



# The NEWSCASTER

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

October 2021

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VE4BB

*Program - "Before the Beginning" The story of  
 Winnipeg's first amateur radio club—By Garry Moir*

Date: Tuesday, October 12, 2021 - Annual General Meeting

Time: 7:30 PM *An "In Person" Meeting*  
 Windsor Park United Church,  
 1062 Autumnwood Dr (at Cottonwood Rd.)  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba.

*Double Vaccinated is required*

## *For Our October Annual General Meeting*

Double vaccinated is **REQUIRED** (*Covid Restrictions update Oct 5/21*), masks are mandatory everywhere in the facility. Social distancing is recommended and the signing of a waiver form is required by everyone attending the church for the first time this year. Download the form at ...

[http://www.WinnipegARC.org/Church\\_waiver.pdf](http://www.WinnipegARC.org/Church_waiver.pdf)

## *From The President -*

Hey folks, here we are yet again on another tightening of the co-vid restrictions. It's getting to be old hat for most of us but it is still frustrating.

Due to the ever changing restrictions our Annual General Meeting will now be open only to those who are double vaccinated. The info from the church originally said double vaxed preferred, but our government changed that on us and now we can only have a small number at the meeting if unvaccinated people attend.

It will be nice to finally have an in person meeting and I am looking forward to it. I will be purchasing coffee supplies and making the coffee before the meeting so bring your quarters as the coffee will be \$ 0.50 per cup. As well as your loonies for the 50/50 draw.

We are also looking forward to our flea market and seeing lots of people and lots of bargains on the tables. Some of the best stuff is pre owned especially when you can get a deal on it.

We still need a few more volunteers to help with the flea market, please let me know via an email if you can help out.

Melissa Fleury has once again graciously organize our Christmas dinner for us so you know it's going to be good. It hasn't been decided yet but we may need to change venues for the dinner due to a really steep price increase for the menu at the Norwood. Stay tuned for more details as we are able to share with our members. Please keep an eye on our website and social media for any updates and changes.

Continued...

## *Other Important Dates:*

Newscaster: Deadline October 28, 2021

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates **2nd Tuesdays**  
 October 12, 2021 - AGM  
 November 9, 2021 - TBA  
 December 14, 2021 - Christmas Supper

ARES: Tuesday, October 19, 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	Drew Kwartel	<a href="mailto:drewk1166@gmail.com">drewk1166@gmail.com</a>
Vice-Pres.	David Latour	<a href="mailto:ve4dla@gmail.com">ve4dla@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	David Latour	<a href="mailto:ve4dla@gmail.com">ve4dla@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Scott Campbell	<a href="mailto:scottcampbell1978@hotmail.com">scottcampbell1978@hotmail.com</a>
Membership	Jerry Volkens	<a href="mailto:jerryvolkers@hotmail.com">jerryvolkers@hotmail.com</a>
Education	Roberto Urrea	<a href="mailto:va4.rul@gmail.com">va4.rul@gmail.com</a>
Director	Daniel Flather	VA4EEF
Director	Cary Rubenfel	VE4EA
Past President	John Romanec	<a href="mailto:ve4vjr@gmail.com">ve4vjr@gmail.com</a>
Public Information Officer....	Vacant	

## *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>  
This club is your club and we need your support for anything we do so please renew your memberships, volunteer your time and attend meetings and club functions.

I will do what I can to keep this club functioning and active while I am your President.

Drew Kwartel  
President

## *Minutes*

### *WARC General Meeting September 14, 2021*

Meeting called to order 19:30

VE4DRW President chairing meeting.

*Introductions* – 18 members, 1 guest (VE4SJP) in attendance

*Financial Report* - C.U. \$4438.88, PayPal \$241.30 Rainy Day 6023.24. Total \$10,703.41 Books out for review.

*Membership* - 103 members, membership renewals due September 30. 12 renewals.

*Education* – No courses until Feb 2022, basic and advanced textbooks available online.

RAC continues to offer Basic and Advanced courses online.

*ARES* – Report submitted in Newscaster. Thanks from ARES to WARC for use of the PA system for marathon briefing. ARES next general meeting Sept 21.

*RAC report* – Ed VE4VT - RAC 2021 Conference and Annual General Meeting upcoming. Details [www.rac.ca/rac-canada-2021-conference](http://www.rac.ca/rac-canada-2021-conference). Conference starts at 11:00. General meeting at 15:00. Planning MB/SK/AB HF QSO. CW, SSB, and Digital for next year. Possible volunteers required.

*DX report* – VE4VT reports DX quiet but some improvement. High bands closing up and low bands improving. DXpeditions are returning

*New Business* - Flea market announced at the Dakota CC on Oct 17, 2021 with admission being \$5.00. Tables are \$20.00 and include 1 admission. Double vaccination and mask required. Follow current health orders. There will be a 50/50 draw. Volunteers required. Christmas banquet announced at the Norwood Hotel on Dec 14, 2021. More details to follow.

Next Annual General Meeting on Oct 12, 2021 at the Windsor Park Community Church (1062 Autumnwood Dr.). Refreshments to be available and masks to be worn. Double vaccination not required. A one risk waiver to be signed by every member in attendance. It was asked by Jeff if the copy of the waiver be published in the Newscaster or on the WARC website. Drew to send a copy to Mark. Drew has signed a new usage agreement.

Paul Reisdorf announced the WSC will have a senior advanced course in October. There are 2 advanced textbooks in stock. WSC is also setting up a remote station to be offered to members that are unable to get to the club to allow remote operation from PC. William Franzin VE4VR gave a presentation discussing his development of voice control using radio communication.

Meeting adjourned 20:49 by Drew

## **WARC's 2021 Fall Flea Market**

**Sunday, October 17, 2021  
Dakota Community Centre  
1188 Dakota Street,  
Winnipeg, MB**

**Doors open for EyeBall contacts at 9:30**

**Admission is \$ 5.00**

**Vendor Setup will begin at 9:45**

**Doors open for the flea market at 10:30**

**Table rentals will be \$20 and will include one admission, additional entries will be extra.**

**Reserve your table via PayPal...  
[http://www.WinnipegARC.org/flea\\_market.html](http://www.WinnipegARC.org/flea_market.html)**

**If you don't use Paypal and wish to purchase a table contact David at  
[treasurer@winnipegarc.org](mailto:treasurer@winnipegarc.org)**

**We will have a 50/50 draw and we will be selling raffle tickets for a draw to be held at our Christmas dinner at the Norwood Hotel on December 14,2021.**

**Please Note - All current health restrictions will be observed including the **double vaccination** requirement. Masks are compulsory as well as social distancing and a limit of 175 people being allowed into the gym at a time (currently).**

**Please watch our website for more information and for table rental information.**

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

**Our next on-line General Meeting will be 1900h TUE 19 OCT. Members will be advised of the URL prior to the meeting.**

## Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

### October 2021

SARL 80m QSO Party 1700Z-2000Z, Oct 7  
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 7  
 SKCC Sprint Europe 1900Z-2100Z, Oct 7  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 8  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 8  
 YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest 1400Z,  
 Oct 8 to 0200Z, Oct 10  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 8  
 QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Oct 9  
 Makrothen RTTY Contest 0000Z-0800Z, Oct 9  
 and 1600Z-2400Z, Oct 9  
 and 0800Z-1600Z, Oct 10  
 Nevada QSO Party 0300Z, Oct 9 to 2100Z, Oct 10  
 Oceania DX Contest, CW 0600Z, Oct 9 to 0600Z, Oct 10  
 Microwave Fall Sprint 0800 local - 1400 local, Oct 9  
 Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB 1200Z, Oct 9 to 1200Z, Oct 10  
 SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Oct 9 to 2400Z, Oct 10  
 Arizona QSO Party 1500Z, Oct 9 to 0500Z, Oct 10  
 Cosack's Honor VHF/UHF Contest 1600Z, Oct 9 to 0400Z, Oct 10  
 Pennsylvania QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 9 to 0400Z, Oct 10  
 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 10  
 South Dakota QSO Party 1800Z, Oct 9 to 1800Z, Oct 10  
 PODXS 070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint 2000Z, Oct 9 to 2000Z, Oct 10  
 10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint 0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10  
 UBA ON Contest, CW 0600Z-0900Z, Oct 10  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Oct 11  
 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 11  
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Oct 12  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 12  
 NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Oct 13  
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 13  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Oct 13  
 VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest 1700Z-2000Z, Oct 13  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 13  
 RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 13  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 14  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Oct 14  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 14  
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 14  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 15  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 15  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 15  
 JARTS WW RTTY Contest 0000Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17  
 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW 0001Z, Oct 16 to 2359Z, Oct 17  
 New York QSO Party 1400Z, Oct 16 to 0200Z, Oct 17

### Worked All Germany Contest

1500Z, Oct 16 to 1459Z, Oct 17  
 Feld Hell Sprint 2000Z-2359Z, Oct 16  
 Argentina National 7 MHz Contest 2130Z-2230Z, Oct 16  
 Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 17  
 UBA ON Contest, 2m 0700Z-1000Z, Oct 17  
 Illinois QSO Party 1700Z, Oct 17 to 0100Z, Oct 18  
 RSGB RoLo CW 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 17  
 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 2300Z, Oct 17 to 0100Z, Oct 18  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Oct 18  
 ARRL School Club Roundup 1300Z, Oct 18 to 2359Z, Oct 22  
 RSGB FT4 Contest Series 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 18  
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Oct 19  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 19  
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 20  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Oct 20  
 AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 20  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 20  
 Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 0000Z-0100Z, Oct 21  
 and 0200Z-0300Z, Oct 22  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 21  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Oct 21  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 21  
 EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 21  
 NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 22  
 NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 22  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 22  
 YBDXPI FT8 Contest 0000Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24  
 Araucaria World Wide VHF Contest 0000Z, Oct 23 to 1600Z, Oct 24  
 ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24  
 UK/EI DX Contest, SSB 1200Z, Oct 23 to 1200Z, Oct 24  
 Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Oct 23 to 1500Z, Oct 24  
 North American SSB Sprint Contest 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 24  
 Classic Exchange, CW 1400Z, Oct 24 to 0800Z, Oct 25  
 and 400Z, Oct 26 to 0800Z, Oct 27  
 Telephone Pioneers QSO Party 1800Z, Oct 24 to 0300Z, Oct 25  
 and 1800Z, Oct 25 to 0300Z, Oct 26  
 K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Oct 25  
 QCX Challenge 1300Z-1400Z, Oct 25  
 QCX Challenge 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 25  
 Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Oct 26  
 QCX Challenge 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 26  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 26  
 SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 27  
 Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 27  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Oct 27  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 27  
 UKEICC 80m Contest 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 27  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 28  
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Oct 28  
 RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Oct 28

Continued....

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EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 28  
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, SSB 2000Z-2130Z, Oct 28  
NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Oct 29  
NCCC Sprint 0230Z-0300Z, Oct 29  
Zombie Shuffle 1600-2400 local, Oct 29  
K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Oct 29  
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 30 to  
2359Z, Oct 31

### *Into November 2021...*

K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Nov 1  
Silent Key Memorial Contest 0600Z-0859Z, Nov 1  
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data 2000Z-2130Z, Nov 1  
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest  
0100Z-0159Z, Nov 2  
ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Nov 2  
RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Nov 2  
Phone Weekly Test - Fray 0230Z-0300Z, Nov 3  
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Nov 3  
VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest 1700Z-2000Z, Nov 3  
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 3  
UKEICC 80m Contest 2000Z-2100Z, Nov 3  
Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 0000Z-0100Z, Nov 4  
and 0200Z-0300Z, Nov 5  
CWops Mini-CWT Test 0300Z-0400Z, Nov 4  
CWops Mini-CWT Test 0700Z-0800Z, Nov 4  
RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Nov 4  
NRAU 10m Activity Contest 1800Z-1900Z, Nov 4 (CW)  
and 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 4 (SSB)  
and 2000Z-2100Z, Nov 4 (FM)  
and 2100Z-2200Z, Nov 4 (Dig)  
EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 4  
SKCC Sprint Europe 2000Z-2200Z, Nov 4

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

### *Confessions of a Casual Contester Vol. 2 Issue 3 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've done a few contests this year, spent some time with my Elmers. I'm more relaxed at it, so success rates are higher, but not at all what I'd like them to be. (Do I detect the stirrings of competitive spirit? EEK!) I've made some notes on what works for me and what doesn't.

I have a barefoot 100W station with a multiband vertical antenna, not very high, in a noisy urban environment. This has effects for both transmitting and receiving.

On getting out, the antenna is only really good for 10 and 20m and a narrow band of phone 80m (75?), okay for 40m, workable on 15. This means, if I want to run, I need clear space to do it, not cheek to cheek with a

KWer. If I want to search and pounce, it requires patience in the pile-up. If I catch someone early, one call will do, but once they're noticed, it can take up to 10 before I'm heard in the hollering. As a result, I typically get much better rates S&P than I do running a frequency.

Which brings me to spotting networks and running assisted. I use the network to spot those I work, to help out my fellow testers, but I don't have the spotting windows open for my own use. Why? Because I have found that very often, the station "spotted" is NOT the station I find CQing at that frequency when I tune there. Lots of fat-fingered types making mistakes or stations heard by spotters somewhere out there may be inaudible to the ones I can hear. Either way, I'm not getting what I expect. The other problem with spotting networks is that their main effect is to generate pile-ups on spotted stations. I don't bust pile-ups effectively, so I'm better off NOT tuning to those stations, unless I do it the moment they appear on the network. So typically, I just spin the dial, working my up from the bottom, then then back down before switching bands and doing it again. There are always plenty of stations to work that way, and I'm not always in the pile-ups.

In a recent contest I was running in, I had a friend a few blocks away listening to the exchanges. I'm told I was getting out to the far corners of the world, but I was not hearing them answering me. I'm still working on this one. An antenna that transmits well should hear well (but not true the other way around.) Some part of this may be filter-effect: I keep mine tight (200-250Hz) during contests and my offset is only 500Hz. Stations replying may have a 700-1000 Hz offset and even if on my frequency, they'd be out of my aural passband. I'll have to play with that the next go-round. Another possibility, one I'd hate to be true, is my receiver section may have lost sensitivity. When things are safer, I'll have to find one of our technical types and go through the box with test equipment.

In the meantime, practice – practice – practice. How? There are as many ways as there are ops, I suspect. For myself, I use a few, only. I spend some time with Morse Trainer (<https://morsecode.world/international/trainer/trainer.html>) working on my weak characters, trying to get my instant recognition up to 30wpm. It's a constant drill, as this talent seeps out of my skull at an alarming rate. I spend time with Morse Runner, training specifically for callsign/serial number exchanges that resemble most contests. And, I spend some time on-air with the CWT tests (weekly) and the K1USN SST (twice a week). The apps I use to train keyboard send and ear receive, but the live action practice is paddle and ears stuff, just because I actually LIKE sending by hand. It's a great skill to have. Contesting? All keyboard (except SKCC events) because the challenge there is all in the copying.

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

## *Manitoba Repeater Society Allstar linking project*

An Introduction to the Manitoba Repeater Society Allstar linking project

For many years, MRS has maintained a number of repeaters in Manitoba. These repeaters were linked via full-duplex UHF RF connections. This allowed hams to communicate to other hams over a wide stretch of the province via connected repeaters.

In more recent years, there have been ever more restrictions placed on MRS by our tower-hosting providers in having access to maintain our own antennas and feedlines. These restrictions have resulted in a significant expense in maintaining repeaters due to failures in antennas and feedlines. Older UHF link radios have also been having issues, and some providers have required us to have equipment installed to monitor electrical usage.

MRS started to experiment with other forms of linking repeaters together which would reduce our requirement for maintaining full duplex UHF backhaul links, thus reducing our tower resources/maintenance and power requirements. As the majority of members are using analogue radios, the MRS board felt that it is prudent to maintain a repeater system that has analogue presentation. A number of technologies were investigated, and the best option brought forward at the time was the AllstarLink project. The AllstarLink project ([allstarlink.org](http://allstarlink.org)) utilizes the Allstar app\_rpt interface of Asterisk to provide a means to integrate various repeaters.

The WDRG - data section maintains an expanding high-speed RF data network and provides high speed data to various ham clubs, groups and hams in general. MRS has worked closely with, and has partnered with, various ham groups and has access to this network to serve in linking it's various repeaters. This is a network maintained on ham-radio frequencies for ham radio purposes and can be thought of as a closed local network. We also have access to a ham-radio data centre which provides backbone services and can operate as a hub or conference bridge. With this bridge, we also have the ability to bridge onto the internet where the need arises. Such would be the case where we want to link a repeater into our hub where we currently do not have our high-speed data network available, such as Bruxelles, MB and the VE4HS repeater.

Currently, the Manitoba Hub exists in a ham data centre in downtown Winnipeg. With this high capacity hub, we can provide services to ham groups as needed, such as bridging/linking-in various repeaters. The current slate of repeaters that are linked into this system is Winnipeg VE4WRS 145.45-, Selkirk VE4SEL 147.06+, Bruxelles VE4HS 146.88-, Hadashville VE4EMB 147.36+ (which is still in a testing phase and is currently offline). We also have links planned to be scheduled to be implemented into VE4WPG, VE4MIL and an additional local test repeater VE4TMP.

These links are primarily enabled full-time, but mem-

bers are able to bring them down and up as necessary, with one exception. The Brandon Club owns and operates the VE4HS repeater and MRS is providing the infrastructure to maintain a connection to the MB HUB. It is expected that the VE4HS repeater would be run in a non-connected mode unless there is a defined need that a member requires the link or a scheduled net.

The repeaters on the Allstarlink system in Manitoba respond to normal DTMF commands as expected, and the DTMF sequences are all consistent. The repeaters are all assigned a unique node number as such:

Node #  
Site  
47879  
Manitoba Hub (WDRG)  
49613  
VE4WRS (MRS)  
503610  
VE4SEL (MRS)  
503613  
VE4HS (BARC)  
503611  
VE4EMB (MRS pending)  
503612  
VE4WPG (MRS pending)  
45596  
VE4TMP (test site) (pending)

Other Allstar nodes can connect and disconnect as necessary.

MRS has decided to run the linking system in a hub-spoke manner, in which all repeaters connect to the main Manitoba Hub server, such as, via this URL:  
<http://stats.allstarlink.org/getstatus.cgi?47879>

Local access to the repeater provides for a local connection option via DTMF commands. All DTMF commands are prefixed with an asterisk "\*".

Allstar Cmd  
Function  
\*1 node#  
Disconnect node XX  
\*3 node#  
Connect to node XX  
\*6 phone#  
Start Autopatch (11 digit #)  
\*70  
System status  
\*76  
Bring down current links  
\*77  
Restore current links  
\*80  
Station ID  
\*81  
Station Time  
\*99 DTMF Key  
Assert PTT from Phone Portal  
\*0  
Autopatch disconnect

Continued...

6.  
To identify the current status of the connections on that specific repeater, you would issue DTMF command: \*70 which would tell you the links that that specific repeater is attached to.

To get the current time, enter DTMF command \*81

To disconnect the current repeater from the Manitoba Hub, you would enter \*147879

To connect the current repeater to the Manitoba Hub, you would enter \*347879

To initiate a Auto-patch call \*6(11 digit telephone number i.e. 12046668435 to call VE4WSC)

To disconnect an autopatch call \*0

While this system can be connected to from other systems, it is the current interest of the groups involved in this network (MRS, BARC) to limit the connections to the Manitoba region. Other areas within the region are also welcome to connect their repeater systems to the MB HUB and join. Discussions have been held to have the local Brandon repeater connected into the network as well as the Dauphin group.

There does exist a trans-Canada net held on Sundays at 12:00pm local time and they currently have permission to link into our network for a period of 1.5 hours. This net connects up repeaters throughout Canada, USA, Europe, Australia, etc.

Having a flexible system is key for continued growth and the system can be adjusted as necessary to serve the needs of the members of the group.

### 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](mailto:Steve@microhightech.ca)

### *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>

### 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 ( XRF103BO )  
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](mailto:ve4mab@outlook.com)