



Newscaster

The Official Publication of the
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club

April 1997

Vintage Radio Transmitters By Dr. Robert Murray

Date: **May 12, 1997**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Words from the President of WARC: by Richard, VE4KAZ

FLOOD '97

As President of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, and having always taken great interest in assisting those less fortunate than myself and my family, I am proud to be able to say that I am an amateur radio operator in Manitoba, especially today. So many people, so much water, so much devastation. And the amateur radio community pulling together to help where help is needed. I can't say enough about the amateur radio community's ability to pull together during this crisis.

I would like to extend a Great Big Thank You to so many people and will try to list them here. If I have missed you, I apologize, but to all of you, please know that you have helped when help was needed: All amateur radio operators who are working in the Emergency Operation Centre, and at the Emergency Management Organization, and at the Winnipeg Seniors Club, and those who are working in the field at the sand bagging sites and also a big thank you to those amateur radio operators who are part of the jump teams that are in the various ring dike towns that are surrounded by water. I would also like to thank all the amateur radio operators who have QSY'd to other repeaters so that the Winnipeg ARES Flood Net could use the Winnipeg repeaters. Thank you. And also the MRS Technical Team who worked so hard on the repeaters as well as the moving of the CDN Repeater to Morris. A big thank you goes out to all amateur radio operators in Manitoba for doing their part during the Flood of '97. I am proud to be a part of the amateur radio community in Manitoba who pulled together in this time of disaster and showed the public what amateur radio operators really do best, and that is to assist the City of Winnipeg and Province of Manitoba when called upon by the authorities to supply communications no one else can.

Lastly, I would like to thank the spouses of all of these amateur radio operators for allowing them to be available to assist with communications during the disaster and being so patient and understanding during this time of great need. We can all be proud.

Other Important Dates:

Articles: May 28 - June Newsletter
WARC: June 9 - Meeting - Election Night
WSC: Weekdays - 09:00 am - Seniors Net 147.390MHz +
ARES: May 20th meeting @ HSC
Other: June 15 - Marathon - see VE4YF for details
June 28,29 - Field Day @ Falcon Lake
July 11-13 - International HamFest

WARC: Executive for 1997			
Past President	Barrett Filbert	VE4ABA	338-2441
President	Richard Kazuk	VE4KAZ	895-4778
Treasurer	Rick Lord	VE4OV	896-0631
Secretary	Roxanne Byron	VE4ZF	388-6114
Vice-President	Jim Ross	VE4AJR	256-6366
Program	Lee Smith	VE4ANC	864-2334
Membership	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692



ARES Committee Report
by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

MAJOR ARES operation underway since Tuesday 22APRIL, look for thorough report AFTER the flood waters have subsided. Co-operation among the amateur community has been OUTSTANDING!

Next scheduled Winnipeg ARES monthly meeting is Tuesday 20MAY97 at 7PM Health Sciences Centre, General Centre 700 William, room GH-304 (hospital is RF "sensitive" so please be discreet with HTs). Guest speaker is VE4KLM on Lightning Protection.

Upcoming scheduled public service operation Team Handball Canadian Championship 16,17,18 and 23,24,25 MAY if flood situation permits. Will require staffing of three fixed sites and one shuttle vehicle from approximately 0800-2200 hrs daily. ARES participation depends on conclusion of flood communications.

Not much time these days for conversational QSOs, seem to always have some ARES business to transact.

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Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club
Released by Alf, VE4ALF (President - 96)

No report this month due to Flood operations at WSC. Thank you to members for their consideration during this time.

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. April 14, 1997
Submitted by Roxanne, VE4ZF

Meeting called to order by Rick Lord VE4OV at 19:40
 Fifty-eight people in attendance and all introduced themselves in the usual manner.

Moved by Mike VE4MP and seconded by VE4TP Hill that the minutes be accepted as amended; the date of the Manitoba Marathon should be Sunday, June 15, 1997. Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Current balance of \$4370.00

RAC:

the annual meeting of RAC executive and board of directors and the general meeting of RAC are coming up the end of this week. Both Rick VE4OV Mid West Director and Dave VE4EF First VP will be attending.

ARES:

Jeff VE4MBQ presented an update on what may well be the flood of the century and the role ARES will be taking in communication.

EDUCATION:

Larry's class of nine students all graduated. None were present at the night's meeting.

FLEA MARKET:

this Sunday at 1885 Chancellor Drive, set up 9am and doors open at 10am. Cost \$1 per person.

MANITOBA MARATHON:

Kay VE4YF is looking for volunteers for the annual Father's Day event on June 15.

FIELD DAY:

the budget of \$460 for this mission was approved by the WARC board. Ed VE4YU has plans in hand. Ed advised everyone that the biggest cost will be for renting a vehicle.

IPG HAMFEST:

July 11-12-13 Dick VE4HK encouraged everyone to attend this event.

MRS:

Thursday, 7:30 pm at 920 Nairn Elections to be held. There will also be a silent auction.

MALL DISPLAY:

Ed VE4YU acknowledged the help of many hams. His only regret was that no one from WARC executive was there. Outside access entry had been difficult but Gary Smith installed a larger opening that will make set up next time much easier.

NOTICE FOR THE GOOD:

- ❖ Two WARC members have achieved the heady status of ADVANCED: Norm VE4EH and Pat VE4PLG.
- ❖ BLUE BOOK: Please pass on any changes to Rick Allan.
- ❖ DX SLEUTHS: On May 12 Iraq will be on the air for a few months. Due to the solar storm HF has been quiet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lee VE4ANC reported on IC and interference complaints per a conversation he had with an IC inspector two months. IC has decided not to be involved in resolving interference problems except where public service is involved.

Information packages will be sent to those involved in any interference issues. The government is cutting back due to budget restraints. Rick VE4OV will take WARC's concern to the RAC meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Dick VE4HK at 20:20

**Flea Market
by Pat VE4PLG**

We have had a successful Spring Flea Market again despite the threat of flooding in southern Manitoba. The attendance was down somewhat because of some operators having to be on standby for flood operations. We want to thank everybody who was able to attend. 297 people came through the door.

The following prizes were donated and won by:

- One Year RAC membership-----won by VE4LEE Jack Lee
(donated by RAC)
- ¼ Wave mag antenna-----won by VE4ABA Barrett Filbert
(donated by Prairie Communications)
- 5/8 wave mag antenna-----won by VE4CHR Cheryl Mills
(donated by Comtelco)
- hat and 2 pins-----won by VE4AIV Richard Lukes
(donated by MARM)
- ARRL Operations book----- won by VE4RJR
(donated by Altantic Ham Radio)
- International Callsign Book---won by VE4ACA Don Bettof
(donated by Atlantic Ham Radio)
- Software bundle-----won by VE4GM Al Gorenson
(donated by VE4SCE Shaun Epp)
- VHF Wattmeter-----won by VE4TRO Fred Collings
(donated by WARC)

We would like to thank the following VE4'S for giving us a hand with setup, takedown and other related duties. Thanks go out to; AAI, AND, AJB, ALP, ASK, CC, CEL, CS, FW, HF, OPC, QO, SVB, WF, YG, and YU. Special thanks to three xyl's from ARAW without who's help the kitchen would not have run so smoothly. Thanks to Elizabeth Pagarigan, Luchie Buan, and Mila Mendoza. A very very SPECIAL THANK YOU to VE4XYL Ruth Mills and VE4SE Tom Mills for organising and running the kitchen.

The leftover sandwiches, muffins and coffee were sent out to the operators running stations for EMO and EOC. We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

This Months Program

MANITOBA MARATHON

NEEDS YOUR HELP!

After 18 years, Manitoba Marathon is dedicated to making this 19th year the best ever. To this end, we again invite the support of your group at the Manitoba Marathon on Sunday June 15. The Manitoba Marathon appreciates the help you have given us over the years and looks forward to working with you again. With your help we are in instant communication with the 2000+ volunteers out on our course and are able to respond to any situation. That is what makes us one of the very best Marathons to be found. Visitors to our event rave about the support we provide. You make that possible!

By Lee, VE4ANC

Greetings from your "Programs Guy!" This has been a very busy period for all of us, and I hope that by the time you read this, all we have to do is pat each other on the back for the great job we all did in providing help to the needy during the flood.

The next meeting of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club will feature a guest speaker that may not be at all familiar to ham operators in the Winnipeg area. The guest has considerable radio expertise, and has a large following in specialty radio publications. I refer to Dr. Robert Murray.

"Bob" is involved in research on lung ailments at the Health Sciences Centre, but also has a passion for old radios...very old! Although he may be embarrassed by my saying so, arguably, Bob is one of Canada's most knowledgeable people with respect to broadcast and short-wave radios of the early days of broadcasting and communications. Radios from the 1920's are his favourite, and has restored many of these old beauties to full operational status. I have been fortunate enough to see a small portion of his display collection during the Canadian Association of Broadcasters convention, and I can say they are most impressive. The standard of Bob's workmanship is excellent, and he uses original parts or makes his own during these projects.

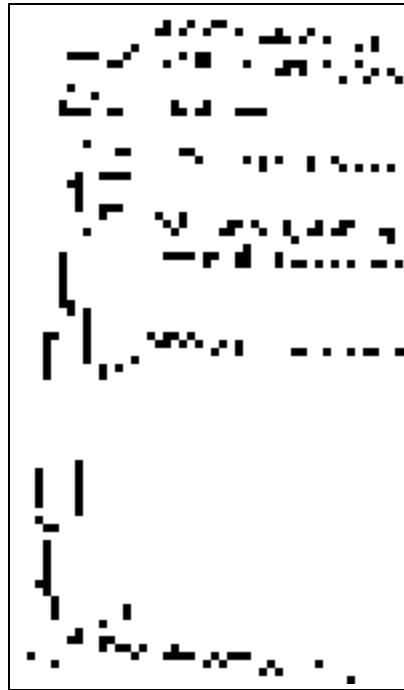
Bob has put together a slide show on the topic of Winnipeg Radio Manufacturers....I'll bet you didn't know that we have had companies based here that made a living from designing, manufacturing, and marketing radio receivers. Attend the next meeting, and you'll have the chance to see some of the products that made Winnipeg a centre of action regarding radio many years ago.

Some of the OT's in the club may remember the term "spark-gap transmitter" the newer members won't have a clue what us old folks are talking about! At the next meeting Bob will bring his very low power spark gap transmitter which is a restored original, and will demonstrate how code sounded before the "modern era" when CW came on the scene, and displaced the sound of a spark transmitter. I am interested in this sound, as my grandfather used spark quite often, but I have never heard one in action. No antenna will be connected for the demonstration, although you may wish to turn up the squelch on your HT! You are encouraged to see radio as it was before and during the golden age of radio at the next meeting of WARC. See 'ya there ...if I'm not flying and working Aeronautical Mobile DX on VHF AM!
73 de Lee VE4ANC

Short Power Cord for the HTX202

By Dick VE4RHG

If you have a Radio Shack HTX-242 Mobile Rig and you don't want to shorten the 8' cord that comes with the rig, here is a neat little tip for you. Pick up a Female quick connector (crimp connector) with the ¼ inch tab from somewhere like Canadian Tire or other places. This will fit the HTX-242 male tab in the short drop cord provided with your rig.



Make sure that you are using the 16-14 AWG size connectors. These are the blue ones. There are smaller wire sized ones also, so read the label. You could also use the yellow 14-12 AWG connectors and # 12 AWG wire can be coaxed into the 16-14 AWG size connector. Insulate the bare metal ends with heat shrink tubing or tape. Normal electrical tape tend to peel off. Now run just the required amount of wire you will need to

the power distribution panel and ground location in your vehicle. Additional advise would be, to also install optional fuse holders for both the positive & negative cables.

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Amateur Radio Events

May

10 902 MHz Spring Sprint
 10 1296 MHz Spring Sprint
 10 2304 MHz Spring Sprint
 16-18 Dayton Hamvention
 17-18 50 MHz Spring Sprint

June

14-16 June VHF QSO Party
 28-29 Filed Day

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John. VE4JNF

RAC Bulletin

Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

RAC BOARD MEETS IN OTTAWA

The Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) held their annual meeting at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Ottawa, Ontario on April 18 and 19, 1997. The Directors, representing seven regions across Canada deliberated on many significant matters which impact on RAC's members and the Canadian amateur community at large. The full text of the minutes of the Board meeting will be available on the RAC WEB Page and in a future edition of The Canadian Amateur magazine.

The Board elected the RAC Executive for 1997 as follows:

President & Board Chair - J. Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD
 1st Vice President - Douglas E. Leach, VE3XK
 V/Pres.of Gov't Affairs - James G. Dean, VE3IQ
 V/P & General Counsel - Timothy Ellam, VE6SH
 Secretary - David Evans, VE6DXX
 Treasurer - Dr. J. Kenneth Pulfer, VE3PU

While members of the Board are satisfied that RAC had made considerable progress with Industry Canada on many fronts, they expressed concern that the 3 ½ year co-operative effort to "delegate" the administration of the Amateur Radio Service has, at this time, been halted pending the establishment of long-term funding process by Industry Canada. The Board was please to learn that Industry Canada Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Binder promised to move forward on this matter and to "phase-in" as many management modules as possible over the next several years.

On the international scene, the Board was appraised of many issues and threats to the spectrum by IARU Secretary, Larry Price, W4RA among them the attempts by low earth orbit satellites (Little Leo) to gain access to the VHF and UHF amateur bands at World Radio Conference 97 (WRC-97). The RAC Executive has formed a WRC-97 Working Group to write a position paper on the use and need for Amateur Radio spectrum above 30 MHz. IARU is seeking to have the 7 MHz band restored to its original 300 KHz width. RAC will send a delegate to the IARU Region 2 General Assembly in 1998 at Caracas, Venezuela. The impact of ARRL's proposed Amateur Radio licensing changes will not be known for some time, however President Hopwood has asked HF Committee Chair Ken Pyke, VE3OGM to review the changes the ARRL may take and the impact on Canadian band plans.

Membership Committee Chair Fergus Kyle, VE3LVO noted the need for more services to members through the local clubs. Volunteer Resources Chair Ken Oelke, VE6AFO reported on progress towards establishing a Canadian team of DXCC card checkers.

RAC TALKS "FUTURE OF DELEGATION" WITH MICHAEL BINDER

RAC officials discussed the future of the Amateur Delegation initiative with Industry Canada (IC) Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Binder at a private meeting April 18, 1997. This was a follow-up to the notice RAC recently received from IC indicating that long-term funding for the Amateur Delegation Project was not available and that the project would have to be put on hold at the present time. The question for both RAC and IC is, "Where do we go from here" ?Mr. Binder expressed his regrets that the project had been temporarily halted. He indicated that the ball was definitely in IC's court and that he was looking for ways and means to establish long-term funding for the project. RAC President Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD presented the views of the RAC Board of Directors and pointed out that RAC had pulled out all the stops to make the project a success and was disappointed at IC's 11th hour decision. Mr. Binder asked RAC to continue to work with IC in the interim while the government established a suitable funding arrangement. President Hopwood stated that RAC would do so, however,

“We are very limited in our resources and would look for a ‘concrete undertaking’ from IC so that we can move ahead in confidence.”

RAC PREPARING WRC-97 POSITION PAPER

In conjunction with the meeting in Ottawa of the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada, a small working group has been established to prepare a position paper for WRC-97. The paper, which is expected to be in final form by mid May, will set out the concerns of Canadian radio amateurs with respect to the usage of frequencies above 30 MHz.

The working group is currently seeking input from Canadian amateurs which will demonstrate the utilization of our bands, particularly those above 450 MHz. Please send your information to: jgdean@igs.net.

Given the rapidly increasing competition for spectrum space from both land based and satellite systems, it is essential that Canadian amateurs clearly demonstrate the current utilisation of their frequency bands, and the accompanying benefits to the general public.

Also, while accepting and supporting the government’s policy of sharing spectrum, it is important that we point out those risks, both to ourselves and other users, which could accompany some of the proposals currently being discussed in Canada and in other countries. The mobile satellite systems or “Little LEO’s” are but one example.

1997 FIELD DAY PACKAGE.

You can obtain the 1997 Field Day Package in either of two ways.

The Field Day Package is available in the 1997 Contest Yearbook which may be purchased at any time, or you can wait until May 1997 and send to ARRL HQ a 9 X 12 inch SASE with enough postage for 4 ounces of mail (\$1.01) and request a copy of the Field Day Package.

It is suggested that you pick up a copy of the 1997 ARRL Contest Yearbook. The 1997 Contest Yearbook is a brand new ARRL publication. It contains everything you need for Field Day and other ARRL sponsored contests. The Yearbook has the complete rules, entry sheets, dupe sheets, score records, Field Day Package, and more. You can get your copy of this handy reference manual (order number 5994) for only \$5 from the ARRL Publication Sales Department at HQ. Call 860-594-0200 to order your 1997 ARRL Contest Yearbook. The prices quoted above are in US\$.

MARATHON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !

By Kay, VE4YF

DATE: Sunday, June 15, 1997
TIME: approximately 6 a.m. till noon
PLACE: all over the city!

It takes around 65 amateur radio operators to provide the communications for the Manitoba Marathon. We are placed every 2 miles along the course, in all of the medical vehicles and at the start and finish lines. All you need is a handheld 2m radio, extra batteries, a decent antenna and the willingness to give up a few hours of your time.

Fortunately, we have 30 or so people signed up already.....some even signed up as soon as the race was over last year! So if you are interested please contact one of us between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. Thanks and 73.

Kay, VE4YF - 669-5077, Ralph, VE4RY- 663-8894

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By Larry, VE4LRB

TO THE FOLLOWING SMILING FACES, students of the January '97 Amateur Radio for Beginners' Course, photographed with their instructor, Larry R. Burkhardt, minutes before writing their course examination, on April 10th.

EVERYBODY PASSED WITH FLYING COLOURS!



Seated, from left to right: Judy Harapiak; Susan Keller; Shirley Newfeld; Jose Diaz; Cheryl Mills; Susan Collings.

Back row, left to right: Allan Kirsch; Timothy Jesson; Instructor, Larry Burkhardt, Pamela Tomkewich.

AMATEUR RADIO FOR BEGINNERS COURSE

Instructor: Larry R. Burkhardt
Electronics Engineer

This is to advise that a new course will commence September 25, Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and will run for 10 weeks. I would, appreciate it if any members of WARC who know of anyone interested in taking this course, that they pass on this information and ask interested parties to contact me personally after 6 p.m. at 487-0509.

Editors Ramblings

BY Derek, VE4HAY

What a busy month!! It started out with a snow storm, and then the melt, then the flood. I spent on nice Saturday morning moving the VE4CDN repeater to Morris, so that Manitoba ARES could use it. On the way there, all we saw was snow and deer. The next day was the Flea Market, I had reserved a half table, but I gave it up to work in the Emergency Operations Centre in the basement of City Hall, Two hours later I was on the way to Vancouver for 3 days.

Once there I spent each evening watching what was happening back in Manitoba. What a shock I saw, when I returned, water everywhere, and ARES in full swing. The only night I have had off was on Thursday to put this newsletter together. Working 8 hour days for a living, and then putting in 6 hours after work at the EOC, sure get to you after a while.

I want to thank the dedicated Amateur Radio Operators who are giving of their time to help Winnipeg ARES out with the Sand Bag Communications, and the Red Cross Operation that will be starting tomorrow (16 hours a day). There is also rumour that ARES will be asked to provide 24 hour communications for a city community project.

The 2 dozen or so amateurs who have been helping out are getting very tired. SO!!, if anyone would like to offer a few hours a day to provide some community service, now is the time.

Please remember that Amateur Radio is a privilege not a right. And with this privilege comes a certain responsibility to help out with community service. There is no other radio service that has been granted as much radio spectrum space as the Amateur Radio Service (excepting the government and it's departments). With the constant pressure from Commercial parties for more spectrum, We now more than never before have to prove why we have been granted such a privilege.

With the international world following this story of the flood, we can prove to the world that Amateur Radio does indeed provide a service, even in this day of cellular phones and satellite communications, and that we can fill a role in the time of a disaster.

During the times of normal operation, Amateurs are constantly in a training mode, by contesting, Field Day operations, VHF nets, HF nets, Station maintenance, meetings, HF, VHF, packet, Satellite, Digital what ever mode you like to use. Please help out.

For your information Manitoba ARES has had people in the dozen or so towns to the south of Winnipeg for two weeks now. They have been providing valuable communication to the Winnipeg Senior Citizen Radio Club (VE4WSC), who intern relays this info to Manitoba Emergency Measures Organization (MEMO). It is my understanding that Both Manitoba ARES & Winnipeg ARES have been of extreme service to the government officials. We have provide them with information in a very professional and timely manor. Even though we are Amateurs they could not have bought sure a service.

I want to thank Both Don, VE4DJM (Manitoba SEC) and Jeff (Winnipeg EC) for the amount of time they have put into this operation. It is a great stress on their lives and

occupations. (Neither of them has earned any money since this began). It is this dedication that allows the Amateur Radio Service to stand out as it does. I also want to thank their families for being so considerate and forgiving. This is truly a great strain on any personal relationship, and it is very hard to be away from the young harmonics for such extended times.

Please watch the next newsletter and TCA for a full story on the ARES operation during the flood.

Please consider helping out if you can.

Ok enough of my rambling. If this newsletter has a few errors please ignore them, as I did not have much time to put it together. Oh, yeah, I still need articles

Picture of the Amateur Radio display at St. Vital Shopping Centre. courtesy of Ed, VE4YU

