

### The

## NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club http://www.mts.net/~warc

September 2011

IRLP # 1066 on VE4WRS 145.450-

VE4BB

# Welcome Back Eyeball & Field Day Video

Date: Monday, September 12, 2011

Time: 7:30 PM

Place: Dakota Collegiate - (In the theatre)

661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

Remember, it's Membership Renewal Time!

Other Important Dates...

Newscaster: Deadline September 28, 2011

**WARC:** Monthly Meeting Dates

October 17, 2011 November 14, 2011 December 12, 2011

WSC: 2nd Thursday of month

Breakfast—Garden City Inn

ARES: Sept 20, 2011

Randy Hall—"Why Plans Fail"

**Other:** October 16, 2011

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

Fall Flea Market

### WARC Executive for 2011-2012...

President Garth Blumm ve4gwb@gmail.com Vice-Pres. Gordon Jewsbury ve4ok@shaw.ca Treasurer Bob Jacobs rcjacobs@hotmail.ca Secretary Jim Sutton Jim.Sutton@AAAalarms.ca Membership Garth Blumm ve4gwb@gmail.com

Programs

Past President Mark Blumm ve4mab@rac.ca

### The President's CO - Garth, VE4GWB

Well. No easy way to put it but point blank. Summers almost over and we will be shoveling snow soon enough and me and Stan will be waking up Winnipeg ragchewing on WPG while I am hauling white gold. But on the bright side another year of WARC meetings is upon us were we can get together once a month for eyeball QSOs, tasty treats and coffee from Ruth's kitchen and catch some interesting presentations.

As WARC's new president for the 2011-2012 year I would like to thank Mark, VE4MAB for his 9 years on the executive. 7 as membership chair and 2 as President. As well as his continued work as newsletter editor and resident Peter Parker capturing events and meetings on photo and video.

Craig, VE4CDM did a excellent job as program director giving us presentations like the Mennonite Disaster Services and a tour of the Canadian Mennonite University's north campus across the street where Field Day 2011 was held (and hopefully again this year) Craig is leaving us to fulfill work commitments. His shoes will be to big to fill so we will all jumping into them with programming.

Thanks to Ed, VE4EIH, for helping out when his work schedule didn't get in the way.

Joining us on the executive is Gord, VE4OK will be taking over as Vice President. Gord paired with David, VE4DAR set up an information booth at this years Field Day.

Bob, VE4RCJ will continue as Treasurer keeping all our "resistors" in line and accounted for.

Jim, VE4SIG will be staying on as secretary. And after the PowerPole presentation last May we will see other hands on workshop's like it this year.

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

Our Vision

I will also be taking care of membership's again this year and the fee remains the same \$20.00. Feel free to catch me at the September meeting.

You can find a application at the back of the Newscaster which current members will receive both the September and October issues.

See you all soon.

WARC Meeting Minutes, June 13, 2011 Taken by Garth, VE4GWB

Called to order 1925 hrs

### Introductions –

Previous minutes adopted as circulated by David, VE4DAR, all approved.

### Reports

### Secretary –

Nothing to report

### Treasurer -

Last statement end of May with Balance of \$5822.17. Most of Field Day costs paid already. Not a lot of money being spent from now till September.

### Programs -

Elections today, as well as Field Day preparations. Round of applause for Craig as he will not be with the executive next year to meat growing work schedule.

### Membership –

Ended year with 120 members, 10 complimentary. Newscasters hand delivered where possible and the remainder mailed and hoped got to their destination despite postal strike. Round of applause for Garth with the successful D-RAFFLE, dues will not be increasing for the 2012 year.

#### ARES –

Break from covering Manitoba EMO as flood in city dies down meanwhile might be reactivated with flood around Lake Manitoba not looking good. Marathon Meeting tomorrow night. Slight route change for marathon. Gerry asked about parking pass for Canwarn.

### Education –

Thanks to David VE4DAR for involvement with previous courses and for coming up with the Elmer program. Round of applause for David.



### DX-

20m the "pits" 40m not bad, 6m very many sporadic openings for 15-20 mins, disappears for a hour comes back morning, afternoon & night time, very active for 6m. 80m ok.

### **Good & Welfare**

Dick, VE4HK mentions upcoming semi-annual general meeting of MRS at the Austin Ham Fest Aug 14, 2011.

Cary, VE4EA mentions very good article by VE4KZ in current issue of CQ about introductory article on propagation.

Mark, VE4MAB mentions talking to Bill about bringing in old magazines to September meeting to trade

### Election -

Jim, VE4SIG, Bob, VE4RCJ, Garth, VE4GWB, and standing up for election is Gord, VE4OK Call for anyone else to stand....(enter Jeopardy theme)

**Ouestions arose** 

4 members standing for election

Round of applause to Mark for his Presidency in the last year.

### Presentation -

Field Day Logging by Bob, VE4RCJ followed by discussion on Field Day ideas.

**Meeting Adjourned 2105 hrs** 

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# WPGARES By Jeff, VE4MBQ Emergency Coordinator

Compared to some other parts of North America we have had a fairly calm summer, as of this writing (no stage collapses at outdoor concerts, no hurricanes, and only a few Severe Weather Nets). Our 28 JUN General Meeting featured a presentation on Incident Logging by this writer – that was shared by e-mail with Winnipeg ARES members 30 JUN. Our 16 AUG General Meeting featured a presentation on K-9 Search & Rescue by Gerry Desjardins from Search & Rescue Manitoba along with Service Dog Tee-Jay.

On-call staffing for VE4WWO in the Prairie & Arctic Storm Prediction Centre is scheduled to draw to an end SUN 11 SEP for this season. A reminder to CANWARN Spotters – you can communicate "reportable" weather to PASPC Staff anytime using the toll-free number distributed at Spotter Training. Next month's report will summarize our Summer Operation and review "Reportable" Winter Weather.

In late August, Winnipeg ARES Inc. assumed ownership of the VE4ARC Repeater from the Interlake Amateur Radio Club. Re-licensing is pending as of this writing. In the past number of years we have been fortunate to utilize VE4ARC for a number of our Public Service Events with the permission of the Interlake Club. No operational changes should be perceptible to users.

Our next General Meeting, TUE 20 SEP 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street will feature City of Winnipeg Emergency Preparedness Program Coordinator Randy Hull. Randy will be reprising his presentation from the 2011 Manitoba Disaster Management Conference "Why Plans Fail".

D-Star mobile and handheld Amateur radios are available from your Winnipeg ICOM Dealer...

Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.

197 Leila Avenue, Winnipeg, MB 204-783-1885 Contact George Hill, VE4GDH

Visit Icom on the web.. http://www.icomcanada.com/products/ amateur/amateur.html

Come See Us At our New Location

### Manitoba Marathon By Jeff, VE4MBQ

The Amateur Radio operation for the 2011 Manitoba Marathon SUN 19 JUN unfolded more or less as expected. There were no catastrophic incidents associated with participants or our networks. It is through the enthusiastic support of local Amateur Radio organizations and their members that we are able to provide the service that we do.

The Amateur Radio organizations that supported this major volunteer operation this year included:

Winnipeg ARES
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Manitoba Repeater Society
Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club
Pathfinders Amateur Radio Club
University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society
Manitoba ARES.

There were several new Amateur's involved in this year's operation — will be great to see them back next year mentoring another new "crop". In all, our operation involved 85 volunteers. The volunteers were:

### VA4s DON & IAM. KB7REU.

VE4s: VZ, DJS, CAT, BOY, DAE, WKP, WSP, WMK, WPL, MHZ, GLS, WJE, EA, SBS, LYN, PPG, CEU, JLO, JBL, GKS, PGL, MMG, UG, ANF, LIT, EIH, APJ, QB, DLA, NQ, HQ, AFL, JS, GWN, YYL, SYM, TRO, HAY, AJO, HK, BN, GZ, SCH, OK, RST, AND, RCJ, CZK, HAZ, EH, RAI, STS, ACX, ESX, FHS, CDM, RST, JNF, NCH, NAQ, EAR, JHJ, TG, QV, LDI, WTF, MAB, BAW, SE, XYL, JAH, GWB, DWG, KEH, RDO, TNT, DAR & MBQ.

Betty Pettapiece, Ryan Havens.

The complete report can be seen on the Winnipeg ARES web-site at:

http://www.winnipegares.ca/documents/Mantoba\_Marathon/ 2011 Manitoba Marathon Amateur Radio Report.pdf

as well as on the WARC web-site, towards the bottom of the home page:

http://www.mts.net/~warc/

For the 2012 operation we need a new member on the Marathon Radio Group to look after database organization & management. If interested please get in touch with me.

### Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Fall Flea Market

Yes, it is that time of year again! The WARC Flea Market is rapidly approaching. As I write this announcement, it is only 50 days away!

WARC's favourite semi annual get together, also known as the WARC Flea Market, is scheduled for

Heritage Victoria Community Club Sunday, October 16, 2011

The Community Club is located at 950 Sturgeon Road, just a hop, skip, and a jump north of Ness Avenue.

Do you have a basement cluttered up with high class junque, looking for a new home? Do you want to sell some excess ham gear? Do you want to make a few dollars, to spend on newer and better "stuff"? Do you want to make the XYL happy? The WARC Flea Market is the perfect place to look after all that, and more.

Simply phone or e-mail Ruth VE4XYL to book your table. She can be reached at 837-6915 or ve4se@mts.net.

Tables are only \$5.00 each for WARC members, and \$10.00 each for everyone else. There are only 30 tables available for sale, so better hurry.

Admission is unchanged at \$3.00 per person.

Plan to arrive at 9:30 am. Ruth's Kitchen will be on hand, with the best coffee in town, along with delicious muffins, and Ruth's fabulous bunwiches, made with TLC. Have a nice visit with all those folks you never see, except at the Flea Market!

Doors open for buying at 10:30. The sale should last til about noon.

Be sure to visit the Manitoba Repeater Society table to prepay your 2012 dues. Stop by the Winnipeg ARES table, as well, for a chance to win a nice prize. Don't forget to ask Adam VE4SN, who has the QSL: bureau for Manitoba, to check for your outstanding QSL cards.

Be sure to mark your calendar, right now, for Sunday, October 16, 2011

Dick Maguire VE4HK Flea Market Coordinator

### MARM By David, VE4DAR



The 17th Annual MARM Hamfest was held at the Agricultural Museum at Austin, Manitoba during the weekend of August 12-14. Some regulars arrived early in the week to camp. When I arrived late Saturday morning, bargain hunters were already checking out goodies displayed by vendors. "MARM had a bigger than normal clear out of materials to raise money for the MARM Foundation to keep the museum operational," said Dave VE4SN.

By Saturday afternoon 126 folks had registered for the hamfest. "Our best year was 1996 when we had 277 people," said Snydal. In addition to the flea market one could play bingo, tour the grounds, and enjoy the Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum. Local ladies sold delicious chilli, sandwiches and yum-yum pies. Or you could test your luck on one of the various draws. MRS was able to attract many to its Semi Annual General Meeting in the recreation hall.



Many hams like the camaraderie the best. "It's a chance to see people you normally don't see; folks from Saskatchewan and the rural areas." "There's an excellent roast beef supper very reasonably priced."

Why not try it next year?

# *WARC Field Day June 25 – 26, 2011*

The year's Field Day was held on the grounds of the Canadian Mennonite University thanks to Craig, VE4CDM.



Like clockwork, well, sort of, the large crew was on hand to erect the HF beam. By 1300 hours local time VE4BB was on the air!



**Working the Satellites** 



And well into the contest on HF!

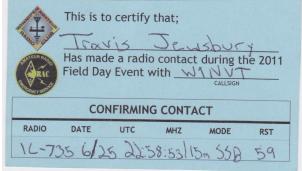


Our Results	2011	2010
Participants	111	62
<b>Bonus Points</b>	850	550
Score Summary	405	142
Claimed Score	810	364
Contacts		
80	0	1
40	52	72
20	248	87 (20 CW & 67 SSB)
15	12	2
10	89	0
6	4	0

The sunspots are certainly looking up. Results on 10 metres and 6 metres very good. Apparently Gerry has found out what was wrong with his PSK rig. The gain on a required CODEC was set to 0. Better luck next year.

### **Bob VE4RCJ**

Gord, VE4OK, arranged for cadets to attend and try their hand at amateur radio. For a keepsake he designed these cards for the cadets to keep as a record of their contact...



See you all next year!





It's True...

Ham Radio is powered by..

"GOOD FOOD"



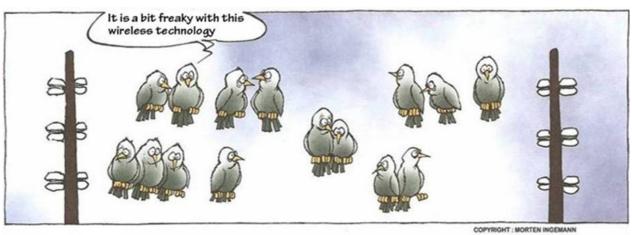


Friendships









7	DADTC Comint 75 17007 21007 Com 10
Contest Calendar	BARTG Sprint 75 1700Z-2100Z, Sep 18 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Sep 19
Extracted From	144 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 19
http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/	NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
	0030Z-0230Z, Sep 22
For September	NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 23
Tennessee QSO Party 1800Z, Sep 4 to 0300Z, Sep 5	ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Sep 24
MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint 2300Z, Sep 5	to 2359Z, Sep 25
to 0300Z, Sep 6	CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY
ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Sep 6	0000Z, Sep 24
FISTS Get Your Feet Wet Weekend 0000Z, Sep 9	to 2400Z, Sep 25
to 2400Z, Sep 11	Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 24
QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Sep 9	to 0200Z, Sep 25
NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 9	and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 25
PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint	AGCW VHF/UHF Contest 1400Z-1659Z, Sep 24
2000 local, Sep 9	(144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Sep 24 (432)
to 0200 local, Sep 10	<b>UBA ON Contest, 6m</b> 0600Z-1000Z, Sep 25
Kulikovo Polye Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 10	QRP Homebrewer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 26
WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 10	222 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 27
to 2359Z, Sep 11	SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Sep 28
Arkansas QSO Party 1300Z, Sep 10	CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 28
to 0100Z, Sep 11	and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 28
Ohio State Parks on the Air 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 10	and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 29
ARCI VHF Contest 1800Z, Sep 10	RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 29
to 0300Z, Sep 12	
ARRL September VHF QSO Party 1800Z, Sep 10	Into October
to 0300Z, Sep 12	TARA PSK Rumble Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Oct 1
North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 11	EPC Russia DX Contest 0400Z, Oct 1
SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Sep 11	to 0359Z, Oct 2
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint 1300Z-1900Z, Sep 11	Oceania DX Contest, Phone 0800Z, Oct 1
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Sep 12	to 0800Z, Oct 2
CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 14	WAB HF Phone 1200Z, Oct 1
and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 14	to 1200Z, Oct 2
and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 15 RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 14	California QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 1
NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 14	to 2200Z, Oct 2
AGB NEMIGA Contest 2100Z-2400Z, Sep 16	EU Autumn Sprint, SSB 1600Z-1959Z, Oct 1
Connecticut QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 17	UBA ON Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 2
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest 0600 local, Sep 17	German Telegraphy Contest 0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3
to 2400 local, Sep 18	ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Oct 4
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	432 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 5
1000Z, Sep 17	SARL 80m QSO Party 1700Z-2000Z, Oct 6
to 1000Z, Sep 18	
CIS DX QPSK63 Contest 1200Z, Sep 17	Good Luck In The Contest!!
to 1200Z, Sep 18	****
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW 1200Z, Sep 17	RAC Canada Day Contest 2011
to 1200Z, Sep 18	
South Carolina QSO Party 1300Z, Sep 17	VE4RAC
to 2100Z, Sep 18	was "On the air" with RAC
SRT HF Contest SSB 1300Z, Sep 17	President, Geoff VE4BAW
to 1300Z, Sep 18	and WARC President, Mark
QRP Afield 1500Z, Sep 17 to 0300Z, Sep 18	VE4MAB, at the mike!
Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 17	,
to 0700Z, Sep 18	
and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 18	
Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, Sep 17	5 011
North American Sprint, SSB 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 18	5 –9 !!
WAB 144 MHz QRP Phone 1000Z-1400Z, Sep 18	
7	
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RAC Bulletin 2011-025E Montreal Amateur Radio Club to Host 2012 RAC Annual General Meeting 2011-08-21

The location of the 2012 Annual General Meeting was announced during the 2011 Annual General Meeting [AGM] held in St. John's Newfoundland. The 2011 AGM was hosted by the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs [SONRA]. The 2012 AGM will be held in Montreal and will be hosted by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. The exact dates will be announced in September or October.

RAC is pleased to come to 'la belle province'. RAC members are urged to come to the AGM and to consider arranging their schedules to add a little vacation to take in the sights and sounds of the cosmopolitan city of Montreal and visit other parts of Quebec.

Stay tuned for more information.

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW President and Chair Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Bulletin 2011-024E - RAC Task Force to Seek an Exemption for Ontario Amateurs. 2011-08-09

At its Annual General Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, Radio Amateurs of Canada announced that a task force has been formed to seek a permanent exemption for Ontario Amateurs from the ban on operating mobile devices in a vehicle under Article 5 in Ontario Regulation 366/09 made under the Highway Traffic Act. It is also commonly known as the Distracted Driving Legislation. The ban would take effect on January 1, 2013.

The task force is composed of Steve Pengelly, VE3STV, Former Honorary Legal Counsel, Ian Snow, VA3QT, Special Advisor to RAC, Jeff Stewart, VA3WXM, Southern Ontario Regional Director, Marcel Mongeon, Honorary Legal Counsel, VA3DDD, Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW, President and Chair RAC, and ex officio to the Task Force. It is chaired by Bill Unger, VE3XT,

Ontario North/East Director.

The Task Force has already obtained letters of support from groups that we assist ranging from hospitals, communities, agencies and NGO's. All of the letters indicate that limiting Radio Amateurs. ability to provide communications while mobile would not be in the Ontario's best interests. If you would like to submit a letter of support from an external group to the RAC Task Force, please contact the chair Bill Unger.

The Task Force will present the letters as part of our case to Kathleen Wynne, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, that Amateur Radio operators in Ontario should be exempt from this regulation. The objective of the Distracted Driving Task Force is to convince the Ontario Government that the regulation, as currently written, will actually decrease public safety in Ontario.

Amateur Radio Operators provide countless hours of public service work in their communities and by doing so we are prepared to assist with communications in the event of an overload or total failure or the existing telecommunications infrastructure. The change in the regulations that RAC will request, would align Ontario with seven other provinces and one territory that have introduced exemptions which allow Amateurs to operate while mobile.

The RAC Task Force will shortly initiate discussions with officials in the Minister's Office on the need for this regulatory change. Information on the progress will be updated through the RAC Bulletin system, TCA or the RAC Report. If you are interested in assisting please contact Bill Unger, VE3XT at ve3xt@rac.ca

Bill Unger, VE3XT RAC Director - Ontario North/East Chair: Task Force - Distracted Driving Legislation/Bill 118

### **Consider Joining RAC Today!**

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







Floyd Rolph

835 Cavalier Drive Wpg, MB R2Y 1C6 Ph: 204 888.3227 Fax: 204 831.6400 Email: dimage@mts.net

## The Numbers show the results By Derek Hay, VE4HAY

The following chart is a breakdown of Amateur Radio operators by birth date within decades. No real surprise on who we are, except for the huge drop in those under 50 years old. The older numbers can be skewed by un-reported silent keys.

Year	# of Amateurs
1991-2011	1426
1981-1990	2880
1971-1980	5958
1961-1970	10293
1951-1960	14035
1941-1950	13748
1931-1940	7482
1921-1930	4112
1920-earlier	1029

### Do you know these RAC members?

The following listing of Callsigns are all RAC members who are living in Manitoba, but they have not furnished RAC with their Email address, as such they are not receiving this newsletter (which I of course work so hard on) nor are they receiving the RAC report and other periodic emails from RAC. If you know any of these fellow hams, please ask then to login to the http://www.rac.ca website and complete the member section with their email address any other information that may be missing.

VA4NRM, VE4ABL, VE4ABW, VE4ACN, VE4ACQ, VE4AHZ, VE4BA, VE4BG, VE4BI, VE4CCA, VE4CS, VE4DY, VE4EA, VE4EME, VE4FGR, VE4FI, VE4GDH, VE4GIL, VE4GR, VE4LES, VE4LIZ, VE4MG, VE4NC, VE4PF, VE4RD, VE4SD, VE4SR, VE4TP, VE4VO, VE4ZD

### 60 meters coming soon...

Watch for announcement in the Canada Gazette. Access to this band was made possible by Radio Amateurs of Canada. No other club or group as the ability to talk to Industry Canada one on one like RAC does. Just one more reason why you should be a member of RAC.



### VHF Nets .....

MRS Nets - 147.390 Mhz + Sundays & Thursdays at 9:00 pm

This net covers Winnipeg and the MRS linked repeater system, and includes various announcements on amateur radio activities, plus Dick's "Swap and Shop"

### Seniors Morning Net 147.390+ Mhz Weekdays at 9:00 am

This net covers Winnipeg and hams of all ages are welcome to join in this net which is always a lot of fun!

IRLP (Internet Radio Linking Project) Net - 145.450 Mhz - Node # 1066 Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

This net connects you with the world using your VHF rig and using the internet as the backbone!

Six Meter Net - 50.238 Mhz Wednesdays at 9:00 pm

### HF Nets .....

MB Evening Phone Net - 3747 Khz Daily at 7:00 PM CT

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

Aurora # 2 Net 7055 Khz Daily at 02:30 UTC

MB Wx Net 3743 Khz Daily at 8:30 AMC

ARES Manitoba Monthly Readiness Net
4TH Sunday of each month
4:00 PM to 4:20 PM -7,075 Khz
4:00 PM to 4:15 PM -3,675 Khz LSB
Also.. VE4WRS IRLP, VE4ARC/TEU, Interlake, VE4FFR Flin Flon, IRLP Reflector
9003 to Flin Flon/Swan River/Pinawa,
VE4SIX/DARC repeater, VE4TPN/VHF
Thompson.

The Newscaster is the Official Publication of
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Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark Blumm, VE4MAB, at ve4mab@mymts.net The September issue Deadline is Sept 28, 2011

### High Altitude Balloon Launch at the 2011 Space Camp By, Dario Schor, VE4SCH

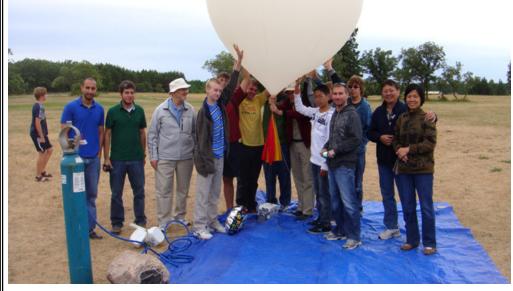
The Manitoba Space Adventure Camp (MSAC) ran from July 17-23, 2011 at the University of Manitoba. The space camp introduced a group of high school students in grades 9-11 to the science and engineering behind space missions, rockets, smart machines, spacerelated software and simulators, space radio communications, space-related engineering design, space business, space law, and other related topics. To achieve these objectives, a number of activities were developed, including hands-on workshops, demonstrations, tour to research facilities, short tutorials, and outdoor activities such as rocket launching and a radio location (fox hunt). During the final day of the camp, the students participated in a near-space experiment through a high altitude weather balloon launch.

The balloon was launched from Birds Hill Park (50°1'12" N and 96°52'42" W) at 9:10am. It travelled north-east towards Pinawa and reached a maximum altitude of 32,535 m (106,743 feet) at 11:10am. After the burst, the balloon went into a steep decent that reached speeds of over 39 km/h before landing at coordinates 50°12"25.93 N and 96°35'50" W.

A large crowd of students accompanied by their friends and family witnessed the launched and then tracked the balloon using <a href="http://aprs.fi">http://aprs.fi</a>, while two chase vehicles and a ground station were used to track the operations. The Space Camp B-Cube WinCube Chase Vehicle that located and retrieved the payload consisted of Jeff Cieszecki (VE4CZK) and Rory Winter (VE4RJW). The B-Cube UMARS Chase Vehicle was driven by Alan Thoren (VE4YZ) who guided four university students



through the tracking and recovery process. The students were Frank Serafin (VE4FHS), Matthew Sebastian, Samer Bahaggag (VE4AAA), and Mahmoud Alzaibak. Finally, the UMARS Ground Station operated by Katrina Soriano (VE4KMS), Bohyun Lee (VE4BHL), and Dario Schor (VE4SCH) used VE4UMR and other repeaters to communicate with the chase vehicles and tracking the balloon.



Special thanks to Dr. Witold Kinsner (VE4WK), Space Camp Director, for helping coordinate the UMARS involvement and all the WARC members who answer the calls for coordinates and driving directions that made this event a success.