



The **NEWSCASTER**

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

September 2021

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VE4BB

Program - "Voice Control on Ham Radio" by William VE4VR

Date: Tuesday, September, 2021 -
Time: 7:30 PM An "On-Line" Meeting
<https://join.freeconferencecall.com/treasurer523>
In view of the current "Social Distancing"
measures join WARC for this online meeting

Other Important Dates:

Newscaster: Deadline September 30, 2021

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates **2nd Tuesdays**
On-Line meetings until further notice
September 14, 2021 - Welcome Back
October 12, 2021 - AGM
November 9, 2021 - TBA

ARES: Tuesday, September 21, 2021
Will be an **on-line** "Remote" Zoom
meeting Winnipeg ARES members will
be advised by e-mail

Other: Need to renew your
WARC membership??
<http://winnipegarc.org/join.html>

WARC Executive for 2021-2022...

President	Vacant	
Vice-Pres.	Drew Kwartel	drewk1166@gmail.com
Treasurer	David Latour	ve4dla@gmail.com
Secretary	Scott Campbell	
Membership	Jerry Volkens	jerryvolkers@hotmail.com
Education	Roberto Urrea	va4.rul@gmail.com
Director	Daniel Flather	VA4EEF
Director	Cary Rubenfel	VE4EA
Past President	John Romanec	ve4vjr@gmail.com
Public Information Officer....	Vacant	

From The Past-President -

Greetings to everyone after our summer break! That was an awful long time to go without rain here in Winnipeg, seems like after the spring melt we did not get any noticeable amount of rain till a couple of weeks ago. But things are nice and green once more as we get set to start a new WARC season.

A couple of changes to our WARC executive this year - I am no longer the WARC president but move into the position of "Past President". Until a replacement is found WARC will be led by "committee" across the executive.

Along with our returning executive members, we would like to welcome 3 new members. Well, 2 will be new to most people and 1 will be familiar to most. Scott Campbell VA4SMC (Secretary) and Daniel Flather VA4EEF (Director at Large) are relatively new hams who have decided to give back to the ham community, and for that we are very grateful! Cary Rubenfeld VE4EA also joins us as a Director at Large. Cary who is a long time ham brings a lot of knowledge and experience to the executive which is hugely appreciated. For those that may not know, Cary was also a driving force in organizing the very successful 2019 Hamfest.

Against all predictions and hope, Covid still has not left us and is causing a few planned WARC events to be on unstable ground. A flea market in October and a Christmas supper for the December general meeting date are in the works... hopefully they will go ahead but **STAY TUNED!**

September's WARC general meeting on September 14 will still be an online meeting only where William Franzin VE4VR will be giving a presentation to us about "voice control on ham radio". At this point in time Windsor Park United Church says we will be able to meet in person for the October general meeting, but, after almost 2 years of experience, we all know that this can change at any moment. So please keep an eye on the WARC website for any last minute changes.

In the meantime we hope everyone stays safe, healthy and happy as we go forward and look forward to seeing everyone face to face in the hopefully not too distant future!

73 John VE4VJR - Past President

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

²
Minutes

WARC General Meeting June 8, 2021

Call to Order 7:36

Introduction

23 Attendees

RAC Report

- Advanced course starting soon and Basic course expected to be held in the fall (not sure yet).
- RAC Canada Day contest coming up July 1.

DX Report

- in the short term, normal conditions are expected with no storms forecast.
- SFI has been ~80 which is better than the 68 - 70 we were experiencing.
- 15m was open this evening (June 8).

ARES Report

- Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ sends his regrets and said the latest announcements are in the last Newscaster.

Program/Presentation

Canadian Tire 6m Quad - Jessy Blanchette VE4JBB, John Romanec VE4VJR

Previous meeting's minutes

No comments

Business

- Elections:

All except John Romanec VE4VJR are returning to the executive. John will however continue to look for speakers for the monthly meetings.

Returnees are:

Drew Kwartel VE4DRW - Vice-President
David Latour VE4DL - Treasurer
Jerry Volkers VE4GCV - Membership Coordinator
Roberto Urrea VA4RUA - Director at Large, Education Coordinator
Mark Blumm VE4MAB - Director at Large, Newscaster and website Editor

2 people have submitted their names for the executive and have been unanimously accepted:

Scott Campbell VA4SMC
Daniel Flather VA4EEF

Treasurer's report

- Bank balances as of May 31, 2021:

Chequing - \$3808.05
Rainy Day Fund: \$6020.21
PayPal - \$954.66

Membership Report

Numbers are 103 (87 paid-up members and 16 free new ham memberships).

Education report

- No classes expected to be held till February 2022.
- WARC has Basic and Advanced books for sale - \$60

each.

- Periodically RAC has been offering online Basic and Advanced classes.

New Business

- No new business.

Adjourn

8:22

Editors Note: The WARC minutes are always printed as submitted with corrections limited to a spelling error or formatting for presentation. The June 2021 minutes incorrectly show myself as a WARC director and was not corrected by the writer prior to publication. My last year on the WARC executive was the 2013-2014 year after having served on the executive since 2002 including 2 years as President. Newscaster Editor and Webmaster are NOT executive positions.— Mark VE4MAB

Winnipeg ARES

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ
ve4mbq@rac.ca

Our next General Meeting on-line is TUE 21 SEP, I recently spoke with the Manager at Sir Wm Stephenson Library, their meeting rooms remain closed and they are not allowed to take any bookings. Thanks to Pietra Shirley VE4PXL and Craig Martin VE4CDM for providing the meeting platform.

The 2021 Manitoba Marathon is scheduled for SUN 05 SEP. I have never had so little information one month out from the event! Much smaller footprint including less runners, full marathon going around half marathon course twice, significantly reduced number of Hospitality stations which means way less Amateurs involved. There will be a post-event report in time posted on Wpg ARES web-site.

Dave Stimpson VE4DJS has done a terrific job keeping all our volunteers documented which wouldn't be possible without WARC's cooperation and Mark Blumm VE4MAB's work to maintain our on-line volunteer registration system. Common complaint, we were not able to get enough Marathon-experienced back-up operators to volunteer.

Thanks to Dave VE4DJS, Mark VE4MWH, Richard VE4ESX and Dick VE4HK for their help with "stuff" distribution during the briefing. Special thanks to Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club and Drew VE4DRW for use of the WARC-owned PA system at the Amateur Radio Marathon briefing.

Thanks to the Amateur operators scheduled to volunteer Race Day:

VA4s CQD & MAC
VE4s GS, GZ, HK, HQ, VZ, ZN, ACX, ANF, BOY, CDM, CKP, CLK, DBV, DJS, EAR, EBG, ESX, FTS, GWN, HAY, JEP, JON, LIT, JFK, KAZ, LYN, MAB, MMG, MWH, SBS, SYM, TRO, TSY, WTF, YYL and MBQ.

Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

June 2021

Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 8
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 8
 VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest 1700Z-2000Z, Sep 8
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 8
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 9
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 9
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 9
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 9
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 10
 NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 10
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 10
 FOC QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 11
 WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 11 to 2359Z, Sep 12
 SARL Field Day Contest 0800Z, Sep 11 to 0600Z, Sep 12
 YB7-DX Contest 0900Z, Sep 11 to 1400Z, Sep 12
 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Sep 11 to 2400Z, Sep 12
 Ohio State Parks on the Air 1400Z-2200Z, Sep 11
 Alabama QSO Party 1500Z, Sep 11 to 0300Z, Sep 12
 Russian Cup Digital Contest 1500Z-1859Z, Sep 11 and 0600Z-0959Z, Sep 12
 ARRL September VHF Contest 1800Z, Sep 11 to 0300Z, Sep 13
 North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 12
 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Sep 13
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 13
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 14
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 14
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 15
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 15
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 15
 RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 15
 Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 16
 and 0200Z-0300Z, Sep 17
 NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Sep 16
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 16
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 16
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 16
 BCC QSO Party 1830Z-1859Z, Sep 16
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 16
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 17
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 17
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 17
 AGB NEMIGA Contest 2100Z-2400Z, Sep 17
 Collegiate QSO Party 0000Z, Sep 19 to 2359Z, Sep 20
 SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest 0500Z-0700Z, Sep 18 (6m) and 0700Z-0900Z, Sep 18 (2m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Sep 18 (70cm) and 0500Z-0700Z, Sep 19 (6m) and 0700Z-0900Z, Sep 19 (2m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Sep 19 (70cm)

ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

0600 local, Sep 18 to 2400 local, Sep 19
 Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW 1200Z, Sep 18 to 1200Z, Sep 19
 Iowa QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 18 to 0200Z, Sep 19
 Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 18 to 0200Z, Sep 19 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 19
 QRP Afield 1500Z-2100Z, Sep 18
 Wisconsin Parks on the Air 1600Z-2300Z, Sep 18
 Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 18 to 0700Z, Sep 19 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 19
 New Jersey QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 18 to 0359Z, Sep 19
 New Hampshire QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 18 to 0400Z, Sep 19 and 1600Z-2200Z, Sep 19
 Feld Hell Sprint 1800Z-1959Z, Sep 18
 North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 19
 BARTG Sprint PSK63 Contest 1700Z-2059Z, Sep 19
 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 2300Z, Sep 19 to 0100Z, Sep 20
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 20
 144 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 20
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 21
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 21
 SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Sep 22
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 22
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 22
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 22
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 23
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 23
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 23
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 23
 RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 23
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 24
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 24
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 24
 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Sep 25 to 2400Z, Sep 26
 Maine QSO Party 1200Z, Sep 25 to 1200Z, Sep 26
 Masonic Lodges on the Air 1400Z-2200Z, Sep 25
 AGCW VHF/UHF Contest 1400Z-1700Z, Sep 25 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Sep 25 (432)
 UBA ON Contest, 6m 0700Z-1000Z, Sep 26
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 27
 QCX Challenge 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 27
 RSGB FT4 Contest Series 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 27
 QCX Challenge 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 27
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 28
 QCX Challenge 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 28
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 28
 222 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 28
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 29
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 29
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 29
 UKEICC 80m Contest 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 29
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 30
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 30
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 30
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 30

Contest Calendar

Continued...

Into October 2021 ...

NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Oct 1
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Oct 1
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Oct 1
TRC DX Contest	0600Z, Oct 2 to 1800Z, Oct 3
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0600Z, Oct 2 to 0600Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-1000Z, Oct 2
Russian WW Digital Contest	1200Z, Oct 2 to 1159Z, Oct 3
Two-Meter Classic Sprint	1300Z-1330Z, Oct 2
IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves Contest	1400Z, Oct 2 to 1400Z, Oct 3
International HELL-Contest	600Z-1800Z, Oct 2 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 3 (40m)
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 2 to 2200Z, Oct 3
SKCC QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 2 to 1800Z, Oct 3
RSGB DX Contest	0500Z-2300Z, Oct 3
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-0900Z, Oct 3
Peanut Power QRP Sprint	2200Z-2359Z, Oct 3
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Oct 4
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 4

****** Good Luck In The Contest ******

Confessions of a Casual Contester

Vol. 2 Issue 2

From the shack of DavidVE4DL

I am not now, nor ever have been, a Contester. I don't see myself becoming a Contester either, if one defines the term to include round-the-clock operations, intravenous fluids and diapers, and frequent relays of cold, one-hand meals. Not my thing, at all. BUT.....

I enjoy CW. I like the challenge of copying a little above my usual speed. I like the mystery aspect of unexpected contractions and 'slang' (sometimes it's really annoying though.) Takes me back to grade school, passing notes in class without any vowels. Kids today think they invented this style for smartphones. I tell you, it was happening in Plato's classes.

What nobody warns you about is the rabbit hole a new CW op is about to fall down, that will lead to empty bank accounts and sleepless nights wandering swap shops and eBay. Waiting for the delivery person with sweaty palms and staring eyes....

Keys. Glorious keys.....

- Brass. Stainless. Steel. Pot metal. Silver or gold or platinum-plated.
- Straight. Semi-automatic. Cooties.
- Paddles, dual and single lever. Vertical. Horizontal. Switchable. Ganged. With or without integrated keyer.
- Spring, torsion or magnetic return
- Capacitive. Whistle.
- Expensive. Absurdly expensive. Almost affordable. But rarely inexpensive.

Like a lot of people, my first real key as one of the many many J37/38 clones produced around the world. Mine was pot metal and galvanized steel with no bearings at all, not even needle bearings (except by courtesy – blunt trunions in a shallow cup.) It had a replacement spring from somewhere and miss-matched adjustment screws. But it worked. It did. At 4-5 wpm, a hammer and anvil works, too. It arrived in the post one day, without warning, addressed from a friend/elmer in MA. A year later it was in the hands of another grateful newcomer, and I moved on to a Nye Speedkey. Briefly. Like sending with a spoon in a bowl of porridge, it was. That one found its way to a flea market. Then I went wild – I found a capacitive paddle set that could work like a cootie with the right keyer, so that's what I did (P1PAD, now out of business) and very happy I was.

I had more weird ideas- I was thinking in terms of copying in handwriting, so I learned to send left-handed cootie with a pencil in my right. I actually accomplished this feat to the tune of 12 wpm, which is my max legible writing speed. I still have this arcane device, currently used as an iambic paddle in my remote shack, hooked to my ORB. In this incarnation, I run it right-handed.

Life happened and I was away from the radio a while.

Surfing one night, I found that VizKey had changed hands and was back in business. An American ham manufacturer of quality keys and bugs. I jumped at a Camelback straight key and boy, was I right. A fabulous key, obviously expressly made for my sending style, because I find it effortless and easy to adapt to. I can send up to about 22 wpm in practice (10 in my usual state of neglect.) It's attractive too, so what's to complain about? I did swap in a Navy knob for the original, though. This is my last straight key, no question at all.

One day I decided that I would try teaching code for the Club, using some crazy theory that learning at speed with paddles was the way to go, so I did that. People actually signed up for it. People actually learned CW. I was amazed! The Club had bought the MFJ clone Bencher paddles for the class. My first experience with paddles also. I learned to use them, but I did not learn to like them. I kept looking around for something better.

I have a Kenwood TS-590S, so when I found a used Vibroplex Vibrocube in the 70th Anniversary livery, I picked that up for not a lot. It's an interesting set of iambic paddles, that's for sure. I find them much easier to adjust and use than the MFJ paddles, and more comfortable to use. They hold the adjustment perfectly. I like them, but I will keep looking at other makes/ styles until I find one that is best suited to me. I'm looking at single-lever paddles, currently.

But it isn't contesting. Nope. Not at all.

5
**THE WIRELESS SET No. 52
(CANADIAN)
RESTORATION PROJECT
PART 2 - By David VE4DTD**

A lot has been going on with this project since I first wrote about it way back at its start in February 2019.

Back at that time, along with a handful of extra accessories I had on hand, common to both the Wireless Set No. 19 and the Wireless Set No. 52, I had only found a pair of Main Set Receivers, a complete Remote Receiver with Power Cable and ZE-11 Remote Supply, and a pair of the Coil, Aerial Tuning No. 2A assemblies. The latter two Coil assemblies were a fortunate combination as the more complete of the two was missing all the parts that were still available in the second one and the front panel cleaned up rather nicely. I still have to go back to it at some point, slide everything out of the wooden case and strip the ugly postwar gloss green paint from it to be able to repaint it the original semi-gloss Olive Green Canadian Marconi was using during production of the Wireless Set No. 52 back in 1944.

Of the two Main Set Receivers I have, the newer of the two had been placed on a work bench at some point without ensuring the bench top was completely clear, and I discovered a 3-wafer switch assembly at the open bottom of the chassis had been smashed to pieces. It also turned out to have a meter with a cracked face and a completely missing slow motion drive assembly on the Tuning Dial. So it became a future parts source.

I decided to start work on restoration of the Remote Supply ZE-11 first and then move to the Remote Receiver. My logic was that if the Remote Supply could be brought back to life, it would be very useful to power both the Remote Receiver and Main Set Receiver during their restoration. The correct Remote Supply for the Wireless Set No. 52 is actually a ZE-12, which differs only in a couple of minor changes to the fusing arrangement from the ZE-11 used with the earlier Wireless Sets No. 9 Canadian. The ZE-11 came with the Remote Receiver and Power Cord and was virtually complete, and being a heavy little sucker found here in Canada, I decided to go ahead and use it. Several ZE-12 Remote Supplies have since turned up here in North America or Overseas, but all have been missing key bits and shipping is hideously expensive for small heavy items. But who knows, a complete ZE-12 may yet turn

up.

The only two noticeable issues with the ZE-11 Remote Supply, once cleaned up, were the OZ4A was VERY rusty and was of questionable reliability, and the last 4 inches of the AC Mains Cord, before it disappeared into the chassis, had been used as dental floss by some unknown rodent. I replaced the OZ4A with a brand new one and unsoldered the AC cord, trimming back about 6 inches and re-soldered it back in place. With an appropriate resistance load across the output sockets, I plugged the supply in and turned it on. Nothing. A careful voltage trace led to a suspect pair of electrolytic capacitors.

After kicking some options around with Don (VE4AY) here in Winnipeg, and a good friend Jacques (VE2JFE) in Montreal, I decided it was worth trying to reform the original set of caps in the supply and Jacques would send me a spare set he had on hand...just in case. I picked up a variable power supply from Don one weekend and disconnected the two electrolytic capacitors in the chassis and set to work. A very interesting process. It took the better part of a day and a half to coax them both back to life, but they did come back. With everything back in place and the resistance load reconnected, I tried once more. Bingo! Both the LT and HT outputs were there. However, they were both somewhat higher than what the specs said they should be reading. That was puzzling for a while until I finally noticed the stencil beside the MAINS SELECTOR SWITCH. It said, '115 VAC/230 VAC'. Canada bumped their residential voltages up to 120 Volts AC in the 1950's. A quick calculation confirmed that the percentage increase in AC Mains Voltage equaled the percentage increase in LT and HT output from the supply. It was working just fine. I then switched the supply to DC Mode, connected it to a 22 Amp 12 Volt DC Power Supply and turned it back on. Nothing, until I gave the top of the vibrator a couple of gentle taps with a screwdriver handle. Suddenly the vibrator started to hum again and perfect output voltages this time. I could then shift my attention to working on the Remote Receiver.

I started restoration work on the Remote Receiver as it needed somewhat less cleaning than the Main Set Receiver, and if I got it up and running, then I was well on my way to completing the Remote Receiver portion of the overall project. The initial inspection of the Remote Receiver revealed it had been overhauled at some point in the 1960's at 202 Base Workshop in Montreal as it had a small white decal below the Meter stating the dial was "Non-luminous". Turns out, they did not mean the meter dial, but the large Tuning Dial to the right of it. In addition to this information, there appeared to be a large fuse cartridge missing from its clips fitted to the back of the two Aerial Terminals, and the previous owner had for some reason decided to add a UHF Socket to the back of the Remote Receiver Case to use for connecting the receiver to whatever aerial system he was operating. This socket was tapped into one of the aerial leads at the front of the receiver and a coil of almost a meter of wire simply stuffed into the case beside the receiver chassis. Very odd. Continued....

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Parallel to all this work going on, I had also been busy building a clone of a British Valve Testing Adapter Assembly to use with my Precision Model 612 Tube Tester. This adapter is based on a similar one built into the lid of several wartime and post war tube testers used by the Canadian Army and the RCN. So the first step was to pull all 13 valves from the receiver, and clean and test them. While doing this, I found a small glass 'fuse' sitting at the bottom of the chassis. Upon retrieval, it turned out to be a Gas Discharge Tube and was the item missing from the pair of clips behind the Aerial Terminals. Nice find!

One 12Y4G Diode was dead on the half working in the Detector Circuit and 2 ARP-3 Pentodes were also dead. From the spare receiver I was able to test out and install a full compliment of valves rating between the high 70's and mid-90's on the tester. When I then connected the receiver to the Remote Supply and fired it up, it came to life beautifully and when hooked up to my 134-foot dipole, stations were rolling in quite nicely. The only problem was the meter was not reading the 150 Volt DC HT circuit at all. This turned out to be a pair of metering resistors that had completely failed. Once replaced, the meter reported correct HT quite nicely. I could now turn my attention to the Main Set Receiver with the added bonus of having an operational receiver on hand to make comparisons with, which I thought would be quite useful.

First step again was to go through all the valves and check them out. All came back with ratings consistent with those in the Remote Receiver, but for one ARP-3 Pentode, which was barely giving me a 20% rating, so it got replaced. Then things suddenly got very interesting.

It was very late September, 2019. As I became more familiar with the Wireless Set No. 52, a few more bits and pieces were turning up for it. Back in the Spring, a couple of more, or less, complete sets had turned up out in Western Canada. One lead was completely cold and the other I was able to confirm the set was available and then all lines of communication went dark. On September 29, 2019, I received word of another 52-Set up for sale somewhere in Quebec. My High School French was rusty to say the least, so I contacted my friend Jacques in Montreal right away and asked if he could contact the owner and possibly check the set out for me. It took a couple of days of emails and phone messages, but Jacques was able to make contact, inspect the set and purchase it for me. It was the full Main Set Receiver, Supply Unit and Sender all in their Carriers No. 4. He warned me it looked really rough, particularly the Sender, but it might just be restorable. Needless to say, work on my Main Set Receiver took to the back burner over the next few weeks while I worked out shipping arrangements. All of the Main Set parts had arrived safely by 05 December 2019, and Jacques had been correct, the Sender was going to be a real challenge!

The biggest consideration in owning a Wireless Set No. 52 Canadian is its weight. All in, the Main Set of five items weighs 276 pounds. The Carriers No. 4, the four

other pieces mount to, comes in at 110 pounds empty. That pretty much equates to an RCA AR88 in a stand-alone case. The big difference is the mass of the AR88 is very compact and can be held and lifted within the span of ones shoulders. The Carriers No. 4, on the other hand is 42 inches wide by 15 inches square. The two collapsible lifting handles at each top end add another 5 inches in height when extended, so to clear a normal table or countertop, your arms are lifting that 110 pounds well outside and above your shoulders. You want to get that right once, or have help! There is a second, very important consideration when working with the Carriers No. 4 as well.

The Canadian Marconi Company designed this set with enough confidence the operators would never need to do more than check and replace the occasional valve, crystal or vibrator and to do this, access panels and doors were designed into the Receiver, Supply Unit and Sender to allow access for the operator. In addition, the metering circuits were designed such that all the major valves in the Receiver and Sender could be checked, by the operator selecting them, with the Meter Switch. Since it was not necessary for the operator to pull the chassis components out of the Carriers No. 4 to do these maintenance checks, as was required with the Wireless Set No. 19, the Receiver, Supply Unit and Sender were secured in the Carriers No. 4 with hex head bolts and no tools were provided in the Tool Box for this hardware.

Once I had the Carriers No. 4 cleaned of all its 75+ years of dust and dirt accumulations, I taped out where it had to sit on my Wireless Bench, which was now capped with ¾ inch plywood (a major upgrade from 3/8-inch chip board) and my lovely wife and I were able to lift the Carriers No. 4 into position and I was able to slide the Receiver, Supply Unit and Sender into it. The worst looking part was the Sender, the varnish on the front panel of which had aged into a very dark amber color. A far cry from its factory original Gloss Navy Gray.

While the Sender had been in the care of my friend Jacques in Montreal, he had done a quick check on all the valves and found them to be in good working order. He had also noted the clear acrylic Pointer Assembly on the right side of the Tuning Dial, lower left, was missing and the Slow Motion Drive for this dial was frozen solid with rust. He had some correct acrylic on hand, along with an NOS bearing rebuild kit for the drive, so took the time to do these repairs for me. Somewhere during its post-military life, this set had been stored with the Sender outside the Carriers No. 4 in a shop that used an oil, or wood stove, for heat, for a very long time. The upper section of the inner chassis was covered in a thick coat of oily soot that was so bad, you could not read any of the color codes on any resistors located on the upper chassis section. In addition, several ¼-inch thick white ceramic insulator plates, looked like brown phenolic resin circuit board material. Not a good thing at all to have inside a Sender capable of voltages in the order of 10 to 15 thousand volts DC.

Continued....

Other issues Jacques and I identified were as follows:

- The Tuning Dial was still a bit stiff.
- The Aerial Terminal had been broken away from its 1/16-inch thick phenolic board backing plate riveted to the upper panel.
- The Flick Mechanism for the middle I.P.A. Dial did not work at all.
- The PA TUNE Dial on the right was missing its Slow Motion Drive tension spring so the dial would not turn.
- The left hand PA LOADING Counter would not reach '0,0,0,0', but stopped short at '0,0,0,3/4'.
- The keys for the High Power Lock were missing.

On the bright side, the Cooling Fans in both the Sender and Supply Unit were in good working order when tested.

To fix all of this, and clean and touch up the original paint work meant the front of the Sender had to be carefully disassembled and the front panel removed. A very daunting task considering I had no spare parts to work with at all. I started work on the Sender in early April, 2020 and finished in late April, 2021. I think the toughest part was an 18-day stretch in September, 2020 when I was using a single finger and cloth to carefully polish away the yellowed varnish on the front panel. The work also included fully restoring all the phosphor luminous paint markings on the knobs and handles. I did not want a factory new Gloss Navy Grey finish to this wireless set at all. What I am looking for is the appearance of a set that has been in service, carefully maintained and allowed to grow old gracefully. Not all the painted parts on these sets were given a clear coat of varnish at the factory. Only those parts that had water transfer decals applied to them, in order to protect the paintwork on the decals. Therefore, only the varnished parts will patina over time as the varnish yellows. The unvarnished parts will remain Gloss Navy Grey.

I am now back working on the Main Set Receiver replacing a Trimmer Cap that has shorted out its plates. Hopefully with it replaced soon, the Receiver will spring back into life and I can continue on with this project.

Other parts for this Wireless Set are slowly being found, and there are still a fair number to be located. Four that come to mind at the moment are the manual titled, 'WORKING INSTRUCTIONS WIRELESS SETS, CANADIAN NO. 52 VEHICLE AND GROUND STATIONS'. It is identical in size and design to the manual for the Wireless Set (Canadian) No. 19 Mark III, but twice as thick.

*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

Three other parts it would be nice to find are shown in the attached illustrations taken from the Master Parts List for the Wireless Set No. 52. If anyone has these bits sitting around, please get in touch with me.

Meanwhile, the Project continues.



Photo 1: The Main Set Assembly shortly after receiving it from Quebec. Receiver on the left, Supply Unit in the centre and Sender on the right. The Coils, Aerial Tuning No. 2A is on top of the Carriers No. 4.



Photo 2: The Main Set after the restoration of the Sender and restoration of the handles and luminous markings on the Receiver.



Photo 3: Front view of the Main Set under UV Light showing the luminous markings restored to date.

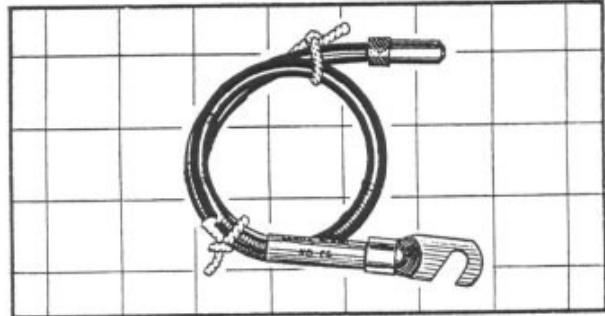
Continued....

Photo 4: One of the set Connectors I would like to find that fits between the Sender and the Coils, Aerial Tuning.

**CONNECTORS, Single,
16-in, Aerial, No. C1**

5/16-in dia x 16-in lg black RC single HT electric wire (WB/CAN 1402) or ignition cable; 5/8-in wd lug w/side slot (ZE/CAN 4707) at one end; 3/8-in dia x 1.3/8-in lg single plug knurled for 5/8-in (ZA/CAN 4694) at other end; early connectors used a shorter plug w/only 1/4-in or 1/2-in knurling some of which were extended 3/8-in past knurled end & laced w/twine; may be wrongly labelled "LEADS, AERIAL No.C6, ZA/CO0102"

ZA/CAN 4266



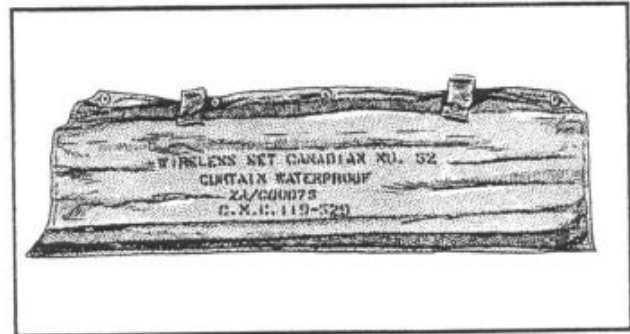
ZA/CAN 4266

Photo 5: The Main Set Cover I am looking for that rolls up and is stored across the top of the front of the Carriers. The stenciling is in black on the green canvas. It is essentially a flat panel with five fasteners across the top edge and two retaining straps.

COVERS, Waterproof, No. C2

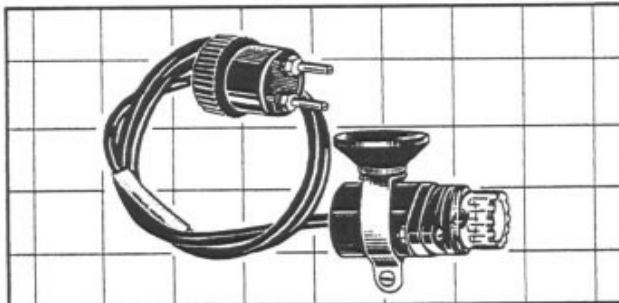
Olive green duck 41-in x 18-in; steel bar 39-in x 1/2-in x 1/8-in sewn along one edge; opposite edge has two duck straps 7.1/4-in x 2-in sewn on 20-in ctrs w/dot fastener 3/4-in from one end & stud 1.1/2-in from opposite end; five dot fasteners on 9.3/16-in ctrs 5/8-in from top edge; may be wrongly marked "CURTAIN WATERPROOF, ZA/CO0075"

ZA/CAN 4764



ZA/CAN 4764

Photo 6: The Operators Lamp I would like to find. It is the same lamp body and cable as found on the WS No. 19 Operators Lamp, but with the large cylindrical Bakelite Plug with two brass pins, and the body of the lamp has a Suction Cup fitted to it rather than the metal spring clip the 19-Set Lamp has fitted.



ZA/CAN 4412

LAMPS, Operator, No. C1

28-in lg overall; black cotton covered cord 3/16-in dia x 24-in lg; one end terminates in 2-point plug enclosed in 1.3/16-in max OD x 1.1/8-in lg black phenolic housing; other end terminates in lamp holder (ZA 4201) enclosed in black phenolic case w/plastic cover; rubber suction cup mtd to lamp holder by means of metal bkt; may be incorrectly labelled "LAMP, OPERATOR'S No.C6, ZA/CO0065"

ZA/CAN 4412

RAC Canada 2020 Conference and Annual General Meeting: Sunday, September 19

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-annual-general-meeting-and-canada-conference-2021/>

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce that it will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday, September 19. The AGM will once again be a virtual event.

We are also pleased to present the RAC Canada 2021 Conference – an interactive mini-conference that will feature interesting presentations on a wide range of topics. There will be parallel sessions so that participants can choose those presentations that are of most interest to them.

There will also be online chat rooms available between sessions so that you can meet with other participants. All sessions will be recorded for viewing later so you won't miss out if two of your favorites take place at the same time.

Date: Sunday, September 19

Time:

- Conference: 12 noon (EST)
 - AGM: 4 pm (EST) – see <https://www.rac.ca/agm>
- RAC Annual General Meeting Agenda

Date: Sunday, September 19

Time: 4 pm (Eastern Standard Time)

Agenda items will include:

- Report of the President
- Review of the 2020 finances
- Appointment of auditors for 2021

A Question and Answer period will follow the AGM proceedings. This is your opportunity to hear what your representatives have been doing over the past year, to raise questions, and to make suggestions about how RAC is managed and where it is going in the future.

If you wish to submit a question to the RAC President for the Q&A session please send it to ve3xra@rac.ca before 6 pm ET on Friday, September 17.

The meeting will be attended by members of the RAC Board of Directors and Executive and is open to all RAC members.

Registration is now underway for the RAC Advanced Course: Fall 2021

Note: You need to be a RAC Maple Leaf Operator Member (present or future) to register for this course. See below for information.

Radio Amateurs of Canada is once again offering an online Advanced Qualification Amateur Radio Course so that individuals can upgrade their qualifications while continuing to practice social/physical distancing.

With your Advanced Certificate, you can run higher power, operate a remotely-controlled station, obtain operating privileges when travelling overseas, set up repeaters, be the trustee for club stations and even become an Accredited Examiner (AE).

Course information:

The course will be 10 sessions in length and each session will be two hours long.

In order to offer maximum flexibility, we will be running two

Advanced courses so students will be able to choose one of the following two options:

- Sunday afternoons from 3 pm to 5 pm EDT (12 pm to 2 pm PDT) starting on Sunday, September 26 and ending on Sunday, December 19

Or

- Monday evenings from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm EDT (5:30 to 7:30 PDT) starting on Monday, September 27 and ending on Sunday, December 20

Note: There will be no classes on Thanksgiving weekend October 10 and 11, on October 31 and November 1 for the CQ SSB Contest and on November 28 or 29 for the CQ WW CW Contest.

Course Instruction:

The course instructor is Dave Goodwin, VE9CB. Dave has been an Amateur since 1975, is an active HF Contester and DXer and his DXpedition to Point Amour Lighthouse was featured on the front cover of the November-December 2020 issue of The Canadian Amateur. Dave has also been a long-time volunteer at the national level and has served as the RAC President and as the RAC Director for the Atlantic Region. Since 2015, he has also been teaching Basic and Advanced certification courses with the Fredericton (NB) Amateur Radio Club.

Course material pertaining to all topics covered in the course syllabus will be provided to all registered students and is available online at:

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-advanced-course-for-maple-leaf-operators-fall-2021/>

Course Requirements:

The RAC Advanced Qualification Amateur Radio course is being offered at no charge to RAC Maple Leaf Operator Members – both current and future as described below. Participants in the course will need to meet all of the following requirements:

1. Participants must already have the Canadian Basic Amateur Radio Qualification and a Canadian call sign.
2. Participants must already be a RAC Maple Leaf Operator Member or become one by joining RAC at the Maple Leaf Operator level or upgrading to that level.
3. Participants must have a copy of the Canadian Amateur Radio Advanced Qualification Study Guide provided by Coax Publications. For more information please visit the RAC Study Guides webpage.
4. Participants must have a computer and Internet connection capable of using the Zoom conference platform. You do not need your own account on Zoom to take part in this course, but you may have to download a Zoom applet to participate.
5. Participants must have a working email address to receive course materials and links to the sessions. There is room on the conference server for 200 participants in each session. Auditors are welcome to attend on a space-available basis, provided they are RAC Maple Leaf Operator members. You can sign up by following the instructions on the registration page.

Other Amateur Radio Courses:

Amateur Radio Basic and Advanced Qualification courses are also now being provided both online and in person by Canadian Amateur Radio Clubs and organizations. Please visit the Amateur Radio Courses webpage for more information at the link provided below.

<https://www.rac.ca/amateur-radio-courses/>



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
<http://www.mb-repeater-society.ca/>
<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

D-Star and DMR in Winnipeg !!

The Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group is conducting a membership drive! All members new and those who have renewed their memberships will have their name added to a draw for two (2) prizes.

-First Prize is an Anytone 878 UV Plus, Bluetooth Dual Band DMR portable radio.

-Second Prize is a free 1-year membership donated by the WDRG

To add to the excitement, for each additional \$25.00 donation your name will be entered again into the draw, but you must be a member.

Membership is \$25.00 for RAC members and \$35.00 for Non-RAC members

To renew your WDRG Membership or to join visit
<https://ve4wdr.org/membership.html>

Winnipeg ICOM Dealer...

Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.

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

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

or

E-Mail Steve at Steve@microhightech.ca

VHF Nets

MRS Nets

VE4WPG 147.390 Mhz + (127.3) &
VE4VJ 443.500 Mhz + (127.3)
(WPG is normally hot linked to VJ)

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!

The Newbie Net 147.390 Mhz+
Saturdays at 10:00 am

A net for new hams to participate in a Net and get on the air!

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 5 (XRF005BO)
Also on VE4DMR Timeslot 2 Talkgroup 302050

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 (REF091CL)
More nets <http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx>

DMR Nets on the VE4WDR System ...

Astronomy Net

Wednesday @ 20:00 local time
Time Slot 2, 31012

Northstar Net

Saturday @ 21:00 local time
Time Slot 2, 31273

HF Nets

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

Prairie Traffic Net (CW) 3660 Khz
Daily at 0130 UTC

Aurora Net (Afternoon) 7055 Khz
Daily at 2330 UTC

Aurora # 2 Net (Evening) 7055 Khz
Daily at 0230 UTC

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

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