# Newscaster

The Official Publication of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club The Winnipeg Seniors Citizen's Radio Club mailing address
Newsletter Editor
W.A.R.C.
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB
R2M 3L5

May 1995

# Field Day Primer by Ed, VE4YU

Date: May 8th, 1995

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: **Bruce Junior High** 

333 Booth Drive

#### Other Important Dates:

Articles:May 29 deadline - June newsletter

WARC: May 8 - Meeting
June 12 - Meeting

June 24-25 - Field Day

WSC: Dec 14 - Xmas party

ARES: May 16 - Meeting

June 10-11 - Air Show

Other: June 18 - Marathon

Sep 10 - Austin Ham Fest

Sep 10 - MRS General Meeting @ Austin

WARC: Executive for 1995

President: Barret Filbert - VE4ABA Vice-Pres: Richard Kazuk - VE4KAZ Secretary: Dick Maguire - VE4HK Treasurer: Gary Smith - VE4YH Past Pres: Dave Panting - VE4EF

Program Chairman: Rob Kaufman - VE4GV Members at Large: Jeff Dovyak - VE4MBQ

**Appointed Positions:** 

Membership/Newscaster: Keri Kazuk - VE4KER

Flea Market: Alan McIlwain - VE4AKM

#### **Change of Meeting Location**

For this one meeting only we will be moving to a different location. Booth junior High, 333 Booth Drive. (behind the Grace Hospital) Access Booth drive from either Portage Ave. or Sturgeon.

#### Notes from your Editor: by Derek, VE4HAY

You can submit articles to me via the internet as derek@facs.mb.ca or derek@mbnet.mb.ca or via packet ve4hay@ve4kv.#wpg.mb.ca.noam. I can also be reached on MWCS or at my home number 257-1420.

### Words from the President of WARC: by Barret, VE4ABA

Hello - Seems the club has had a busy month, HomeBrew night and the Flea market. I ma sure that all who came out had a good time. i know that I did, winning second prize at HomeBrew night with my 220 MHz repeater antenna was a real surprise, and buying all kinds of good junque at the flea market.

Congratulations to all HomeBrew night winners as well as to all those who entered. We are all winners just for building our projects Thanks also to all the people who helped out at the Flea market.

Field Day is closing fast, so come out to this months meeting and see what it's all about.

WARC is now looking for members to get involved with the club. That is, next years executive. So if your interested please let us know. I have been involved for two years now and let me tell you it sure is fun. hams are wonderful people and working with them is just great. the club is in great shape all around and running smooth. So don't be afraid to climb on board.

#### Hints & Kinks by Ralph, VE4RY

Here's one passed on to me by Gord, VE4GF: For soldering the braid to PL-259 connectors you can get some extra heat from a Weller-type soldering gun by removing the tip, then placing the two chrome rods across the PL-259 so that it shorts the rods. The plug apparently gets quite hot when it substitutes the original tip.

### ARES Committee Report by Jeff, VE4MBQ

Important organizational business was transacted at the April ARES meeting. The draft Bylaw that we discussed in March was adopted by the membership. A slate of directors was installed:

President Richard Kazuk, VE4KAZ Treasurer Jim Ross, VE4AJR Secretary Keri Kazuk, VE4KER

As Emergency Co-ordinator (EC) I am also on the executive but I am appointed by the RAC Section Emergency Co-ordinator for Manitoba. We will be carrying on as usual but now our organization has a formal structure, and soon hopefully a legally recognized structure too!

The next regular monthly meeting will be Tuesday May 16 @ 1900 hrs at St. John Ambulance. In addition to a guest speaker it's "show & tell" nite - members are to bring their ARES boxes to the meeting to swap ideas and show off (who know's - there might even be a prize!). There will only be one briefing for amateurs registered to work at the Winnipeg Airshow, the briefing is scheduled for Wednesday May 31 @ 1930 hrs. at the Winnipeg International Airport, the exact location will be announced on the MRS net the previous Sunday.

Amateur operations at the Airshow will be carried out on a <u>closed</u>, <u>directed net</u>. Amateur visiting the show who legitimately NEED to communicate wit ARES net control can call VE4YWG on 146.52MHz (this is our "Ham Help" frequency for visiting amateurs - it's not for show operations).

### MINUTES FOR W.A.R.C. - Apr 10, 1995

Meeting began 7:47 pm VE4ABA presiding

Introductions approximately 100 present, including students, parents and staff of Frontenac School. The students had built crystal radios, with the assistance of VE4AG, VE4VQ and

VE4CAR. VE4VQ thanked VE4CAR and VE4AG for their assistance with building the crystal radios.

Minutes of March general meeting approved as published in the Newscaster moved VE7SYG, seconded VE4GD - CARRIED. there was no business arising

Membership Report Membership now stands at 251

Treasurer's Report - There was no treasurer's report, since the treasurer was absent.

VE4ABA told the membership not to worry, our money was still in the bank. VE4HK read the Treasurer's report from the Executive meeting.

Marathon Report - VE4YF reported that the Marathon will take place June 18. She has a sign up sheet for any interested volunteers.

Programs - VE4GV announced that the May meeting will be a Field Day primer. He recommended that anyone interested in participating at Falcon Lake book a room early. This is an opportunity for VHF only operators to try their hand at HF. Rob promised a variety of family and children's activities. The May meeting will be moved to John Bruce School for this occasion only.

Flea Market- VE4AKM reported that the Flea Market will take place on Sunday April 23, at the West Kildonan Arena, 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. Everything is coming together well, but he still needs a few volunteers for set up and take down. VE4XYL and VE4SE, our canteen crew, asked if the membership would prefer sandwiches or hot dogs. A show of hands favoured sandwiches. VE7SYG recommended that any sellers bring a carpet to stand on. Fees for tables: \$5.00 for members of WARC, MRS, WSCARC, \$10.00 for anyone else.

Education - VE4OV announced that the next amateur licence course will begin April 20, at Sturgeon Creek High School. It is advertised in the St. James Assiniboia Leisure Guide. Total cost \$193.00 VE4SET asked how many people had signed up VE4OV replied that he did not know. Someone asked if VE4OV was teaching Morse Code. VE4OV responded that Morse Code was not required for basic licence, therefore he was not teaching it.

Field Day - VE4YU tabled his Field Day report until the May meeting.

ARES report - VE4MBQ advised the membership to see the April newsletter for his ARES report. He solicited volunteers for the Team Handball Championships in May, and for the Air Show in June. VE4TM announced that there was a strong possibility of flooding in the Dauphin-Swan River area. Winnipeg ARES may be asked to provide volunteers for the Winnipeg EOC.

RAC Report - VE4EF spoke on behalf of RAC. The RAC board meeting in Ottawa will be discussing a draft constitution with Industry Canada. IC is considering delegating licencing authority to RAC. Reason: to keep at arms length, due to advocacy policy by RAC.

Notices for the Good and Welfare - VE4RQ spoke on behalf of IPARN. He explained their history and their capability for long distance communications on VHF. He requested a show of hands of those who were interested in IPARN. About 20 hands went up.

New Business - VE4MP suggested that VE4AKM let students of Frontenac School into the Flea Market free. VE4AKM agreed

VE4EF gave a very entertaining and humorous speech explaining how and why Coleman Coolers made perfect ham related prizes. He finished off by demonstrating why all hams needed a compass.

Adjourn - VE4EN 0810

During the extended coffee break, all participants in Homebrew Night showed off their projects. Judges and spectators alike were very impressed with these efforts. Thanks to Walter Munn, of Cardinal/WES Electronics, who gave a very interesting and enlightening demonstration of how to etch PC boards

The big winners in Homebrew Night were:

- 3.VE4RHGfor his DC control box. He received a solder set, donated by Probe Electronics.
- 2.VE4ABAfor his folded 220 MHz dipole. He selected a Radio Amateur Antenna Handbook, donated by WARC
- 1.VE4VRfor his VOX operated repeater controller. He chose a Radio Amateur Handbook, donated by WARC.

Each of the sixteen students who participated in the crystal radio project received a pocket screwdriver. final adjournment 9:45

#### RAC NEWS Received via E-mail

### SANTA CLAUS NETWORK REACHED OUT AND TOUCHED MANY

Organizers and volunteers of the Santa Claus Network in Collingwood, Ontario know the value of their work and are already at work organizing for 1995. This inspiring story occurred during the 1994 net and was reported in the Guelph ARC bulletin.

A small boy was waiting with his father for his turn to talk to Santa. He was listening intently to the voices of Santa and his elves crackling from the speaker of the ham radio on the table. A few minutes later, it was his turn. Santa's Amateur helper motioned him to come to the radio and take his turn talking to Santa.

This little five year old was very shy and wasn't sure he really wanted to talk on the radio. As it turned out, he didn't say anything to Santa, but Santa talked to him. Santa knew his name and was talking directly to him. No mistaking it, Santa did know him and was talking to him, and him alone. The boy's eyes twinkled and he was grinning from ear to ear.

Too soon it was over and Santa moved on to another child. The ham operator then noticed the little

boy tug his dad's sleeve and whisper, "I talked to Santa Daddy."

The Amateur operator noticed tears in the father's eyes as he stooped to hug the boy. The father later explained how the boy had lost his mother a year before and this was only the third time he had spoken since she passed away.

#### **HELP SAVE W1AW**

Chris KD3OA - A recent petition to the FCC asks for changes to the rules concerning one-way bulletins and code practice transmissions below 30 MHz. The petition claims that these transmissions have outlived their usefulness, and that they cause more problems on the HF bands than they are worth.

This petition, if accepted by the FCC, would result in the end of W1AW's decades-old bulletin and Morse code practice transmissions. Thousands of Amateurs have upgraded their code proficiency, and also learned the latest Amateur radio news from these transmissions. Most of the ARRL news that one finds on the packet radio network originated as teleprinter bulletins from W1AW.

If you feel that a ruling to disallow these transmissions is inappropriate, you should send your comments to the FCC. Here's how to do it. Fire up that word processor or editor on your computer. Start your message by identifying "RM-8626" as the file number you are commenting on. Address your letter to: Secretary, FCC, Washington, DC 20554. State your pinions concisely, and sign your name. Include six copies of your letter in the same envelope.

#### ANTIQUE RADIO BUFFS TAKE NOTE

From John VE3AMZ - Antique radio schematics, parts and tubes right back to the 1920's can be found at: Grandpa's Radio Shop, c/o Mr. George Found, 26 Queenston Crescent, Kitchener, Ontario N2B 2V5. Telephone (519) 576-2570.

#### RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES by Doug Bannard, VE3SPF

### .... Continued from last month CHARGING BATTERIES

Once the battery has been discharged, it is necessary to replace the amp-hours that it has delivered, plus another 15 to 30% by means of a suitable charger. NiCds and lead-acid batteries have much different charging requirements however:

1) NiCds

The preferred way to recharge a NiCd is with a constant-current charger. These are widely available or are easily constructed. The charging rate (current), unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer should not exceed 0.1 C.

For example:

To re-charge a AA NiCd rated for 650 mA-hr after it has been discharged to < 1.0 volt we would charge it at a constant current of:

0.1 x 650 mA = 65 mA for a period of approximately: (650 mA-hrs) 1.3 x ----- = 13 hours (65 mA)

It is possible to recharge at a higher current for a shorter period of time...particularly with "fast-charge" batteries, but the manufacturers recommendations must always be followed. Some cells cannot be fast charged and will "vent", losing electrolyte and shortening their lives

### VOLTAGE DEPRESSION (THE SO-CALLED MEMORY EFFECT)

If a charge is continued for too long a time (this is called overcharge), particularly on a battery that has been only partially discharged, a phenomenon known as "voltage depression" takes place. This commonly occurs with appliances which are left continuously on charge and only used for brief periods not sufficient to discharge the batteries (such as many HTs). The overcharge of a partially discharged battery causes the voltage of each cell to become depressed by approximately 150 mV. In an 8.4 Volt battery pack for an HT, suffering from voltage depression, the fully charged pack voltage would be only 7.35 volts. Since HTs normally have internal circuitry that disconnects the battery before the HT starts to malfunction due to low battery voltage, the HT stops functioning after a shorter than normal period of operation and gives rise to the myth that the battery capacity has been reduced because NiCds have "memory".

In fact, although the HT has ceased to operate, the battery still has lots of capacity left...just at too low a voltage to be useful to the HT. The actual number of amp-hours available has NOT been decreased. Fortunately, voltage depression can be easily cured by simply discharging the battery pack once fully, and then re-charging. This is best done by connecting a couple of 6.3 volt (#47) pilot lamp bulbs in series across the battery pack ( or a suitable 12V 250mA bulb).

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DISCHARGE A BATTERY OF ANY TYPE BY SHORT- CIRCUITING IT. TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN EXCESSIVE BATTERY HEATING AND POSSIBLE EXPLOSION.

ALSO...NICADS MUST NEVER BE CHARGED WITH ANYTHING OTHER THAN A CONSTANT CURRENT SOURCE...TO DO SO CAN ALSO RESULT IN EXCESSIVE HEAT AND POSSIBLE EXPLOSION.

The best way to avoid voltage depression in NiCds is to use a timer with your charger so that the charge will be terminated after a suitable number of hours. This results in longer battery life than complete discharges, but of course requires that you keep rough track of how many amp-hours need to be replaced.

#### 2) LEAD-ACIDs

These need to be charged with a constant voltage source as it is more important with these batteries than with NICds to prevent their terminal voltages from rising too high during charge. At voltages between 2.4 and 2.5 volts per cell excessive "gassing" starts to take place causing loss of water from the electrolyte. The way to charge these to get the longest life is to use a constant voltage charger with an adjustable current limit. By this, I mean a good power supply with very low output ripple, since ripple current shortens the life of the battery plates. The voltage is set to 2.30 volts/cell (13.8 V for a 12 V battery) with the charger disconnected from the battery, then the charger leads are short-circuited and the current limit adjusted to provide a short circuit current of 0.1 C. The charger leads are then connected to the battery.

Example: For a 12 Volt 100 Amp-hr battery we would set the charger to an output voltage of 13.8 volts, and a current limit of:

$$0.1 \times 100 = 10.0 \text{ Amps}.$$

The charger must be left connected for long enough to supply 1.3 times the amp hours used from the battery...and this is tricky with this type of charger since the current tapers off as the battery terminal voltage rises. If our 100 A-hr battery had been 50% discharged we would need to leave the charger connected for at least 24 hours to ensure a full charge. The guide-line would be as follows. Monitor the terminal voltage and charging current:

- a) If the terminal voltage is below 2.3 volts/cell...continue the charge.
- b) If the current is above 0.002 C, continue the charge until it drops below this level. (200mA for a 100 A-hr battery)

If the battery you are charging happens to be a sealed lead-acid, the charging process is completed. If however you are charging a flooded battery such as an automobile battery it is necessary to "equalize it", after following the procedure above. This procedure ensures that all of the cells are as nearly as possible equally charged. To do this, it is necessary to raise the terminal voltage of the battery to 2.45 volts/cell (14.7 volts for a 12 volt battery) for an hour, keeping the current limit still

set at 0.1 C. Now the battery is disconnected from the charger.

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT A LEAD-ACID BATTERY IS FULLY CHARGED BEFORE STORING IT. A BATTERY LEFT IN A SEMI-DISCHARGED STATE FOR ONLY A FEW DAYS WILL START TO FORM INSOLUBLE LEAD SULPHATE CRYSTALS ON ITS PLATES POSSIBLY RENDERING IT INCAPABLE OF BEING CHARGED.

#### **DOs and DON'Ts**

#### DO:

- 1)Do use a timer on NiCd chargers to prevent overcharge.
- 2)Store charged batteries in a cool location to minimize self discharge.
- 3)Charge flooded lead-acid batteries every three weeks to prevent plate sulphation and loss of capacity.
- 4)Keep tops of lead-acid batteries clean to minimize self-discharge.
- 5)Store NiCds in either a charged or discharged state. Either way is OK.
- 6)Use rapid chargers if the battery supplier recommends it.
- 7)Use the battery supplier's recommended charge procedure and also ask him/her for data on amp-hours vs discharge rate.

#### DON'T:

- 1) Store a lead acid battery in a discharged state.
- 2)Don't store even a fully charged flooded lead-acid battery for more than 3 weeks without charging it. It will die due to self-discharge (leaving it on a concrete floor is not the reason...this does not affect batteries), and will rapidly become sulphated making charging difficult or impossible.
- 3) Store or operate any battery at too high or too low a temperature. Low temperatures greatly reduce the capacity of any battery, while high temperatures cause premature aging.
- 4)Use partially discharged cells along with charged ones in a battery pack. This will almost certainly cause cell reversal in one or more cells. For the same reason, don't discharge NiCds below 1.0 Volt/cell
- 5)Discharge a lead acid battery below 1.75 volts/cell. To do so results in a permanent loss of capacity.

### Silent Key reported by Alexander, VE4APN

#### Robert George Crampton VE4CN QRT

On April 3, 1995 Robert George Crampton VE4CN passed away suddenly. Along with staff and Bob's many friends at the hospital I attended a memorial service April 20 at in the 2nd floor chapel in the Health Sciences Centre. Unlike most of us whose passing will be little noted and not long remembered Robert will be surely missed by the staff and patients of HSC. In his three years at the HSC Robert volunteered over 6,000 hours. Inspite of his handicaps Robert cheerfully gave of himself, showing up, weather fair and foul, in the early morning hours, to fulfil his calling. He often took on tasks alongside people who were being paid. The HSC has recognized Robert's tremendous and unselfish contributions - the Robert George Crampton Memorial Award. This award will be given annually to the individual who most exemplifies the volunteer spirit, in thought and deed. Robert set the standard for this calling. I think the Amateur Radio community can be equally proud of Robert VE4CN (1952-1995).

#### **Extracted from NEWSLINE RADIO**

#### 2400 MHZ VICTORY

Some good news for hams who have following the possibility of our service loosing part of an important UHF band. On Wednesday March 15th, the National Telecommunications and Information Agency the NTIA released its final recommendations on spectrum reallocation and the agency said that the majority of ham radio operations should remain unchanged. Again, ARRL Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ. "In that report they are identifying 2400 to 2402 and 2417 to 2450 Mhz as bands that ought to be identified in order to maintain stability for amateur and part 15 use in that entire frequency range of 2400 to 2450. Those amateurs who are following this proceeding know that we were facing the possible loss of access to spectrum in this range. Now as a result of this preceding it appears the NTIA is recommending to the FCC not only that amateurs not loss that access, but the entire 50 Mhz range be treated as one contiguous band and that our continued access to that band should be provided for the long term." David Sumner, K1ZZ Dave adds that ham radio is still not out of the woods on this one. There is still a continuing threat to the band from 2300 to 2310 MHz. This says Sumner, will not be resolved until there is some further FCC rule making on the issues at hand.

#### AMSAT EDITOR

John Hansen, WA0PTV says that he is retiring as the volunteer editor of AMSAT Journal. Hansen says that work pressures are forcing him to step down but indicates a willingness to continue the write the "Heard on the Downlink" column. Because of Hansen's imminent departure, AMSAT is looking for someone with experience in the publication field to take on the job

of rounding up articles, screening and editing them, while meeting a set deadline. Anyone desiring to volunteer to fill this vital role in our organization, please contact Bill Tynan via the Internet to 3xo@amsat.org.

#### NEW HAMSATS LOST

Two new hamsats have been lost in a launch gone wrong. On March the 28th a Russian START rocket roared toward space

carrying three satellites, two of them dedicated to Amateur Radio. But something went wrong with the converted intercontinental ballistic missile turned satellite launch vehicle. Instead of achieving a polar orbit, it instead fell into the sea. Lost was an Israeli amateur radio satellite built at the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology in Haifa called TECHSAT One. Another was a Mexican built Microsat designated as UNAMSAT One. It was built at the Autonomous University of Mexico under the direction of XE1TU. The

third satellite was a Russian constructed spacecraft, its mission unknown. The cause of the launch failure is also unknown.

# ARRL NEWS extracted from the ARRL Letter

Amateur to share 219 to 220 MHz segment

The FCC has allocated the 219 to 220 Mhz band on a secondary basis to the Amateur Service for point-to-point fixed digital message forwarding systems. The allocation had been requested by the ARRL as partial compensation for the loss of 220 to 222 MHz band in 1991 (in ET Docket 93-40).

When the new rules take effect, on a date that has not been announced, Technician and higher class amateur licensees will be permitted to use digital emissions for up to 100KHz band width and no more than 50 W. PEP output. The primary occupant of the band is the Automated Marine Telecommunications systems (AMTS). To protect the primary occupant the ARRL has been designated the national contact point for all amateurs operations in the 219 to 220 MHz band, and is responsible for maintaining the band. All amateur

**Looking for your Newscaster** 

We have been experiencing some trouble with the Newscaster mailing over the last couple of months.--believe it or not due to stamps falling off while in the mail. We apologise if you are one of the unlucky WARC members who has not received their Newscaster on a timely basis (ie; before the monthly WARC meeting the second Monday of the month). if you are missing a particular months Newscaster and are still interested in reading it, Please contact VE4KER to obtain a copy.

to notify the ARRL at least 30 days before initiating operations in the 219 to 200 Mhz band. Amateur stations within 50 miles of AMTS coast stations will be required to obtain the written approval of the AMTS licensee before operating.

stations will be required

Amateur stations within 398 miles of a AMTS coast station will be required to notify the

AMTS licensee in writing at least 30 days prior to initiation of operations. The ARRL will assist amateurs in fulfilling these requirements.

Amateur stations operating in the 219 to 220 Mhz band will not be permitted to interfere with, nor will they be protected from, interference by primary service operations in and adjacent to the band. This FCC action climaxes almost 6 years of effort by the ARRL.

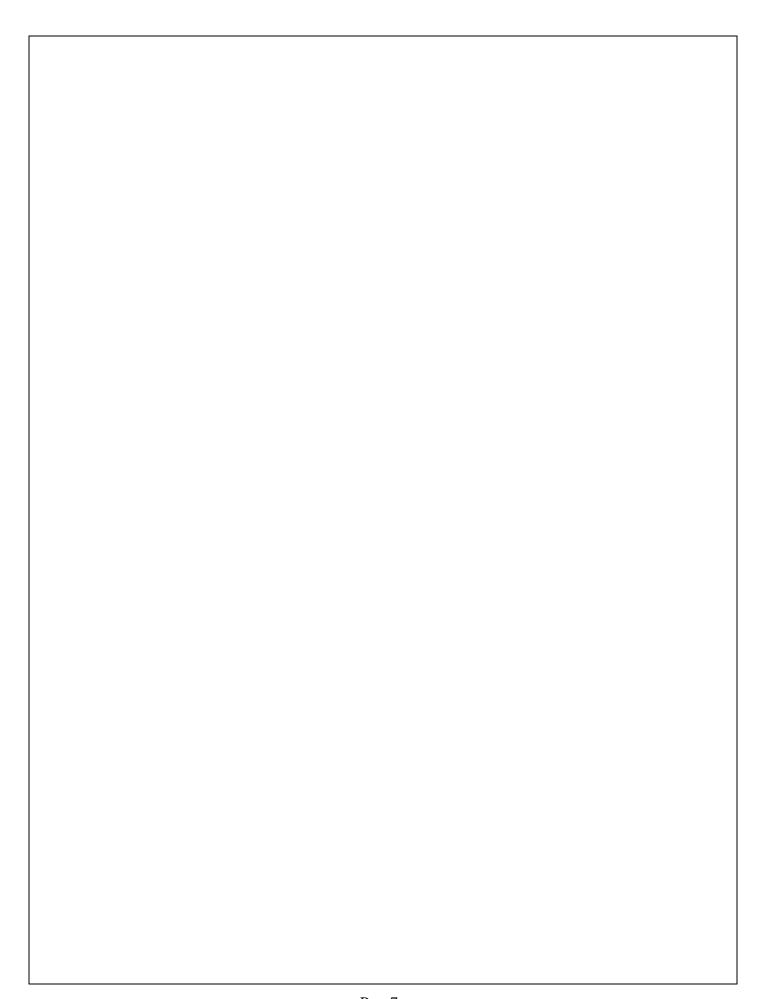
#### **Correction from the editor**

Sorry to all who read Tom, VE4AKI, article on the G4ZU Mini Beam. I seamed to have forgotten to put the diagram in with the article. Space was tight last month and I found it later buried on my desk. Please look for it elsewhere in this issue.

Amateur get 2400Mhz Primary slots

The FCC has reallocated 50 MHZ of spectrum including 2390 to 2400 and 2402 to 2417 Mhz, from government use. The commission made these segments available for unlicensed, low-power devices,

including wireless lans. At the same time, the FCC elevated Amateur Radio status in those segments from secondary to primary. This means that Amateurs will not have to protect any other users of those bands, and amateur stations are entitled to protection against interference.



## Winnipeg Senior Citizen's Radio Club. released by Adam, VE4SN (President - 95)

Another month of great activity at the Seniors' Club (VE4WSC), highlighted by a very well-attended monthly club breakfast, at the Norlander on April 13. Following the breakfast, a special program was held to introduce the latest crop of Hams who have passed their test and now hold the Advanced Amateur licence. Of the 12 who were in the class, ALL passed, attesting to the fine instruction given by Sandy, VE4SZ, chief instructor, and his able assistant, prez Adam, VE4SN.

The proud 'Advanced' Hams are: Bert Andrews. VE4AND Jeff Morris, VE4JEM Ian Rollo, VE4MAC Tom Pokotylo, VE4YG Jerry Zaste, VE4JMZ Ben Moroz, VE4BBM Abe Schumann, VE4ZI Len Evans, VE4LEN John Agar, VE4EI \* Champagne, VE4EPC Paul Champagne, VE4OPC John Mitchell, VE4CCM \* John had already had his Advanced, but wanted to go through the course again the rest of the gang thought he was into self- inflicted pain!

A presentation was made by the class to Sandy (a gift certificate and a big cut-out of the letters O and K).

#### RF POWER CONNECTORS FOR SALE

U300 PL-259 nickel
U301 PL-259 silver 1.65
U303 PL-259 gold
U307 RG-58/u reducer (n)
U308 RG-58/u reducer (s)
U309 RG-58/u reducer (g) 1.00
U310 UHF fem. x UHF fem
U314 UHF right angle MxF 4.00
U315 SO-239 nickel 1.50
U316 UHF M x "N" fem
U318 UHF fem. bulkhead
B503 BNC male 3 pc. crimp 1.50
B507 BNC m. x fem. angle
B513 BNC male x UHF fem
B517 BNC chassis mount
R801 "N" T f-m-f adapter 7.00
R804 "N" male x UHF fem 4.00
R821 "N" fem. panel mount 3.50
R822 "N" male gold/silver 6.50
Bulk PL-259 10xU300 12.00
10xU301 15.00

Contact Gary Smith VE4YH Ph: 661-4158 Sandy used the term 'OK' so many times during his instructive talks that the class thought they would give him one to replenish his stock. Also, a presentation was made to Adam (a gift certificate, a golf ball and a tee).

John Mitchell, VE4CCM was the M.C., and after the introduction of the class, and the presentations, pictures were taken .... followed by a 1-o-n-g story about 2 unemployed persons who applied for financial support, with one getting more than the other due to different (and misunderstood) job descriptions. The ending was hilarious. If you want to know more, ask John about the worker who uttered these memorable words, "diesel fitter".

This breakfast meeting had one of the largest turn-outs ever - 37! Keith, VE4BC, the convener, looked pleased, and the comment was made to all - 'keep coming!' Next meeting: Thursday, May 11th - 9:00 a.m.

Gil, VE4AG, has prepared an order form to be used to obtain the club NAME BADGES. 2 styles are now available ... the horizontal style for shirt, sweater, etc., and a vertical style for cap use. Both types are illustrated on the order form. If you haven't yet got one (or both), now is the time to order. Just \$5.00 each, including taxes. Be proud to show you're a member of VE4WSC.

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The club was visited on Friday, April 21, by a reporter, who interviewed a few members (Adam, 4SN; Harsha, VE4SAI; Ruth, VE4RMB, Jim, VE4AJR; and Gil, VE4AG). Robbi Goltsman-Ferris also took pictures. The article is to be published in the Sunday community newsletter 'Norwood Grove Bulletin' as part of the Sunday Free Press, distributed to homes and businesses in the Norwood/St. Boniface/ Windsor Park/St. Vital area (well over 30,000 copies) on May 14. Should be good P.R. for the Club, and for Ham Radio, and could result in more members. We were saddened to hear that one of our founding members, JIM RIDDLE, VE7WPG (ex- VE4JC, ex- 9J2AR) had become a silent key (March 22, 1995). His obituary appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press, Saturday, April 1, and a copy is available at the club for those wishing to read it, or one can be obtained from Gil with a phone call to 888-2473.