



The NEWSCASTER

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

December 2013

Facebook [Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club - VE4BB](#) Twitter [@ve4bbwarc](#)

VE4BB

Annual Christmas Party

Date: Monday, December 9 2013

Time: 7:30 PM

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

The President's CQ

By Garth, VE4GWB

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and that means that means that the annual WARC Christmas party is just around the corner. So come out and bring your YL, XYL, OM or significant other and enjoy the holiday goodies that Ruth, Vera & Pat will be putting out.

Thank you to Vera and Pat for helping out this year.



I hope to see all the graduates from the latest classes at the Christmas party as well. There should be a lot of new hams to meet.

Thank you once again to David and Roger for getting another group going.

The radio raffle application has been sent in to the MGCC so I am hopeful that we will begin selling raffle tickets by the Christmas party but if not they will be available soon.

The prize this year will be the winner's choice of an Icom ID880H mobile FM/D-STAR ready 50W mobile rig. Or \$500 in cash. Everything is the same with the prior raffles. Tickets \$ 5 each, 3/\$10.

The draw will be held at the Spring Flea Market. Stay "Tuned" for more information.
 73

Garth
 VE4GWB

Other Important Dates...

News caster: Deadline January 2, 2014

WARC: Monthly Meeting Dates...
 January 13, 2014 Amelia Earhart
 By Bob VE4RCJ

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

ARES: Tuesday, December 10, 2013
 Sir Wm Stephenson Library
 765 Keewatin Street
 ?????

Other: April 13, 2014 - Spring Flea Market

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,
November 18, 2013
Taken by Doug, VE4TG***

President Garth VE4GWB called the meeting to order at 7:41 PM. Introductions by members.

President moved that minutes be accepted, seconded by Ed VE4OAK, approved by show of hands.

Treasures Report

Bob VE4RCJ advised we began the month of October with an income of \$1995.26, an expenditure of \$1662.92 with an income of \$332.34 leaving a balance of \$7,741.20 at the end of October. Paypal account was at \$417.87 leaving us a total cash balance of \$8159.07 at end of October.

Flea Market

Dick VE4HK reported that next flea market will be 13 April 2014. Attendance fee now increased to 3\$. The club is still looking for someone to take on Ruth's job. Those interested can contact Dick.

Programs

Allan VE4AJG absent but he previously indicated that topics under consideration for immediate future are: Dec-Xmas Party, Jan-presentation on Amelia Earhart aviation comms, February- Mesh Radio by William Parrizin (tentative). Presentations for balance of year to be determined.

Winnipeg ARES Report by Glenn VE4GWN

Jeff absent, report by Glenn VE4GWN, Our Annual General Meeting is Tue 19 Nov 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin St. Congratulations to the thirteen (13) ARES members who each took at least one week of on-call shifts as CANWARN Net Controllers at VE4WWO – they were recently recognized by Radio Amateurs of Canada for Extraordinary Service in the RAC Membership Recognition Program.

Nominations for 2013-14 Winnipeg ARES Inc. Executive closed TUE 12 NOV – for results you need to attend our Annual General Meeting TUES evening 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library or read next month's Newscaster.

Twenty-six ARES members and affiliates provided volunteer Amateur Radio communications SAT 16 NOV by supporting the Safety & Security Team for the Santa Claus Parade – see report in next month's Newscaster. Thanks to Glen VE4GWN for Coordinating the ARES operation.

RAC Report

Geoff VE4BAW President of RAC reported that RAC is now in improving financial health, gave credit to Derek VE4HAY (Chair of RAC Admin and Finance Committee) as being one of the key players that helped to improve financial situation. Goal is to double RAC membership by 2015. RAC is one of three radio societies to send a delegate to ITU World Radio Conferences as part of a national delegation. While at Geneva world radio conference we led the charge for frequency at 472 to 475 kHz which was adopted as ITU policy and now we are pushing for the domestic allocation although power utilities are objecting. RAC continues to push on 60m domestic allocation, initiative supported by all parties, seems gov is waiting for right opportunity to announce decision. RAC is promoting worldwide 60m allocation at prep meetings for WRC 2015.

Clarifications to RAC Report of 21 Oct 2013

Only newly certificated amateur radio operators will receive a free trail membership in RAC.

One person asked about the 470 KHz allocation. Please note the following web site for information: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10704.html>

Re: the new Digital network it is located at 55 Nassau not 65; it is operating in the 2367 – 2397 MHz range (or 2.367 – 2.397GHz) on 5Mhz channel width

Education Report by David VE4DAR

Twelve students are enrolled in WARC's Basic Short Course 6 being held at the Winnipeg Seniors Club. Two students are home studies; one student has returned to improve his score and get into HF. Students are attending Saturdays until they write Industry Canada's exam on November 30.

Roger and I are retiring at the end of BSC 6. So far, we have not been able to recruit one or two Chief Instructors. Thus, there may not be any more courses until at least Spring.

We thank all of our instructors for their volunteer time and efforts. Appreciation is also expressed to the Seniors for hosting us, and to WARC for their sponsorship. We take pride in seeing so many of our graduates active in our hobby.

DX

Report by Peter VE4TTH, lots of action on 10m, all across NA and into Asia. Four DXpeditions underway including Solomon islands, look on DX cluster for details, sun spots are up may be a late solar cycle may be some 6 metres openings. Very quiet on 10m, can easily contact QRP stations.

³ **D-STAR**

Mark VE4MAB indicated there were problems on UHF B side of the DSTAR repeater, it was determined interference was caused by one of the recently installed mesh radios. Problem corrected, system now working great.

New Business

Motion by Derek VE4HAY that club should contribute 500\$ grant to Shaftsbury Telebridge project to aid in purchase of two preamplifiers, seconded by David VE4DAR; approved by show of hands.

President Garth reported he received a request from Stephen Wright VE7CT, requesting 100\$ grant for a DX-pedition to south sea island. Request refused by show of hands.

Xmas party discussion by Bob VE4RCJ. Club has a 200\$ budget for refreshments, need a volunteer to take over Ruth's position. Task consists of buying food and beverages then distributing at meeting of 9 Dec which will be held downstairs in cafeteria. David VE4DAR and Ruthie VE4CRS may do a comedy sketch but no promises. Ruth VE4XYL volunteers to do coffee and Gary VE4GJB volunteered to purchase and organize food and other beverages for the event.

Motion to adjourn by Glen VE4GWN.

BSC 6 Ends. Retirement Begins! **By David VE4DAR**

"Disappointing" is how I would describe the last course that Roger VE4RLF and I organized before retiring on November 30th. Of the 12 students we registered, one chose to study at home and never picked up the books. Another student attended no classes. Two participated only in the first class. One was a repeater from a previous class.



Rick VE4OV and Basic Short Course 6



Assembling a Quad



**Harm VE4HAZ
Teaching Basic 6**



**Jan VE4JS Teaching Safety
Adam VE4SN (left) Marking
Exams**

Thus, there's no surprise in the outcome: Of the six students who wrote the Basic Exam administered by Adam VE4SN, two passed with marks in the 90's. What happened to other four? Something called "Life" interfered with homework and study: work, family and other concerns. And not paying attention to the advice of their seasoned instructors: "Do the questions over and over and over." The evidence is in the large number of questions missed in the Rules and Regulations section of the exam. Here's hoping they prepare better for the rewrites.

And now the good news: The new Chief Instructor will be introduced at the next WARC meeting on December 9. Please give that person the same support and encouragement that Roger and I have enjoyed. We want to thank our instructors for their time and efforts in creating a short course, which has graduated so many new hams. Season's greetings to all.



**Roger VE4RLF, Adam VE4SN, David VE4DAR
Retirement Day!**

Winnipeg ARES

Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ ve4mbq@rac.ca

Twenty-six Winnipeg ARES members and affiliates provided volunteer Amateur Radio communications for the Santa Claus Parade SAT 16 NOV under the supervision of Glen Napady VE4GWN (we could probably have utilized 35 or 40 operators). We supported the Safety & Security Team whose main function was to encourage spectator engagement of the "No Feet On The Street" campaign. This was a great opportunity for us to have this kind of event for an exercise (large crowds, cold weather, majority of event during hours of darkness). It was a very nice gesture and much appreciated that Santa Claus Parade Executive Director Ron Mark attended our 19 NOV meeting to bring thanks on behalf of the parade organizers and comment on how helpful ARES support was to smooth & safe functioning of the parade. Our volunteer operators for Santa Claus Parade were:

VA4s: PNO, AJG, RWT, MAC & VE4's: KAZ, HK, JDH, JAH, PH, STS, AJO, DWG, CHT, MWH, SIG, TRO, EIH, HAZ, KEH, YYL, GMB, SCH, CLK, RST, CDM & GWN.

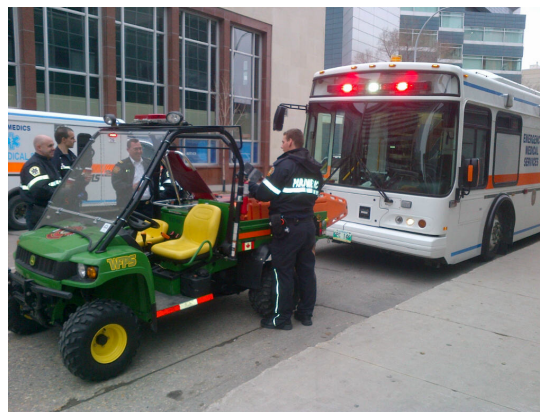
While Jim VE4SIG was doing a parade assignment he was still doing his PIO job too and posted a photo of Ryan VA4MAC and John VE4JAH on *Twitter* from the Parade:



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>



*Unidentified WFPS Paramedics Prior to
Santa Claus Parade
Photo Credit Don Gerrard VE4DWG*

Thanks to Glen Napady VE4GWN and Norman Coull VE4EH for being on call as Winnipeg ARES Duty Co-ordinator when I was recently out of province. Thanks to Gord Snarr VE4GLS for being Manitoba ARES Duty Coordinator during that time period.

Our Annual General Meeting was held TUE 19 NOV. The 2012-13 Financial Statement was approved along with the 2013-14 Budget. A presentation was done on Call-Outs & Equipment. The Executive was returned by acclamation so our 2013-14 Officers are:

President	Glen Napady VE4GWN
Secretary	Dick Maguire VE4HK
Treasurer	Susan Collings VE4SYM.

It was reported during the AGM that in terms of operational activities in the past year we have had:

ALERTS, CALL-OUTS, EXERCISES & TESTS 4
PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS 7
EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS 11
PIO Media Releases 4.

We will be supporting the Salvation Army Toy Mountain Campaign - those ARES members & affiliates that are able to do so are asked to please bring a new, unwrapped toy to our 10 DEC General Meeting 1900h Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. City of Winnipeg Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Randy Hull is scheduled to do a presentation on Re-Entry Procedures.

Visit the Winnipeg ARES Web Site
<http://www.winnipegares.ca>
Follow Winnipeg ARES on Twitter
[@wpgares](https://twitter.com/wpgares)

ATTENTION WSCRC MEMBERS >>>>>>**The Winnipeg Seniors Citizens Radio Club
Annual General Meeting****10:00am Thursday, December 12, 2013
(Following the regular breakfast at 9:00am)****Canad Inn Garden City - McPhillips at Jefferson.**

We strongly urge all members of the WSCRC to attend so we can have a quorum for elections for the 2014 Board.

Gil Frederick, VE4AG, Vice President/Secretary

***ARES & Santa Claus Parade
By, Glen VE4GWN***

On Saturday Oct 26th Winnipeg ARES EC, Jeff VE4MBQ and myself Glen VE4GWN, AEC had a meeting with Ron, Santa's chief elf in Winnipeg. It seems that Santa has some concerns for the safety of spectators for his Winnipeg Parade. The theme was to be "No Feet on the Street".

Ron had made arrangements for an extra Safety and Security team. ARES was asked to provide communications for this newly formed team. Jeff would be out of town on a business trip, so I took on this task. After a few meetings, and plenty of e-mails, with Jeff's help I assembled my team of 26 ARES members and affiliates.

We covered 16 locations along the parade route (Blocks A-Q with N&O being one block); two net control operators; 6 out of 8 golf carts patrolling the route & a person co-located with Winnipeg Police & Fire Paramedic services. I was to shadow the Parade Safety/Security Manager.

Needless to say the Grinch tried to put a wrench in my plans. The Friday before the parade I received an e-mail informing me that the repeater I was planning to use had developed an issue. Mr. Grinch was un-aware that I had a back-up planned!

The parade was held on a warm evening (for Winnipeg in November), and it started to snow soon after the event. The estimated 40-50 thousand spectators were well behaved and stayed in the safe areas off the streets.

Being the first time we have been invited with this parade, and the fact that the Safety & Security teams being new, a few lessons were learned both on our side and on the parade committee.

Thanks to all our volunteers!

***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 expire 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

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

<http://www.facebook.com/ManitobaRepeaterSociety>

***MANITOBA ARES CANWARN PROGRAM
"REPORTABLE" WINTER WEATHER
REVISED DEC 2008, VERIFIED NOV 2013***

LOW VISIBILITY (<1 KM FOR SNOW OR BLOWING
SNOW, <1/2 KM FOR FOG)

FREEZING RAIN or FREEZING DRIZZLE or ICE PEL-
LETS

SNOWFALL ACCUMULATIONS OVER 5 cm

RAIN THAT CHANGES TO SNOW or FREEZING RAIN
(or Vice Versa)

Spotters are encouraged to pass along any reports of power
outages or dangerous roads due to weather conditions.

There will not generally* be an amateur net in operation, so
phone your report in via the 1-800 number received at Spot-
ter Training. The PUBLIC number is 1-800-239-0484

** CONSIDER Participation in:
MMWX NET 3743 kHz LSB approx 0830h local

MMWX Net Manager may collate severe winter weather
reports and forward to PASPC.

1.Verified with James Cummine Severe Weather Program
Manager PASPC and Natalie Hasell Warning Preparedness
Meteorologist 27 NOV 2013.

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE AND SALE!!

*INVENTORY BLOWOUT SALE FROM
DECEMBER 9, 2013 TO DECEMBER 14, 2013.*

*COME IN AND VISIT US ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2013
FROM 9:00AM TO 1:00PM
FOR CASH & CARRY—No GST*

*Winnipeg Digital Repeater Group
Will be there on Saturday
to answer D-Star Questions*

*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 Icom on the web..
[http://www.icomcanada.com/products/
amateur/amateur.html](http://www.icomcanada.com/products/amateur/amateur.html)

RAC Bulletin 2013-038E ***Ken Pulfer, VE3PU and Earle Smith, VE6NM*** ***appointed to Hall of Fame*** ***2013-11-21***

The Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame is pleased to appoint Ken Pulfer VE3PU (SK) of Ottawa, ON and Earle Smith VE6NM (SK) of Grande Prairie, AB to the Hall of Fame for 2013.

The families of the two appointees will be receive this posthumous award in early 2014. A summary of their contributions to amateur radio will be published in "The Canadian Amateur" magazine. Both appointees are Silent Keys.

The appointment is to recognize amateurs for outstanding achievement and for sustained service to amateur radio in Canada, or amateur radio at large. The Board of Trustees consists of an amateur radio representative from each province of Canada, appointed by the Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada.

Ed Frazer, VE7EF
Chair, Board of Trustees Canadian Amateur Radio
Hall of Fame
Radio Amateurs of Canada

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

RAC Bulletin 2013-039E ***RAC Election of Officers*** ***2013-11-22***

At its regular monthly meeting, the Board of Directors representing the Radio Amateurs of Canada elected the following officers for a two year term beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2015

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW	President
Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA	First Vice President
Paul Burggraaf, VO1PR	Chief Information and Technology Officer
George Gorsline, VE3YV	International Affairs Officer
Doug Mercer, VO1DTM/VO1DM	Chief Field Services Officer
Marcel Mongeon, VA3DDD	Honorary Counsel
Dorothy E. Brown, VA7DBR	Treasurer
Al Masse, VE3CWP	Corporate Secretary

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Al Masse, VE3CWP
RAC Corporate Secretary

From Your Midwest Director ***Derek HayVE4HAY***

International update

WRC 15 preparatory meeting is happening right now. Of Interest is the 60M band proposal.

RAC is looking for someone to chair the HF band planning committee. There are about 5 other people on the committee, but a chair person is needed to help guide the committee.

If you are interested, please contact RAC - International Affairs Officer George Gorsline
(ve3yv@pathcom.com)

Are YOU a RAC Member????
Consider Joining RAC today!
<https://www.rac.ca/en/rac/membership/form/>

7 *SHAFTESBURY ROBOT REACHES THE STRATOSPHERE*

November 5th: Flight Approved

A Special Flight Operations Certificate was granted by the Minister of Transport for the flight of a “Large Unmanned High Altitude Balloon” on Tuesday, November 5th around 3 PM. SHARP 3.1 would finally get its chance to fly. SHARP team members received the highly anticipated news just before the 3:30 bell. Final packing-up for the trip to the launch site was completed by 6 PM.

November 6th: A Launch Site in Treherne

At 7 AM on Wednesday, November 6th, the SHARP high altitude balloon (HAB) launch team assembled in Shaftesbury’s satellite tracking station. There were 28 students and 7 adults in all. The cars were loaded and at 8 AM we were on the road headed to Treherne via highway 2. Treherne was selected after running many flight simulations. Based on the predicted winds aloft and balloon ascent and descent rates, a launch from Treherne was expected to produce a landing on the flood plain south of Winnipeg; our preferred landing area.

We arrived at Treherne Collegiate Institute at 9:30 and the students immediately started to set up on the track infield behind the school. By 10 AM our experienced team was filling the 190 cubic foot balloon with helium from a large cylinder of compressed gas. SHARP had been given use of one of Treherne Collegiate’s science labs for the morning. Shaftesbury students quickly set up shop in the lab and they began to check the four cameras and ready their science and engineering experiments.

Outside, the radio controlled (RC) aircraft group took the plane up for a final flight check. The plane would hitch a ride to about 500 feet then drop away and fly back to the launch site.

SHARP’s radio amateurs completed their radio checks. Students and adults started taking photos and video of the team preparing for the launch. By 11:30 the balloon was filled. In fact it was slightly over-filled as its measured lift was too great for the desired ascent rate of 1000 feet per minute. The launch crew vented helium for about 5 minutes to bring the lift down to the desired amount.



3.1 Ready for Launch

As the noon launch time approached, students began to turn on video recording and experiment data logging equipment including the very important Arduino data

logger and sensors for temperature, luminosity, pressure/altitude, acceleration, magnetic field and radiation. The students stacked the imaging, science and communications modules together to form a single octagon shaped payload. The APRS tracking beacon was turned on and checked using the mobile amateur radio system in a chase car.

Lift Off and the First Sign of Trouble

By 11:50 the balloon and the payload and the attached RC aircraft was fully assembled. Parachute lines were connected to swivel hooks at the top of the payload. The balloon, parachute and payload including the RC aircraft were allowed to rise slowly from the ground using a control line that ran from a cinder block on the ground, to the balloon and back down to the students who would launch the HAB. A ten second count-down began as 12 PM approached. At precisely 12:00:00 the control line was cut and SHARP 3.1 left the Earth as per flight plan. It was a textbook launch.

Shortly afterwards the small RC aircraft was to be automatically released from the payload by a well tested Arduino/GPS cut down circuit. However, after one minute, it was clear that the auto-release had failed and that the RC would likely continue up with the payload to a considerable height – probably as high as the programmed payload cut-down altitude of 36.9 km. Just as the balloon reached cloud height, Brandon Dennis, our RC pilot, attempted to use the engine to shake the plane lose but without effect. It’s possible that the GPS sensor lost satellite lock when the circuit was sealed into the payload box.



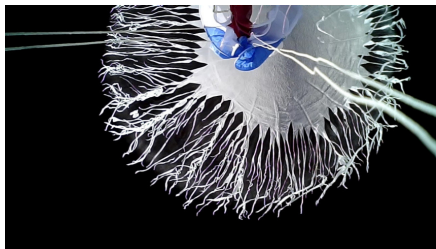
SHARP 3.1 Point

Despite this glitch the team was in very good spirits. We assembled for some traditional post-launch photos including “the point” photo where the team points upwards at the balloon as it heads for outer space. We also got some photos with our new friends from Treherne Collegiate and Treherne Elementary.

Chasing the High Altitude Balloon

Packing up was completed in a hurry. The position of the balloon was checked using the chase car’s GPS navigator and by now students and teachers with smartphones were seeing SHARP 3.1 live on the internet at <http://aprs.fi>. The balloon was moving due east as predicted.

The team decided to retrace our route back towards Winnipeg on Highway 2 to Elm Creek where we would stop and reevaluate. By 1 PM we were in Elm Creek. According to the APRS tracking information, the balloon should be almost directly above us and sure enough, after exiting the cars we were able to see the balloon far above the clouds at a height of about 60,000 feet. As we had caught up to the balloon and it would be about an hour before it started back down to earth, we decided to have lunch.



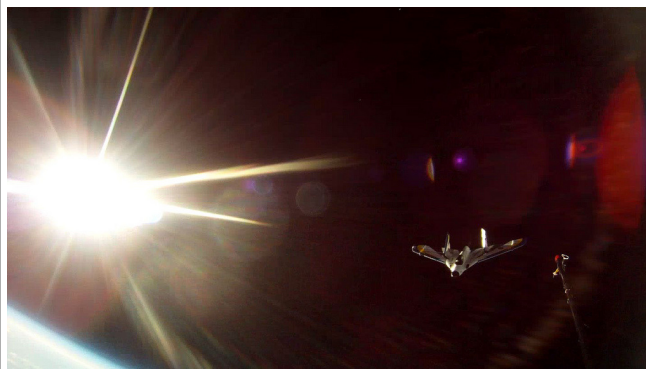
The Unexpected Burst at 35.8 Km

By 2 PM we were back on the road headed south for Carmen on highway 13. Just before arriving in Carmen, we realized that the APRS beacon was no longer transmitting. We had a similar problem on SHARP 2 in 2011. After the balloon burst, the APRS beacon stopped transmitting position and altitude. We believed that the explosion of the SHARP 2 balloon or the chaotic descent through the near vacuum of the stratosphere had knocked the transmitter offline. Contact was lost for 19 minutes. This could be a repeat of that SHARP 2 experience. Many questions arose. Had the balloon burst? If so why did it burst over a kilometer lower than anticipated? Would the very important tracking radio return to life before the payload reached the ground? If the APRS beacon didn't restart, the job of finding our payload would become much more difficult.

We continued to drive to the last reported position. In Carmen we turned east on highway 3. About 20 minutes after losing contact, the beacon started transmitting packets again and we now felt confident that we would recover the payload soon. Excitement began to build as the payload descended and we closed in. Soon the altitude data showed that the payload was no longer descending. At 2:32 PM, SHARP 3.1 was back on the ground at almost the exact time and place predicted. The ground now blocked the radio signal from the APRS transmitter in the payload so there would be no more position reports until the chase team was within line-of-sight of the payload.

At Sperling the chase team left highway 2 and continued east on a gravel road (205). After reaching Rosenort we were back on pavement for a bit before turning north on a gravel road (330) for 5 miles. Then we turned east again on a section road. After travelling about 3 miles, we again picked up the SHARP 3.1 beacon with the mobile radio in the chase car. The GPS navigator indicated that the payload was directly north

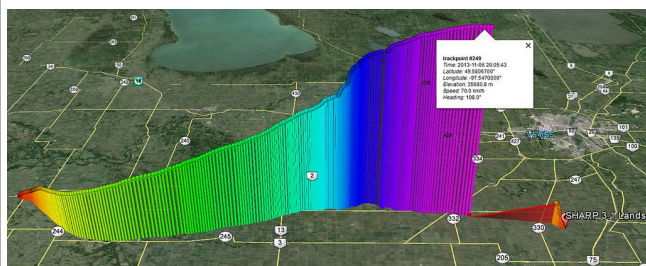
and less than a mile away.



Solo Flight

We continued however for another two miles east to link up with the lead vehicle. Then we turned north for a mile then west for two miles. We were in direct radio contact with the payload and getting very close. Finally we turned south scanning the fields ahead. In less than a minute we saw the payload and parachute against the black Red River valley topsoil. We stopped the cars and got out. Students immediately ran to be the first to reach the payload. It wasn't until then that most of us realized that three chase cars were missing. As it turned out, they had stopped in Rosenort. The chase team had split into two groups.

Getting everyone back together at the landing site would be difficult now and time consuming. We decided to do a quick inspection of the payload and take some photos. Everything looked good but there was no



sign of the radio controlled aircraft that had been attached to the payload. It had dropped away at some point during the flight. Maybe the video would tell the story (it does). In all likelihood the little airplane is still within a couple of miles of the payload landing site. The school's phone number is written on the fuselage.

The SHARP 3.1 Flight Path

We left the farm and proceeded to highway 75 to link up with the other chase cars at St. Agathe. By 4 PM we were back in Winnipeg. As with previous SHARP HAB flights; it had been a busy day and a wonderful climax to more than a year of hard work. For our grade nine students, it must have been an exciting introduction to the Shaftesbury High Altitude Robotics Project.

Data Analysis and the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium (MSSS)

Now that the flight is over, students are examining the videos and processing the data. Work on SHARP 3.1 will continue for months. Some of our students will enter their work in the provincial science fair known as M-triple-S in the spring of 2014. Some students will likely be asked to do presentations on the SHARP 3.1 mission. All of us will be preoccupied by the many small triumphs and setbacks as well as the possibilities for the next high altitude balloon flight.

For more information and pictures please visit the SHARP web site at

<http://shsballoonproject.pbworks.com>

and click the SHARP 3.1 link in the side bar.

73 Mr. Striemer

Contest Calendar

Extracted From

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

For December...

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

0130Z-0330Z, Dec 11

NCCC Sprint

0230Z-0300Z, Dec 13

ARRL 10-Meter Contest

0000Z, Dec 14
to 2400Z, Dec 15

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0200Z-0400Z, Dec 16

AQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Dec 16

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint

0130Z-0330Z, Dec 18

NCCC Sprint

0230Z-0300Z, Dec 20

AGB-Party Contest

2100Z-2400Z, Dec 20

Feld Hell Sprint

0000Z-2359Z, Dec 21

OK DX RTTY Contest

0000Z-2400Z, Dec 21

Croatian CW Contest

1400Z, Dec 21
to 1400Z, Dec 22

ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW 1800Z-2359Z, Dec 22

SKCC Sprint

0000Z-0200Z, Dec 25

DARC Christmas Contest

0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26

NCCC Sprint

0230Z-0300Z, Dec 27

RAC Winter Contest

0000Z-2359Z, Dec 28

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

1500Z, Dec 28
to 1500Z, Dec 29

Original QRP Contest

1500Z, Dec 28
to 1500Z, Dec 29

RAEM Contest

0000Z-1159Z, Dec 29

Into January 2014...

SARTG New Year RTTY Contest 0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1

AGCW Happy New Year Contest 0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 3

ARRL RTTY Roundup

1800Z, Jan 4
to 2400Z, Jan 5

EUCW 160m Contest

2000Z, Jan 4
to 0700Z, Jan 5

NCCC Sprint Ladder

0230Z-0300Z, Jan 10

Worked All Winnipeg Award Weekend !!!

Now that a few classes have passed a group of new hams WARC is putting another Worked all Winnipeg Award weekend on the Sked!

*From 1700 Friday January 17, 2014
To Sunday evening January 19, 2014 evening
following the MRS Net.*

We encourage everyone to monitor 146.520 simplex, make as many contacts as possible, and be available for the new stations participating in the WAWA weekend.

- 1) Stations within Manitoba, including the City of Winnipeg, must work at least 25 different Winnipeg stations to qualify.
- 2) Stations outside Manitoba, but within North America, must work at least 15 different Winnipeg stations to qualify.
- 3) Stations outside North America must work a minimum of 10 different Winnipeg stations to qualify.
- 4) Any band and any mode may be used, but all contacts between two individual stations must be direct contacts. (repeater contacts are not allowed)
- 5) All contacts from January 1, 1956 are acceptable.
- 6) QSL cards are not required. A certified COPY of your log book, with the signatures of two other Hams who have checked your log, is all that is necessary.

This copy should be mailed, along with \$2.00 to cover the cost of the certificate and postage to:

"WORKED ALL WINNIPEG AWARD"

Custodian, Dick Maguire VE4HK

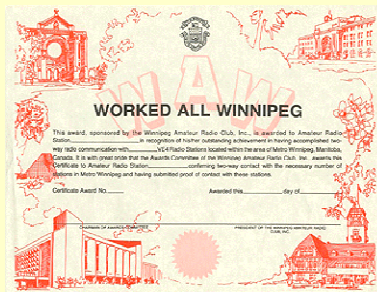
c/o Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club Inc.

598 St. Mary's Road

Winnipeg, MB

R2M 3L5

You can log a contact anytime for the award. We are posting this weekend as a goal for people to work Winnipeg and receive the award.



Spring 2014 WARC Flea Market

Do you already have your brand new 2014 calendar on the fridge? Take it down, put it on the kitchen table, and grab a pen. Make sure the pen writes properly.

Now, open the calendar to April. Admire the nice spring picture, (or 60's muscle car!). Next, take your pen, and mark Flea Market in the box for Sunday, April 13, 2014.

Once that task is looked after, dig around in your hamshack and your basement for all those fantastic goodies you don't use any more. Make a nice, neat pile, to keep your spouse happy.

Phone or e-mail Ruth VE4XYL 204-837-6915 or ve4se@mymts.net, to book your table. You can tidy up the shack, and at the same time, make some money to buy new toys.

Tables are still available for the low, low price of \$5.00 each for members of WARC, and the not as low price of \$10.00 for everyone else.

Remember that the membership voted at the October WARC meeting to increase admission at the door to \$5.00 per person. Soooo, bring along a \$5.00 bill, to speed up the admission process.

Watch this space for updates.

Contact Dick VE4HK ve4hk@rac.ca or 204-256-3143 or VE4WPG with any questions or comments.

Dick Maguire VE4HK
Flea Market Coordinator

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

When you key-up on the D-STAR system pause briefly before speaking. This will give the encoder chip time to start working, similar to an analog radio system using links.

If you speak too quickly the first part of your transmission may be cut off. Same for the end of your transmission. Un-keying as you are speaking may produce similar effects.

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!

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.