



# The **NEWSCASTER**

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

November 2011

IRLP # 1066 on VE4WRS 145.450-

VE4BB

## *Video Presentation*

Date: Monday, November 14, 2011  
Time: 7:30 PM  
Place: Dakota Collegiate - (In the theatre)  
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

## *Other Important Dates...*

Newscaster: Deadline November 30, 2011

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates  
December 12, 2011—Christmas Party  
January 9, 2012  
February 13, 2012  
March 12, 2012

WSC: 2nd Thursday of month  
Breakfast—Garden City Inn

ARES: Tuesday, November 15, 2011  
Annual General Meeting  
Sir Wm Stephenson Library  
765 Keewatin Street

Other: November 22, 2011  
Basic 5 Course Exams

## *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 Programs	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Past President	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@rac.ca

## *The President's CQ - Garth, VE4GWB*

Is everyone enjoying the frost on the antennas? Getting cold outside so time to warm up the HF radios and melt it off with the winter DX.

And for the mobile operators commuting to and from work make sure the vehicle is ready to take it. Just had to replace a thermostat in my van after driving to work in the early am with a cold nose.

I would also like to thank all the hams that came out to Chapel Lawn to say a final 73's to Jim Ross, VE4AJR.

*There was also a very timely "Fly By" from the local Geese Squadron.*

73's for now, Garth VE4GWB

## *RAC Midwest Director - Derek, VE4HAY*

RAC is moving ahead with an electronics version of our bi-monthly magazine The Canadian Amateur (TCA). Starting with the January/February issue, we will create an electronic edition of the magazine. The e-TCA will be identical to the hard copy with the exception of clickable links, colour photos and possible other enhancements and additional content in the future.

The delivery of the e-TCA will be passive, meaning it will be post it in the member section of the RAC web site for any member to download rather than pushing it out to the members. The only thing we will push out to you will be a link for accessing the magazine. To do this we will need you email address in our database and of course you will need to be a "RAC Member"!

Consider Joining RAC Today!  
<https://www.rac.ca/store/membership-form-e.htm>

## *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*

**WARC Meeting Minutes,  
October 17, 2011  
Taken by Jim, VE4SIG**

Called to Order at 1931 hrs

As the President (VE4GWB) was absent due to work the meeting was ably chaired by the Vice President, VE4OK.

**Introductions –**

We had 5 visitors with us, 3 from SkullSpace, one from the current WSC course and another individual studying on his own.

VE4HK informed the club that Jim Ross VE4AJR has passed away at 0445 hrs this morning at the age of 90 years. He was very active in all aspects of the hobby for many years, instrumental in the creation of Winnipeg ARES and a recipient of the OSCAR award. A moment of silence was observed in his honor.

Motion to Accept the Minutes of the Last Meeting - moved by VE4HK and seconded by VE4MBQ.

**Reports**

**Secretary –**

VE4SIG reported that the only correspondence was a number of membership renewals in the mail.

**Treasurer –**

VE4RCJ provided a Financial Review of the last year (attached) and presented a Proposed Budget. There was a motion to accept the proposed budget moved by VE4HK and seconded by VE4SYM. The budget was passed unanimously. VE4MBQ asked if we were considering a preferential membership rate for RAC members. VE4OK replied that we hoped that this years raffle would cover the additional cost of the RAC insurance and we would consider this for the next year.

**IRLP –**

VE4HK informed the meeting that the IRLP link would be operational again shortly as soon as the PC was replaced.

**Membership –**

VE4OK reported that VE4GWB has told him we now have 70 members renewed as of the end of flea market (and at least another 2 renewed at the meeting)

**Programs –**

VE4OK reported that tonight's program was a presentation by Ron Bowes the President of SkullSpace.

**Flea Market –**

VE4HK reported 196 tickets were sold and the next one was booked for April 15th. A round of applause was given for the Flea Market Committee.

**ARES –**

VE4MBQ Detailed report is on page 3 of the OCT newsletter. We ran 6 Summer Severe Weather Nets between 17 MAY & 18 AUG. Only had 12 CANWARN Net Controllers – we need more and one-on-one mentoring is provided.

NOV General meeting is actually 15 NOV not 18 NOV, error in what was submitted to Mark.

Reportable Winter Weather elements shown on page 10 of the OCT newsletter – generally will not be a CANWARN Net, Spotters are to report by telephone using the number distributed at Spotter Training.

Thanks to Susan Collings VE4SYM and her team at the Winnipeg ARES tables during yesterday's WARC Flea Market. On short notice Susan put together a terrific Silent Auction.

Our next General Meeting is TUE 18 OCT 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin street.

**Manitoba ARES—**

A question was asked towards the end of last month's WARC meeting with regard to "the D-STAR Repeater". With regard to VA4DIG, a recommended parts list (that includes particular VHF & UHF duplexers, specific antennas for each of 3 bands and 3 runs of ½" Heliax) is at Manitoba EMO for action.

Don Gerrard VE4DWG completed his term as Section Emergency Coordinator 30 SEP. VE4MBQ is Acting SEC in addition to being Winnipeg EC & Capital Region DEC.

Several ARES GO TEAMS from South Central ARES were almost deployed SUN 9 OCT to provide communications support in SE Manitoba during significant wildfires. Eight Winnipeg ARES members were on-call 9 thru 12 OCT for VE4EMO. The GO TEAMS were not deployed so the Winnipeg members did not have to staff VE4EMO.

**Diamond Image**

Balloons, Flowers, Gifts  
Sterling Silver & Gold Jewellery  
Jewellery Repairs, Printing Services



**Floyd Rolph**

VE4FDR

835 Cavalier Drive  
Wpg, MB R2Y 1C6

Ph: 204 888.3227  
Fax: 204 831.6400  
Email: dimage@mts.net

**RAC –**

VE4HAY reported that although the insurance went up last year it is not expected to increase again in the foreseeable future.

RAC is also looking at the possibility of producing an electronic copy of TCA and bringing in a Youth and Student membership rate.

**Education –**

VE4DAR was absent so VE4SIG reported the course at WSC continued and only one student had dropped out (now 16). It was also reported that there is a course running concurrently at UMARS with 22 students that would be writing their exam in December.

**DX –**

VE4SN reported that sunspots are coming back and all the bands are wide open including 10M. There is a number of DXpeditions underway including T32C and Antarctica. The QSL Bureau did quite well at the Flea Market but he still has a large number of cards in the Dead Letter Box and will provide a list of callsigns with cards waiting for them.

**Good & Welfare –**

VE4HK reported that VE4WPG is back on the air but still needs some wo4rk to be done. VE4SIG reminded the meeting he had Girl Guide Cookies for sale.

**Motion to Adjourn –**

Moved by VE4HK & seconded by VE4GSK. The meeting adjourned at 2012hrs.

Amateur Radio Service Centre  
Industry Canada

P.O. Box 9654, Postal Station T  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 6K9  
Telephone: (613) 780-3333  
Toll free: (888) 780-3333  
Fax: (613) 998-5919

E-mail: [spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca](mailto:spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca)  
[http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h\\_sf01709e.html](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01709e.html)

IRLP Node 1066  
145.450 MHz -600 KHz  
(VE4WRS)

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

**Basic 5 Presses On**  
*by David VE4DAR*

Basic 5 classes continue to be held twice a week at the WSCRC classroom for 14 of the original 17 students. They are working toward getting their call signs and basic amateur radio operator certificates.

Final exams will be held on November 22. We wish them best of luck and stand ready to welcome them into our hobby.

A special "Thank you" goes to Walter VE4VB for attending every class and offering his knowledge and experience. We also appreciate the effort and skill of the 14 volunteer instructors.

**Advanced Course – Go or No Go?**  
*By David VE4DAR*

Do you want an Advanced Course in 2012? If yes, find one or two persons to take charge now, not on New Years Day.

Your Chief Instructor needs to make decisions regarding classroom, equipment, teaching materials such as textbook/CD/Internet resources, instructors, students and costs. Then make arrangements for accessing the location, getting the materials before classes begin, assigning the best instructor for each class.

Next come the confirmations and notifying the students. Did you remember to budget for photocopying and teaching aids? Have you arranged for alternate instructors for each lesson in case of illness, etc.? When do you plan to have an instructors' meeting?

Since the Advanced Course is all electronic "theory" and not 25% on Rules and Regulation and learning vocabulary or definitions, it seems prudent that all the instructors should have an Advanced Certificate or be an electronic or electrical engineer.

I'll share my list of interested students and draft timetable with a committed Chief Instructor. Instructors still have to be assigned to each class on the timetable. After the handover, my interests will turn elsewhere.

Follow us on Facebook at ..

**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB**

Follow us on Twitter at ..

**@VE4BBWARC**

## ***Fall 2011 WARC Flea Market*** ***By, Dick, VE4HK***

The Fall 2011 WARC Flea Market was held October 12, at Heritage Victoria Community Club, 950 Sturgeon Road.

The 2 Flea Markets each year are an important fund raiser for WARC. The Club typically raises over \$800.00 each in Spring and Fall. The Flea Markets are also an important event on the social calendar every time.

I advertised heavily on 2 meters, in the WARC newsletter, and on the Internet, for everyone to be at the Flea Market at 9:30 am, for coffee and muffins from Ruth's Kitchen and for eyeball QSO's. A large contingent was there at 9:30 am.

All prices were unchanged from previous years. Admission was \$3.00, tables were \$5.00 each for WARC members, and \$10.00 each for everyone else. Ruth VE4XYL sold about 24 tables. Unfortunately, there were 3 no shows this year. Each had promised to pay for their tables at the door, but failed to appear.

Several volunteers set up all the tables and chairs, beginning just after 9 am. Set up was completed by 9:45 am. Sellers then began their setup. Buying began at 10:30.



There was a goodly amount of radios on the tables, along with accessories, such as Tektronix scopes, and enough parts and pieces to keep intrepid builders busy all winter long! The sellers seemed to go home happy, and the buyers left with their arms loaded down.

We tested the PA system from the main hall before 9:30. We were able to set the level in Ruth's Kitchen area for good clarity. The sound in the empty main hall was very loud. We were not able to adjust that sound, but, when we used the PA when the area was full of people, the sound was good. The microphone was set up in the far corner, next to the WARES tables.

Winnipeg ARES was first to draw winning tickets for their Silent Auction, at 11:30 am.



Next, WARC made the attendance draw. Gord Hendrickson VE4HE won first prize, a cheque for \$100.00. Ellis Seddon VE4AJO won second prize, a cheque for \$50.00. Bill Simm VE4ALW won a prize of an evening at Imax on behalf of the Pathfinders ARC. This prize was donated by Yori Tsuji VE4ACX.

I consulted with many of the volunteers after the Flea Market. We feel that no changes or improvements are warranted.

Thanks to the following fine crew of volunteers for making the Flea Market a success..

**Admission Door-** Gord VE4OK, Dave VE4DJS, Pat VE4PTH, Judy VE4JUD, Rosi VE4YYL, Tom VE4SE, Mariska VE4MMG

**Vendor Door-** Ed VE4OAK, Mariska VE4MMG

**Ruth's Kitchen-** Ruthie VE4CRS, and Diana XYL of Rick VE4RA

**Food Preparation on Saturday-** Susan VE4SYM and Ruthie VE4CRS.

Also, special thanks to Mariska VE4MMG for organizing tables at the Flea Market.

Thanks also to the anonymous crew that set up the tables before the Flea Market, and to the anonymous crew who removed all the tables and swept up afterwards.



A very special thanks to Ruth VE4XYL for selling tables, and for all the hours she spent organizing, purchasing, and preparing the food for Ruth's Kitchen. The Flea Market would not be as successful without all of Ruth's hard work.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, April 15, 2011.  
(The WARC Spring Flea Market)

**Dick Maguire VE4HK**  
Flea Market Coordinator

## **Winnipeg ARES**

*By Jeff, VE4MBQ*

At least four South-Central ARES members were ready to be deployed in SE Manitoba to support Manitoba EMO for significant wildfires SUN 9 OCT. Thanks to VE4s DDW, VID, MHZ & GLS. If the ARES GO TEAMS had been deployed they would have needed someone on the other end of the HF circuit to communicate with. Several Winnipeg ARES VE4EMO Team members were on stand-by for VE4EMO from approximately Noon-2200h SUN 9 OCT and then daily 10-12 OCT 0800-2200h "just in case". Thanks to VE4s SE, GWN, BN, HAZ, JNF, ESX and MAQ.

Susan Collings VE4SYM did an outstanding job organizing the Winnipeg ARES Silent Auction at the recent WARC Flea Market. Special thanks to Sue's friend Fern Hiller who came out to the Flea Market and sold Silent Auction tickets as well Mariska VE4MMG & Rosi VE4YYL for their assistance helping set up and distributing the prizes.



Susan VE4SYM and her team setting up for the Silent Auction

On behalf of the Executive and members of Winnipeg ARES I would like to thank all the individuals and businesses for their generous donations to our Silent Auction:

Prairie Battery  
 Royal Bank  
 Cary's Ltd thru Cary VE4EA & Marion Rubenfeld  
 Myers Norris Penny thru Richard VE4KAZ  
 Wood Wyant thru Gordon VE4OK  
 Napady Family Glen VE4GWN & Rosi VE4YYL  
 Mills Family Tom VE4SE & Ruth VE4XYL  
 Collings Family Fred VE4TRO & Susan VE4SYM  
 David Rosner VE4DAR  
 Christine XYL of Dave VE4FH  
 Ruthie Maman VE4CRS  
 Maguire Family Dick VE4HK & Mariska VE4MMG  
 Mushmanski Family  
 Bartram Family.

Prize lot winners were:

1. Dave Stimpson VE4DJS
2. Rick Jones VE4AV
3. Darcy Wilson VE4DDW
4. Dave Stimpson VE4DJS
5. Art Johnson N0MHO
6. Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ
7. Garth Blumm VE4GWB
8. Darcy Wilson VE4DDW
9. Dave Bower VE4FH
10. Rob Harwood VE4TNT
11. Rob Harwood VE4TNT
12. Bill Simm VE4ALW
13. Rob Harwood VE4TNT
14. Robert Hawthorne CE4RBH
15. Dave Bower VE4FH
16. Jim Sloan VE4JIM
17. Garth Blumm VE4GWB
18. Tom Blatch VE4HQ
19. Rick Ball
20. Mariska Maguire VE4MMG
21. Dick Maguire VE4HK
22. Dave Bower VE4FH
23. Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ.

I would also like to thank all of our supporters who purchased Silent Auction tickets.

Many in the local Amateur community were saddened to learn of the passing of James Ross VE4AJR MON 17 OCT. Jim was a founding member of Winnipeg ARES and was recognized a few years ago by being named Member Emeritus (our only one to date).

Manitoba EMO Interlake Regional Emergency Manager Shelley Napier provided an interesting, thought provoking presentation on Exercise Shooting Star at our OCT General Meeting. Welcome to new Winnipeg ARES member Jim Griffiths VE4GZ. Ian Clark VE4CLK and Jim Sutton VE4SIG attended the Winnipeg Emergency Management Course 18-20 OCT. Two other ARES members are attending next month.

Thanks to Tedd VE4VID & his wife Sheila for repairing one of our display banners as a donation and thanks to Darcy VE4DDW for his recent donation. At the conclusion of our OCT meeting, nominations opened for the 2011-12 Winnipeg ARES Executive. Nominations close TUE 08 NOV. That is for the elected positions of:

President  
 Secretary  
 Treasurer

Our Annual General Meeting is TUE 15 NOV 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street.

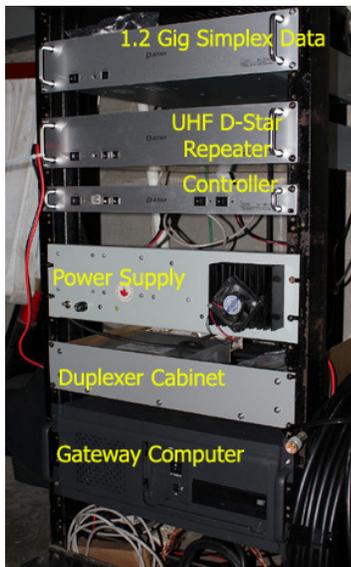
***There is a NEW Repeater In Town!  
By, Mark, VE4MAB  
Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group Inc.***

For those out there with Icom D-Star radios on your belts and in your cars I'm very happy to announce there is a new D-Star repeater in Winnipeg, VE4WDR.

On August 2, 2011, a group of local hams formed the Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group Inc with the focus on installing a D-Star repeater system with an internet gateway in Winnipeg.

After searching high and higher for a suitable location, with many thanks to Roy, VE4EN, and CJNU we received permission from the building owner to install our repeater system and antennas atop 55 Nassau Street N with a great "Birds Eye View" of Winnipeg at about 1036 ft above sea level.

Then we hit the ground running obtaining our call sign and frequencies, awaited the arrival of the repeater from Icom, and obtained our internet connection from Shaw.



On September 24 we installed an omnidirectional antenna and coax on the roof and on September 29 installed the UHF repeater, controller and power supply in the rack. The 1.2 Gig simplex data repeater was installed next.

We began the testing process and found the repeater was reaching out as far east as Anola, Manitoba, yet was having some input issues. After doing some troubleshooting we changed

the duplexer and then discovered a problem with a connector at the radio end of the coax! Oops!

We corrected this connector issue on October 22 and at that time installed the coax and antenna for the 1.2 Gig simplex data repeater. Now the fun begins!

VE4WDR was now on the air and workable with a handheld around Winnipeg. As with working the FM repeaters when you find you can't get in from some locations within the city the same holds true with D-Star. Yet we've had great signal results with signal tests. I've had a QSO with Garth, VE4GWB, using a handheld while standing at the White Horse on Hwy 1 a distance of 25.5 kms from the repeater and from Southport was receiving VE4WDR loud and clear a distance of 80.3 kms from the repeater using a 1/4 wave mag mount antenna! Garth had a QSO with Glen, VE4GWN, who was using his mobile while arriving at Tedd's place.... 49 kms east of the repeater!

Our next step is connecting it to the gateway so we can enjoy all that D-Star has to offer. Thanks to George, VE4GHR, and Rob, VE4TNT, for their help with computer programming.

The Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group Inc's D-Star repeater will remain "Open Access" for local use while granting access to the gateway for members. Our membership is \$25 per year and to join our group write to [ve4mab@rac.ca](mailto:ve4mab@rac.ca). I'd be happy to send you an application PDF.

So program your radio's for VE4WDR and join us on the air!! **444.575 + DV Port "B"**

VE4WDR was possible with many thanks to... Icom, George Hill for all his technical assistance, Roy VE4EN, CJNU and 55 Nassau Street for the location, to VE4's GWB, XE, GWN, VID, EN, for all their work on the roof and to all our founding members.

Follow us on Twitter [@ve4wdr](https://twitter.com/ve4wdr)  
Facebook [Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group VE4WDR](https://www.facebook.com/WinnipegDigitalRepeaterGroupVE4WDR)

For a slide show and VE4WDR's site survey, antenna and repeater install, and great views of Winnipeg visit <http://markblumm.smugmug.com/AmateurRadio/VE4WDR/>  
(View in Full Screen for best view)

***D-Star Mobile and Handheld***

Amateur Radios are available from your local 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>



Are you a  
**RAC** member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

***RAC Bulletin 2011-036E - Alberta/NWT/Nu  
Director Re-elected  
2011-11-03***

Congratulations are extended to Mr. J. T. (Mitch) Mitchell, VE6OH who was recently re-elected as the RAC Director for Alberta / NWT / NU.

This nomination was unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election. Mr. Mitchell started as a Director in January 2010 and has been involved in numerous initiatives including the planning of a major amateur convention to be held in Edmonton, in August 2012.

Mr. Mitchell's term will be extended to cover January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2013.

Paul Burggraaf VO1PRB  
RAC Corporate Secretary

***RAC Bulletin 2011-035E - New Section Manager for BC/Yukon  
2011-11-01***

It is indeed a pleasure for me to announce the appointment of Paul Giffin VA7MPG Section Manager for British Columbia/Yukon effective today. Paul has been licensed since 1993 and has been active in emergency communications for the past 47 years, over 40 of them as an operational member of the RCMP. He is currently Emergency Coordinator for the City of Nanaimo and the southern portion of the Regional District of Nanaimo. He is also President of Coast Emergency Communications Group and the mid island Assistant Regional Emergency Radio Representative for the BC Provincial Emergency Program. Paul resides in Gabriola Island, British Columbia. Welcome aboard Paul.

In making this announcement, I would like to sincerely thank outgoing Section Manager Drew Watson VA7DR who completed his two year term yesterday. His service to the RAC and the BC/YT Section is very much appreciated.

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Paul is eager to receive news from your area along with any ideas or suggestions that you may have. He is also in the process establishing a BC/YT Section Bulletin service so why not drop him an e-mail to be sure that you are included. You can e-mail him at [guppy1@shaw.ca](mailto:guppy1@shaw.ca) or give him a call at 250-247-7965.

73

Doug Mercer VO1DTM CEC  
Radio Amateurs of Canada  
Vice President Field Services  
P.O. Box 1042  
Goulds, NL A1S 1H2  
Tel: 709-364-4741  
Cell: 709-697-3319  
" We're ALL about Amateur Radio !"  
" Tous ensemble pour la radioamateur !"

***Upcoming Events - November 2011.  
2011-10-30***

Special Event Station VA3AAR: 150th Birth Anniversary of Dr. James Naismith, Almonte Native, Inventor of Basketball

Sponsored by the Almonte Amateur Radio Club Inc. with the Dr. James Naismith Basketball Foundation and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority

Date: Sunday, November 6, 2011, 24 hour operation  
0000-2359 UTC (8:00 p.m. Eastern November 5 to 8:00 p.m. Eastern November 6)

Place: Mill of Kintail, Almonte, Ontario, Canada, Latitude 45.244339 N, Longitude 76.258062 W, FN 15vf, ITU 4, CQ 4

Description: Special Event: VA3AAR celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Dr. James Naismith, Almonte native, to honour the inventor of basketball at the Mill of Kintail near his birthplace.  
Frequencies: 20 m 14150 kHz  $\pm$  5 kHz, 40 m 7250 kHz  $\pm$  5 kHz, 80 m near 3755 kHz. (Frequencies subject to adjustment if already in use by other stations).

Special Commemorative QSL: For our public display in the new year, please QSL direct to VE3NCE, P.O. Box 1644, Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0, Canada.

For more information regarding VHF and D-STAR contact channels go to:  
AARC Inc. website:  
<http://www.almontearclub.ca>.

Email contact Rob Webb VE3UIX, AARC Inc. President, : [ve3uix@almontearclub.ca](mailto:ve3uix@almontearclub.ca)

## Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

### For November ...

CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Nov 9 and 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 9 and 0300Z-0400Z, Nov 10
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Nov 9
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Nov 12 to 2359Z, Nov 13
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	0001Z, Nov 12 to 2359Z, Nov 13
JIDX Phone Contest	0700Z, Nov 12 to 1300Z, Nov 13
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	1200Z, Nov 12 to 1200Z, Nov 13
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Nov 12 and 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 12 and 0300Z-0400Z, Nov 13
Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, Nov 12 to 0200Z, Nov 13
CQ-WE Contest	1900Z, Nov 12 to 0500Z, Nov 14
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 13
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Nov 14
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Nov 17
YO International PSK31 Contest	1600Z-2200Z, Nov 18
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Nov 19 to 2359Z, Nov 20
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Nov 19 to 1000Z, Nov 20
LZ DX Contest	1200Z, Nov 19 to 1200Z, Nov 20
All Austrian 160-Meter Contest	1600Z, Nov 19 to 0700Z, Nov 20
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Nov 19
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 19 to 0300Z, Nov 21
RSGB 2nd 1.8 MHz Contest, CW	2100Z, Nov 19 to 0100Z, Nov 20
EPC PSK63 QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Nov 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Nov 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Nov 23
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Nov 23 and 1900Z-2000Z, Nov 23 and 0300Z-0400Z, Nov 24
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Nov 24
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 26 to 2400Z, Nov 27
SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Nov 27

### For December ...

QRP ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0600Z, Dec 1
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 2 to 1600Z, Dec 4
TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 3

Wake-Up! QRP Sprint

0600Z-0629Z, Dec 3  
and 0630Z-0659Z, Dec 3  
and 0700Z-0729Z, Dec 3  
and 0730Z-0800Z, Dec 3

TOPS Activity Contest

1600Z, Dec 3  
to 1559Z, Dec 4

AWA Bruce Kelley Memorial CW Contest

2300Z, Dec 3 to 2300Z, Dec 4  
and 2300Z, Dec 10  
to 2300Z, Dec 11

**Good Luck In The Contest !!**

\*\*\*\*\*

### Story From Ernie Jacobson VE4EOG

The following story I heard when I was studying as a flight service specialist at the Transport Canada Training Center more than 25 years ago. A large number of people in the course graduated from the Radio Marine General Certificate at Red River Community College. This story concerns one of the instructors in that course. He was a radio operator back at the dawn of time, one story he had was as follows:

Setting: British Controlled Palestine World War 2 at some naval base.

These two radio operators finish their shift and to their dismay the mess hall is closed. They decide to go into the local nearby town and find something to eat. They walk by some coffee shop type of establishment that has a sign outside of it saying No British and No Americans allowed.

The two look at each other and laugh because they are Canadian and approach the front door. They are met at the front door by an Arab barring the door. The two Canadian Radio Operators are getting annoyed because they see no reason they cannot enter and are hungry as well. Their hands drop to their holsters and the Arab backs off. (Radio Operators were required to carry sidearms in case of a commando raid they were expected to hold off the enemy while the equipment and code books were destroyed if the radio operators lived long enough. The radio operators doubted they would live long enough to do this.

The two radio operators enter the cafe and indicate by sign language they want food and are eventually served some vile concoction, but they pretend to like it and eat it with great gusto. They hear a commotion in a back room so they investigate. This time a bigger Arab bars the door and he has sword. Same routine the two radio operators hands drop to their pistol belts and they undo the flaps to their holsters and the Arab backs off.

Continued...

The next part is a little fuzzy, but they walked in on a Slave Auction! The next part of the story breaks to them walking back to the base with a 13 year old slave girl in tow. They had their guns out and fired a few shots into the air (Arabs do this frequently) to escape. They are met by a squad of SP's (Shore Patrol because it was a Naval Base) doing double time down the road. Some of the SP's were missing their head gear. In military circles this is simply not allowed but the initial message they got was: **CANADIANS VILLAGE SHOTS FIRED.** There was bigger concerns than a parade inspection.

The two radio operators explained the situation but the girl would have to go back to the village because their was a non interference policy with the locals. The girl could not understand English, but when she realized she was being sent back into the village it took 6 of the SP's to pry the 13 year old off the back of one of the radio operators. She knew the base would be better than the village!

She was obviously not wanting to go back. The SP's were a varied lot some probably had daughters and sisters back home so they deferred final judgement to the base commander who allowed her to stay. She worked at the Red Cross and the last that was heard from her was that she was on her way to England on a plane before Israel declared independence after the war.

I presume the British supplied the required travel documents.

RAC/ARES NATIONAL EMCOMM FREQUENCIES		
SSB	Frequency	Tactical
75M - LSB	3.675 MHz	Alfa
40 M - LSB	7.135 MHz	Bravo
20 M - USB	14.135 MHz	Charlie
17 M - USB	18.135 MHz	Delta
15 M - USB	21.235 MHz	Echo
10 M - USB	28.235 MHz	Foxtrot
CW	Frequency	Tactical
80 M	3.535 MHz	Golf
40 M	7.035 MHz	Hotel
20 M	14.035 MHz	India
17 M	18.075 MHz	Juliette
15 M	21.035 MHz	Kilo
10 M	28.035 MHz	Lima
Digital	Frequency	Tactical
80M	3.596 MHz	Mike
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
40 M	7.096 MHz	November
20 M	14.096 MHz	Oscar
17 M	18.096 MHz	Papa
15 M	21.096 MHz	Quebec
10 M	28.096 MHz	Romeo
<a href="http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/racaresfreqs.htm">http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/racaresfreqs.htm</a>		

## *UMARS October Report* *By Dario, VE4SCH*

The University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society has been very busy for the first two months of the school year offering a course, workshops, demonstrations, and promoting amateur radio to high school students.

The "Radio Course on Regulations, Theory & Practice for Basic Radio Certificate Qualifications" offered by Dr. Witold Kinsner (VE4WK) started on September 27, 2011. The course has been revised from previous offerings and now features live 30 minute demonstrations at the conclusion of each session that keeps the 22 students motivated and engaged throughout the course. The students will be writing the exam at the end of November.

On Monday, October 3, 2011, UMARS, the University of Manitoba IEEE Student Branch (UMIEEE), and the University of Manitoba Space Applications and Technology Society (UMSATS) co-hosted a "Beginners Embedded Systems Workshop". The sold-out workshop introduced first and second year students to programming the MSP430 microprocessor. Part 2 of this workshop is scheduled for November 12, 2011, where students will learn about some more advanced techniques needed to create a terminal node controller for digital communications.

On October 18 and 28, 2011, UMARS offered demonstrations of the Ground Station facilities at the UofM. In the first session, 10 students learned about satellite communications and received an overview of the equipment available. The second session focused on tracking the Shaftesbury High School B-Cube (SHARP-2), where 15 students dropped in throughout the flight to learn about near-space experiments and how to track the balloon. Special thanks to SHARP-1 alumni Katrina Soriano (VE4KMS), who operated the ground station and answered questions from students regarding the project throughout the day.

Finally, on November 2, 2011, UMARS and UMSATS will be hosting a special outreach event for high school students in grade 9 as part of the annual "Take Our Kids to Work Day." The plan for the day is to simulate a near-space balloon experiment to encourage students to pursue careers in engineering and science. Look for more information on this activity in the December issue of the Newscaster.

73,  
Dario Schor, VE4SCH  
UMARS President  
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***More on the  
SHAFTESBURY HIGH ALTITUDE  
ROBOTICS PROJECT - SHARP-2  
By, Robert Striemer, VE4SHS***

SHARP-2 was set to launch at 10 AM from the par 3 golf course at Elkhorn resort.

The balloon and chase cars were followed by many on aprs.fi. The balloon call sign was VE4SHS-9 and the chase car was VE4SHS-10 and the event was posted on Twitter @shsballoon Also check our wiki at <http://shsballoon.pbworks.com>

Track prediction is for a short flight of about 100 km with a burst at about 120 000 feet near Plumas, MB and a descent to a landing between Gladstone and Lake Manitoba (near the Yellowhead Hwy (our route home). The flight duration should be between 3.5 and 4 hours.

All preparations for launch went well.

Thanks to everyone who supported the team even if all you did was check in on the launch from time to time. It feels good to know that people are interested. So thanks everybody.

SHARP is 2/2. Two flights and 2 recoveries.

It makes us look like we know what we are doing but in fact we had a huge amount of luck (again). The grade 9 student who was to set the SPOT Tracker did not do it right and no one checked his work, so no backup to a radio or GPS failure (which did fail briefly right after burst).



We had a knot come undone just before launch. The knot tying the balloon to the parachute. If a student (grade 9) had not noticed this we would have launched the balloon without the parachute and payload. CTV Brandon was there.

I wonder what the storey would have been?  
"SHAFTESBURY's FAILURE TO LAUNCH!"

The reason we launched a good half hour late is because I didn't have a good idea of how long it would take to fill the larger balloon (with the new regulator /

filling apparatus) (low temps could also have been a factor).

The kids filling the balloon got very cold and had to take breaks, go inside and warm up. It was a very active place. Most of the equipment had been turned on for a 10 AM launch so we have an extra hour or more of useless data. Our whole launch protocol was thrown off, etc. So we were very, very lucky (like SHARP-1).

The temperature data looks very interesting and needs to be analysed carefully. We certainly see a marked increase in temperature with increasing height in the stratosphere. Temperature inversion. In fact, the highest exterior temp recorded (about +6 C) is way up in the stratosphere.

I was shocked. See attached. The first hour and a half the sensor was on the ground. Temp decreases with altitude in the troposphere and increases with altitude in the stratosphere. We need to make a temp - altitude plot. As I said the meteorologists would probably find this interesting. I was very surprised by the high temps recorded way up there.



**The Science Module**



**The Corn Module Recovered**

I can tell you that SHARP-2 was an amazing adventure with many crazy twists. Would you believe that our principal Stan Wiebe visually witnessed the balloon burst over Gladstone (@ 126 K feet. It was neutrally buoyant (He leak?) for at least 20 minutes. We all lay in the grass by the Happy Rock and watched the balloon (now bigger than a house and looking like Jupiter but in daylight) hover over Gladstone just waiting for it to burst. Useful to the met-ologists and Kane?



Most of the data was retrieved. We lost the H2O2 (hydrogen peroxide) decomposition chemistry experiment. We think it fell off the ATV. The Geiger counter logger jammed as in the memory was full and the unit was blurring an electronic cry for help when we cracked open the payload. No luck getting the data off it in the field however we had a quick look at the HD video. Outstanding. And we had a sound track of Geiger chirps for each disintegration detected. At altitude the rate was impressive.

We fab'd the cut down wiring the night before. After the soldering station died we soldered the NICR by heating the tip of the iron with a propane torch. McGivor style but not recommended. I did not check the students work. He did not wrap the balloon cord around the NICR wire! Hence the cut-down worked but the nylon string remained intact. Well, like SHARP-1 we got crazy altitude.

When we lost radio contact for awhile on the descent, we though the show was over. Then the radio rebooted and we were back in business. Recovery was in a farmer's field like SHARP-1. Easy recovery.

Huge success. Great fun! Thanks everybody (as usual).

73  
Robert  
Strierner  
VE4SHS  
Teacher  
Shaftesbury  
High School



#### 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.

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Please send your submissions/comments to the editor

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The December issue Deadline is Nov 30, 2011

