



# The NEWSCASTER

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.WinnipegARC.org>

September 2022

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VE4BB

## **RAC Info Session By Ed VE4EAR RAC Midwest Director**

Date: Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Time: 7:30 PM **An "In-Person" Meeting**

Windsor Park United Church

1062 Autumnwood Dr (at Cottonwood Rd.)

Find it on Google Maps - [Click Here](#)

Also available on Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84471437843?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84471437843?pwd=YVlkTGw2N0RJNklydCtVWXd2QkQzd09)

[pwd=YVlkTGw2N0RJNklydCtVWXd2QkQzd09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84471437843?pwd=YVlkTGw2N0RJNklydCtVWXd2QkQzd09)

### **Other Important Dates:**

News caster: Deadline September 29, 2022

**WARC:** Monthly Meeting Dates **2nd Tuesdays**  
October 11, 2022 - AGM  
Paul Residorf VE4AMS - Introduction  
to Arduino presentation

**ARES:** Tuesday, September 20, 2022  
General Meeting—Winnipeg ARES  
members will be advised by e-mail

Check your WARC Membership Status at ...  
<http://winnipegarc.org/join.html>

### **WARC Executive for 2022-2023...**

President	Drew Kwartel	drewk1166@gmail.com
Vice-Pres.	<b>VACANT</b>	
Treasurer	David Latour	ve4dla@gmail.com
	<b>(Treasurer - Vacant As Of October 30)</b>	
Secretary	John Romanec	ve4vjr@gmail.com
	<b>(Interim secretary)</b>	
Membership	Cary Rubenfeld	VE4EA
Education	Drago Lambeta	VE4DBV
Director	Geoff Bawden	VE4BAW
Director	Jerry Volkers	VE4GCV
Past President	John Romanec	ve4vjr@gmail.com
Public Information Officer....	<b>Vacant</b>	

### **From The President -**

Hi all, another summer come and gone, and the start of another year of Amateur activity for us with monthly general meetings, contests and finally another Basic Short Course etc. Watch the website for details.

We had a successful Hamfest of our own, had a great field day at St. Vital Park and the Brandon Club had a great hamfest in Austin a few weeks back.

Our next monthly general meeting will be on Tuesday September 13 at 7:30 pm at the Windsor Park United Church.

Our last meeting was our elections for board members. This was to vote new members onto the board. At that time our current board stayed the same but with the addition of Geoff Bawden to the board. Geoff was a previous board member and held different positions including President. Welcome back Geoff, we welcome your knowledge and experience.

Since then we have been made aware of the resignation/retirement of our treasurer David Latour in October. David has served for many years in various positions including president and most recently as our treasurer, a position he excelled at.

David, thank you for your service to the club, you will be missed as a board member.

We now respectfully ask our members if there is anyone who has any experience in this field or a strong desire to learn to please step up and become a board member and our treasurer, David will provide training before his retirement.

Please also note that it is membership renewal time as well. Please renew your memberships as soon as you can, thanks.

Hope this finds all our members well and hope to see as many of you this year as we can at meetings or online if need be as we learn to live with covid.

We are hoping to have a busy year.

73

Drew Kwartel VE4DRW  
President,  
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club.

### **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*

## <sup>2</sup> *WARC General Meeting Minutes June 14, 2022*

### *Call to Order*

Meeting call to order by President at 19:33

### *Introductions*

Encourage newbies and guests to declare. 12 members in attendance, 10 in person and 2 online

### *Minutes*

Approval of April minutes as posted in the Newscaster

### *Previous Business*

None

### *Treasurer's Report*

	PayPal	Bank	Rainy	Books
Start	\$ 845.58	\$ 3987.23	\$ 6537.24	\$ 4872.81
In	\$ 287.70	\$ 5756.20	\$ 4.39	\$ 6003.90
Out	\$ 1013.48	\$ 2101.05	\$	\$ 3114.53
End	\$ 119.80	\$ 7642.38	\$ 6541.63	\$ 7762.18

Total Cash on Hand \$ 14,184.01

### *Membership Report*

WARC membership renews September but can renew anytime. 11 new members. Total of 88 paid with some free new members.

### *Programs*

Field Day update provided by Cary VE4EA. Plan to have 2 radio stations and start operating by 13:00. Request for setup volunteers and operators. Operator schedule presented.

Hamfest summary was provided by David VE4DLA. Attendance was down from previous years but worth the effort. 88 accounted for walk ins and 18 vendors. Cable shop made \$1052.00 in sales. 44 cash entrance fees paid and 44 online pre admission purchased. Club sold 270 of 500 50/50 tickets and \$200.00 dollars worth of tickets sold for silent auction. We grossed \$5376 and profited \$2687.70. Approx. \$1000 less than first Hamfest. 2 speaker presentations posted on WARC website under Hamfest tab.

### *Education*

Basic Short Course to start in October at Windsor Park Church. Drago to participate in course delivery with Roberto.

### *ARES*

None

### *RAC*

None

### *DX Report*

6M to Hawaii by VE4IM via FT8. Sporadic E tropospheric ducting. Europe in the morning, Asia in the evening.

### *New Business*

Acclimation of previous 5 executive committee members as follows:

Drew Kwartel, Cary Rubinfeld, Scott Campbell, John Romanec and David Latour. 1 position remains to be filled.

### *Adjourn*

Meeting adjourned by President @ 20:33

### **Winnipeg ICOM Dealer... Micro-HighTech Communications Ltd.**

2217 Henderson Hwy, East St. Paul, MB  
(Just south of perimeter Hwy)

Ph. (204)-783-1885 Fax (204) 779-7522  
Contact George Hill, VE4GDH  
or

E-Mail Steve at [Steve@microhightech.ca](mailto:Steve@microhightech.ca)

## *Call Sign BADGES*

Would the following hams please come to the September meeting and pick up their callsign badges?  
VA4FUK, VE4GG, VE4JTS, VE4PYT, VE4MPH, VE4SBS, VE4ANF, VE4KMF

Meetings are the best opportunity to do business.

David VE4DL

### **WARC Hamfest Report**

By Cary VE4EA

This is a report and summary of the June 5th WARC 2022 Hamfest and Flea Market, held at Dakota Community Centre.

Hamfest attendance was just shy of 100 people (98), plus vendors. There were a total of 25 tables representing vendors, clubs, VE4 QSL Bureau and Yori doing our 2m radio testing, etc. Overall numbers were down by 30 attendees, from the last flea market, likely due to concerns over the pandemic and the beautiful spring weather. Once again, we offered Amateur Radio license testing, this time under the capable guidance of Drago VE4DBV.

Financially, WARC earned \$2,687.70 which added to our savings. While making money isn't necessarily the main reason for our hamfest, it's always better than a negative return. There are many parts to the hamfest/flea market event: table sales, gate attendance, 50/50 draw tickets, choice auction, merchandise and cable shop, etc. Each of these parts contribute to the overall success and health of the event. The choice auction draws appear to be losing favour with attendees in spite of some desirable and valuable prizes. A full treasurer's report will be available at the September meeting.

Continued...

<sup>3</sup>  
The current WARC Executive is undergoing some changes, with both additions and some well deserved retirements. We will have continuity and guidance. Going forward, we will need a new Hamfest/Flea Market director and working committee.

The next hamfest & flea market is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2023. Please consider donating some of your time to help WARC and your fellow members in this important club function.

*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 -WIA

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

The 2022 Manitoba Marathon was SUN 19 JUNE. Although we were all very challenged by the decreased number of Amateur Radio volunteers and the extreme heat and humidity the Amateur Radio component worked very well. Although a number of local Amateur organizations support our successful operation we couldn't do it without our Race Day volunteers. Thanks to:

VA4s: CAT, CQD, DON, LMK, PNO, VMM  
VE4s: MMG, SLC, BOY, DAE, BYT, HIN, TSY, ASY, SBS, LYN, WDW, BSC, GLS, MHZ, JEP, KYG, DVT, JBL, DBV, DPT, HK, NQ, CLK, ZN, RIC, GWB, BEF, GTM, GWN, YYL, GCV, EA, HAY, HAZ, GZ, GIS, JFK, KAZ, MWH, QV, NJR, GG, ACX, CDM, PXL, FTS, MAB, EAR, SYM, TRO, JAH, JDH, AFL, DJS, MBQ

VE6s: LOT & MRG

Rhonda Dovyak.

I mentioned that several local Amateur Radio organizations support our operation. Thanks to:

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club  
Manitoba Repeater Society  
Pathfinders Amateur Radio Club  
South-Central ARES  
Maharika Amateur Radio Club  
Winnipeg ARES.

Special thanks to:  
Mark VE4MAB for getting on-line registration set up,  
Dave VE4DJS for looking after the volunteer database  
Dick VE4HK, Mark VE4MWH and Pietra VE4PXL  
for supply distribution at our in-person briefing.

The 2022 Manitoba Marathon Report can be seen on-line at: [http://www.winnipegarc.org/2022-MB\\_Marathon\\_ARES\\_Report.pdf](http://www.winnipegarc.org/2022-MB_Marathon_ARES_Report.pdf)

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

Our June General Meeting was held virtually 21 JUN and included a Manitoba Marathon debrief.

Winnipeg ARES operators were on stand-by for VE4EMO in the MECC for fifty (50) days from 08 APR to 27 MAY. Thanks to VE4s HK, HQ, VD, GWN, HAZ, MWH, RCA, MBQ. Thanks also to Derek and Paul at WSCRC for facilitating Radio Room # 2 in case an on-call operator was required and their home station couldn't access the relevant repeaters. The 2022 Spring Flood Report can be seen at: <http://www.winnipegares.ca/documents/Flood/Manitoba%20ARES%202022%20Spring%20Flood%20Report.pdf>

Welcome to Larry Konowalchuk VA4LMK – he had so much fun volunteering for the Manitoba Marathon that he has joined Winnipeg ARES! Thanks to Kurt Sargent VE4GIS for being on-call for Winnipeg ARES when I had to go to Vancouver for a couple of days (work-related conference planning).

Our SEP General Meeting will be 1900h TUE 20 SEP, at press time unclear if virtual or in-person, Wpg ARES members will be advised.

**The Saturday Morning Net**  
**UPDATE**  
**By Dick VE4HK**

The Saturday Morning Net will be postponed 1 week to September 10 at 10:00 am, so everybody can enjoy Labour Day weekend. You are invited to listen in and participate when we resume operations.

Be sure to listen for Dick VE4HK's History of Amateur Radio, which will begin on September 17th. This was a big hit with everybody last spring.

Do you have any interesting topics for the Saturday Morning Net?

Do you have any suggestions to make the Saturday Morning Net better?

Are you itching to try your skills as a Net Controller for the Saturday Morning Net?

If the answer is "YES!" to any of those questions, please contact one of the people listed below.

Calvin Winter VE4AJ Net Manager  
[winter@mymts.net](mailto:winter@mymts.net)

Dick Maguire VE4HK net controller  
[ve4hk@rac.ca](mailto:ve4hk@rac.ca)

Brian Bader VE4BDB net controller  
[ve4bdb@yahoo.com](mailto:ve4bdb@yahoo.com)

## Contest Calendar for Summer 2022

Extracted From

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>

### September 2022

Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 8  
and 0200Z-0300Z, Sep 9

CWops Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 8

CWops Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 8

RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 8

EACW Meeting 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 8

NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 9

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 9

K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 9

FOC QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 10

YB7-DX Contest 0000Z, Sep 10 to 2359Z, Sep 11

WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 10 to 2359Z, Sep 11

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon 1200Z, Sep 10 to 2400Z, Sep 11

Ohio State Parks on the Air 1400Z-2200Z, Sep 10

Russian Cup Digital Contest 1500Z-1859Z, Sep 10  
and 0600Z-0959Z, Sep 11

Alabama QSO Party 1500Z, Sep 10 to 0300Z, Sep 11

ARRL September VHF Contest 1800Z, Sep 10 to 0300Z, Sep 12

North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 11

K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 12

4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Sep 12

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 12

OK1WC Memorial 1630Z-1729Z, Sep 12

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 12

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 13

ICWC Medium Speed Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 13

RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 13

Phone Weekly Test 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 14

A1Club AWT 1200Z-1300Z, Sep 14

CWops Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 14

Mini-Test 40 1700Z-1759Z, Sep 14

VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest 1700Z-2100Z, Sep 14

Mini-Test 80 1800Z-1859Z, Sep 14

RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 14

CWops Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 14

NAQCC CW Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Sep 15

CWops Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 15

CWops Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 15

RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 15

BCC QSO Party 1800Z-1959Z, Sep 15

NTC QSO Party 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 15

NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 16

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 16

K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 16

AGB NEMIGA Contest 2100Z-2400Z, Sep 16

ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Sep 17 to 2359Z, Sep 18

SARL VHF/UHF Digital Contest 0300Z-0500Z, Sep 17 (6m)  
and 0500Z-0700Z, Sep 17 (2m)  
and 0700Z-0900Z, Sep 17 (70cm)  
and 0300Z-0500Z, Sep 18 (2m)  
and 0500Z-0700Z, Sep 18 (6m)  
and 0700Z-0900Z, Sep 18 (70cm)

### ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest

0600 local, Sep 17 to 2400 local, Sep 18

Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW Cancelled for 2022

Iowa QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 17 to 0200Z, Sep 18

Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 17 to 0200Z, Sep 18  
and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 18

QRP Afield 1500Z-2100Z, Sep 17

Wisconsin Parks on the Air 1600Z-2300Z, Sep 17

Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 17 to 0700Z, Sep 18  
and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 18

New Jersey QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 17 to 0359Z, Sep 18

New Hampshire QSO Party 1600Z, Sep 17 to 0400Z, Sep 18  
and 1600Z-2200Z, Sep 18

Feld Hell Sprint 1800Z-1959Z, Sep 17

North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 18

BARTG Sprint PSK63 Contest 1700Z-2059Z, Sep 18

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 2300Z, Sep 18 to 0100Z, Sep 19

K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 19

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 19

OK1WC Memorial 1630Z-1729Z, Sep 19

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 19

144 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 19

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 20

ICWC Medium Speed Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 20

RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 20

Phone Weekly Test 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 21

A1Club AWT 1200Z-1300Z, Sep 21

CWops Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 21

Mini-Test 40 1700Z-1759Z, Sep 21

VHF-UHF FT8 Activity Contest 1700Z-2100Z, Sep 21

Mini-Test 80 1800Z-1859Z, Sep 21

CWops Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 21

Walk for the Bacon QRP Contest 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 22  
and 0200Z-0300Z, Sep 23

CWops Test 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 22

CWops Test 0700Z-0800Z, Sep 22

RTTYOPS Weeksprint 1700Z-1900Z, Sep 22

RSGB 80m Autumn Series, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 22

NCCC RTTY Sprint 0145Z-0215Z, Sep 23

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 23

K1USN Slow Speed Test 2000Z-2100Z, Sep 23

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Sep 24  
to 2400Z, Sep 25

Maine QSO Party 1200Z, Sep 24 to 1200Z, Sep 25

Masonic Lodges on the Air 1400Z-2200Z, Sep 24

AGCW VHF/UHF Contest 1400Z-1700Z, Sep 24 (144)  
and 1700Z-1800Z, Sep 24 (432)

AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party 2200Z, Sep 24 to 2200Z, Sep 25

UBA ON Contest, 6m 0700Z-1000Z, Sep 25

K1USN Slow Speed Test 0000Z-0100Z, Sep 26

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 26

QCX Challenge 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 26

OK1WC Memorial 1630Z-1729Z, Sep 26

RSGB FT4 Contest 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 26

ICWC Medium Speed Test 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 26

QCX Challenge 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 26

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest 0100Z-0159Z, Sep 26



ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Sep 27
QCX Challenge	0300Z-0400Z, Sep 27
RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Sep 27
222 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 27
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Sep 28
Phone Weekly Test	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 28
A1Club AWT	1200Z-1300Z, Sep 28
CWops Test	1300Z-1400Z, Sep 28
Mini-Test 40	1700Z-1759Z, Sep 28
Mini-Test 80	1800Z-1859Z, Sep 28
CWops Test	1900Z-2000Z, Sep 28
UKEICC 80m Contest	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 28
CWops Test	0300Z-0400Z, Sep 29
CWops Test	0700Z-0800Z, Sep 29
RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Sep 29
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Sep 30
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Sep 30
K1USN Slow Speed Test	2000Z-2100Z, Sep 30

### Into October 2022 ...

Collegiate QSO Party	0000Z, Oct 1 to 2359Z, Oct 2
Worked All Provinces of China DX Contest	0600Z, Oct 1 to 0559Z, Oct 2
TRC DX Contest	Cancelled for 2022
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0600Z, Oct 1 to 0600Z, Oct 2
Russian WW Digital Contest	1200Z, Oct 1 to 1159Z, Oct 2
IARU Region 1 UHF/Microwaves Contest	1400Z, Oct 1 to 1400Z, Oct 2
International HELL-Contest	1600Z-1800Z, Oct (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 2 (40m)
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 1 to 2200Z, Oct 2
SKCC QSO Party	1800Z, Oct 1 to 1800Z, Oct 2
RSGB DX Contest	0600Z-1800Z, Oct 2
UBA ON Contest, SSB	0600Z-0900Z, Oct 2
Peanut Power QRP Sprint	2200Z-2359Z, Oct 2
K1USN Slow Speed Test	0000Z-0100Z, Oct 3
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-1000Z, Oct 3
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1300Z-1400Z, Oct 3
OK1WC Memorial	1630Z-1729Z, Oct 3
ICWC Medium Speed Test	1900Z-2000Z, Oct 3
RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Oct 3
Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest	0100Z-0159Z, Oct 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Oct 4
ICWC Medium Speed Test	0300Z-0400Z, Oct 4
RTTYOPS Weeksprint	1700Z-1900Z, Oct 4

\*\*\* Good Luck In The Contest \*\*\*

### D-Star and DMR in Winnipeg

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Join the Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group Inc. and feel freedom of worldwide communications on crystal clear networks...

The future is digital! <http://www.ve4wdr.org>

### "Ham Picnic" Happens by David VE4DAR

Last Winter five of us created a plan to hold a "Ham Picnic" this summer. The plan was given to our Seniors Club to implement. However, no one came forward to manage the event. We didn't bother WARC since they were busy with their Ham-fest.



We five then decided to have our own picnic. Before Covid, several in our group used to have lunch with others from the Seniors Club on Thursdays, so we invited that group to join us. We just wanted to have a small group have fun at St. Vital Park.



On Wednesday, August 10, we had our 'bring-your-own-lunch picnic.' As shown in the photos, Ruth VE4XYL, Lawrence VE4SS, Ray VE4PT, David VE4DAR, Roger VE4RLF, and his wife, Audrey enjoyed their picnic on a sunny, warm day in St. Vital Park.



We apologize to Hamish VE4JDH, who ended up having his lunch on his own at the wrong picnic site, because of our unclear directions.

*Confessions of a Casual Contester*  
*Vol. 2 Issue 12*  
*from the shack of DavidVE4DL*

I am not now, nor ever have been, a Contester. I don't see myself becoming a Contester either, if one defines the term to include round-the-clock operations, intravenous fluids and diapers, and frequent relays of cold, one-hand meals. Not my thing, at all. BUT.....

All Change!

Since my last issue went to press, my plans have galloped off madly in all directions. I am no longer raising my fan dipole another 16'. No.

Our building is sold, possession 1 November, so the shack is moving in its entirety to a new location: my house. It's not far to go, really, it's in the same Maidenhead square to 6 figures – but it is a wholesale change of just about everything except the radio and power supply!!

Ever wish you'd made a decision the other way? Well, I'm in those shoes now. I passed up a 10' roof tripod a few years ago (\$20) because I already had a flat-roof mount on my flat roof at the bakery. Now I'm hunting for one to go on the peak of my hip roof at home. Grabbed at a 5' tripod for \$30 today, just in case I don't find what I need. A forty-foot house-braced tower is available out in the boonies, but there is not much real estate on my patio to fit it in.

I have a TGM MQ-26 in the mail from S. Ontario – apparently the last one ever to be made. 6-20 m, 2El each, capacity-hatted compact Yagi that fits within the perimeter of my roof. Ah, the joy of small inner-city lots. But it is dirigible, which the fan-dipole is not. All my contesting friends bemoan my choice, but it's all about what fits, so that's the cookie crumbled. I wasn't really looking to put a contest mega-station on a 25x90 ft lot, anyway. I lose 40 and 80. I gain 6 m. For me, contesting has been more about 15 and 20 anyway. I think I lose 30 m also. I'm not there much now.

To go with the new antenna, I picked up from assorted small vendors and distant hams; a 150W external auto-tuner, with a broader range than the inboard ATU. A NIB Rigrunner Advantage for all my digital modes. Yes, my radio does a lot directly from the computer, but some of the software I want to try requires an out-board device like this. A pair of 1500W coax chokes (my homebrew unit doesn't do 6m.) A 3-ft bus bar for shack grounding. Negotiating for an automatic antenna disconnect that grounds everything when the radio turns off. Already in a box is a HamIV rotator and controller, which is over-spec'ed for the installation. I'll need the lower clamp fitting that I don't have yet.

On the workbench is an aluminum project box and a handful of audio jacks, which will become a key/paddle hub to keep my growing collection connected to the radio at all times.

I'm going to build the shack around some commercial racking coming out of the bakery, including a lap-height keyboard shelf and lots of open shelves for manuals (gasp!) and such. I'm building it away from the wall in the basement, so there will be room to walk behind and play with cables like a human being, instead of the blind-reach octopus method currently in use.

I expect I'll be off the air from the end of September until Christmas.

*Confessions of a Casual Contester*  
*Vol. 3 Issue 1*  
*from the shack of DavidVE4DL*

I am not now, nor ever have been, a Contester. I don't see myself becoming a Contester either, if one defines the term to include round-the-clock operations, intravenous fluids and diapers, and frequent relays of cold, one-hand meals. Not my thing, at all. BUT.....

It's like being in the military – all hurry up and wait. Trying to line up all my ducks for the shack move from bakery to home.

I have most of what I need in boxes now, but still a few items hanging fire at the purveyor. I have a "guy" lined up for the roof work, but can't schedule it until I get the last few items. The new yagi is still in it's shipping box in my garage, as I have no time to play with it yet.

The shack is going into the basement, but first I have to empty the basement of all the accumulated impedimenta. At the same time, I have to empty the bakery of all its impedimenta so that doesn't come home. There will be bins on the lawn both places. I have people coming through the bakery every week, to offer on the equipment, but some of it will wind up at home, or my call is not VE4DL...

In the meantime work is extra busy, so I've had way less time to be on the radio. I've missed most summer contests, but making a few evening contacts on an assortment of modes, seldom SSB and never FT8. Still getting in to the 40m HellNet on Thursday evening. Stirring the pot to get a 20m HellNet off the ground. A little Olivia, some RTTY and PSK31. CW a couple of times a week.

I lost my mind and volunteered to be the western Canada co-ordinator for the Straight Key Century Club's Canadian Operator Event (this year with the wrist-friendly call of VC3Y/VE?).

I might actually have to start that tomorrow. It runs all the month of September, and I will post the details on WARC's Facebook page.

I still expect I'll be off the air from the end of September until Christmas.

But it isn't contesting. Nope. Not at all.

Well, maybe....

*The Story of Learning CW and the  
Challenges of Getting On-the-Air*  
by Mark Isom WZ5K SKCC# 23914

Greetings All and Thank You for letting me tell my story in hopes that it will benefit anyone wishing to learn Morse code and obtaining the feeling that you have joined a group that is unique within Amateur Radio.

I joined amateur radio in 1987 as a novice when the exams required you to know upwards of ten words a minute (Extra). I thought that was important. To be able to read and send with nothing but dahs and dits. As time went by, I enjoyed making contacts in SSB and studying for higher licensed levels. Eventually, I topped out at "Advanced" in 1992. I could not get past 5 to 10 words a minute. That was my main point on being a ham.

As time went by, my work transferred me & my family around the State of Oklahoma for 30 years. I was not involved in amateur radio until our last move where my wife and I said, "No More Moving. That is when my neighbor, Kim, introduced himself with his call sign (N5OP) and asked me if I was one. That is when things changed.

Kim helped me put up a dipole and invited me to the local club. That is when I wanted to pick up where I stopped and learn Morse code. Through my local club, I heard about a neighboring club that offered classes on-line (Zoom). I never heard about this new technical marvel and suddenly, I felt like everything was going uphill. That is all I need, something new to learn before I learn Morse code.

Well, after a few weeks, my neighbor Kim, asked how it was going. I was honest, I told him that I was reluctant and had not contacted the President of the club. I told him that the classes were through zoom. Kim was amazed and said that was great. I was a little surprised and then asked him, what is Zoom? Kim pulled out his cell phone and said, here is what Zoom is. It was so easy. It was not this new software language that had I had to learn. That is where I saw something about me that I did not like. If I saw something that was difficult in my mind, my fear response would kick in. I would find excuses that would become barriers. I do not know if this fear was because I was getting old & grey or if I got this fear from someone (haha).

No matter, I called the Club President and was enrolled in the CWop Academy. My first instructor was Terry Jackson – WB0JRH with the CWop. We had class twice a week for one hour each with homework in between classes. I enjoyed it. At the beginning of class, Terry would ask if anyone had questions. We had five members taking class and all five of us always had

questions that would end with fearing something, such as, I am not good enough yet to get on the air or I do not understand some of the lingo or I don't know all the abbreviations. That is where Terry would take one half hour to answer all the technical questions and then the last half we would go through our assignments. Terry would always say at the end of class, there is no substituting "Getting On-the-Air." Get On the Air!

At the end of the 2-month course, we could all send and copy at 10 words per minute. He ended the course with one-on-one visits with each member. When he came to me, he asked me if I was on-the-air? I told him that I tried sending CQ, but no one was answering, and I wondered if something was wrong with me. Terry chuckled and said no. He reminded me about CW. If you send CQ and no one answers, that is because there is no one on your frequency listening. That is when I heard the phrase "Search & Pounce." Terry explained the technique and how easy it is to start the exchange.

My first contact through CW was with Al – W8RBF in Mount Pleasant MI on May 1st, 2020. I must have made twenty corrections to my call sign before I sent my name & report. And Al stayed with me, to my surprise. Boy, was I shaking? Did you know that when your body shakes, the number 5 sounds like a machine gun going off? After that night, I did another the next night with Chris – WD1W in Colorado. Understand, I only did one each night because I was on such a high that I wanted to enjoy the moment and what a moment. It reminded me when I first learned how to ride a bike. No, this is not a "Ride-your-Bike" story but, it is, I rode my bike every chance I had. That is how I felt.

After Terry's class, I enrolled in another CWop class that was designed to increase my speed with Tom Weaver – W0FN and David Hall – KB7QHL. I continue to take classes because I do learn more from exchanging information with others as well as knowing others are having the same problems I am. Over time I noticed I was making fewer corrections and it was OK. I am now in a class with Lane – WK4WC with the Long Island CW Club learning at a speed about ten to 15 words per minute with about 15 members on average and I enjoy the camaraderie and his customary elephant jokes that end each class.

Now, I know everyone is different (thank God) and each one of us has challenges at a greater degree but if I can suggest the first step? Get yourself in a local club. Interaction with members of the same interest makes it easier to find answers. Then you can join various web societies that offer classes for free. There are many so you can find that one instructor that you "mesh" with and most of them are on Zoom (easy). Understand, the Instructors (Elmers) come with diverse backgrounds that benefit you with added knowledge & information. Each one has a story. Kim – N5OP learned CW from his father at an early age, Terry – WB0JRH was a telegraph operator during WWII, Lane – WK4WC is very active in "Parks-on-the-Air (POTA)".

Continued ....



The instructors that I was lucky to find were positive motivators. Once you trust them, any constructive suggestions they make will be helpful, not hurtful.

The instructors (Elmers) and the resources I listed (I am sure there are more) are there for you. But you must take the first step. They do not know you're needing help unless you ask. You can e-mail, call, zoom or write.

I and my wife have since sold our home & acreage and moved to an apartment in preparations to travel the country. We found the perfect new apartment in downtown Oklahoma City with a patio for my antenna. I included pictures.

To all that find interest in this article of mine, Good Luck. To others that are recalling their story in learning Morse code, I hope I did justice to the art of sending CQ. The resources I know are the Long Island CW Club (<https://longislandcwclub.org/>), the CWop group (<https://cwops.org/>), local Amateur Radio Clubs (<https://www.arrl.org/clubs>), SKCC (<https://www.skccgroup.com/>), FISTS (<http://www.fists.org/>) and the ARRL HQ – W1AW On-the-Air (<http://www.arrl.org/searches/results>).



The Straight Key Century Club's on-air event promotes the club's many Canadian members.

VC3Y is the special call sign that has been granted for this "KEY" event. We refer to the event simply as the "Canadian Operating Event."

VC3Y will run from Sept. 1st. through the 30th. It's a perfect time to introduce or reacquaint hams to the fun of hand-keyed Morse code sent with straight keys, bugs, and side-swipers.

Members and non-members alike are welcome to hunt the Canadian based VC3Y stations. Non-members are encouraged but not required to use straight keys for their VC3Y contacts. This year we hope to field VC3Y operators in all Canadian Provinces.

You can track your progress working the event stations by referring to the Stats section on the Canadian Operating Events page. Check for regular updates in your standings for Number of Areas, Bands and VC3Y operators to document your success.

Earn a QSL card by making at least one contact with any VC3Y event station. Work all Provinces for a basic sweep; check the Op Schedule and Operator Map links to find where and when the VC3Y stations are operating.

For all SKCC members VC3Y is a great opportunity to make lots of progress toward various club awards. Contacts with VC3Y stations are valid for SKCC awards purposes.

Would you like to sign on as one of our VC3Y operators?

You can try it for just an hour or two. Or reserve a series of time slots throughout the month. Code speed and station sophistication are not important. The on-air exchanges tend to be fairly relaxed.

Please contact the regional coordinator in your area for more info. They will be eager to sign you up. Our VC3Y operators are key to a successful event!

The regional coordinator for scheduling times for each Province are:

VE9DCD..... VO1, VO2, VE1, VY2, VE9, VY9 (if any)

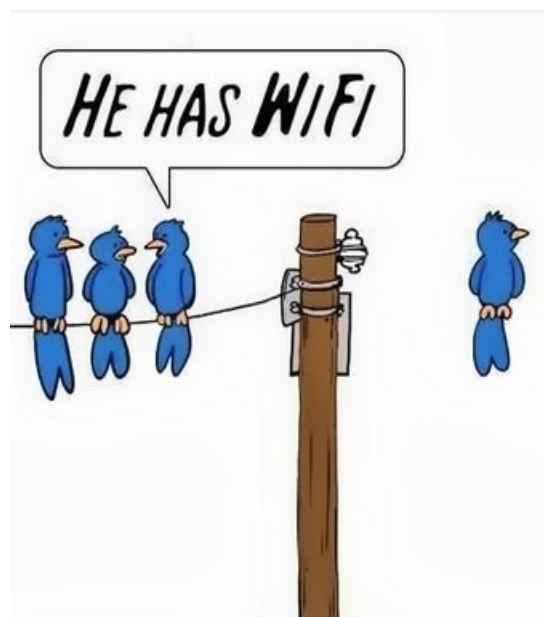
VE3KZ..... VE3, VE2, VE8, VE0 (if any)

VE4DL..... VE4, VE5, VE6, VE7, VY1 and VY0 (if any)

Email addresses for the coordinators can be found on the Canadian Operating Event page on the SKCC web site.

Be sure to listen for our VC3Y operators during September and "work 'em when you hear 'em!"

73,  
The Canadian Operating Event Committee







Are you a  
**RAC** member??

<http://www.rac.ca>

***RAC Canada 2022 Conference and  
Annual General Meeting:  
Sunday, September 18, 2022***

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-canada-2022-conference-and-agm/>

For immediate release:

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to present the RAC Canada 2022 Conference to give Amateurs an opportunity to get together and see what's happening in Amateur Radio – now and in the future. The RAC Canada Conference is an interactive mini-conference that will feature interesting presentations on a wide range of topics including:

- Attracting and Retaining New Amateurs
- "50 Years of Amateur Radio"
- RAC Regulatory Accomplishments and Initiatives
- Countdown to World Radio Conference 2023
- Emergency, Disaster and Community Services
- Public Service Events: Leadership Imperatives and Pre-Event Preparation
- Changes to the RAC Contest Structure
- "Amateur Satellites and My Radio Journey"
- Summits On The Air in the Canadian Rockies

There will be parallel sessions so that participants can choose those presentations that are of most interest to them. In addition, all sessions will be recorded for viewing later so you won't miss out if two of your favorites take place at the same time.

The Conference and the AGM will both be held on Sunday, September 18. RAC members are invited to attend this virtual conference before the RAC Annual General Meeting which will be held the same day. Non-members will also be able to view the event online and we will provide more information as soon as preparations have been finalized.

Please see the photo below for more information about the presentations and stay tuned to the RAC website for additional details.

RAC Annual General Meeting: Sunday, September 18  
<https://www.rac.ca/agm/>

The Radio Amateurs of Canada will be holding its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Sunday, September 18. It will be held as a virtual event immediately following the RAC Canada 2022 Conference.

Date: Sunday, September 18

Time: 4 pm (Eastern Time)

Agenda items will include:

- 1) Report of the President
- 2) Review of the 2021 finances
- 3) Appointment of auditors for 2022

A Question and Answer period will follow the AGM proceedings.

This is your opportunity to hear what your representatives have been doing over the past year, to raise questions, and to make suggestions about how RAC is managed and where it is going in the future.

The meeting will be attended by members of the RAC Board of Directors and Executive and is open to all RAC members. Stay tuned to the RAC website for more information.

***Also ...***

The next RAC Advanced Courses start on Sunday, September 11 and Monday, September 12. You need to be a RAC Maple Leaf Operator Member (present or future) to register for this course.

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-advanced-course-for-maple-leaf-operators-fall-2022/>

Registration for the RAC Basic Fall 2022 Course is now underway! Pass It ON !

<https://www.rac.ca/rac-basic-qualification-amateur-radio-course-fall-2022/>

RBR-4 Update: July 2022

<https://www.rac.ca/two-new-bands-for-canadian-amateurs/>

For immediate release:

Dave Goodwin, VE3KG  
Regulatory Affairs Officer

On July 28, 2022, Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) released an update to a very important document for Canadian Radio Amateurs: "RBR-4 – Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service".

The document specifies what frequencies we may operate on and with what bandwidths.

There are two major new additions to our spectrum:

- 472 to 479 kHz, also known as 630 meters: on this new band, we are allowed to run a maximum of five watts EIRP, using emissions with a maximum bandwidth of 1 kHz.
- 5351.5 to 5366.5 kHz in the 60 meter band: this is a new worldwide allocation. Canadian Amateurs are allowed to run a maximum of 100 watts ERP, using emissions with a maximum bandwidth of 2.8 kHz.

Continued...

The new 60 meter band is in addition to our existing fixed-frequency allocations at 5332, 5348, 5373 and 5405 kHz. The new 15 kHz-wide allocation overlaps our existing authority to use 5358.5 kHz. Canadian Amateurs are unique in having authority to use 100 watts ERP on the four spot frequencies and on the new 15 kHz worldwide segment. Amateurs in most countries are limited to 25 watts or less and may operate only in the new 15 kHz-wide segment.

Please note that Amateur Radio is a Secondary radio service on these bands. Amateurs may not cause harmful interference to Primary users and we may not claim protection from interference by Primary users.

There are other small changes in RBR-4 that bring Canadian Amateur Radio regulations in line with changes agreed at several previous World Radio Conferences (WRCs) of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

Radio Amateurs of Canada would like to thank former Regulatory Officer Richard Ferch, VE3KI, for his dedicated work over several years to bring these changes forward.

You can find the English version here:

<https://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10650.html>

If you have any questions, please contact RAC Regulatory Affairs Officer Dave Goodwin, VE3KG, at [regulatory@rac.ca](mailto:regulatory@rac.ca)

## ***Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Members ....***

It's time to renew your WARC Membership!

You can do so via PayPal online at...

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

Or download a PDF Application form ...

<http://winnipegarc.org/warc-application.pdf>

Check out WARC's "Cable Shop & Merch Mart"

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

### ***Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club***

The Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club is looking for Duty Officers and Net Controllers.

If interested please contact Calvin VE4AJ at [ve4aj@rac.ca](mailto:ve4aj@rac.ca)

## **VHF Nets .....**

### **MRS Nets**

**VE4WPG 147.390 Mhz + (127.3) &**

**VE4VJ 443.500 Mhz + (127.3)**

**(WPG is normally hot linked to VJ)**

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

**The Saturday Morning Net 147.390 Mhz+  
Saturdays at 10:00 am**

A Net for all Hams to participate and learn about Ham radio and get on the air! PLUS a presentation of The History of Amateur Radio by Dick VE4HK

**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 5 ( XRF103BO )

Also on VE4DMR Timeslot 2 Talkgroup 302050

**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 ( REF091CL )

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

**DMR Nets on the VE4WDR System ...**

**Astronomy Net**

Wednesday @ 20:00 local time

Time Slot 2, 31012

## **HF Nets .....**

**MB Evening Phone Net - 3747 Khz**

**Daily at 7:00 PM Local Time (CT)**

**Aurora Net (Afternoon) 7055 Khz**

**Daily at 2330 UTC**

**Aurora # 2 Net (Evening) 7055 Khz**

**Daily at 0230 UTC**

**MB Wx Net 3743 Khz**

**Daily at 8:30 Local Time (CT)**