

Also, VE4EAR was appointed as Past President

signed

Dick Maguire VE4HK  
Secretary

## 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 and Dick's "Swap & Shop"

**The 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!

**D-Star Nets on the VE4WDR System using**

**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 )

**HamNation D-Star Net - Wednesday at 9:15pm**  
On "DPlus" Reflector 14 ( REF014CL )

**Ozark Mtn. D-Star Net - Sundays at 8:00 pm**  
On "DPlus" Reflector 1 ( REF001CL )  
More nets <http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx>

## HF Nets .....

**MB Evening Phone Net - 3747 Khz  
Daily at 7:00 PM Local Time (CT)**

**Prairie Traffic Net (CW) 3660 Khz  
Daily at 01:30 UTC**

**Aurora Net (Afternoon) 7055 Khz  
Daily at 23:30 UTC**

**Aurora # 2 Net (Evening) 7055 Khz  
Daily at 02:30 UTC**

**MB Wx Net 3743 Khz  
Daily at 8:30 Local Time (CT)**

### Editor's Note:

*Be sure to keep your e-mail address current with WARC and/or MRS membership chairs to ensure you receive your monthly issues of*

*The Newscaster*

*The Newscaster* is the Official Publication of **Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**  
Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark VE4MAB, - [ve4mab@outlook.com](mailto:ve4mab@outlook.com)