



# The **NEWSCASTER**

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

March 2014

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VE4BB

## ***Phased Array Antennas***

***By, Peter VE4TTH***

**Date:** Monday, March 10, 2014

**Time:** 7:30 PM

**Place:** Dakota Collegiate - Theatre *See you there!*  
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

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

Hello all, still cold, still winter, and wondering if we get extra points for doing Field Day in a igloo if all this snow does not melt in time. Anyone interested in organizing Field Day this year? Rolf VE4VZ will gladly mentor anyone who is. Doesn't have to be one person, it can be a few or a group. Please contact me or Rolf if interested.

I'm looking forward to Peter's presentations on "Phased Arrays" using the same emphasis Charlie Sheen used in the movie The Arrival. If and when the snow melts you may want to do some antenna work of your own. You may pick up some tips from him.

Thank you to Vera VE4VMM for organizing Basic Short Course 7 which is now full. If you know anyone interested that did not make it into this class please refer them to the WARC website under education to get them on the list for the next class.

Less than a month and a half until the spring flea market where we will draw at high noon for the Icom ID880H Mobile (or\$500 cash) whichever the winner chooses. You can get tickets from me, Glen VE4GWB, Mark VE4MAB, Bob VE4RCJ and up until the flea market from Micro Hightech on Leila. They will be sold at the market as well up until 11:30am. Thank you to all that already pre-purchased tickets and help support the club.

Don't forget to get those home brew projects completed for April. See you all at the meeting.

Last but not least elections are coming up in June. Thinking about throwing your name in for the vote. Talk to me or one of the other executives. Being on the executive is not as hard as it seems. And can be rewarding.

Thank you and see you at the meeting.

### ***Other Important Dates...***

**Newscaster:** Deadline April 2, 2014

**WARC:** Monthly Meeting Dates...  
April 14, 2014  
Home Brew Night

**WSC:** 2nd Thursday of month  
Breakfast - Garden City Inn

**ARES:** Tuesday, March 18, 2014  
Sir Wm Stephenson Library  
765 Keewatin Street  
CPR/AED training (No general meeting—See details in the ARES report)

**Other:** April 13, 2014 - Spring Flea Market  
June 15, 2014 - Manitoba Marathon

### ***WARC Executive for 2013-2014...***

President	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Vice-Pres.	David Latour	djlatour@mts.net
Treasurer	Bob Jacobs	rcjacobs@hotmail.ca
Secretary	Doug Henry	doug.henry1@gmail.com
Membership	Ross Gibson	rossg@prefixservice.com
Programs	Allan Grant	allangrant@hotmail.com
Past President	Mark Blumm	ve4mab@mymts.net

### ***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,  
February 10, 2014  
Taken by Doug VE4TG***

President Garth VE4GWB called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Introductions by members.

***Minutes***

President moved that Dec minutes be accepted as corrected, moved by Dick VE4HK, seconded by Glen VE4GWN. Approved by show of hands.

***Treasures Report***

Bob, VE4RCJ, advised we ended the month December with a balance of \$ 8,054.07, cheques in amount of \$ 137.81 and credits of \$ 96.97 giving a bank statement balance of \$ 8013.23 when combined with outstanding cheques of \$ 300.00 resulting in a true bank balance of \$ 7513.23. Our PayPal balance at end of December was \$ 475.23 with payments of \$ 65.00 and expenses of \$ 2.19 leaving a balance at end of January of \$ 538.04. this amount when combined with bank account left us with a cash balance of \$ 8,051.27.

***Membership***

Ross away

***Flea Market***

Dick VE4HK reported that next flea market will be 13 April 2014 Sunday, April 13, 2014 at the Heritage Victoria Community Club, 950 Sturgeon Rd, (2 blocks north of Ness Avenue). See Ruth VE4XYL to book a table for \$5 members, \$10 non-members. Ruth's telephone number is 204-837-6915. Still looking for a volunteer(s) to take over Ruth's kitchen. WARC will be drawing raffle tickets for D-Star ID-880H mobile radio or approximate cash equiv of \$500. MRS will have tech equipment on hand to evaluate radios. Doors open at 0930, vendor setup at 0945 to 1030. Persons interested in selling raffle tickets should see Garth. D-Star and MRS will both have tables setup. Adam VE4SN will have a table setup for distribution of Bureau QSO cards. Two door prizes will be distributed, 1st prize of \$100 and 2nd prize of \$50. Admittance is now \$5 per person. Still looking for volunteers for Ruth's kitchen.

***Programs***

March - Phased Antenna Arrays by Peter VE4TTH,  
April - Home Brew Night, May and June - TBD.

***Winnipeg ARES Report***

Jeff, VE4MBQ, is away, see Newscaster report  
Still need volunteers for Klondike days - contact Jeff.

***RAC Report***

By Derek VE4HAY - Industry Canada planning to redo tower standards. New regulations will be focused on commercial installations but may impact ham interests. Commercial firms took advantage of current rules to put up numerous towers under 15m. Derek is involved in negotiations with the City of Winnipeg regarding tower installations and hopes to get exemption for hams up to 17m. Hams can put tower on private property, don't need fence.

Have 5 new frequencies in 60m band, 5 channels with defined band widths, 100 watts PEP effective radiated power. Check RAC bulletins or Industry CA web site for exact details. Industry CA issued 600m band, 1 watt ERP, no interference to ships.

Derek wished all the ladies a Happy Valentine's Day.

***Education Report***

Vera, VA4VMM, reported that the next Basic amateur radio course will be starting 22nd of March 2014. There are 6 openings left at meeting time. (Now sold out).

***DX Report***

Rolf, VE4VZ, reported 10 meters is wide open, lots of activity on 20m as well.

***New Business***

Booking of field day location is complete.

Rolf will provide lunch for field day, sausages and buns. No longer wants to organize field day.

President Garth presented Shaftsbury High School with plaque recognizing WARC's \$ 500 contribution toward two RF receive preamps.

Gary, VA4GWT, suggested the formation of a committee to look after organizing events for occasions such as field day and other similar events.

Amish, VE4JDH, moved a motion prepared by David, VE4DAR, that WARC award the Seniors club a \$ 50 honorarium in recognition of their aid to the furtherance of ham education by making their facilities available for the Basic classes. Seconded by Dick, VE4HK, approved by show of hands

Garth looking for volunteers with trailer to help move gear to field day site.

Ruth, VE4XYL, volunteers to do coffee for field day. WARC Exec will figure out what to do with food for the event. Continued...

Ruth, emphasized the importance of having someone looking after food due to losses in summer heat plus need to have some left over for breakfast. Need coolers to preserve food, feels we need a committee to do this.

Motion to adjourn general meeting by Dick VE4HK.

The evening concluded with a Mesh Radio presentation by William VE4VR.

### **Manitoba Marathon**

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

The 2014 Manitoba Marathon will be SUN 15 JUNE. For on-line volunteer registration please go to <http://winnipegarc.org/marathon.html>

*We only have approximately 30 volunteer operators at this point, we need 85-90 volunteer operators.*

Thanks to Rob VE4RST for covering the first Medical Committee for 2014 that clashed with the FEB

### **Winnipeg ARES**

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

Bob Poole VE4MAQ and Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ provided us with an excellent primer on Klondike Derby and ARES operations during Klondike Derby at our FEB General Meeting. Currently there are thirteen Winnipeg ARES members and one affiliate registered as volunteer operators for Klondike Derby 01, 02 MAR at Camp Amisk.

CANWARN Spotter Training will be SAT 22 MAR in Morris Manitoba. Since we have outgrown the local fire hall, Gord VE4GLS has arranged for the conference room at a local Chinese restaurant (details to follow from Gord). Group Lunch at 1100h with training beginning 1215h. There will be a choice between a Chinese food buffet and a few a la carte items (like a cheeseburger & fries).

I need to know by FRI 14 MAR who from each ARES Unit/CANWARN District is attending, whether or not they are coming for lunch and if so whether they are doing the lunch buffet or have a specific order. CANWARN Spotter Training is open to all certified Amateur Operators. A reminder for the ARES members close to Winnipeg, we need additional volunteer Net Controllers, Bill VE4ALW seems to have little trouble driving in from Portage to run VE4WWO when there's severe weather and he is on-call. Spotters – Amateur only is OK, Net Controller - must be a card-carrying ARES member. David VE4DLA and Garry VE4VD

will be joining us as new Net Controllers this season, couple/three more wouldn't hurt.

We are going to skip a General Meeting in March and instead are dedicating the whole session TUE 18 MAR to CPR/AED training. Please register in advance with Garry [ve4vd@rac.ca](mailto:ve4vd@rac.ca) if you are a Winnipeg ARES member and plan to attend. The training session will be held at 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street.

### **D-Star's "D-Tip" Of The Month** By, Glen VE4GWN

Although simply Keying up on D-Star transmits our call signs please remember to Voice your Call Sign and intentions when controlling the D-Star system such as when linking or unlinking repeaters/reflectors as you would on an analog system.

This will let those monitoring and not looking directly at their screens know which Call Sign is controlling the D-Star system and which reflector or repeater is being linked to or unlinked from.

Also, please remember to ask if the system is in use before unlinking from a reflector or repeater.

## **Manitoba Repeater Society**

The Manitoba Repeater Society operates and maintains a linked repeater system across southern Manitoba, including Winnipeg.

If you are a user of any of these repeaters, we urge you to support the group by becoming a member.

**Remember to Renew for 2014**  
**Memberships expired December 31**

VE4MAN - Starbuck, VE4CDN - Morris,  
VE4PLP - Portage, VE4MRS - Bruxelles,  
VE4GIM - Gimli, VE4MIL - Milner Ridge  
VE4EMB - Hadashville, VE4FAL - Falcon Lake,  
VE4WPG - Winnipeg, VE4VJ - Winnipeg, VE4WRS -  
Autopatch & IRLP link Winnipeg

Links to repeaters in Ontario, Brandon, Selkirk and soon to be the Dauphin & area.

[info@mb-repeater-society.ca](mailto:info@mb-repeater-society.ca)  
<http://www.mb-repeater-society.ca/>  
<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

## ***"I Feel Good"***

***By David VE4DAR***

"I feel good...I knew that I would" sang James Brown years ago. Well, those lyrics hold for me as workshops designed primarily for recent grads of the Basic Short Courses achieve fruition.

Last year and again recently Rolf VE4VZ shared his experience and knowledge by giving helpful tips on how to set up and operate your first ham station. Participants said they liked the workshop and would like more. They realize the "short" courses just can't contain all the knowledge and practice previously found in 3-month and longer courses.



Jim VE4SIG helping Vera VA4VMM

On Saturday, February 22, WARC attracted 11 participants to a workshop at the Seniors. A mix of new hams and older call signs made roll-up J-pole antennas. After reviewing some theory on the antenna, Jim VE4SIG and Lawrence VE4SS gave tips on how to solder. Then they guided participants as they measured, cut, stripped, soldered, and crimped on the connectors. Rolf helped with testing and adjusting the new antennas.



Lawrence VE4SS illustrating a technique



Measure twice, cut once

I felt good as I shot a few photos and watched hams sharing tools, helping each other, and having fun. Isn't that what a club and hobby is all about?



Pete VE4PH analyzing Robin VE4WMT's work

BTW, Basic Short Course 7 has sold out a month in advance with several persons already on the next waiting list!

***Amateur Radios, Antennas, and more  
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 their web site..**  
<http://www.microhightech.ca/>

## **WARC Spring Flea Market** **By, Dick, VE4HK**

Hello, out there in radioland. The WARC Spring Flea Market is now just over a month away! Have you marked every calendar in your house with a bright yellow highlighter on April 13, yet? No??? Better get busy!

The WARC Spring Flea Market is scheduled for Sunday, April 13, at Heritage Victoria Community Club, 950 Sturgeon Road. Every ham, new or old is welcome to attend.

The Flea Market is a great opportunity to meet and greet hams, and for new hams to ask all those questions you may have. Doors open for delicious coffee and muffins at 9:30 am, After an hour of eyeball QSO's, the doors of the main hall will open at 10:30 to a cornucopia of fantastic ham gear, piled high on every table.

Be sure to stop by the Winnipeg ARES table, for a chance to win one of the lots in their Silent Auction.



Did you work that rare DX station, or that DX-pedition recently? Adam VE4SN, the QSL bureau manager for Manitoba, will have a briefcase filled with cards for everyone. That card you absolutely gotta have just might be there!

Manitoba Repeater Society will have a table with test equipment to check out your HF, VHF or UHF radios. Feel free to bring your radios from home. Yori or Ellis will be happy to check them over. \*\*\*Don't forget the manual\*\*\*. Before you buy that radio at the Flea Market, ask the guys to have a look first. You can pay your MRS dues, if you haven't done so yet.

The D-STAR group will have a table. Do you have any questions about D-STAR? This is your best chance to get answers. Radioworld and Fleetwood Digital will

### ***Eyeball QSO at the Arches***

Saturdays and sometimes Sundays  
McDonald's—St. James and Ellice  
**0745-0930 hours**

Start your weekend right!

Get together with your fellow hams, talk tech, and learn from others about the latest rigs.

## **Nostalgia Radio** **CJNU 93.7**

**Now Full Time At Their New Frequency!**

***CJNU 93.7 FM is where you'll hear the very best easy listening music that has been popular over the past eight decades!***

Visit their web site for info and their SKED at  
<http://www.cjnu.ca>

have flyers with special Flea Market pricing at one table. Both companies have promised very nice prizes to the Flea Market. I am hoping to get at least one more major amateur company to sponsor us.

The Flea Market is the final morning to purchase tickets for the WARC D-STAR mobile radio. Tickets are 1 for \$5.00 or 3 for \$10.00. The proceeds enable WARC to pay for annual insurance and other costs..

There are only a handful of tables left for this Flea Market.



Call Ruth  
VE4XYL

ve4se@mymts.net or 204-837-6915 right away, if you haven't booked your spot yet. Tables are only \$ 5.00 each for WARC members, and \$ 10.00 each for everyone else.

Be sure to hang around for the draws at 11:30. We will have lots of really exciting prizes this year.

Winnipeg ARES will lead off with the winners from the Silent Auction. First prize in the attendance draw will be \$ 100.00. Second prize \$ 50.00. I have been promised some other nice prizes as well. The day will be topped off with the draw for the WARC D-STAR Icom D880 mobile radio

***Remember that admission at the door is \$5.00 per person***

Contact Dick VE4HK 204-256-3143 or  
ve4hk@rac.ca  
for further information

Dick Maguire VE4HK  
Flea Market Coordinator



Are you a  
**RAC** member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

### ***RAC Bulletin 2014-005E***

#### ***IC Proposes Changes to Antenna Siting Protocol 2014-02-28***

Earlier today IC released a consultation Document <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10786.html> proposing changes to CPC-2-0-03, the Antenna Siting Protocol to address the Industry Minister's policy statement of 5 February 2014 removing the 15m exemption for "cell towers".

The RAC Bulletin of 6 February had commented on the Minister's policy statement and urged that the drafting of the regulatory changes should follow closely the Minister's statement. It provided several reasons why the exemption should not be removed for radio amateurs.

The consultation document released today proposes exactly the type of change to the height exemption RAC favoured. The 15m exemption would remain but not apply to "broadcasting undertakings and telecommunications carriers".

The consultation document proposes a number of other small changes to CPC-2-0-03 and RAC will look closely at these before completing its comments on the proposed changes. Industry Canada will receive comments from the public on these changes by 31 March 2014 and finalize the changes shortly thereafter.

Some radio amateurs had expressed concern that there might be a blanket removal of the 15m exemption, forcing those wanting to install any antenna into cumbersome notification and consultation processes. This now seems unlikely but we need to follow through on the consultation process to make sure this is the final result.

RAC will respond on behalf of all Canadian amateur radio operators.

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA  
RAC Vice-President Regulatory Affairs

Vernon Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ  
Pointe-Claire, Québec  
RAC Blog Editor/RAC E-News/Web News Bulletin Editor

### ***RAC Bulletin 2014-004E***

#### ***RBR-4 Confirms Access to 137 Khz. 2014-03-15***

Industry Canada approved access by Canadian radio amateurs to the Low Frequency (LF) band 135.7 -137.8 kHz, subject to certain conditions in late 2009. This was a direct result of implementing changes from the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 2007, which added amateur use of this spectrum on a Secondary basis. This has now been included in the newly updated RBR-4 Standards for the Operation of Stations in the Amateur Radio Service.

(<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10650.html>) Canadian amateurs are reminded that the maximum emission bandwidth in this band is 100Hz (e.g. cw, BPSK31, BPSK63, etc.) as well as a maximum EIRP of 1 watt. These conditions are found in Footnote 5.67A: "Stations in the amateur service using frequencies in the band 135.7-137.8 kHz shall not exceed a maximum radiated power of 1 W (EIRP) and shall not cause harmful interference to stations of the radionavigation service operating in countries listed in No. 5.67. (WRC-07)".

RAC welcomes reports of activities in this band, especially reports of DX achieved and useful operating tips. We are asking those active on this band to consider writing articles for TCA to help other amateurs get started on LF, given the large differences in LF antennas, and the need for homebrew transmitters, receivers, and/or transverters. Insights into propagation and other LF operating tips are also requested.

Thanks to Richard Ferch, VE3KI and Jim Dean, VE3IQ.

George Gosline, VE3YV  
RAC International Affairs

Vernon Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ  
Pointe-Claire, Québec  
RAC Blog Editor/RAC E-News/Web News Bulletin Editor

#### ***From your Midwest Director Derek Hay, VE4HAY***

Membership number in RAC grew by 66 members in January from the close of 2013. At the end of January 2014 we had 4617 members. Of those members, 308 are Maple Operator members and 682 have chosen to receive their TCA electronically.

Let's keep the numbers going up, and please encourage your fellow hams to join RAC. With yours and their support we can continue to protect our frequencies and gain a few maybe at the same time.

Join Us On Facebook  
**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB**  
 Follow Us On Twitter  
**@VE4BBWARC**

## Contest Calendar

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

### For March ...

SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1600Z, Mar 14 to 1000Z, Mar 16
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 15 to 0200Z, Mar 17
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 15 to 1200Z, Mar 16
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 16
FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 22
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 29 to 2400Z, Mar 30

### Into April 2014...

SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 3
LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 5
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 5 to 1500Z, Apr 6
EU Spring Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Apr 12
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 12 to 2359Z, Apr 13
Hungarian Straight Key Contest	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 13
Holyland DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 18 to 2100Z, Apr 19

## Good Luck In The Contest

### WARC's April Meeting is "Home Brew Night"

Make use of all the Sub-Sub-Zero "stay indoors"  
 temperatures to work on your "Home Brew" projects  
 for the April's "Show & Tell".

If your project is TOO big to bring to the meeting,  
 bring along a picture!

### 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 announce-  
 ments 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!

**Friendly Manitoba IRLP Net  
 Net - 145.450 Mhz - (Node # 1066)  
 On - The Great Lakes Reflector #9611  
 Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**  
 This net connects you with the world using  
 your VHF rig and using the internet as the  
 backbone!

**D-Star Nets on the VE4WDR System**  
**UHF 444.575+ DV Port B and/or  
 VHF 145.490- DV Port C**  
 TransCanada D-Star Net - Fridays at 8:00 pm  
 On "Free Star" Reflector 21 ( XRF021BO )  
 HamNation D-Star Net Wednesday at 9:15pm  
 On "DPlus" Reflector 14 ( REF014CL )  
 Ozark Mtn. D-Star Net - Sundays at 8:00 pm  
 On "DPlus" Reflector 1 ( REF001CL )

### 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, Inter-  
 lake, 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 **Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**  
 Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark VE4MAB, - [newscaster@WinnipegARC.org](mailto:newscaster@WinnipegARC.org)