



Newscaster

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

September 1997

M.R.S. Linking System How to works & How to use it *by Derek, VE4HAY*

Date: **September 8th, 1997**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: Sep 30 - Oct newscaster
WARC: Sep 8 - Meeting
WSC: Sep 11 - Fall Picnic @ St. Vital Park
ARES: Sep 14 - Terry Fox Run
Sep 16 - Meeting
Sep 28 - Parkinson Super-Walk
Oct 5 - Cancer Run for the Cure
Other: Sep 6 - MRS Semi-annual Meeting
Sep 6-7 - MARM Hamfest, Austin MB
Sep - Roseau Hamfest

WARC: Executive for 1996 - 97
Past President Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ 895-4778
President Norm Coull VE4EH 885-1692
Treasurer Rick Lord VE4OV 896-0631
Secretary Ruth Mills VE4XYL 837-6915
Vice-President Larry Burkhardt VE4LRB 475-0509
Program Dave Wood VE4KU 895-7067
Membership Dan Michaelis VE4SYG 339-3018

Words from the President of WARC: by Richard, VE4KAZ

I hope everyone enjoyed the great summer, relaxing, swimming, boating, camping and by now looking forward to September when the kids return to school and WARC starts its monthly meetings.

I would like to thank Kay VE4 YF and Ralph VE4 RY for doing a great job in organizing the Manitoba Marathon, as well as all of the amateurs who helped make it such a great success again this year. I would also like to thank the D.X. Sleuths for putting on this year's Field Day, and a big thank you, as well, to Derek Hay and his family for allowing WARC to hold Field Day at their Falcon Lake Hotel site.

At this time I would like to introduce the newly elected Board of Directors of WARC for 1997-1998:

President: Norm Coull VE4EH
Vice-President: Larry Burkhardt VE4LRB
Secretary: Ruth Mills VE4XYL
Treasurer: Rick Lord VE4OV
Membership Chair: Dan Michaels VE4SYG
Program Chair: Lee Smith VE4ANC
Program Coordinator: Dave Wood VE4KU
Past President: Richard Kazuk VE4 KAZ

Stepping down are Secretary Roxanne Byron VE4 RY and Vice-President Jim Ross VE4 AJR. My thanks to both of these people for all of their hours of hard work put in on behalf of WARC.

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club is hosting the International Peace Gardens 35th Annual Hamfest in 1998. The Board of Directors of WARC has appointed Ruth Mills VE4 XYL as Chairperson for hosting the 1998 Hamfest. Ruth has been instructed to form a committee of no less than five (5) people to organize the 1998 Hamfest. If you are interested in being on this committee, or if you are able to help out at the Hamfest for even a few hours, please contact Ruth Mills.

Remember, you only get out of the Club what you put into it, so get in the game and come out to the meetings and help out at Club activities.

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club

Released by Alf, VE4ALF (President - 96)

Mark your calendar for the Seniors' Annual fall picnic, to take place on Thursday, September 11. Things get underway about 11 a.m. The food table has some great items - lots of corn on the cob, hamburgers and hot dogs, cooked to perfection, with salads, condiments, etc. - and coffee, tea or hot chocolate. There is also Bingo, displays of ham gear (an operating H.F. and 2 m station) and member's items for those that want to 'show and tell'. Location is at St.. Vital Park, at the duck pond. There is plenty of parking! Members, friends and visitors are most welcome, so come on out!! There is a fee charged (most reasonable).

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. June 9, 1997 Submitted by Norm, VE4EH

Meeting called to order by Richard, VE4KAZ at 19:42. Fifty-six members attended and all introduced themselves in the usual manner.

Moved by VE4HAY, seconded by VE4DDR that the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as printed in the newscaster - Carried

Committee Reports:

Treasurer - bank balance as of May 31 \$ 2963.73

Education - Larry, VE4LRB will be teaching a basic course starting on the 23rd of Sep, 1997. Members are requested to refer interested candidates to Larry at 487-0509

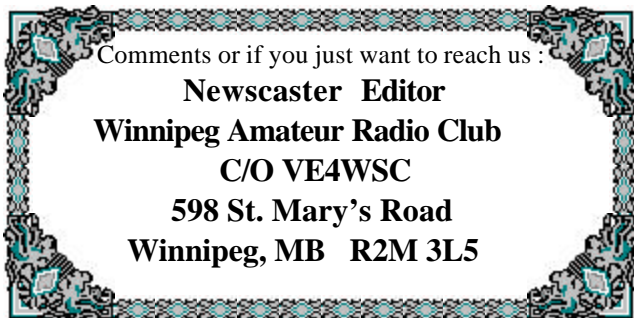
Program - Lee, VE4ANC and Gary VE4YH while returning from Dayton stumbled upon what appeared to be a super station in Wisconsin Dells. The scope and innovative construction will be the subject of this evenings program.

Field Day - Ed, VE4YU reports that the plans are complete and all interested members are looking forward to a very interesting weekend at Flacon Lake.

Marathon - Kay, VE4YF thanked the volunteers that took part in the support provided to the Manitoba Marathon.

DX Sleuths - Ed- VE4YU circulated his copy of the Heard Island QSO card. Burt, VE4AP took this opportunity to extend his congratulations to the WSC for their contribution to the flood control effort.

WARES - Jeff, VE4MBQ reported that 15 operators will provide support for the St. malo Triathlon June 23, 1997. Jeff



, on behalf of ARES also presented certificates of Appreciation to those amateurs that supported the flood operation.

KeyMan Award - Richard, VE4KAZ on behalf of WARC, presented the KeyMan award to Jeff, VE4MBQ for his contribution to Amateur Radio

RAC - Rick VE4OV reported that a break-in had occurred at RAC HQ and an FT990 serial # 2f140299 was stolen. It was also reported that VE7WWP would represent the RAC membership at the DF activities in Tokyo this year.

Notices for the Good & Welfare

Flood Damage - Tom, VE4SE advised the membership that the Red Cross would cover damage to both personal and other property associated with volunteer flood relief activities.

Transfer - The membership was informed that Ian Kennedy, VE4UMR was moving to Ottawa this summer.

Elections

The following members were proposed and elected by the majority vote of the members presented as the club executive for the calendar year 1997/98.

Rick Lord, VE4OV, Norm Coull, VE4EH, Ruth Mills, VE4XYL, Larry Burkhardt, VE4LRB, Dan Michaelis, VE4SYG, David Wood, VE4KU

Adjourned at 20:25 Evening program followed.

ARES Committee Report by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

Sixty-three amateur operators who acted as COMMUNICATORS during Winnipeg ARES Flood Operations were presented with Certificates of Appreciation at the June97 WARC meeting. Ten individuals and organizations that acted as SUPPORTERS were also presented with Certificates of Appreciation by Winnipeg ARES. A debrief of Flood Operations was held 14AUG97 at RRCC. The twenty-seven amateurs in attendance were a good cross-section of operators from Winnipeg ARES, South Central ARES, and Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club. Some very good points were raised which will be useful for planning future operations.

Winnipeg ARES operators supplied amateur communications for two aspects of the Teddy Bear Picnic. Ten operators provided communications for the Walk-A-Thon: VE4s ACX, AJR, AND, CDP, CET, DAR, GWB, KAZ, MAB, MBQ. Nine operators provided communications for shuttle bus pick-up points: VE4s AJG, GLV, KLM, HAY, MMG, RST, YG, YU, 6PIG.

Five South Central ARES members and twelve Winnipeg ARES members provided amateur communications for the

StMalo Triathlon 22JUNE97 in St. Malo Provincial Park. The participants were: VE4s GLS, JGF, JOP, PEN, RJP, ACX, AJR, AND, CDP, HK, KAZ, MHZ, MJM, PLG, SE, and XYL.

We did not receive requests for any other public service events over the summer, however we already have four events to cover this fall:

Corporate Rowing Challenge	6SEPT97
Terry Fox Run	14SEPT97
Parkinson Foundation SuperWalk	28SEPT97
Cancer Run For The Cure	5OCT97.

Winnipeg ARES members able to assist should contact me ASAP.

Our fall Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is tentatively scheduled for the weekend 25-26OCT97 (no more long weekend exercises!).

The membership decided at the MAY96 meeting that annual dues for Winnipeg ARES membership of ten dollars (\$10) annually would begin JUNE97. To date only about 25% of the membership has paid their dues. If you have not yet paid your 1997-98 dues please forward a cheque payable to "Winnipeg ARES" to anyone on the Winnipeg ARES executive at your earliest opportunity (Exec = VE4s KAZ, SE, AJR, KER, RST, MBQ).

We have recently lost two members due to change in place of employment, Ian VE4MUD has moved to Ottawa and Alan VE4AKM has moved to Cleveland. We welcome Darryl VE4DAB to the Winnipeg ARES membership and expect several more new members. Membership in Winnipeg ARES is open to licensed Canadian amateurs who are at least eighteen years of age that reside in and near Winnipeg and are interested in provision of emergency amateur communications. First year's dues and a passport type photo

**Warroad/Roseau Radio Club
HamFest
September 20th, 1997
Warroad Community Club
Warroad, Mn**

Fleamarket - 1:00 pm. VE testing - 2:00 pm.
\$5.00 for the fleamarket only
\$12.00 for fleamarket and meal

Draw prizes for a VHF handheld radio & a UHF handheld radio plus many other prizes.

There is no cost for the tables and there is no auction planned at this point but there is a consignment table. If you have any other questions please send them to Art Johnson [SMTP:ajohnson@roseau.polaristel.net]

must accompany applications. Applications are available from the Emergency Coordinator.

Arrangements for monthly meetings to be held in a civic building are almost complete. The September meeting location MAY be changed. The meeting is currently scheduled for 1900h 16SEPT97 at Health Sciences Centre, General Centre, 700 William Ave, room GH-304. Instead of a guest speaker we plan to show a video made at the City EOC during Flood Operations.

**The WARC DX SLEUTHS Report
by Ed, VE4YU**

I haven't heard much from other DX Sleuth members on their activities so please excuse me for relating from a lot of my own experiences over the summer months. The band conditions have been volatile to say the least, but, as any true DXer knows, that is when you dig more carefully through that QRN for those weak signals that could produce a good, if not rare, find.

There were several contest activities during June, July and August, that produced some good opportunities to add to your DX list. During several of these, 15M and even 10M were open for brief periods of time. A quick sweep across the 20M band at any time usually gives an indication of propagation. If you are only hearing weak USA signals between 10AM and 10PM and no signals outside North or South America, you can be pretty sure that you won't score very well with DX. Generally, you will find that there is a high QRN level on HF just prior to weather disturbances near your location that clear up somewhat when the disturbance centers on you. Of course if lightning accompanies the storm, you would probably be well advised to curtail activity until the electrical stuff passes.

If USA signals sound strong, try listening between the KWs for distant stations and tune around 15M and 10M between 1400hrs and 1800hrs. The 40M band can be good, when it is open, starting at about 1700hrs. In July I pruned my 40M dipole and was happy to see that it worked much better. In the IARU contest I worked VP8CTR in South Sandwich on 40M CW and it appeared that he was not being heard well in the USA as he was calling CQ often with no replies.

Some stations I worked during contest activity were: VS97BG (special Hong Kong prefix), GU3EJL, CY1TX & CY0NCD (Sable Is.), CY9AA (St. Paul Is.), JY5HX, OJ0/N4GN, CU2/DL3LAB, VP8CTR, FK8GJ, D2HL, plus lots of VKs, ZLs and JAs. So there is DX out there!

Irek, VE4COZ, continues to put VE4 on the map for RTTY enthusiasts and it is surprising how much good DX

can be worked in this mode, contest or otherwise. Since Irek was out of town for the SARTG Scandinavian RTTY test I decided to give it a try. I managed to work 68 stations in the few hours I was active, including about 15 countries. If you have the capability, give this test a go next time. Adam, VE4SN, who doesn't have too much 'new' DX to work is pecking away at getting some stations on CW that he doesn't have on that mode. Lee, VE4ANC and Gary, VE4YH, made VE4RAC available during the RAC Canada Day Event. Thanks guys! We are hoping that Norm, VE4EH will get his new Vibroplex keyer into action and add to the too few, active, VE4 CW operators.

Coming in September:

NA Sprint-CW	Sep 7
All Asia-SSB	Sep 6/7
LZ DX - BOTH	Sep 6/7
WAE-SSB	Sep 13/14
NA Sprint-SSB	Sep 14
Air Force 50th Anniversary	Sep 20/21
Scandinavian Activity-CW	Sep 20/21
CQ WW RTTY	Sep 27/28
Scandinavian Activity-SSB	Sep 27/28

Upcoming Radio Events

September

13-15	September VHF QSO Party
20-21	10 Ghz & up Cumulative Contest

October

11-12	Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
25	Hamfest St. Paul, MN

RAC Bulletin # 10, 17, 20, 23, 24
Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

Bulletin #97/10 - REPEAT OF A RECENT ARRL BULLETIN

Keep an ear out for VO1 and VO2 call signs during this fall's ARRL Sweepstakes. Canada's new Newfoundland-Labrador (NL) Section will be among those that SS participants will have to snag this November on their way to that coveted Clean Sweep Award. The ARRL received formal notification of the change last week from Radio Amateurs of Canada President J. Farrell "Hoppy" Hopwood, VE7RD, although the addition of the NL section actually was approved last year. Some NL hams gave NL as their section in last fall's SS, although the change had not yet been incorporated into the list of SS sections. Joe Craig, VO1NA, of Torbay, Newfoundland, is the Section Manager in NL. RAC Vice President and General Counsel Tim Ellam,

VE6SH, said the new section was created "primarily as it was hard to service VO1/2 from the MAR (Maritimes) section due to geography."

The addition of a new section could prove to be a significant challenge for those hoping to work all ARRL and RAC sections, plus VE8/VY1 (a total of 79 multipliers) in the popular fall event. Some Canadian sections already are among the more difficult ones to find and work. (A heads up: Ellam says RAC has also explored the possibility of creating additional new sections north of the border, but no decisions have been reached yet.) The change also means that those who use computerized logging programs will have to add the new section to their program's list of SS sections--just as they had to do last fall with the addition of the Northern New York section.

This year's ARRL Sweepstakes weekends are November 1-2 (CW) and November 15-16 (SSB). CQ-Contest - http://www.contesting.com/_cq-contest/

Bulletin #97/17 - THE QUEEN IN ST. JOHN'S.

St. John's, NF Canada was once again the site of a communications first when Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II transmitted a brief message, via Amateur radio, to the people of the UK. This is the first time a reigning British Monarch has transmitted via the Amateur service.

On Wednesday, June 25th, 1997 the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) arranged the transmission between VO500JC, at Cabot Tower in St. John's, to GB500JC, in Bristol UK in order for the Queen to make a brief transmission. Operators Paul J. Piercey VO1HE, President of SONRA, and Dan Goodwin VO1MX assisted Her Majesty on the Canadian side and Martyn Phillips G3RFX, assisted by Cyril Chapman G2HDR and Robin Thompson G3TKF, was on hand in Bristol to respond on behalf of the people of Great Britain.

Band conditions before the event were quite poor on 20M and it was not known if the contact would be made. 45 minutes before Her Majesty arrived at the site, the Bristol station was quite low in signal strength and audio quality during testing. Once the Queen began her transmission, however, it was almost as if the path opened up and, at 1801 UTC, the contact was made. Martyn's response was quite loud, despite the poor conditions.

The Queen's message was as follows:

"I am speaking to you from Signal Hill National Historic Site, d'ou Guglielmo Marconi recu le premier message radio transatlantique. I am happy to know that Newfoundland and Labrador is still in the forefront of the communications industry, and is working closely with other leaders in this field across the Atlantic."

On the Canadian side, the equipment used was a Kenwood TS-850 SAT, a Heathkit SB-200 amplifier running approximately 400 Watts and a simple wire dipole cut for 20M about 20 feet above the Powder Magazine, an out-building which served as the shack. The UK group, operating from Martyn's home, used a Kenwood TS-950 SDX into a Linear Amp UK amplifier with 400 Watts output and a 3 element tri-band beam at 60 feet.

Signal Hill, in St. John's, is no stranger to communications or to historical firsts in communications. Used as a signaling post to announce approaching ships to St. John's merchants, it was also the site where Guglielmo Marconi received the first wireless transatlantic signal on December 12th, 1901. SONRA is planning to host a celebration to mark the 100th anniversary of that historic event in December 2001.

Bulletin #97/20 - RAC HF BANDPLAN REVIEW

As many of you are aware there are proposals emanating from the U.S. Amateur community which will impact our current RAC HF Band Plans. (See TCA March 1997 Page 36, Feb. 1997 W5WI report, April 1997 CQ page 110, or your Ham Web site). The proposed changes will effect all of us differently, since we are varied in modes, times of operation, and particular HF interests.

The RAC HF Band Plan Committee is looking for committee members (hopefully two from each Province) who would be willing to help evaluate input from from all HF interest groups, be they AM, CW, Digital, SSB, TV, or whatever.

If you are interested in being on the committee, you can send me a resume which I will forward to your Regional Director and RAC President for approval October 1st.

If you wish to contribute but not necessarily be on the committee you could start considering the ramifications of the changes and then put together some recommendations. We will be looking for this input as soon as we have the committee members in place.

Our objective is to formulate a comprehensive and workable HF Band Plan for Canadian Amateurs which takes into consideration Region 1 and 3 HF Band usage.

Bulletin #97/23 - New Field Organization Listings on RAC Internet Web Site

The RAC Field Organization now has our own series of web pages, accessible by links from the RAC home page.

Appointments for leadership positions in both ARES and NTS are shown. Also shown are the list of official NTS Traffic Nets, and a list of Frequently Asked Questions about

ARES, which RAC hopes will be very useful and informative to both members and prospective members of ARES, as well as to potential ARES clients.

These lists are growing as appointments and NTS Net listings are received from Sections across Canada. If you, or a friend has internet web browser capability, please check your area and let your Section Manager know if there are changes or additions to any of these listings, addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail and packet addresses. His or her name and address appear on page 2 of this issue of The Canadian Amateur.

Peel ARES in Brampton, Ont, have donated the use of their own publication as the new RAC ARES Instructor's Guide. This is now available for download from the RAC ftp site in Word Perfect, MS Word 2 or 6 and in Word for Mac formats

Bulletin #97/24 - Canadian call sign data base now accessible by e-mail

Rene Kahle, VA3RDK, has developed a way to query the Canadian Call sign data base with a simple e-mail message. Just send a message to:
callbook@aras-sara.ca

In the BODY of the message just type the word "name", and the family name of the amateur who's call sign you are looking for.

Example:

name krzypynski

You should receive a return message giving the full name and address and the call sign You can also enter the callsign and receive the name in the reply

Example:

call VA5XYZ

The reply should list the full name and address. Other information you can supply to narrow down the search are:

address

city

province

postal code

In other words, the e-mail search works exactly like the search on the aras-sara web site. Since Rene is still perfecting the software, please have a little patience if you encounter any bugs.

Field Day 1997 by Dick, VE4HK

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Inc. Field Day went far afield in 1997. About 90 miles afield, at Falcon Lake, to be exact. Derek VE4HAY very graciously donated the back yard

**M.A.R.M. Second Annual
HamFest
September 6 & 7, 1997
Manitoba Agricultural Museum
Grounds
Austin, MB**

Flea Market Commercial Displays, Computer Fest,
Radio Controlled Aircraft Demo. Saturday Dinner &
Dance. Ladies & Kids activities, Rabbit Hunts, Food
Concession, tours of the Museum.

Talk-in frequency VE4MTR 146.91-

For more info or to register contact:
R Holder, VE4QK

at his family hotel. Most participants arrived Friday evening, just in time to begin set up, and to feed the hordes of starving mosquitoes. Our Field Day gang filled most of the rooms in the hotel. That guaranteed that there were no QRM complaints!

There were three stations, all operating on generators. Lee VE4ANC loaned his 50 ft military popup tower. It went up slick as a whistle, with Dan VE4SYG's TET HF beam on top for 20 and 15. We also had a set of VHF beams, and some wire antennas on a 40 ft DMX tower, to cover 80 through 2 meters.

Clouds of mosquitoes convinced everyone to stop for the evening around ten pm Friday. Several of us retired to the bar to enjoy liquid refreshments and munchies. Derek VE4HAY was moving a little slowly Saturday morning. It seems that he closed down the bar, Friday night. We installed the rest of the equipment Saturday morning. There was just enough time to attach coax to the radios, and do some tests before those magic words "CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY" blasted out over the airwaves at 1800Z.

The HF beam was pointed straight south to begin the contest on 20 meters. Later, the W6's and other western states were pouring in, so we rotated the antenna to south westerly. Lee VE4ANC took over a shift around 0200Z on 20 meters, with me, VE4HK logging. We were averaging 1-2 contacts per minute for a few hours. Lots of Arizona, Texas, California, and Utah stations. A rather large crew enjoyed a delicious buffet breakfast at the hotel on Sunday morning. Once our stomachs were satisfied, several of us wandered out to the Field Day site to relieve the night crew. We spent a few more hours calling "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day" and telling tall tales to one another. Finally, at 1800 UTC, we shut down VE4BB for another year. A few hours to dismantle

everything and load up Derek's truck, and away we went home. I had a special invitation to help VE4HAY unload his truck at VE4WSC. How could I refuse an opportunity to carry tower sections and generators up those stairs. Field Day finally ended for me about 5:30 pm Sunday.

**Teen Ham Operator Sabotaged Security
Extracted from the Winnipeg Free Press,
Wednesday August 6, 1997 (local A-7)**

A teenage ham radio operator was sentenced to two years probation yesterday after disabling a Winnipeg shopping centre's security access to the 911 emergency lines. Now 18, he also had approximately \$3,000 worth of ham radio equipment seized for a year and was ordered to perform 100 hours of community service.

"What you did was very serious," provincial court Judge John Enns told the clean-cut, heavy-set youth.

Crown attorney David Soper said the teenager used modified radio equipment to tap into the radio frequency used by Polo Park shopping centre security. He said the youth tied up the security guard's access to the 911 emergency number between Oct. 1, and Dec 5m 1996 by making repeated hang-up phone calls.

He was eventually caught after Manitoba Telephone System security traced the calls.

Industry Canada Petition

In response to the above mentioned article, and the lack of charges laid by Industry Canada. There is a petition going around asking Industry Canada to lay charges under the Radio Act against the people who have caused a good portion of the radio interference in Manitoba for the past year or two. You can read this petition at the next couple of WARC meetings, the Winnipeg Seniors Radio Club, and at the MARM HamFest. As well as at other club meetings. Please read the petition carefully and encourage each & every Amateur Radio Operator to sign it. There is also rumor that it may go up on the Internet for other Hams to read and sign.

**Fall Flea Market
by Dan, VE4SYG**

Our "WET" spring and "HOT" summer are just about over and it's time to start thinking about WARC's fall flea market. It will be held on October 19/97 from 10 am until about 2 pm. We have a "NEW" location this fall. This fall's event is being held at Heritage Victoria Community Centre, located at 950 Sturgeon Road. That is the intersection of

Sturgeon Road and Woodgreen Place. This is one block north of Ness Avenue. There is parking for over 100 vehicles on the community centre lot and the building is wheelchair accessible.

Admission will be \$1.00 per person including vendors. Tables are \$5.00 for members of WARC, MRS and WSC. All non members are \$10.00 per table. If you want a table contact us on packet, by phone or during the MRS nets.

We are trying something different this year, to cause less confusion at the door. We would like to have tables prepaid by the last WARC meeting before the flea market. We will accept payment for tables at the WARC meetings in September and October or if you choose you can send your payment to "WARC Flea Market Committee" c/o: WSC, 598 St. Mary's Road, R2M 3L5. Just a reminder: DON'T SEND CASH THROUGH THE MAIL!!

Since we have a new location, we will be responsible for setting up, taking down and cleaning up, so we will need a few more "good" volunteers, so please come and give us a hand if you can. This is your flea market so please plan to attend and support WARC. We are not good in the bluebook, so you can contact us at 339-3018 or on packet as VE4PLG@VE4UA (Pat) or VE4SYG@VE4UA (Dan).

1997 INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDENS HAMFEST

By Dick, VE4HK

Mariska VE4MMG and I loaded up our new truck with everything necessary for a 2 month trek into the back woods and left for the International Peace Gardens Hamfest at 9 am Friday July 11. Right on time, believe it or not! After a 3 hour jaunt down the Trans Canada Highway to Brandon, and another hour down Hwy 10, we had arrived.

The first thing you would do as soon as you park at the Hamfest is tour the Field of Dreams, looking for bargains at the tailgate flea markets. I struck pay dirt within 10 minutes, a 3 ft tripod that I had been searching for. Mariska and I spent the rest of Friday setting up our tent, and visiting all our friends. It was quite a pleasure to see all those old friends from W0 land!

The weather turned nasty Friday evening. There were a stream of announcements over the PA system and on 146.52 simplex, warning of thunderstorms in the immediate area, along with tornadoes west of Minot. The sky grew very dark about 9 pm, and thunder and lightening were everywhere. It was a tremendous sound and light show. Pink Floyd, the Rolling Stones or Aerosmith would have been jealous! The Peace Gardens officials evacuated the children from the

Music Camp to the underground gymnasium, due to the tornado warning. They strongly recommended that everyone from the Hamfest take shelter in the gym as well. About 30 % took advantage of the offer. VE4SE and WB8BZH ran a controlled, directed net on 146.52 and on 146.97 for several hours. They broadcast weather warnings as they came up, and kept everyone informed during the storm. Both did an outstanding job of handling the situation. Saturday, the weather improved markedly, after a few morning showers. By evening, the sky was totally cloudless. Everyone definitely appreciated the change.

All the usual contests and games were held Saturday, including 2 meter handheld rabbit hunt, ladies scavenger hunt, kids scavenger hunt, mobile judging, and 2 meter mobile rabbit hunt. A brand new event, the kids pet parade proved to be quite popular. Seven children, along with six dogs and one cat participated. Each child received a dollar as a prize. The children, the pets and the audience each enjoyed the pet parade.

The evening lead way to at the dance. I spent the rest of the evening visiting friends at different campsites and commuting to the dance. My friends from Grand Forks were comparing tall stories of their heroics during the flood, at one of the American bonfires. Another featured a gentleman with very long, involved, and definitely hilarious jokes.

Sunday morning, Mariska and I had the usual delicious pancake breakfast followed by the closing ceremonies went off very well. The organizers decided to try something new in 1997. Winners of the contests on Saturday were awarded their prizes immediately. It was felt that would save time on Sunday, since we could simply mention the name of the winner of the contest, the prize and the donor of the prize on Sunday. This idea worked splendidly. The audience showed their appreciation by applauding, when asked their opinion.

Alas, all good things come to an end, and so it was with the 1997 Hamfest. I helped to pack everything into the Hamfest building, then take down the tower. Finally, about 3 pm, Mariska and I were on our way home.

INTERNATIONAL HAMFEST PRIZE DRAW

KB0QYW	baseball hat	anonymous
N0CYK	fanny pack	anonymous
VE5VY	3 pack of discs	Goranson Electric
VE4WND	coffee cup	anonymous
KB0ZNY	gym bag	Ammex
XYL WA0HUD	gym bag	Ammex
VE4KU	gym bag	Ammex
KE0QR	T-shirt and hat	Winnipeg Transit
VE4KER	raincoat	Duty Free Store
VE4XYL	12 pack coca cola	Duty Free Store
VE5AG	Moose T-shirt	Duty Free Store
VE4BEV	gym bag	Duty Free Store

VE4AKM	\$10.00 gift certif.	Duty Free Store
VE4OAK	\$10.00 gift certif.	Duty Free Store
XYL VE4AND	RAC membership	RAC (VE4OV)
VE500	MFJ packet program	Burghardts
VE4MOY	MFJ packet program	Burghardts
Elizabeth Busby	MFJ911	Burghardts
N0SDB	MFJ1728B 2 m 5/8	Comtelco
VE4ELP	MFJ411 clock	Burghardts
KI0E	spring/fall jacket	anonymous
Sarah Fahy	30 in 1 lab kit	Goranson Electric
KA0HDN	stamp album	Canada Post
WB6CWN	stamp album	Canada Post
KB0NBX	MFJ1768 2m/440 beam	WARC
XYL WB0GMD	weekend@Falcon Lake Resort	VE4HAY
WB8BZH	HR146 Maxon 2 meter	Hamfest Commite
VE5IG	FT50R Yaesu handheld	Hamfest Committ

The History of Amateur Radio Revisited **Condensed and submitted by Ed, VE4YU**

Above taken from the 1954 ARRL Handbook and a series of articles produced by George F. W. Reynolds, VE4AJ, who became a silent key in 1996.

'Amateur Radio is a scientific hobby, a means of gaining personal skill in the fascinating art of electronics and an opportunity to communicate with fellow citizens by private shortwave radio'.

So says the opening sentence in the 1954 ARRL handbook that introduces the new ham to the hobby. These words are as true today, 43 years later, as they were then, and as they were at the turn of the century, when experimenters flourished at the news of Marconi proving that messages could be sent by wireless.

By 1912, with numerous government and commercial stations in operation, laws, licenses and wavelength specifications for various services appeared. With no official spokesperson for the amateur organization, the official reaction toward the experimenters was to allow them to use frequencies below 200 meters, which would severely restrict any distant communications. However, amateurs discovered how long distance communications were possible on a sporadic basis and also messages could be sent long distances using relay stations (sound familiar - nets, repeaters). Amateurs began to wonder if some day their signals could span the Atlantic on 200 meters.

In early 1914, Hiram Percy Maxim, a radio experimenter, conceived and launched the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). By 1917 ARRL was just beginning to blossom to unite radio amateurs in the USA when the first world war

curtailed its activities. Of the 6000 amateurs existing then, 4000 served in the armed forces during the war.

Meanwhile, in Canada, amateur radio experimenters were also very active. In February, 1911, the first Amateur Radio Club in Canada was formed. Called the Central Canadian Wireless Club, its secretary wrote to other radio amateurs across Canada promoting the idea of the Winnipeg club becoming the coordinating organization for all Amateurs in Canada, the prototype for a national wireless league. On August 2, 1914, an order in council from Ottawa was issued closing Amateur and other nonessential stations for the duration of the war.

On April 15, 1919, eagerly waiting Canadian Amateurs, were overjoyed to hear that the order in council had been canceled and applications for licensing of Amateur stations could once more be accepted. In Canada, licensing actually began on May 1, 1919, whereas in the USA, Amateurs were not allowed to operate until October 1st.

In Winnipeg, in March 1919, just before licensing was restored, some prospective Winnipeg experimenters formed the first club to be called the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club.

NEXT MONTH The continuing story of Amateur Radio in the early days.

PACKET BBS NEWS **By Werner, VE4UA**

For those of you that do not know, Doug Hawley VE4KV has now shut down his BBS on Packet as of the end of July, due to the fact that he is being transferred to Victoria and will be missed by all.

The new Winnipeg packet BBS will be VE4UA and all addresses can now be changed to @VE4UA.#WPG.MB.CAN.NOAM and mail should get to here.

VE4UA is only operational on 145.07 with direct access and also access through VE4PKT node. All the forwarding is done on this frequency also, however there are plans hopefully in the next week or two to initiate UHF forwarding at VE4UA and then plug in all of Doug's forwarding files to try and get back to normal. The UHF antenna is up, a 9600 baud TNC and UHF rig are ready, but just waiting for the Crystals to get going. Chris VE4SET is assisting in this changeover and will still be the Satgate in Winnipeg.

Future plans also will be to get back on the 144.31 frequency with the FBB Broadcasts for TPK and Winpack users. A landline port will also be in the future plans.

VE4UA BBS is on a learning curve, so if you see something that needs attention please send a message to VE4UA and things will be corrected. The BBS duties had to be taken over fairly quickly with NO knowledge of how

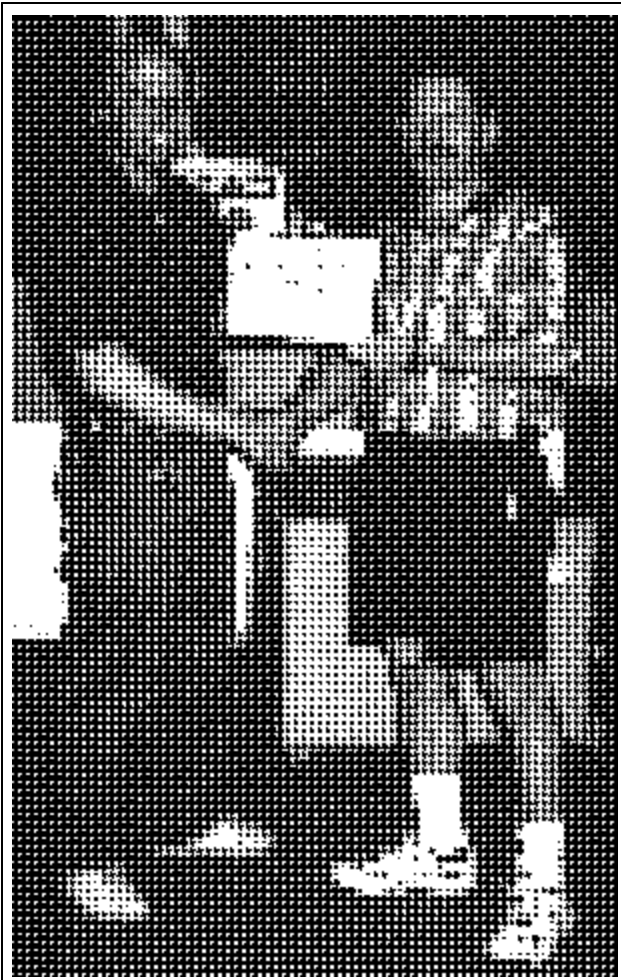
FBB operates except from the User end of it so please be patient.

Key Man Award
by Mariska, VE4MMG

The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club proudly presented its Key Man award at the WARC June 1997 meeting. Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ conferred the award on Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ for his outstanding contribution to amateur radio during the 1997 flood. Jeff dedicated countless hours to ensure that all aspects of Amateur Radio before and during the flood ran as smoothly and efficiently as possible. Congratulations Jeff!

Editors Ramblings
BY Derek, VE4HAY

What a great summer, and a perfect complement to the



disastrous winter we endured. Not much for operating however, but hey, winters just around the corner and we can

all retreat to the shack for hibernating and operating. I want to thank the 3-4 people who have submitted articles for this year so far. But, I still need more. So how about it!!

Please note a different e-mail address that I would prefer to use. derek@mbnet.mb.ca. The old address was my work address and I want to try to keep personal & work related stuff separate. So if you care to send me an article or just an e-mail please feel free to do so. I am also registered on the VE4UA packet PBBS where I can be reached at VE4HAY@VE4UA.#wpg.mb.can.noam

Thank you to William, VE4VR for reproducing the WARC logo into a format that I can use. The one I was using was a scanned image of an old logo. It lost something in the translation. And since I can not draw stick men, I left it that way. Please turn back to the front page and have a look at the logo. It now has neat crisp edges and a faded background. The version that William produced is in color and I will put it up on the clubs web page soon at URL www.freenet.mb.ca/amradio

Anyone who wishes to advertise in the WARC Newscaster are urged to contact the WARC executive for rates. If you have a Ham radio related product or just want to direct an ad to the Ham community please give them a call.

'HAM' RADIO OPERATOR'S COURSE
COURSE INSTRUCTOR
Larry R. Burkhardt, VE4LRB
Electronics Engineer

For those interested parties who still wish to take this course, I am pleased to announce that I can now offer a venue and am willing to teach classes of less than 10 students. I would appreciate it if members of WARC who know of anyone who is interested in taking this course would pass on this information and ask interested parties to contact me *PERSONALLY* after 6 p.m. at 487-0509