



# The **NEWSCASTER**

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://ve4.net/warc/>

June 2005

**VE4BB**

Free to Members

## Year End update Elections, Field Day, Summer Activities

Date: June 13, 2005  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

### Other Important Dates:

WARC: June 13 - Year End Wind-up

WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast - Garden City Inn

ARES: May 17 - Bicycle Mobile Operations

Other: June 19 - Manitoba Marathon  
June - 25 & 26 Field Day  
July 8-10 - 42nd. International Ham Fest  
July 22-25 - Saskatchewan Ham Fest - Saskatoon  
July 22-25 - RAC AGM - Saskatoon  
Aug 19-20 - 10th. MARMFEST - Austin, MB

Nets: Daily 09:00 pm	MB Evening Phone net 3747 KHz
Daily 01:30 UTC	Prairie traffic Net (CW) 3660 KHz
Daily 02:30 UTC	Aurora #2 net 7055 KHz
Daily 14:30 UTC	MB Wx Net 3743 KHz
Weekdays 9:00	Seniors morning net 147.390 MHz +
Wed. 02:00 UTC	MB IRLP Net 147.27 MHz +
Wed. 9:00 pm	Six Meter net 50.238 MHz USB
Thursday 9:00 pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 9:00 pm	MRS Net 147.390 MHz +

### The President's Call By John, VE4QV



June has arrived, let's hope the warm weather isn't too far behind. June is a particularly busy month for WARC. First up is the last general meeting of the year for the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club. At the time of writing this no one other than those announced at the May meeting has offered to be a member of the executive of WARC. Our bylaws require a full executive to keep running as a club. Nominations can be accepted right up to the meeting on Monday, June 13th. Please consider being part of the team, its your club.

The Manitoba Marathon happens Sunday, June 19th. If you're not volunteering for the event certainly "tune in" to hear how professional amateur radio can be.

Next up is Field Day. There have been a number of volunteers for Field Day, June 25th - 26th but we could certainly still use a few more. I understand that food preparation for the annual Field Day BBQ is well underway. Trust me, the food is great and its worth the trip out to Bird's Hill Park just for that alone. We are in Group Use Area 2 and have Site number 6. Camping is free (already paid for) on our site but please not that park policy prohibits alcohol in the Group Use areas. As we have no "official" Field Day coordinator, I will try to do my best at making sure the event is a success. The best way to contact me is by email at [ve4qv@rac.ca](mailto:ve4qv@rac.ca) or if need be by phone, 488-6811.

#### WARC: Executive for 2004

Past President	Louis Gaudry	lsgaudry@mts.net
President	John Pura	ve4qv@rac.ca
Vice-Pres	Vacant	
Secretary	Ed Horton	ve4eih@rac.ca
Treasurer	Fred Venema	fvenema@shaw.ca
Membership	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca
Program	Vacant	
Director at Large	Jan Schippers	schippej@squared.com

It has been brought to my attention that WPGARES did not officially provide support for the recent Fort Whyte Centre EcoAdventure. There were certain members from WPGARES chose to volunteer there time for the event. And we certainly appreciate their efforts.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting but if not have a terrific summer

**Minutes for May 9th, 2005**  
**Submitted by Ed, VE4EIH**

The meeting started at 19:39 hours. The intros were done. There was 42 members and guests in attendance. John, asked if there was any errors or omissions from previous minutes. There was none noted. John then asked to accept the previous minutes. VE4GWN motioned to accept. VE4HAY 2nd. Business arising David's training plan is on track. The first, class would be of 199 Air Cadet Sqn. David while in Ottawa, had purchased several basic manuals, and instructor guides as wen. David's currently having various people trained as instructors.

**IRLP**

John reported that he was on the roof of the Richardson Building. The radio and the computer, are ready to go and configured. They just need to talk to each other. Only a small glitch or two remain.

**Correspondence**

Glen sent John a e-mail. The e-mail, was on a contest that was held in Australia. It was between text messaging and morse code. Two young ladies, sent a message from one cell phone to another. While to older gents, who learned morse code for the Australian railway sent the same

message. Even though the young ladies used a text messaging short hand were left in the dust by morse code. The two gents, didn't even need to use short hand. (Note Jay Leno may have had the same thing done on the Tonight Show.)

**Treasures report**

income I membership renewal	\$15.00	
50/50 draw	26.00	
Flea Market	1029.40	
Total Income		\$1070.90
<b>Expenses</b>		
Donuts and milk for the year	\$96.30	
New can of coffee	4.77	
Membership ink cartridge	45.77	
Postage for April and May.	58.85	
3 home brew prizes	75.00	
Food for flea market	286.32	
Total expenses		<u>\$567.01</u>
Bank balance at the end of May		<u>\$6,346.69</u>

**Standing comities**

May-talk is on Amateur satellite communications. Http://www.amsat.org , for more information By Garry VE4GTB. Garry gave a quick explanation. Garry also explained as to how a new group is forming. It is to be called Manitoba Satellite Interest Group. This is not a club, but a group of hams who are interested in talking to satellites. This group would like to arrange a school contact, between the school and a shuttle or the ISS. June is elections. Ed, Fred, Mark, and John are willing to stand again. Roles to be determined at a later date. Dick VE4HK asked about a nominating comity. John explained as to how it was open.



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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**  
 Newsletters - past issues  
<http://www.ve4.net/newsletters.html>



**Satellite Interest Group - SIG**

If you are interested in learning about satellites or you are currently working satellites, a special interest group is forming in Winnipeg. You do not have to be working satellites to join the SIG, just to have an interest in how the satellites work and how to access them. This is not a club and there will be no fees. The idea of the SIG is to share ideas and knowledge as well as to have regular meetings.

If you are interested please contact Gerry, VE4GTB 269-4273 for more info.

## Marathon Briefing

**Rob VE4 RST / Jeff VE4 MBQ**  
**DEP Coordinator / Coordinator**  
**2005 Manitoba Marathon Radio Organizing Committee**

Well the date for this year's Manitoba Marathon is fast approaching. Please be aware of the following details. We can still use a few volunteers for this fun event. For those who have already given me their names, I thank you. Please note the following dates and times.

The Amateur Radio volunteer briefing for the Manitoba Marathon is TUE 14 JUN 1900h at the Sport Manitoba Building 200 Main St, Rooms 227-229. If you have volunteered for the Marathon SUN 19 JUN but are not able to attend the briefing please contact Tom VE4 SE or Ruth VE4 XYL to make arrangements in advance to pick up your materials for the Marathon between WED 15 JUN and SAT 18 JUN. E-mail ve4se@mts.net or telephone 837-6915.

The briefing for Medical volunteers is WED 15 JUN 2000h at the Sport Manitoba Building 200 Main St, Rooms 227-229. As of this writing the following amateurs should plan to attend the medical meeting too: VE4s EH, XT, MMG, KLM, RST, ACX, QSG, DGS, QEW, EAR, MAB, PZL, SE, XYL, GWB, HK, DWG, MBQ.

If you have any other questions, please e-mail me at [rstegmaier@shaw.ca](mailto:rstegmaier@shaw.ca) or call my office at 982-9600.

## WARC Spring Flea Market

Submitted by Ruth Mills

The semi annual Flea Market, once again, was a successful event.

Attendance was	238	
Table sales were	30	\$195.00
Canteen Profit was		\$212.66
The Net Profit came to		\$668.08

My Sincere Thanks to the following:

- Betty VE4BTY & her helpers for arranging help at the admission door.
- Ed VE4OAK & his crew for the set-up & tear down & Mariska VE4MMG for seeing the set-up was in order.
- Rosi VE4YYL & Glen VE4GWN, two perfect people at the vendors door.
- Ruthie VE4CRS & Mariska VE4MMG, for their expertise at assembling those bunwiches.
- Mary XYL of VE4OL (who has always offered her help) Arunie VE4WMK, & Ruthie VE4CRS, for looking after the selling of the canteen food.

Those who donated prizes. They were great & much appreciated. Now, for the help & Support from behind the scenes, excellent & great team work from Tom VE4SE & our Pres. John VE4QV

Thank you all Sincerely for the jobs well done & for another Successful and Fun event. I would really appreciate any suggestions or criticism to help us improve this event. We need our membership support & input, for any of our WARC functions. It is very difficult to put so much effort in organizing an event, only to receive criticism without a solution on how one might improve it. Thank you all.

## Industry Canada Designated Examiners in Manitoba

If you are looking to upgrade, or you know someone who is studying on their own and wants to write the test, please note these dedicated examiners in Manitoba. Most only charge a modest fee (for filing the results with Industry Canada)

First	Last	Address	City	Code	Phone
Richard	Holder	P.O. Box 1011	Beauséjour	R0E 0C0	204-268-1702
Ron	Samchuk	P.O. Box 454	Birtle	R0M 0C0	204-842-3753
Albert	Webber	6 Boudry Avenue	Flin Flon	R8A 0P2	204- 687-3964
Shawn	Peters	Box 66	Gillam	R0B 0L0	204-652-6247
Paul	Arsenault	Box 109	Komarno	R0C 1R0	204-278-3517
Ronald James	Place	Mantago Bay	Manigotagan	R0E 1E0	
John G. J. (Jack)	Adams	P.O. Box 1288	Russell	R0J 1W0	204-773-3343
Ken	Barchuk	1012 London Street	Winnipeg	R2K 3Y7	(204)667-3286
Margarito	Cruto	1103 Strathcona Street	Winnipeg	R3G 3G7	204-779-4616
Witold	Kinsner	Univ. Of Man. Elect. & Compt. Eng.15 Gillson St.	Winnipeg	R3T 5V6	204- 474-6490
Richard M.	Lord	23 Harbour	Winnipeg	R3T 5G6	204-275-6980
Adam	Romanchuk	26 Morrison St.	Winnipeg	R2V 3B4	204- 339-3316
Lowell	Sandwith	459 Adsum Dr	Winnipeg	R2P 0W8	204- 633-2877

## News from the Net

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### *Morse Code beats TXTmsg - April 16, 2005*

A race to the wire as old hand at Morse code beats txt msgrs - By Mark Henderson

DOTTY and old-fashioned means of communication can still be the best: Morse code has seen off the challenge of the text message in a contest pitting the best in 19th century technology against its 21st century successor.

The race to transmit a simple message, staged by an Australian museum, was won — at a dash — by a 93-year-old telegraph operator who tapped it out using the simple system which was devised by Samuel Morse in 1832 and was the mainstay of maritime communication up until 1997.

Gordon Hill, who learnt to use the technique in 1927 when he joined the Australian Post Office, easily defeated his 13-year-old rival, Brittany Devlin, who was armed with a mobile phone and a rich vocabulary of text message shorthand. Mr Hill, whose messages were transcribed by another telegraph veteran, Jack Gibson, 82, then repeated the feat against three other children and teenagers with mobile phones.

In the competition, at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney, Mr Hill and his rivals were asked to transmit a line selected at random from an advertisement in a teenage magazine.

It read: "Hey, girlfriend, you can text all your best pals to tell them where you are going and what you are wearing." While the telegraphist tapped out the line in full, to be deciphered by Mr Gibson, Miss Devlin employed text slang to save time. She keyed: "hey gf u can txt ur best pals 2 tel them wot u r doing, where ur going and wot u r wearing."

Just 90 seconds after Mr Hill began transmitting, Mr Gibson announced that he had the message received and written down correctly. It took another 18 seconds for Miss Devlin's message to reach the mobile phone belonging to her friend. Mr Hill said that he was impressed by modern technology, even though his clunky telegraph machine emerged on top in three further contests. Text messaging,

he said, had even been predicted by one of his colleagues in 1961.

"An engineer told me the day would come when we would be able to send messages without wires," he said. Miss Devlin said that she had two years of texting experience. "I send about three messages a day," she said. "I used to send lots more but I ran out of credit." -- *The Times Online*

### *Jay Leno - Morse Code vs TXT-msg*

Not to be out done - Jay Leno of the tonight show also ran a similar test as was done in VK. Check this web site for the results. Warning 8 MB file

[http://www.kkn.net/~n6tv/Text\\_vs\\_Morse\\_Leno\\_2005\\_05\\_13.wmv](http://www.kkn.net/~n6tv/Text_vs_Morse_Leno_2005_05_13.wmv)

### *New Amateur Radio satellite in orbit (May 5 2005)*

HAMSAT (or VUsat) is the latest Amateur Radio satellite in orbit. It is India's first. "We congratulate all who have worked for the hamsat and its successful launch," said Sandip Shah, VU3SXE, AMSAT-India's treasurer, who was at the control center in Bangalore, India, for the May 5 launch. The satellite went aloft from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) SHAR in Sriharikota. Going into space with the 42.5 kg HAMSAT was the primary payload--the 1560 kg Indian remote sensing satellite, CARTOSAT-1. The spacecraft were placed into polar sun synchronous orbit at an altitude of 632 x 621 km with an equatorial inclination of 97.8 degrees. HAMSAT is a microsat aimed at meeting the needs of amateur satellite enthusiasts in South Asia.

The satellite will provide two new linear mode U/V transponders for SSB and CW use only. Only one transponder will be active at any given time. AMSAT-India indicates the UHF uplink will be in the 435.35 MHz range, while the VHF downlink will be in the 145.90 MHz range. Details are not yet available. Dutch graduate student William Leijenaar, PE1RAH, who designed one of the transponders aboard HAMSAT, saw the PSLV-C6 vehicle carry the satellite skyward from SDSC SHAR. "It was very

## *Parkside Appliance & Electronics*



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## DIAMOND IMAGE

Floyd Rolph VE4 FDR

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Winnipeg, MB R2Y 1C6

Fax: (204) 831-6400

- South Western & Victorian home decor

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- Balloon bouquets & decorating

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- Wedding invitations



interesting to see how my radio finally went into space," he said afterward. "It is the best ham radio experience in my life." Leijenaar said reports he'd received indicated that the onboard computer was showing the batteries and solar panels working normally. "We just are a few days away from 'CQ CQ HAMSAT' QSOs," he said. The satellite has not yet been given an OSCAR designation. There's more information on the AMSAT-India Web site:

<http://www.amsatindia.com/hamsat.htm> -- (ARRL News Service)

### ***The North America Youth Net Expanding***

The North American Youth Net has recently added a new session and is considering a third. Steve Anness, KD5OWO, advises that a P-S-K net has now been established that is driven towards youth involvement in digital modes. It meets every Sunday evening at 2300UTC on 14.075 MHz. The North American Youth Net has also decided to bring in a new C-W net. The net will be held in the novice sub-bands of the 40 meters. The time and frequency has not been announced. Meantime, the groups SSB net is still going strong. Youngsters and oldsters alike can join in every Friday at 2300UTC on or about 14.329Mhz. And Steve says to be sure to bring the kids! For more information and updates on the youth net visit us on the web at [groups.yahoo.com/group/nayn](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nayn) or contact Steve Anness, KD5OWO at [kd5owo@arrl.net](mailto:kd5owo@arrl.net). (KD5OWO) -- (ARNewsLine)

### ***HAM RADIO DYING IN THE VATICAN***

Ham radio could soon be a thing of the past in the Vatican. This is because there are no longer any H-V prefix stations to man the controls. Amateur Radio Newslines says it looks like it will take an experienced DXer with some good diplomatic skills to get in touch with the Vatican to assist in keeping it alive. -- WIA

### ***Ham Radio regulatory changes reported overseas***

Sweden's telecommunication regulatory agency [PTS](#) has taken steps to deregulate Amateur Radio and essentially no longer requires a government license. Effective last fall, the PTS turned over Amateur Radio operator "certification" to the Society of Swedish Radio Amateurs ([SSA](#)), that country's IARU member-society. Under the new regulatory regime, the SSA administers testing and issues operator certificates and call signs, which have SA prefixes and three-letter suffixes. There's no longer a Morse code requirement for HF access. The PTS still handles relevant international agreements, such as band allocations, in conjunction with the ITU. Sweden no longer dictates mode-specific subbands within amateur bands, but band plans are in place.

Kenya's telecommunications regulator, the CCK, recently issued a new schedule of Amateur Radio frequencies, modes and power limits. Ted Alleyne, 5Z4NU, of the Amateur Radio Society of Kenya reports that radio amateurs there now may use 30 meters (10.100 to 10.150 MHz) and 160 meters (1.810 to 1.850 MHz).

The National Telecommunications Commission of **Thailand** has granted permission through 2005 for all Thai radio amateurs to use 80 and 160 meters during contest periods. HS- and E2- stations may use 1.800-1.825 MHz and 3.500-3.540 MHz, CW or SSB, during contest weekends.

Starting May 1 in the **Czech Republic**, new regulations provide access to 7.100 to 7.200 MHz for Amateur Radio on a secondary basis. Power output is limited to 250 W PEP. The Czech Republic also has begun issuing Novice class licenses with OK9 prefix call signs and three-letter suffixes. Operation is permitted on 160, 80, 15 and 10 meters on HF, and up to 2 meters on VHF, at a maximum power output of 10 W.

The **Malta** Communication Authority has automatically extended HF privileges to "codeless" Class B licensees. Licensees in Malta still must pass a Morse code examination to operate CW on the HF bands, however.-- The Daily DX; RSGB; SM0JHF; ARSK; OK1MP/Czech Radio Club; MCA -- *HFRadio Bulletin*

### ***VE5 & VE7 areas receive special prefix for Centennial***

Saskatchewan and Alberta are celebrating their Centennial this year and hams in these areas have been granted permission to the use of a special prefixes for the occasion:

VE6 may use VX6

VA6 may use VG6

the prefix is available from May 27, 2005 until June 25, 2005.

VE5 may use XM5

VA5 may use XL5

The prefix is available from July 1 until July 31. Listen for it in the Canada Day Contest

### ***Japan to relax Morse code licensing requirements***

The Japan Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications acted May 24 to relax Morse code requirements for Amateur Radio licensing, but it did not eliminate them altogether. Effective October 1, 2005, the MIC will reduce the requirements for First and Second Class licenses to 5 WPM solid copy for two minutes. The previous code requirements for these licenses were 12 and 9 WPM respectively. The MIC will drop the Morse requirement, now 5 WPM, for the Third Class license. --submitted by Joe Speroni, AH0A -- ARRL

## Calendar

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### June

SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest	CW/SSB/FM	1700Z	Jun 2
Digital Pentathlon (5)	THROB	1800Z	Jun 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	CW	0400Z	Jun 4
VK/Trans-Tasman 80m Contest	CW	0800Z	Jun 4
IARU Region 1 Field Day	CW	1500Z	Jun 4
RSGB National Field Day		1500Z	Jun 4
QRP TAC Sprint		1800Z	Jun 4
WorldRadio Friends' Day QSO Party		1800Z	Jun 4
RSGB 80m Club Championship	Data	2000Z	Jun 6
ARS Spartan Sprint June	CW	0200Z	Jun 7
ANARTS WW	RTTY	0000Z	Jun 11
Portugal Day Contest		0000Z	Jun 11
Asia-Pacific Sprint	SSB	1100Z	Jun 11
GACW WWSA DX	CW	1500Z	Jun 11
DDFM 50 MHz Contest	CW/SSB	1600Z	Jun 11
SSA Månadstest nr 6	SSB	1400Z	Jun 12
SSA Månadstest nr 6	CW	1515Z	Jun 12
ARRL June QSO Party	VHF	1800Z	Jun 11
RSGB 80m Club Championship	CW	2000Z	Jun 15
SARL Kid's Day		0700Z	Jun 16
All Asian DX Contest	CW	0000Z	Jun 18
SMIRK Contest		0000Z	Jun 18
AGCW VHF Contest		1600Z	Jun 18
AGCW UHF Contest		1900Z	Jun 18
West Virginia QSO Party		1600Z	Jun 18
Quebec QSO Party		1700Z	Jun 18
Kid's Day Contest		1800Z	Jun 18
DIE Contest	CW/SSB/RTTY	0600Z	Jun 19
RSGB 80m Club Championship	SSB	2000Z	Jun 23
SCAG Straight Key Day (SKD)	CW	0800Z	Jun 25
SP QRP Contest	CW	1200Z	Jun 25
Ukrainian DX DIGI	RTTY/PSK31	1200Z	Jun 25
Marconi Memorial HF		1400Z	Jun 25
ARCI Milliwatt Field Day		1800Z	Jun 25
ARRL Field Day		1800Z	Jun 25
His Maj. King of Spain Contest	SSB	1800Z	Jun 25

### July

RAC Canada Day Contest		0000Z	Jul 1
DL-DX RTTY Contest	RTTY	1100Z	Jul 2
Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest		0000Z	Jul 2
WLOTA Contest		0600Z	Jul 2
Original QRP Contest		1500Z	Jul 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital	Data	1100Z	Jul 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship	CW	2000Z	Jul 4
MI QRP July 4th Sprint	CW	2300Z	Jul 4
ARS Spartan Sprint July	CW	0200Z	Jul 5
SSA 10 m Aktivitetstest - CW/SSB/FM		1700Z	Jul 7
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest Phone		0800Z	Jul 9

IARU HF World Championship		1200Z	Jul 9
FISTS Summer Sprint		1700Z	Jul 9
ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint		2000Z	Jul 10
RSGB 80m Club Championship	SSB	2000Z	Jul 13
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest		1800Z	Jul 16
North American QSO Party	RTTY	1800Z	Jul 16
RSGB Low Power Field Day		0900Z	Jul 17
SSA Månadstest nr 7	CW	1400Z	Jul 17
Månadstest nr 7	SSB	1515Z	Jul 17
The Great Colorado Gold Rush	CW	2000Z	Jul 17
RSGB 80m Club Championship	Data	2000Z	Jul 21
Great Lakes Sweepstakes		0000Z	Jul 23
VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest	CW	0800Z	Jul 23
RSGB IOTA Contest		1200Z	Jul 30
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees		1700Z	Jul 31

### Looking for Youth interested in HAM Radio

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Are you involved in a youth group? Would your youth group be interested in taking a HAM radio course?

At the March WARC meeting the following motion was passed.

**Motion: That the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, once per fiscal year, sponsor a group of youth ( Scouts, Guides, or any other youth group age 14 or more) for enrollment into an Amateur Radio course, such as the one that is put on by VE4WSC.**

**Moved by Derek, VE4HAY  
Seconded by, Adam, VE4SN**

The next step is to find a youth group ( boys, girls or both) who would like to take a HAM radio course. So what better place to look for group leaders/volunteers than within our club itself. If you are involved in a group or know someone who is, please think about this. It could be a wonderful opportunity for the youth to learn about radio and to enjoy a great life long hobby.

If you are interested, please get in touch with John, VE4QV (info on front page) the current president of WARC who will take it to the executive and then find a course to take.

## Winnipeg ARES Fund Raising By Kent, VE4KEH

On behalf of Winnipeg ARES I would like to thank everyone for their response to our Silent Auction and Raffle on 17th of April at the WARC Flea Market. The Silent Auction was, as usual, a success. With the monies raised, we are able to continue to offer our services to the City of Winnipeg and other organizations for public service events.

One change to the auction this time was the addition of a raffle. I received an ICOM IC-V82 HT from ICOM Canada and Micro-Hightech Communications, and felt that such a special item deserved to be offered as separate prize item from the auction. I think Milan VE4MMD would agree with me. Milan won the -V82 despite purchasing only three tickets for the raffle. Well, I guess you only need one ticket to win.

Of course there were many other prizes and winners. Gil VE4GIL walked away with TWO of the silent auction prizes, but then I recall Gil purchasing many, many tickets. Thanks for your support, Gil. Just back from spending the winter South, John VE4OL won a prize containing, among other things, a travel bag. It is not a hint for you to leave, again, John. Joseph VE4TYT received some tools in his prize. John VE4JNF received a few items that he can use while camping. Maybe I'll see you at some of the campgrounds this summer, John. Paula VE4MHZ should be well prepared for any weather this summer, although I understand that VE4GLS has already commandeered the Weather Radio receiver for the shack. Ross VA4RMM should similarly be prepared for any nasty weather. I hope the XL T-shirt fits you, Ross! Glen VE4GWN should be well prepared for that DXpedition I keep promising to take him on. Too bad a Weather Radio receiver won't work where we're going!

In addition to ICOM Canada and Micro-Hightech Communications, I have a list of people, businesses and organizations whose donations made this auction the success it was. Dick VE4HK and Mariska VE4MMG not only procured many useful, quality gifts, but also were there to ensure that my first time at the helm as fundraising chair was "uneventful". Sue VE4SYM and Fred VE4TRO came through with an amazing selection of things as well. What surprised me was the artistic style Ron VE4MGR expresses in his stained glass. He's not just a pretty face! John VE4JNF seems to come up with some amazing things as well. Bob VE4STS provided some very, very classy items. The Terry Fox Foundation of Manitoba supplied a wealth of articles of clothing. Gerry VE4ACE of Applied Communications furnished some really neat gizmos. All the various water containers, I think I counted seven of them, were generously donated by Reliance Plastics. The Manitoba Marathon and Canada One RV supplied many

useful promotional items. Finally, the Meteorological Service of Canada donated Weather Radio receivers and umbrellas. Is there something significant about that donation that they're not telling us?

It might be difficult to expect our donors to maintain the generosity that they displayed this time, but I'll see what I can do again in the Fall. See you then.



1905-2005

July 22-24  
Saskatoon



**The Radio Amateurs of  
Canada Annual  
General Meeting**  
will take place at the  
Saskatchewan Hamfest in  
Saskatoon on July 23rd.

Preliminary information is available on the  
hamfest web site  
<http://www.saskhamfest.com/>

If anyone is planning on going, please let  
others know at the WARC meetings, so that  
maybe we can car pool and show up as a  
group. Would anyone be interested in  
coordinating this little jaunt to our  
neighbouring province ?

**WPGARES****By Jeff, VE4MBQ Emergency Coordinator**

45 Amateurs attended CANWARN Spotter Training SAT 07 MAY in Portage la Prairie City Library. Eight out of nine regions were represented. We picked up Spotters in five additional communities (Neepawa, St Claude, Miami, Tyndall, Ross). We now have total of 152 Spotters covering 43 communities. Those in attendance at Spotter Training were VE4s: HLO, SCK, JNF, HK, CP, ALW, DWG, GMS, KK, MMG, GWN, YYL, AJR, TRO, XB, SE, CRS, ESX, NAT, CA, GWP, ADP, TY, STU, TIM, EDE, LB, WEA, UB, YR, SY, UZ, QE, UI, OA, ARD, LK, FJG, AGS, QK, IJL, MB, MBQ and VA4s: NRM, GD

15 ARES members attended the 2005 CANWARN Net Controllers Meeting THURS 12 MAY. We will have an ARES member on-call 0930-2130h daily 16 MAY thru 11 SEP. Still have one week open, DAYS 15-21 AUG. Special thanks to Fred VE4FV who has committed to 5 weeks of DAYS in JULY and Richard VE4ESX who has taken the first three weeks of DAYS and EVE shifts! Those in attendance at the Net Controllers Meeting were VE4s: JNF, HAZ, HK, MMG, CRS, SE, GWN, AJR, ESX, ALW, RST, FV, ACX, MBQ and VA4AA.

The May WPGARES General Meeting featured a presentation by Dick Maguire "Bicycle Mobile Operations".

The Amateur Radio volunteer briefing for the Manitoba Marathon is TUE 14 JUN 1900h at Sport Manitoba 200 Main St, Rooms 227- 229. If you have volunteered for the Marathon SUN 19 JUN but are not able to attend the briefing please contact Tom VE4SE or Ruth VE4XYL to make arrangements in advance to pick up your materials for the Marathon between WED 15 JUN and SAT 18 JUN. The briefing for Medical volunteers is WED 15 JUN 2000h at Sport Manitoba 200 Main St, Rooms 227-229. As of this writing the following amateurs should plan to attend the medical meeting too: VE4s EH, XT, MMG, KLM, RST, ACX, QSG, DGS, QEW, EAR, MAB, PZL, SE, XYL, GWB, HK, DWG, MBQ.

The next WPGARES General Meeting is TUE 28 JUN 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Brock Holowachuk from Manitoba EMO will be giving us a presentation on "National Warning Systems". We are not planning to meet in July, after JUN our next General Meeting will be TUE 16 AUG.

Want to brush up your CW? This site claims to be able to teach you in just a minute!: <http://www.learnmorsecode.com>

**Rare Canwarn contact.....****By Richard, VE4ESX, AEC Winnipeg**

We hams are fortunate to have so many different ways of enjoying our hobby. Our imaginations are our only limit. For me, ARES is my area of interest, beginning with the 1997 Manitoba flood operations. Then, on Dec. 31st 1999, ARES was involved in providing backup emergency com's for police, fire and military as all our computers rolled over their dates into the new century. Again, ARES went on standby as the events of 9-11 unfolded. In between these major operations are the public service events that ARES volunteers support, such as Manitoba Marathon, Terry Fox run, Parkinsons Superwalk, Festival de Voyageur Dog Sled Races, Head of the Red Regatta, to name a few. My favorite though is Canwarn. As a sailor on Lake Winnipeg and as a student glider pilot I developed a very keen interest in our weather and its effects. When I found out about the Canwarn Project, I knew I had found my niche.

Here in Manitoba, Canwarn is expanding its coverage across the province. Our latest spotter training program was held this spring in Portage la Prairie. In Winnipeg, WARES, has trained a roster of hams as Canwarn Net Controllers. These volunteers cover 2 on call shifts per day throughout the summer severe weather season. The Canwarn station, VE4WVO, is located right inside PASPC (Prairie and Arctic Storm Prediction Centre) office here in Winnipeg, alongside the Weather forecasting team. The station has 1 hf and 2 vhf radios.

The Manitoba Canwarn Net controllers are empowered to initiate a net, directly. Late, Wednesday night, May 25th, my ARES pager went off. TOM VE4ESX, driving by, reported that the HF antenna, a B&W folded dipole located on the weather office roof top had blown down. Jeff VE4MBQ ARES EC., made a nocturnal visit to the roof top to secure the antenna from damaging itself. By 1000h the next morning, I, with my son Paul were on the roof and made the repairs to the guys and re-hoisted the antenna to its more useful position. (NOTE Yellow polypropylene rope is only a temporary solution. It rots when exposed to UV. This was the reason for the failure.)

With the antenna up and my needing to get back to work, the station HF rig with its tuner didn't get a proper test until I had time to drop in again to the weather office late on Friday afternoon. I had finished the tuning steps on the freq. in memory and was "spinning the dial" on 20 meters to see who was around for a contact. I use headphones there as a courtesy to the forecasters working close by. I was listening to a QSO between a US station and another in northern Italy, waiting for a break.....

A tap on my shoulder, I removed my headset, turned around, and was introducing myself to the Right Honorable Stéphane Dion, Minister of the Environment for Canada. Thinking he had made a mistake and was looking for someone more important I explained that I was just a volunteer there. He assured me there was no mistake. He was already aware what I was doing there, He just wanted to personally thank me for being a Amateur radio operator volunteer, with the Weather Office.

On reflection, He could have left the room and I would not have known he was there. I would like to think that by his gesture, taking time for me, He was indeed thanking all the many ARES Canwarn volunteers. We offer freely of our time, and our equipment and resources. Our families also support us. Without this unfailing, unselfish giving by such a fine group of people there would be no Canwarn Project. Take pride in what you have chosen to do with this hobby of ours, we are all Ambassadors for Amateur Radio.

### **Care and Feeding of your Pet Ham an educational excerpt for XYL's**

[Thanks to Ron W5WWW](#)

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Pet hams are so intelligent they often seem human, but they can be difficult to raise. Only someone with great patience should attempt it. In case you do, here is a guide to the basics.

#### **Living Area**

-- A pet ham needs a private nest area, an entire room where it will not be disturbed. Your pet ham will spend many happy hours alone there with its treasures. -- boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, etc. that it will bring home whenever it ventures out. You will want to encourage your pet ham to confine its activity to this room to prevent the entire house from being subjected to noise, clutter and the boring of holes in the walls.

#### **Expenses**

-- Keeping a pet ham is expensive, but, unlike most common pets, a pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for a few hours each day. It may even bring in enough money to offset its expenses.

#### **Feeding**

-- A well-behaved pet ham will eat with the family occasionally, but it will feed more comfortable and secure taking its meals in the nest room. You must be sure your pet ham is well supplied with food and drink during the long periods it spends alone in there, even if it does not beg or whine.

#### **Obedience Training**

-- A pet ham can be trained to perform simple tricks, the easiest and most common being "sit" and "speak" Do not be alarmed if it practices them for hours at a time in the nest room.

#### **Health Problems**

-- The pet ham typically suffers lower back pain and minor throat irritations from too much sitting and speaking, but health maintenance costs tend to be minimal.

#### **Travel**

-- Your ham pet will gladly travel with your family by car or even by air, if allowed to bring along certain familiar items from the nest room. Most pet hams enjoy trips to places where they can meet pet hams from other families.

#### **Breeding**

-- If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as soon as possible after you get it. As a pet ham matures, it becomes increasingly reluctant to engage in activities not associated with its nest room collection.

### **-- HF Radio Bulletin Fixing the 144.39 APRS Network**

**Extracted form the ARRL letter May 20, 2005**

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<http://www.ew.usna.edu/~bruninga/aprs/fix14439.htm>

Over the winter, folks hashed out the network's problems on APRSSIG mailing list with Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, leading the way (Bob is the creator of APRS). Folks suggested various solutions and other folks poked and prodded these solutions to see if they had any holes in them. Some passed the muster; some did not. A few even made it on the air before the error of their ways were discovered. So, you know that the solutions that finally tumbled out of this effort are tried and true. WB4APR took the solutions and put them all on a handy one-page Web page, the Fixing Digipeaters Web page, which is also known as the "Fixing the 144.39 APRS Network" Web page. Some of the fixes involve adjusting some of the parameters of the APRS digipeaters that comprise the network and some of the fixes involve adjusting the APRS equipment of the users who frequent the network so that they will be compatible with the changes in the network. WB4APR put all the fixes out there in plain English on his Web page, so there is no need to repeat them here. However, I will say that they seem to work. I tweaked the parameters of my APRS digipeater (WAILOU-15), as well as the parameters of the APRS station in my land barge (WAILOU-8) and I am a happy camper and so is just about everybody else who has made the change. So, see for yourself and switch to the new paradigm in the APRS world

**QTX~**  
**By Derek, VE4HAY**



Congrats to Gord Snarr, VE4GLS & Willard J Karle, VE4KZ for passing the RAC Emergency's Coordinator certification examination. One of the primary reasons for the existence of the Amateur Radio Service is its ability to serve the public through emergency communications. We hope by taking this examination this will help all appointees to acquire, develop and refine the skills needed to perform at a high standard in an emergency communication situation.

Wow, our first tornado of the season last night. Small not much damage and no loss of life. Just what we are hoping for. If you have not heard of CanWARN, it's time you did. The Canadian Weather Amateur Radio Network (CanWARN) is a joint project of Environment Canada (the Weather Office) and local Amateur Radio Groups, by which Hams, who are trained in their recognition of Severe Weather Elements, pass reports of sightings of such phenomena directly to their local Weather Offices, via VHF and UHF Ham Radio. This allows Environment Canada to detect and disseminate warnings to the General Public about Severe Weather Events which might normally go unnoticed by normal forecasting and detection techniques. If you are interested in helping out this season, please get in touch with Jeff, VE4MBQ.

Last month I asked if anyone was planning on going to the RAC Annual General Meeting in Saskatoon this July. So far I know of the following hams who are planning on going. VE4YU, VE4ACX, VE4DAR, VE4GHR, VE4VZ, VE4HAY and one other HAM name Geoff (sorry I don't know the call sign). I am willing to coordinate possible car pooling if anyone is interested. Please see me at the WARC meeting or send me an e-mail on your travel plans. Personally I plan on leaving early Friday morning and returning Sunday afternoon.

If I have enough articles to insert, I will send out a electronic newsletter during

**Canada Day Contest**  
**July 1, 2005**



**Time** - 0000Z – 2359Z, July 1  
**Bands** - 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2m  
**Modes** - CW and Phone  
**Suggested frequencies**  
 - CW – 25 KHz up from Band edge.  
 - Phone – 1850,3775,7075,7225,14175,21250,28500.  
**Exchange** – Canadian stations – RST & Province.  
 VEO's and Non Canadian – RST & Serial number.

For further information check out -  
<http://www.rac.ca/service/infocont.htm>

the summer to those on the e-mail list. So if you are currently getting your newsletter by Canada Post, maybe you should contact Mark, VE4MAB (address on the front page) and request to be put on the e-mail list so that you stay informed this summer.

Remember the Marathon, Field Day, RAC Canada Day contest, RAC annual meeting, Camp 807 & MARMfest this summer. They all add up to a very fun way to enjoy this hobby.

Studies prove, radio waves keep the mosquito populations down. So get on the air and do us all a favour !!

**THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME :- :- :- by Hatlo**

