



Newscaster

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

October 1997

The Manitoba E.C. (emergency coordinator) Don, VE4DJM *appointed by the Manitoba Section Manager*

Date: **October 20th, 1997**
Time: 7:30 p.m..
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Notice of Annual General Meeting

In keeping with the bylaws of the group, this is hereby notice of our annual general meeting.

Date: October 20th, 1997
Time: 7:30 p.m..
**Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional
Secondary School**

Words from the President of WARC: by Norm, VE4EH

Another season is underway for WARC, it is the middle of September, and the weather remains beautiful. I do hope that winter drags it's heels this year. This is the first opportunity I've had to address the membership at large, and I would like to thank all the volunteers past, and present for their gift of time, and talent. Remember, the club is only as good as the support provided by it's membership.

The October meeting will be the "Annual General Meeting," and a number of topics will be presented for discussion. Please try to attend, your opinion is definitely valued.

Once again this year a membership prize will be drawn for at the fall flea market to be held at Heritage Victoria Community Centre on 19 October 1997. The cost to enter the draw is paid up membership for the 1997/98 season. The prize (which is substantial) will be announced at the October meeting.

For those members that unfortunately missed the last meeting, Derek's VE4HAY presentation was very well done, and removed the mystery, for us neophytes, associated with the MRS linking system. Thanks Derek.

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. September 8 1997

Other Important Dates:

Articles: Oct 28 - Nov newscaster
Nov 25 - Dec Newsletter

WARC: Nov 8 - Meeting
Dec 9 - Meeting- Xmas Party

WSC: Dec 11 - Xmas Party

ARES: Oct 11 - Meeting
Oct 25-26 - Simulated Emergency Test

Other:

WARC: Executive for 1997-98			
Past President	Richard Kazuk	VE4KAZ	895-4778
President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
Treasurer	Rick Lord	VE4OV	275-6980
Secretary	Ruth Mills	VE4XYL	837-6915
Vice-President	Larry Burkhardt	VE4LRB	487-0509
Program	Dave Wood	VE4KU	895-7067
Membership	Dan Michaelis	VE4SYG	339-3018

Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL

Meeting was called to order by Norm VE4EH at 19:33.

Seventy six members attended and all introduced themselves in the usual manner.

Moved by Michael VE4MJM

Seconded by Tom VE4SE

That the minutes be accepted as printed in the newscaster with amendment under the notice for Good and Welfare--- correction Ian Kennedy VE4MUD was transferred to Ottawa.

Committee reports

- { Treasurer - Rick, VE4OV. As of the end of August, Bank balance is \$3325.35. 1996 Bank balance at this time was \$3547. Mike VE4MP asked if the club had any plans to use some of this money . Suggestions VE4MP, Mike —Charity—Equipment for ARES, VE4YU, Ed —Reduction in the membership fees. VE4SE, Tom —That the money should not go to any outside organization and the executive evaluate our money very carefully. VE4SYG DAN —That we get an outline as to the cost of running our club annually. VE4OV, Rick —These suggestions will be taken and discussed at the executive meeting.
- { Membership - VE4SYG, Dan No report at this time. Apology by VE4EN Norm. No coffee this evening. The school could not locate our coffee urn. We will have coffee at the next meeting.
- { Program - VE4ANC, Lee. Presentation this evening done by VE4HAY, Derek on the repeater system. How linking repeaters is done for extended or long range. Thank you Derek. October program will be given by VE4DJM, Don on the 1997 flood operations, the inside works and organizing. At our October meeting Lee plans to prepare a questionnaire to be circulated as to what you as members might like to have as a program in the future. A program all might enjoy.
- { General Annual Meeting - Executive to discuss and decide.
- { ARES - VE4MBQ Jeff—Rowing club , flood relief fund-raiser, Terry Fox run, Parkinson's Walk. More

radio volunteers needed. September ARES meeting to be held at the Sir William Stephenson Library, 765 Keewatin St, Pan Am Games, to be held last week in July and first week in August of 1999. Those interested must commit themselves for a period of two weeks. Pan Am Committee views Amateur Radio people as skilled volunteers.

- { Birds Hill Bike Race -, VE4HK Dick reports the race was a successful event.
- { Ham Fest Report - VE4HK Dick. WARC were the co-hosts this year. All went well, everybody had a good time even though there was a tornado warning and a rainstorm. A special thanks extended to Pat VE4PLG and Dan VE4SYG and to all others who helped in this event.
- { Flea Market - VE4PLG Pat— to be held Sunday October 19, 1997, time 10 am to 2 pm. Tables \$5.00 to members \$10.00 to non members. Tables to be paid for by Oct. 10th. Cheques could be mailed to the Winnipeg Seniors Club. NEW LOCATION. Heritage Victoria C.C. 950 Sturgeon Rd. Coffee, drinks, and lunch will be provided at a nominal price.
- { DX Sleuths. - VE4SN Adam reports they have 22 members. They hold their meeting in the school coffee room at 6:45 pm every month prior to the WARC meeting. Extends an invitation to those interested in DXing to join the Sleuths. He also shared with us rules on DX'ing or "How to have more fun on DX" .
- { MARM Fest. VE4SE Tom. Successful event . Numbers in attendance down from last year perhaps to the wet weather. Next year, Fourth Annual MARM Fest MAY be held August 22/98, and it will be a one day event.
- { R.A.C. VE4OV Re radio interference. C.A.R.A.B. Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board, will meet soon with hopes to get Industry Canada back on line with their support to investigate radio interference.
- { Newsletter - VE4HAY Derek with thanks to members for the articles submitted for the newscaster over the summer and to keep them coming. Shared a bulletin from RAC on interim band plans. Also sincere thanks to all the members support in signing the Industry Canada petition.

VE4EH, Norm, extended to the past WARC executive, VE4KAZ Richard, VE4ZF Roxanne, and VE4AJR Jim, a vote of thanks and appreciation for their dedication and work over the past three years.

Adjournment by VE4HK Dick at 20.45

RAC Bulletin # 26



Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

RAC announces Interim Microwave band plans

The RAC VHF/UHF Spectrum management committee chaired by Ontario South Director Dana Shtun, has released an interim version of band plans covering the microwave spectrum from 3 GHz to 250 GHz.

There are eight (8) amateur bands in this part of the spectrum, five of which contain allocations in which amateur radio has primary status. There is strong competition from powerful industrial interests for most of the spectrum below 75 GHz, so we will not retain our primary status long unless we make good use of it. The RAC band plans, suggest how the frequencies can be (and are being) used by Canadian amateurs.

These bands represent a total of nearly 23,000 MHz of spectrum that we now have access to. Please look at the new interim band plans, and send comments to Dana Shtun at ve3dss@aracnet.net . The plans are now on the RAC web site, and paper copies can be obtained from RAC headquarters for a \$1 postage and handling charge.

* And above all, lets get up there and USE THEM !!

WAS and VUCC accreditation

Congratulations to RAC Regional Director for Ontario South, Dana Shtun VE3DSS, who has recently been accredited by the ARRL to check cards for WAS and for VUCC (VHF/UHF Century Club).

Dana joins Ken Oelke VE6AFO, Regional Director for Alberta and NWT in being accredited to carry out this task for the benefit of all Canadian amateurs.

Cards should be delivered personally if close by, or mailed to one of the addresses below.

NOTE : Cards sent by mail must include adequate return postage, \$ 10 if you want registered mail return, otherwise \$5.

Dana Shtun, VE3DSS
14 Ashwood Crescent,
Etobicoke, Ontario M9A 1Z3
(416) 232 2484),

Kenneth Oelke, VE6AFO
7136 Temple Dr. NE
Calgary AB, T1Y 4E7
(403) 280-5340

More information on detailed requirements can be obtained by sending e-mail to:

Dana at: ve3dss@aracnet.net or
Ken at: ve6afo@cadvision.com

Fall Flea Market

by Pat, VE4PLG

The fall flea market for WARC will be held October 19/97 from 10 am until about 2 pm at Heritage Victoria Community Centre, located at 950 Sturgeon Road. The intersection of Sturgeon Road and Woodgreen Place. This is one block north of Ness Avenue. Should you have a Sherlock's street guide the co-ordinates are M14 C5. There is lots of parking available 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 would like to have tables prepaid by October 10th. Thanks to WSC table payments can be sent to "WARC Flea Market Committee" c/o: WSC, 598 St. Marys Road, R2M 3L5.

WE need quite a few more volunteers since we will be responsible for setting up, taking down and cleaning up. If you can help please call us at 339-3018. This is your flea market so please plan to attend and support WARC.

Packet addresses are VE4PLG@VE4UA (Pat) or VE4SYG@VE4UA (Dan).

**ARES Committee Report
by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC**

The first ARES meeting at our "new" home was held 16SEPT97 at Sir William Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin street (Map 8 A4). The education portion consisted of a video taken at the City EOC during the spring flood and a review of emergency call-out procedures. The business meeting included approval of our financial statement and 1997-98 budget. A summary was distributed outlining the thirty educational meetings, twenty-two public service communications events and eleven exercises since Winnipeg ARES was formed MAY 94.

We have "lost" another member, Bret VE4GLV has moved to Mexico City to look after a university library. We welcome Tim VE4TAJ from the radio "active" Mills family to Winnipeg ARES.

Thirteen members provided amateur communications 6SEPT97 for the Corporate Rowing Challenge held on the Red River at the Winnipeg Rowing Club in aid of Flood Relief. Thanks to the Interlake Amateur Radio Club for use of VE4ARC repeater and thanks to volunteer operators: VE4 ACX, AJG, AJR, ARN, CDP, CET, DL, GLV, KAZ, KLM, MBQ, WF, WTS.

Thirteen members provided amateur communications 14SEPT97 for our fourth year of involvement with the Terry Fox Run in aid of Cancer Research. Thanks to the proprietors of VE4WDX repeater and thanks to volunteer operators: VE4 AND, GWB, HK, KAZ, KER, KLM, KU, MMG, PLG, RJH, RST, WF, YG.

Eleven members provided amateur communications 28SEPT97 for the first annual Parkinson Foundation Superwalk held downtown. It was most satisfying to see the ARES logo shown in the midst of sponsors logos shown on the event T-shirts. Thanks to the proprietors of VE4WDX repeater and thanks to volunteer operators: VE4 ACX, AND, CDP, DAR, DL, GWB, HK, KAZ, MBQ, RST, WF.

At press time seventeen members were scheduled to provide amateur communications the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Cancer Run For The Cure. This is the second year that we have been asked to participate. Thanks to the Interlake Amateur Radio Club for use of VE4ARC repeater and thanks to volunteer operators: VE4 ACX, AJG, AJR, AND, CDP, DJM, GWB, HK, KAZ, MBQ, MJM, MMG, RST, SE, WF, WTS, XYL.

The term of the 1996-97 Executive is about to expire. As mentioned at the last business meeting the current Executive members are all standing again for another term. At the close of nominations 30 Sept. 97 there were no other nominations received so the current Executive is re-elected by acclamation.

We have some new ARES traffic vests just arrived, they are available to the members for thirty dollars (\$30) each.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 21 OCT 97 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Guest speakers Larry Neufeld VE4CPU and Allan Gates VE4LOM will share their flood experiences with us. The package of revisions for our Emergency Plan ought to be distributed at this meeting.

The Winnipeg ARES 1997 Simulated Emergency Test is tentatively scheduled for the 25,26 OCT 97 weekend

Upcoming Radio Events

October	
11-12	Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
25	Hamfest St. Paul, MN
November	
1-3	November Sweepstakes, CW
15-17	November Sweepstakes, Phone

The WARC DX SLEUTHS Report

by Ed, VE4YU

Well the HF bands continue to fluctuate from quite good to very poor with some good DX filtering through. Seasoned DX'ers know how important it is to listen, listen, listen. That weak signal that you must strain to hear could be a great DX catch and well worth that extra effort.

I'm sorry to report that Winnipeg has lost a good DXer, a WARC DX Sleuth member and a super electronic technician. The good news for VE7 land is that they have gained what we have lost. Irek, VE4COZ, has moved to BC. We wish Irek all the best in his new endeavors 'Out West'.

I tried to fill in for Irek in the CQWW RTTY contest Sept. 27/28 and managed to work 132 RTTY stations. Contacts were made on 5 bands 80M-10M and 24 countries were worked including ZL, EA9, ZP, CT3, HH, UA1, UA2 and KP2. Nine contacts were made on 10M and 15 contacts on 15M. I did not operate for the full contest due to an out-of-town visitor but I was able to provide a multiplier for a few stations. If you have the RTTY capability, try it, it's fun!

DX worked over the past month includes ZK1 (N. Cook) on 15M SSB, UE0 on 20M CW, CT1 on 17M SSB, KH7 on 40M CW, 5X1 on 15M CW, 6W6 on 20M SSB and UN8 on 20M CW. I was only active on nine days in September so you can see that there must be a lot of DX out there waiting to be worked. Get active on HF!

A packet BBS (with future DX Cluster capability) has been set up at VE4WSC using the callsign 'VE4DRM', and a frequency of 145.01 MHz. The antenna will be replaced soon increasing the coverage area. Future plans are to activate a DX Cluster with linkup to a USA DX cluster. This will take some planning and effort so be patient. The VHF transmitter and TNC belong to the defunct Winnipeg DX Club.

Stay tuned for further developments, but meanwhile, if you can, try checking in and use a '/' before your commands. After you are connected, a keyin of '/HELP' will list the commands available. Since November 1st, 1996, I have worked 161 countries. I have not seen a report from any other DX Sleuth but would like to hear results of their activity. The main purpose of WARC DX SLEUTHS was, and still is, to encourage HF activity and a real pursuit of DX. Come on guys! What have you been doing?

SWL

Submitted by **Alexander, VE4APN**

Extracted from the LETHBRIDGE HERALD

AMATEUR RADIO for BEGINNERS

Call Larry, VE4LRB @ 487-0509 after 6p.m.
to register for the next class.

Edward Tunes Himself into World's Airwaves
LEONA FLIM
September 25, 1997

COALDALE - When Edward Kusalik gets up in the morning, he never knows what kind of exciting foreign mail he'll receive that day. Often, though, the pickings are excellent.

Kusalik, 48, of Coaldale, is an award-winning short-wave radio expert who picks up obscure stations from around the world and then solicits verification reports to confirm the feat. "There is no boredom in this hobby," he says during an interview in his basement radio headquarters, where he's been monitoring an offbeat frequency for test transmissions from Iraq. "There's always the challenge to find or log that elusive station."

So far, of 1,100 stations Kusalik has heard, he's received verifications from more than 1,000. No one in Canada comes close to his record of 75 verifications from short-wave radio stations in Indonesia, he says. And very few people get replies, as he has, from both a government station in Papua, New Guinea (Radio United Bougainville) and a rebel station there.

It all started when eight-year-old Kusalik and a friend, growing up in Chatham, Ont., found some old radio plans in a 1940s radio magazine. Building an old-time crystal set, the simplest radio possible, allowed Kusalik to tune in to AM stations on the broadcast band. One night he turned the radio on and picked up WSM from Nashville, Tenn. "I never knew that radio stations could travel that far. After that I used to stay up late at night and listen to the medium wave."

In high school, a teacher introduced Kusalik to short-wave radio, the spectrum located above the broadcast band, from 1600 kilohertz to 30 megahertz. An aunt had an old RCA table radio with short-wave on it and Kusalik brought it home. He hooked it up to an outdoor antenna and picked up HCJB in Quito, Ecuador. "Wow!" I said. "Ecuador!" "And to realize that signals had traveled all the way from Ecuador, had bounced off the ionosphere and come to my antenna. I was fascinated."

Since high school days, Kusalik has continued to acquire new equipment and tune in to more stations. Each time he does, he writes the station, noting the date, time, frequency and program details. The station then checks the information for accuracy and sends a verification report if Kusalik is correct. Acknowledgment can take anywhere from two weeks to 25 years, as in one case involving the People's Democratic Republic of Korea, he says. "First it's the ability to log the station under sometimes very difficult conditions; next completing a very accurate report, sending it away and then patiently waiting for that reply, that envelope in the mail

with those foreign stamps on them. "Every day I have expectation what will come from the mailbox."

In addition to short-wave radio, Kusalik enjoys cooking as a hobby. He's employed as a truck driver for the city of Lethbridge and is married with children and grandchildren.

Kusalik is a member of various short-wave radio clubs including Radio Amateurs of Canada and A*C*E* (Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts, where the interest is in pirate stations).

The Radio Amateurs of Canada Interim Microwave Band plans

Send comments to VHF/UHF Spectrum Management Committee, [Dana Shtun VE3DSS](mailto:Dana.Shtun@VE3DSS)

These plans were updated August 22 1997

3300 - 3500 MHz

Available Spectrum: 200 MHz

Status: Amateur Secondary

Digital: 3300 - 3400

Digital/Video: 3400 - 3450 MHz

Weak Signal and EME communications 3450 - 3500 MHz

Region 1 EME Window 3400 - 3405 MHz

Centre frequency 3400.1 MHz

Region 2 Calling Frequency: 3456.1 MHz

Propagation Beacons: 3456.3 - 3457 MHz

5650-5925 MHz

Available Spectrum: 275 MHz

Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite Secondary

Digital: 5650 - 5725 MHz

Weak Signal and EME Communications: 5759 - 5765 MHz

Calling Frequency: 5760.1 MHz

Propagation Beacons: 5760.5 - 5761 MHz

Digital /Video: 5770 - 5925 MHz

10.0 - 10.5 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 500 MHz

Status: Amateur Secondary

Digital: 10.0 - 10.2 GHz

Digital/Video 10.2 - 10.3 GHz

Narrow Band Modes 10.36 - 10.4 GHz

Calling Frequency: 10,368.1 GHz

Wide Band Calling Frequency 10.45 GHz

Amateur Satellite Service: 10.45 - 10.5 GHz

24.00 - 24.05 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 50 MHz

Status: Amateur/Amateur Satellite PRIMARY
 Weak Signal and EME Communications 24.00 - 24.01GHz
 Calling Frequency 24,000.1 MHz
 Satellite: 24.01 - 24.05 MHz

24.05 - 24.25 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 200 MHz
 Status: Amateur Secondary
 Digital/Video
 Wide Band Voice Modes (Gunnplexers)

47.0 - 47.2 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 200 MHz
 Status: PRIMARY
 Weak Signal Calling Frequency 47,000.1 MHz
 Digital/Video/Wide Band Modes

75.5 - 76.0 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 500 MHz
 Status: Amateur /Amateur Satellite PRIMARY
 Narrow Band Calling Frequency: 75,500.1 MHz

76.0 - 81.0 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 5000 MHz
 Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite Secondary
 Inter Satellite Communications/Space Based Links included
 in this sub band.

142 - 144 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 2000 MHz
 Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite PRIMARY
 Space based communications -
 Near Earth orbit to moon
 Earth to Space links

144 - 149 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 5000 MHz
 Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite Secondary
 Space based communications -near earth to moon
 Coordinated with the Radio Astronomy Service

241 -248 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 7000 MHz
 Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite Secondary

248 - 250 Ghz

Available Spectrum: 2000 MHz
 Status: Amateur and Amateur Satellite Primary
 Space based /Earth to Space/near earth to deep space
 communications.

above 400 Ghz

available without license

WORKING DUCTING ON 2M

By Larry, VE4CPU

If you kept close to your 2m rig this summer you may have noticed that you were able to work several repeaters that are normally outside the range of your station. This condition is often caused by a phenomena called tropospheric ducting. Ducting occurs when the air temperature increases with altitude, forming a temperature inversion that can cause enhanced radio communications on several amateur bands by bending RF. signals back down to earth. A ducting path occurs along the boundary between air masses of different temperatures allowing you to work those distant stations. While ducting has the greatest affect on the 2m band in spring and fall, this summer has provided some exceptional propagation. Somehow I think that the unusual weather patterns along with Manitoba's flood of the century may have had a lot to do with the cascade of openings.

Ducting provides an opportunity to work some real interesting DX, for others the challenge is to log as many grid squares as possible. If you take the opportunity to quiz some of the seasoned veterans about their experiences with ducting you will find that many have made some unbelievable contacts when conditions were prime. I know of three confirmed contacts where one of the operators used a handheld transceiver to work fm simplex contacts well in excess of a 100 miles away. Another contact worthy of mention is when earlier this summer VE4DSW (Darryl), mobile in Greenbush Minnesota, checked into the Winnipeg Seniors Net held on the VE4WPG (147.390+) repeater in Winnipeg.

It doesn't matter whether you plan to get serious about working 2m fm ducting, or you just want to test the waters, the list of observations and pointers below should help you make the most of the openings and improve your chances of working those distant stations:

1.) It doesn't take a lot of expensive equipment to get started. Some surprising contacts can be made using relatively simple equipment when conditions are right. Remember that during ducting it is possible to work stations using a Handheld transceiver that you wouldn't be able to work from a substantial base station under normal conditions.

2.) When the band opens, try working some repeaters normally outside your station's reach. Repeaters have a squelch tail that help you determine if you can work stations in the area. You have the best chance of making a contacting

someone tuned to the local repeater in their area. Once you have made contact its not too hard to convince someone to go to a simplex frequency and see if you can work them direct.

3.) If you frequently scan the local repeaters, add a some of those distant repeater frequencies into your rig. Every time you scan you have a better chance to find out when there is an opening.

4.) Keep a repeater guide handy. When there is an opening use the guide to trying to work repeaters farther and farther out. Sometimes its possible to determine what repeater you are hearing by listening to activity on the repeater and checking the guide.

5.) Who says that CW is just for HF'rs! I have to admit, my initial reason for learning CW was to decode repeater IDs. If you get real good with CW you can very quickly determine the repeater you are working. If you are not so good with code, like me, try using a modified tape recorder to play the CW back at a slower speed like I do.

6.) A directional antenna is extremely helpful. Often it is possible to hear several repeater IDs coming back to you from different repeaters. It really helps to have the ability to switch to a directional antenna and reduce power to null out all but one on the repeaters.

7.) It is possible to work another station on a distant repeater, even if you have a local repeater on the same frequency. This gets tricky because both parties must be aware that they have to wait for squelch tails of the local and remote repeater drop before transmitting or the local repeater's squelch tail will drowned out the distant signal.

8.) Keep your long distance repeater contacts short. This is especially important when you know that you are tying up more than one repeater. Also, there may be other distant stations wanting to work the repeater, not to mention local traffic.

Ducting can also be the source of all kinds of disruptions of both amateur and commercial communications. Being a scanner buff, more than once I've heard American commercial station telling a Canadian station to 'GET OFF OUR CHANNEL' .An amusing but frustrating example of amateur interference caused by ducting this summer happened to VE4LOM (Allan) while traveling from his home in Haywood, MB to work in Winnipeg. I was listening to Allan talking to another station on the VE4RAG (147.240) repeater in Elie. I also heard the same conversation on 147.300, 145.430, 146.970, 146.700, and 147.030. While Allan was working the Elie repeater he was also unknowingly keying the 147.240 repeater in Russell and was being heard across the entire Dauphin Amateur Radio Club link. Unfortunately Elie repeater was masking the weaker signal

coming back from the Russell repeater and prevented Allen from knowing his QSO was being simulcast.

One way of getting rid of most of the interference problems described here could be done using PL tones, but that is subject matter for another article. Until then happy hunting.

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

Part 2

As you read the story of 'Amateur Radio' you will notice that it is difficult to separate the 'Amateur' from the 'Commercial' .This is because practically all advancements and developments in wireless were made by amateur experimenters, many of whom formed commercial companies, individually or in conjunction with established firms or financial backers.

Wireless and radio are synonymous terms, 'wireless' originating in Britain and 'radio' in America.

Marconi is credited with being the first to span the Atlantic by wireless in 1901.

Ottawa assumed regulatory control over all forms of wireless and in 1905 passed the Wireless Telegraphy Act giving the Minister of Marine and Fisheries the exclusive authority to issue licenses for the installation and operation of any apparatus for wireless telegraphy anywhere in Canada or on any ship of Canadian registry. In the Telegraphs Act of 1906, section 6 referred to granting of licenses to amateurs solely interested in conducting wireless experiments.

Dr. Lee DeForest, the famous American inventor and wireless wizard, made a historic appearance in Winnipeg in 1910. His wireless experimenting began in 1899 and by 1903 he had erected several stations along the eastern seaboard, including stations at Toronto and Hamilton. DeForest invented a three element radio vacuum tube that he called the audion. Initially used as sensitive detectors, these devices were used as oscillators in transmitters in 1913 when feedback circuits were discovered. In 1910, deForest arrived in Winnipeg to lecture and demonstrate two-way wireless telephony. His company had leased space in the Enderton Building at Portage and Hargrave for a factory and laboratory. After lectures presented in the Science Building of University of Manitoba, the wireless telephony demonstration, one way only, took place, from the Royal Alexandria Hotel to the five year old Eaton's store on Portage Ave..

Equipment used was the latest model Aerophone transmitter rated at 500 watts with arc voltage of 220 VDC. Adjustable tuning coils, covered 300 to 3,000 meters and modulation was accomplished using a pair of heavy duty carbon microphone buttons mounted in a standard telephone mouthpiece and wired into the ground lead of the transmitter. All the RF current passed through the carbon buttons that were tapped periodically with a pencil by the operator to loosen the carbon granules, that tended to pack and quit working. The date of this first demonstration of wireless telephony in Canada was April 19, 1910.

Although the promised deForest factory and laboratory never happened, this event had a great effect on the amateur wireless experimenters in Winnipeg. The following year, February, 1911, saw the formation in Winnipeg, of the first wireless club in Canada, the Canadian Central Wireless Club. Later in the year, the Wireless Association of Toronto emerged.

Amateur wireless experimenters or 'hams' first surfaced in 1909 with Alex Polson, and some of his classmates from Central Collegiate Institute on Kate Street. They built a transmitter - a one inch spark coil with glass plate condenser, a tuning helix and spark gap, and a receiver consisting of a Hughes-type microphonic detector with a steel needle resting on carbon prisms, a tuning coil and headphones. Messages were sent from Polson's home at 94 Cathedral Ave. to Graham Ave. This is the first recorded use of wireless in Manitoba

NEXT MONTH Club growth and early callsigns explored.

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.

Editors Ramblings
BY Derek, VE4HAY

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

Comtelco Electronics

1456 Logan Avenue
Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3E 1S1
Phone (204) 774-9313 Fax (204) 772
3550 comtelco@cyberspc.mb.ca

“Fall Specials”

Kenwood TH-79A: - Dual band handheld with 82 memories, built-in CTCSS encode/decode, alphanumeric display \$579.00

Kenwood TM-V7A: - Dual band mobile with 147 memories, back-lit DTMF mic, Alphanumeric display, built-in duplexer & CTCSS \$749.00

Kenwood TH-235A: - Kenwood's Newest 2 Meter handheld" with 60 memories, Menu-System, channel number display \$259.00

Kenwood TM-261A: 2 Meter 50 Watt mobile with 62 memories, extended receive 118-174 MHz., Back-lit DTMF microphone \$359.00

Yaesu FT-50R: 2M/70cm handheld; 5W - DCS and CTCSS encode, 112 memories, alpha numeric display, super wide band RX \$439.00

Yaesu FT-2500: - 2M/50W mobile - mil spec., alpha numeric display, 31 memories \$439.00

Yaesu FT-8000: - 2M/70cm 50W mobile, 110 memories, super wide band RX \$649.00

Yaesu FT-10R: - 2M, 5W, 99 channel hand held, alpha numeric display, DTMF keypad w/CTCSS encode, direct keypad entry \$349.00

(Prices in effect while quantities last!)
(prices are for cash/cheque; VISA, Mastercard add 2%)

Kenwood * Yaesu * MFJ * Chushcraft * Alinco
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