



The **NEWSCASTER**

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

March 2015

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VE4BB

Ham Radio & Arduino By Mike VE4PCB

Date: Monday, March 9, 2015
Time: 7:30 PM
Place: Dakota Collegiate - Theatre *See you there!*
661 Dakota Street (At Beliveau Rd.)

Other Important Dates...

Newscaster: Deadline April 1, 2015
WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates...
April 13, 2015
May 11, 2015
WSC: 2nd Thursday of month
Breakfast - Garden City Inn
ARES: Tuesday, March ??, 2015
Sir Wm Stephenson Library
765 Keewatin Street -
Randy Hull - Speaking on Recovery
Workshop
Other: WARC Spring Flea Market
Sunday, April 12, 2015

WARC Executive for 2014-2015...

President	David Latour	ve4dla@gmail.com
Vice-Pres.	Ross Gibson	rossg@prefixservice.com
Treasurer	Bob Jacobs	rcjacobs@hotmail.ca
Secretary	Gerry Sherman	ve4gks@shaw.ca
Membership Programs	Ross Gibson	rossg@prefixservice.com
Director	Rolf Bandlow	rolban@mymts.net
Past President	Garth Blumm	ve4gwb@gmail.com
Public Information Officer....	Kurt Sargent	kurtsargent@gmail.com

From the President's desk ...

Happy New Year! (Chinese-style)

We are entering the Year of the Ram, so it might be a good year for the harder-headed among us.

I heard from Brother Peter, VE4TTH, and he apologizes for not arranging a contact schedule with the membership as he hoped, but he discovered to his surprise that there is neither WIFI nor cellular service in the middle of the Arizona desert. Go figure. I foresee the purchase of a sat-phone.

We're excited that we have new programs in place to foster interest in amateur radio in the general community: Kurt Sargent VE4GIS is now our Public Information Officer, tasked with making us look good (or at least, not like invisible dweebs,) and Jim Sutton VE4SIG is our Hambassador-in-chief, whose brief is to take the radio-curious in hand and show them the light (it is radio tubes, glowing seductively.)

Our relationship with the ARISS group at Shaftesbury HS is growing stronger and I believe now we have a long-term home for any courses we contemplate. The Executive is looking for someone to spearhead two such: an Advanced Course and a CW course.

We are also looking for someone with shop space who could host a Saturday or Sunday build-a-thon for a group of 12 or less. Interested parties should contact the executive by email at ...

info@winnipegarc.org

73,
David Latour
VE4DLA
WARC President

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 9, 2015
Taken by Bob VE4RCJ***

Meeting called to order by David Latour VE4DLA at 0734 PM.

Acceptance of the previous meeting's minutes was moved by Derek VE4HAY. Seconded Glen VE4GWN. Carried. No business from previous minutes.

The president announced that Rolf Bandlow was a director at large.

Treasurer's report -

January 1	Cash	\$ 10159.63
	Expenses	\$ 421.50
	Income	\$ 693.43
	(primarily tuition fees for BSC9)	
	Cash Jan 31	\$ 10431.91

Membership -

As of Feb 9 - 92.

Education -

Basic Course 9 begins Sat April 11. Continues for 5 consecutive Saturdays. On the last Saturday the exam will be held in the AM and a session on Ham radio activities will be held in the afternoon.

Thirteen signed up so far. Registration forms available on the web page.

ARES Report -

Ares coordinator not present. Report available in Newscaster.

RAC -

Nothing to report.

DX -

Adam VE4SN provided a short history of sunspot activity: IN the last 70 years the sunspot cycle with the greatest activity occurred in the 50's with a smoothed sunspot number of 200. In the next cycles the number ranged from 100 to 150. The current cycle No 24 has not reached 100.

However better make use of this cycle because forecasts of cycle 25 and beyond see even smaller numbers.

To help you in your DX exploits Peter VE4TTH who is on an astronomical holiday in Arizona has taken a radio and antenna with him in addition to his telescope. His schedule of planned radio activities will be on the club Facebook page.

Flea Market -

April 12. Tables available from Ruth VE4XYL. \$5.00 club members. \$10.00 non-members.

Raffle -

Draw at Flea Market 11:30 April 12. Prize ID51 or \$500.00. Tickets \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00.

Adjournment moved by VE4RCJ at 0752.

***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/>

***2015 CANWARN Spotter Training
By Jeff VE4MBQ***

The 2015 CANWARN Spotter training session will be held 1000-1300h SAT 28 MAR at Lee's Village Restaurant 627 Park Avenue Beausejour MB.



CANWARN participation is open to any certified-Amateur, you don't have to be an ARES member but it is coordinated by ARES and you have to be a certified-Amateur.

Please register with your local ARES Coordinator by SAT 14 MAR and indicate if you are going to participate in the self-paid group lunch or not.

For amateurs in the RM of Brokenhead please register with Jason VE4JYC, damonrae@gmail.com

For more information about the CANWARN program please see:

<http://www.winnipegares.ca/CANWARN.html>

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club *By Derek VE4HAY*

From my notes of the last seniors meeting...

VE4WSC is looking for Hams interested in Satellite work. They have a station setup, that needs some work, but if they can not find interested parties to pursue this part of our hobby, they will dismantle the station and shut down rather than doing a bunch of work for no reason.

If you are interested in Satellite work please contact the VE4WSC president, Gary Goodman - VA4RWT va4rwt@aol.com for more information.

The VE4WSC is looking for scout troops to participate in the Jamboree on the Air in the Fall of 2015. If you are a scout leader, or have kids in scouts and want to have your troop participate, please talk to your leaders and put them in touch with VE4WSC president, Gary Goodman - VA4RWT va4rwt@aol.com for more information.

Same thing applies for Guides on the air which typically happens in the Spring. It was missed this year, so start planning now for 2016

Nostalgia Radio **CJNU 93.7**

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

Ed VE4YU, at the controls!



Listen On-Line at ...
<http://www.cjnu.ca>

Winnipeg ARES *By Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ* ve4mbq@rac.ca

I was privileged to represent Winnipeg ARES 02 FEB at a special session of the City of Winnipeg Emergency Preparedness & Coordination Committee (EPCC) which hosted a visiting delegation of Emergency Managers from the Philippines visiting Canada to look at Disaster Risk Reduction.

ARES was the only NGO that was invited to brief the visiting delegation at the City of Winnipeg EOC. EOC sector coordinators that provided a briefing included Fire/EMS, Police, Transit, Public Works, Emergency Public Information, Public Aid/ESS, Corporate Risk Management, etc.

In lieu of a single guest speaker at our last General Meeting, three Winnipeg ARES members gave us a briefing dealing with the Scouts Canada Klondike Derby that approximately 20 of our volunteers will be covering 7 & 8 MAR at Camp Amisk:

Bob Poole VE4MAQ
Klondike Derby History, Purpose & ARES photos

Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ
Cross-Band Re-Transmit

Glen Napady VE4GWN
Equipment.

Our next General Meeting is TUE 17 MAR 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. City of Winnipeg Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Randy Hull will be giving us a presentation on a Recovery Workshop that he did in the Philippines last fall.



2015 Manitoba Marathon **Volunteer Application**

The Manitoba Marathon is Sunday, June 21, 2015, and the Amateur Radio Volunteer form is on-line -

<http://winnipegarc.org/marathon.html>

WARC Spring Flea Market

By Dick VE4HK

What is the most exciting event on the amateur radio calendar? No, it is not watching VE4HK fall off the tower at Field Day! Actually, the most exciting event is the WARC Flea Market.

This year the Flea Market is scheduled for our usual favourite QTH, namely...

Sunday, April 12, 2015
Heritage Victoria Community Centre
950 Sturgeon Road, Winnipeg, MB

The day will begin at 9:30 am, with exciting and interesting eyeball QSO's with all those folks you haven't seen since the Fall Flea Market. Expect delicious muffins and coffee to build up glycogen in your muscles to carry home all that new junkie that will be awaiting on the tables.

Vendor setup will begin at 9:45. The stampede of excited buyers starts at 10:30. Everything will wrap up at noon. Prize draws commence at 11:30

The Flea Market will be your final opportunity to purchase tickets on the ID51 DSTAR Anniversary Edition handheld. All profits from this raffle help defray the cost of WARC's annual insurance policy. Speaking of DSTAR, the local DSTAR group will have a table, where people can learn about DSTAR from the experts.

Manitoba Repeater Society will have 2 tables. Bring your personal HF, VHF or UHF radios to be tested. **Just DON'T FORGET THE DARNED MANUAL!!** Before you buy that gem of a radio at the Flea Market, get it checked out. Forgot to pay your MRS dues? The guys will be happy to take your membership. They will also answer any questions you may have about MRS.

I anticipate having flyers from some prominent national amateur radio stores at the Spring Flea Market.

Drop by the Manitoba QSL Bureau, and meet Harm VE4HAZ, our new QSL Bureau Manager, and pick up your cards, or make a deposit, so he can mail out your DX cards, when they arrive. Did you work K1N, when they were on the air? Harm might have your cards.

Winnipeg ARES will have the ever popular Silent Auction. Be sure to drop by and buy a bunch of tickets. There are always lots of neat goodies amongst the lots.

As of 8:37 am this morning, Saturday, February 21, there were only 6 tables left for the Flea Market.

If your spouse if after you to downsize your amateur gear, why not call Ruth VE4XYL, to book your table?

Tables are only \$5.00 each for members of WARC, and \$10.00 for everybody else.

Admission to the Flea Market is \$5.00 per person. Please bring exact change, preferably a \$5.00 bill

There promises to be lots of great items to purchase at the Flea Market. Bring a pocket filled with money, and an empty car, so you can purchase lots of treasures.

WARC will make the big draw for the ID51 DSTAR handheld at 11:30. Winnipeg ARES will conduct draws for their Silent Auction, as soon as the DSTAR radio has been awarded. Next, WARC will make draws for all the door prizes, culminating with second prize of \$50.00 and first prize of \$100.00

Be sure to gather up all your friends, and C'MON down to the WARC Flea Market, Sunday, April 12.

Dick Maguire VE4HK
 Flea Market Coordinator

VE4ISS - ARISS Telebridge – Operators needed !!

The ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) telebridge station at Shaftesbury high school has begun operational training and procedure development.

In order to increase our 24/7, 365 availability for contacts with the ISS crew, we are offering a unique opportunity to amateur radio operators in Winnipeg to become part of the operational station crew at VE4ISS!

Interested amateur radio operators will be trained and have access to one of the most sophisticated amateur radio satellite station in Canada for ISS and satellite operation.

Trained and accepted individuals will work hand-in-hand with students, teachers and other hams to secure our ability to offer schools around the world with amateur radio access to the ISS.

Feel free to pass along my email and my number to any interested parties.

Adrian Deakin, Science Educator / Shaftesbury High School, Winnipeg, MB, Canada, R3P 0P7

tel: 204.888.5898 ext.2050 | fax: 204.896.5492
<http://mrdeakin.pbworks.com>

Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

For March ...

QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 11
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 11 and 900Z-2000Z, Mar 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 12
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 11
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 13
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 14 to 1000Z, Mar 15
F9AA Cup, SSB	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1200Z, Mar 15
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 14
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 14 to 1600Z, Mar 15
TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	1800Z, Mar 14 to 0759Z, Mar 15
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 14 to 1900Z, Mar 15
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 15
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 16
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 18 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 19
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 19
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 19
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 20
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 23
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Mar 21 to 1000Z, Mar 22
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 21 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 21 (432)
Feld Hell Sprint	1700Z-1859Z, Mar 21
UBA Spring Contest, SSB	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 25
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Mar 25 and 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 26
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 27
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2359Z, Mar 29

Into April 2015...

QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 1
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 2
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 3
LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 4
Mississippi QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 5
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 4 to 1500Z, Apr 5
UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Apr 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 7
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 8
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 10
JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 11 to 1300Z, Apr 12
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 11 to 2359Z, Apr 12
Hungarian Straight Key Contest	1500Z-1700Z, Apr 12

Good Luck In The Contest !

New QSL Manager for Manitoba

After his many years of service as QSL Manager for Manitoba Adam VE4SN has retired and passed on the duties to Harm Hazeu VE4HAZ!

Harm VE4HAZ can be reached at
ve4haz@gmail.com

D-Star's "D-Tip" Of The Month By Garth VE4GWB

With the new radios like the 31/51 using micro SD cards for easy programming!

You can program multiple files for various memory configurations onto the SD card and upload whichever one you choose to the radio.



Are you a
RAC member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club—Raffle

By Garth VE4GWB

I am pleased to announce that WARC is celebrating Icom's 50th Anniversary by offering the well sought after ID51A Anniversary Edition HT in the spring raffle.



The Icom ID51A Anniversary Edition (white) is 1 of only 5000 made and covers VHF/UHF with built in GPS & D-STAR. If the winner prefers he or she may choose the \$500 cash option which is available again. This will make the raffle appealing to both hams and non-hams alike.

Tickets will be available starting in December and can be purchased from Garth VE4GWB, Mark VE4MAB, Glen VE4GWN and others T.B.A as you run into us at meetings, coffee etc. Tickets will also be available at Micro-Hightech Communications @ 197 Leila Ave.

The raffle is once again being held to help cover the cost of club insurance and other increased expenses over the last few years to keep the membership fees as is.

Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. The draw will take place on April 12, 2015 at the spring flea market. Full rules can be found on the WARC website. (Licence # MGCC 5179-RF)

Thank you and good luck in the contest.

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.

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
<http://www.mb-repeater-society.ca/>
<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

From Your RAC Midwest Director Derek VE4HAY

Deputy Director needed...

I am once again in need of a Deputy Director for our region. But this time it is a good thing. Bill Boskwick – VE4BOZ, has tendered his resignation but, for a good reason. He is accepting the position of Chief Field Service Officer with in RAC. This position has been vacant for about a year now. While I am disappointed to see Bill leave, I know that he will do very well heading up the Field Services arm of RAC.

So once again I am looking for a deputy director. The position is very simple; you attend the board meetings and monitor, and step in when I can not make a meeting (a few times a year). Exchange thoughts and concerns with myself to ensure we are both on the same page when it comes to the welfare of Amateur Radio and all RAC members in the region. A complete description can be provided to anyone who is interested in taking on the role. The role is also a stepping stone to the actual Director Position.

Please note that according to the constitution of RAC, this is my final term. I can only hold office for three terms. So think of the Deputy as taking over for me when I am done my role. Please think about this, as it is for the future of RAC and of Amateur Radio in our region.

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.**

WARC "Hambassador's" Wanted ***By Jim VE4SIG***

I've noticed in the past when we have visitors in the past we give them a round of applause and then that's about it (I'm as guilty as the next guy of this)

We really need to encourage folks (not just the exec but everyone) if a stranger shows up people go up at the 1st opportunity and say "hi I'm [name AND NO CALLSIGN!]" - maybe get a couple of people to volunteer to be Hambassadors (honestly I just made that up) to do this.

I remember my 1st meeting I came and we aren't particularly warm to new arrivals – and if you aren't a ham there is a lot of coded language that makes it difficult for the uninitiated to know what's going on

Maybe as soon as we ID someone as a non-club member a Hambassador (the more I type it the more I like it) goes up ; introduces themselves, asks if they can sit with them and is there to answer any questions they might have for the rest of the night – introduces them to a couple of other people that sort of thing

I guess I just volunteered to be a Hambassador - folks who are empathetic to a novice knowing nothing and not overwhelming them – I can think of some people who would eagerly volunteer but you know who you are!

See you Monday –
I'm off to get fitted for my Hambassador sash!
(if the President has a hard hat a member of the diplomatic corps should at least have a ribbon)

What have you done to "promote amateur radio this week"

That line we credit to an old News stalwart, Peter Parker with using in his old VK1 and VK3 casts many years ago and it still stands true -WLA

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"

The Morning Net 147.390 Mhz+

Weekdays at 9:00 am

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

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 the internet as the backbone!

D-Star Nets on the VE4WDR System using

UHF 444.575+ DV Port B and/or

VHF 145.490- DV Port C

TransCanada D-Star Net - Fridays at 8:00 pm

On "Free Star" Reflector 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)

More nets <http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx>

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 - 4:10 PM -7,075 Khz

4:10 PM - 4:20PM -3,675 Khz LSB 5,375 USB

Manitoba IRLP Nodes - Use reflector 9003

Winnipeg VE4WSC (Node 1809) Pinawa

VE4PIN (Node 1981), Flin Flon VE5ROD

(Node 1750), DARC Swan River VE4SRR

(Node 1700)

The Newscaster is the Official Publication of **Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**
Please send your submissions/comments to the editor Mark VE4MAB, - newscaster@WinnipegARC.org