



# News-caster

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

May 1998

## TBA

**Come out and see what the  
topic will be.**

Date: **May 11th, 1998**  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

### Other Important Dates:

Articles: May 27 - June Newsletter article deadline

WARC: June 27-28 - Field Day

WSC: May 14th - Breakfast get together

ARES: May 17 - CanWarn training session  
May 19 - Meeting - Severe Weather Video

Other: June 21 - Marathon  
August - Near the end - 4th Annual Austin HamFest  
April 24, 1999 - WARC HamFest & Flea market

### Words from the President of WARC: by Norm, VE4EH

The weather has been so pleasant that it should be commented upon but, in order to not jinx the situation, I will refrain from doing so, and open by commenting on some of our recent activities.

The club executive was pleased to note the increase in Home Brew projects at the last meeting, and hope the trend continues in the future. The change in format appears to have increased the projects brought forward by the membership, as well as contributing significantly to the camaraderie and social atmosphere of the evening.

The Spring Flea Market was once again a success with 334 attendees paying at the door. The success of the Flea Market is due, in no small measure, to the assistance and dedication of the many volunteers involved. On behalf of the executive, I thank you all for your time, and many talents. An era is now drawing to a close. Pat VE4PLG with the able assistance of Dan VE4SYG have, for a number of years, coordinated the many activities involved with the Flea Market. However, it is time to move on to other things, Pat VE4PLG will, in the near future, assume the position of RAC Section Manager for Manitoba. On behalf of the executive and the membership of WARC I thank both Pat and Dan for their work with the Flea Market and wish Pat well in her new position as Section Manager.

Field Day (27 & 28 June) is rapidly approaching and the club is in need of a coordinator to ensure a successful event which will be held once again at Falcon Lake. Please contact the executive if you are interested.

The Executive of WARC is now accepting nominations for the 1998-1999 season. If you are interested in serving on the Executive, let us know.

Please speak to anyone on the Executive as soon as possible, as elections will be held at the June WARC meeting.

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

**Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club**  
**Edited by Gil Frederick , VE4AG , &**  
**Paul, VE4OPC.**

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“Let’s get right down to business”. We have received a letter from CFARS (W/O Bob Schofield, VE3GLO, Manager/Coordinator), advising us that CFARS wishes to re-activate the system which has been dormant for many years (poor propagation being the main reason). It is hoped that it will be fully operational within one year. VE4WSC is one of the CFARS stations here in Winnipeg, being licensed as CIW510. Our secretary Ed, VE4YU, is looking after the reply.

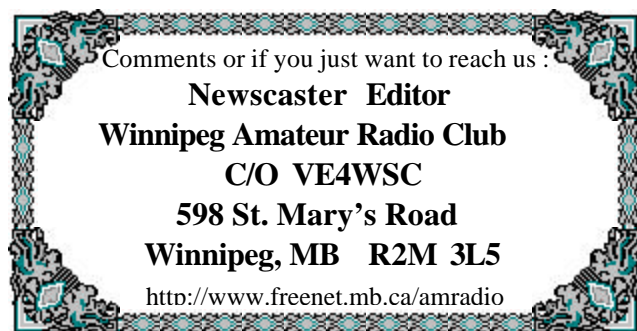
A letter was received from Revenue Canada explaining conversion to the new Business (BN) System, and the new charitable registration number that we must use from January 1, 1998. Those wishing to get further information can search the website [www.pagvs.com]. Gil has downloaded and printed the 15-page Survey, prepared by the Panel on Accountability and Governance in the Voluntary Sector, which members can read at the clubrooms.

Len has reported that the April breakfast at the Norlander was well attended, a total of 30, with 2 guests and 5 first-time club members. He advises that the next breakfast will be held at Garden City Inn on May 14, and on June 11 at the Norlander.

These breakfasts start at 9:00 a.m.; members are invited to bring spouses and guests and visitors are welcome.

Adam, VE4SN, reports that the Club Rules Committee is nearing the end of its role in preparing the new “Rules”. A presentation will be made in May or June, so it is requested that any member desirous of having input into this important document should do so a.s.a.p., either in writing or by phone to Adam.

We are sorry to report two more Silent Keys: Stan, VE4SCM, on March 26th, and George Shutler, VE4GHS, on April 19. We have one new member: Tom Heinrichs, VE4RT, P.O. Box 41, Grp. 551, R R 5, Winnipeg, MB R2C 2Z2.



Congratulations to our senior member Bert Anderson, VE4AP, who celebrated his 90th birthday; also to Art Maxwell, VE4AM, who celebrated his 94th.

Again, for the third successive year, members Vern, VE4VQ and Gil, VE4AG, set up the Radio Club hands-on display at the Provincial Science Fair, held April 24-26 at the U of Winnipeg. In attendance on Friday, working on crystal radio projects, were students from Marion School. The Morse code practice setup (built by the class) was a big hit, with a large number of passersby stopping to tap their names out by looking at the Morse code sheet on display. Dates for the 1999 Provincial Science Fair - April 22,23,24,25.

Without a flood and Spring blizzard this year, the club’s activities seem to be very limited, so there is nothing else to report at this time. Enjoy our summer days!

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

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My April “Newscaster” report did not appear so this report is somewhat longer than usual - some kind of communications breakdown!

Our March meeting featured CAF Capt.. Jay Burt who is a SAR Navigator with 435 Transport and Rescue Squadron here in Winnipeg. Capt. Burt gave us an excellent multimedia presentation on CF SAR and on the particular role of his squadron.

Our April meeting featured Ed Henderson VE4YU who gave us a presentation on portable HF as well as reinforcing that amateur operations in foreign countries often have different regulations than in Canada.

Winnipeg ARES recently received a lovely Flood Response Appreciation Certificate from the City of Winnipeg signed by Her Worship Susan Thompson and Emergency Program Coordinator Mark Bennett for our role in 1997 WINNIPEG Flood Operations. We had the framed certificate on display at the Flea Market and may have it at the next few monthly meetings before hanging it up on the wall at VE4EOC.

Our booth at the recent WARC Flea Market was very successful thanks to the amateurs who contributed items to the four auction lots, the amateurs who bought silent auction tickets and to the WARES Fundraising Committee of Robert VE4RST, Dick VE4HK, and Mariska VE4MMG. Please see Robert’s report for the list of auction donors and prize lot winners.

I was privileged to give a twenty minute presentation on 1997 ARES Flood Operations (Emerson to Petersfield)

Saturday 7MARCH98 at the Fifth Annual Manitoba EMO Conference. MEMO is a very strong supporter of amateur radio in emergency communications.

Our first CANWARN Training Session on 19APRIL had forty-seven amateurs in attendance (20 from Winnipeg). We have scheduled another training session for those who were unable to attend in April:

SUNDAY 17MAY98 1300h  
Winnipeg Wx Office  
Via Rail Station  
400 - 123 Main Street

We are looking for RURAL based observers and WARES members to act as Net Controllers during CANWARN Nets. We do not require Winnipeg based observers at this time. Please let me know by Monday 11MAY if you are planning to attend.

We MIGHT be involved 8AUG98 with the National Triathlon at Birds Hill Park, if we are covering it we may need some help!

1998-99 WARES dues (\$10) are due JUNE98. Please submit a passport-type photo with your dues cheque (payable to "Winnipeg ARES") as we will be issuing new ARES ID cards. The few people delinquent in 1997-98 will be soon struck from our roster.

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday 19MAY98 at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street at 1930 hrs. Jim Ross VE4AJR will let us listen to a Net Control tape from 1998 Sled Dog Races to allow us ALL to get an idea of some of the QRM and QRN that our Net Controllers have to suffer. We will also be watching a Severe Storm Video from Environment Canada.

### **MINUTES for W.A.R.C. April 13, 1998** **Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL**

The meeting was held in the Sturgeon Creek Collegiate cafeteria with some 60 members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hrs with member introductions.

Announcement from Pat VE4PLG, that Sun. April 12th, Bert Anderson celebrated his 90th birthday. Bert now lives in the Kildonan Personal Care Centre and although he is unable to transmit on his radio, he does monitor. Pat extended best wishes from the membership. Tom, VE4SE will get a card sent to him on behalf of the WARC members.

This evenings door prize will be a 50/50 draw and WARC will match the half and send it out to the CNIB who are canvassing for funds for the visually impaired Hams.

### **JACKETS.**

Norm VE4EH reported they are still in the process of being made up.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Dan VE4SYG, no report

### **PROGRAM**

Lee VE4ANC. This evening in Home Brew night. May 11th. program will be a surprise.

### **RAC.**

Rick VE4OV reported on the RAC bulletins which are available in the Internet.

### **CONGRATULATIONS.**

Pat VE4PLG has been appointed to Section Manager for Manitoba ARES, effective July 1st 1998. She will take over from Blake Dunn VE4AFF.

### **CORRESPONDENCE.**

Rick VE4OV read a letter from Allan Mcilwain in Colorado. Formerly VE4AKM, now VE4AKM portable W8.

### **FLEA MARKET**

Pat VE4PLG reported that all tables to date have been sold for the April Flea Market. Doors to open for the vendors at 9 am and buyers at 10 am. Jim VE4AJR will do the talk in. Pat also announced this to be their last Flea Market as coordinators.

### **ARES.**

Jeff VE4MBQ reported on the CanWarn training session to be held Sun. April 19.

Also shown was the flood response appreciation certificate WARES received from the City of Winnipeg. A reminder to the membership that WARES will have a silent auction booth at the Flea Market. They expect to have the latest Sherlock St. guides to sell as well. The draw will be made around noon. Next general meeting April 21, 1998 at 19:30 hrs at Sir William Stevenson Library.

### **Notices for the Good & Welfare**

☞ Tom VE4SE reported on the MRS repeater installation event at Morris Man and expressed appreciation to be given to the persons involved having given their time, efforts and energy for a big job well done.

- ☞ Derek VE4HAY reminded the membership of the MRS semi Annual meeting on Thurs. April 16th at 19:00hrs at the Elmwood Legion.
- ☞ Larry VE4CPU reminded those planning to attend the MRS meeting to make sure they remove their hats when entering. This being the Legion rules we must respect their wishes.
- ☞ Norm VE4EH announced Field Day will be held June 26th & 27th. We need volunteers to organize this event.
- ☞ Ralph VE4RY. Manitoba Marathon will be run on June 21st. Radio operators are needed to support this event. If you are available, please phone Kay VE4YF at 669-5077 between the hrs. of 9 am and 9 pm, or Ralph VE4RY at 663-8894.
- ☞ Larry VE4LRB is trying to organize a CW class. Please call Larry at 487-0509 for more details.

The 6 Home Brew participant winners of \$25.00 each were; Phil Core VE4KOR, Ralph VE4RY, Rolf VE4VZ, Jack VE4AJG, Charlie VE4QA, Larry VE4LRB.

An enjoyable evening of fellowship, coffee, cookies and the viewing and discussions of the Home Brew projects that were brought in. The 50/50 draw of \$37.00 was won by Ruth VE4XYL. The meeting was adjourned at 20:00 hrs.

## RAC Bulletins

Reply-To: [rachq@king.igs.net](mailto:rachq@king.igs.net)

### RAC Bulletin 98-25E

Radio Amateurs of Canada  
Annual General Meeting of Members  
Sunday, May 24, 1998

All members of RAC are encouraged to attend.  
Location: Emergency Preparedness College  
27 Baskin Drive  
Amprior, Ontario  
Time: 10:00 AM

### RAC Bulletin 98-31E

VHF/UHF Bandplans

ATTENTION PACKET OPERATORS/ FREQUENCY COORDINATORS and ALL USERS of the 144 - 148 MHz Band.

Please review the following proposals for changes to accommodate Space Communications on our 2 metre band and forward comments to VE3DSS by May 15, 1998. (This is a repeat of a bulletin posted by VE3DSS in January). ... As Amateur Radio evolves, so must our bandplans. I've made this statement many times over the last 12 years, and will

continue to do so. Bandplans are a vehicle to guide us in our operations so that all user groups in the amateur community can operate with minimal mutual interference. At the AMSAT conference held in Toronto in October, issues were raised to those in attendance regarding the need for spectrum for manned space missions. These space missions are currently occurring from MIR and the Shuttle. In the future they will include regular operations from the new space station, from the moon and eventually as part of a manned mission to Mars. While spectrally efficient communications technologies are available for space communications including SSB and digital modulation schemes, current communications continues to utilize FM for it's overall simplicity. One result of this is the problem of trying to shoehorn communications needs into our 2 metre and 70 cm bands without causing disruption to current ground based operations. This problem has been on-going for a decade and needs some long term resolution within the global amateur community. In the mean time, AMSAT have proposed the utilization of certain frequencies for voice and packet uplinks/downlinks on these bands that must be considered by all users in Canada and worldwide in order for these space operations to fulfill their potential.

The following was proposed at the IARU International Satellite Forum held on October 19 , 1997 in Toronto. The information has now (January 1998) just been confirmed in writing from Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, who is the IARU AMSAT Frequency Coordinator. These proposals, after discussion domestically, will be voted on in Region 2 at the Triennial Region 2 IARU Conference in Venezuela in August, at the Region 1 VHF Conference in February and in Region 3 later this year.

- ☎ Actual - 144.49,144.47,144.45 - Digital Systems (low power, and used where 145 MHz/147 MHz frequencies are saturated and unavailable )
- ☎ Proposed - 144.49 MHz utilized as the worldwide uplink Frequency - 144.47 and 144.45 as standby alternate uplinks.
- ☎ Comment - may support voice and digital modes, and crossband operations with 70 cm.
- ☎ Actual - 145.79 MHz . Digital network frequency. 145.8125, 145.99 Amateur Satellite Service.
- ☎ Proposed - 145.8 MHz worldwide downlink frequency with 145.8125 MHz and 145.99 MHz as standby alternate frequencies.
- ☎ Comment - may support voice and digital modes, and in-band or crossband operations.
- ☎ Actual - 435 - 438 MHz - Amateur Satellite Service
- ☎ Proposed - 435.7 - 435.8 MHz - Manned Space Operations. 437.5 - 438 MHz - Manned Space Operations
- ☎ Comment - Future manned space operations from the International Space Platform and MIR

Further, tests are proposed between now and May 31, 1998 to test split band operation using 437.5 uplink and 145.8 MHz Downlink, and 144.49 MHz uplink and 145.8 MHz downlink. In addition, those using 145.79 MHz may be able to get some limited financial assistance to cover the cost of re-crystallizing equipment from AMSAT. This was to facilitate the clearing of U.S. APRS operations, but should extend to other operations beyond APRS. Each case would be handled individually, and would likely be limited in terms of \$\$\$. Contact AMSAT for details. Note that AMSAT and TAPR are working closely in the U.S. to clear 145.79 MHz and move down to the current "Canadian" APRS frequency of 144.39 MHz!

As a side note, there may be some future proposals for additional satellite frequencies that may include frequencies at 50 MHz and 29.7 - 30 MHz. This message was sent out originally in January - this one is a further request for comment being sent through the RAC Bulletin system, please e-mail or send comments to: Dana Shtun, VE3DSS Chair RAC VHF UHF Spectrum Management Committee 14 Ashwood Crescent Etobicoke, Ontario M9A 1Z3 or - e mail to ve3dss@aracnet.net

### **RAC Bulletin 98-26E**

New DXCC country and deleted country

A new DXCC country The Temotu Islands - H40 (four zero) situated approximately 350 km from the Solomon Island group has received preliminary approval from the DXCC desk. A full scale DXpedition will on the island during this weekend's CQ WPX SSB Contest and will continue for approximately two more weeks. The H40AA callsign will be activated only at 2359 UTC on March 31st. The contest operation itself will count only for Solomon Islands under the current rules and team members will use their individual H44 callsigns. QSLs for the H44 operations will be to the home call of the individual operators. H40AA QSLs will be handled by OH2BN. Do not send any cards for these operations to the H44 bureau.

DXCC country deleted.

The ARRL DXAC and Awards Committee have voted to delete Southern Sudan (ST0). QSO's made before January 1, 1995 will count for the deleted country.

### **RAC bulletin 98-32E**

2 meter TE

First Two Metre Trans-Equatorial Propagation DX Reported in Cycle 23 JR4ENY/1 reports that on April 16 at 1059 UTC JH4JPO in Yamaguchi, Japan using a TS790 and 16 el beam heard the VK8VF CW beacon on 144.480 MHz from Darwin, Australia - a distance of approximately 8000 km. Peak signal strength was RST559 at 1104 UTC. The reception

faded out at 1125 UTC. This was the first opening between JA and VK in Cycle 23. Canadian two metre operators are urged to watch for similar Trans-Equatorial Propagation openings with South America.

### **RAC Bulletin 98-36E**

Amateur's licence suspended - willful Interference

RAC has been informed that Industry Canada has suspended the licence of a Central Ontario amateur for six months. The suspension followed an investigation by the Department into complaints by amateurs about malicious interference on 2 Metre repeaters spanning a period of more than two years.

The repeater users played a major role in the investigation by collecting evidence and assisting in identifying the offender. Industry Canada has advised that the amateur cannot be named because the information concerning the suspension relates to a matter between a private individual and the Government of Canada. Since it is considered personal information, it is protected under the Privacy Act. The amateur could have been identified only if Court documents had been filed and the case thus had become part of the public record. RAC appreciates the action taken by Industry Canada to resolve this interference problem.

### **RAC Bulletin 98-29E**

Manitoba SM Election

Patricia L Giesbrecht, VE4PLG was recently elected Section Manager for a two year term that will begin on July 1, 1998 in the Manitoba Section .Pat ran unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election

### **Spring Flea Market Report by Pat VE4PLG**

Well, the Spring FleaMarket has come and gone, and it was another success. WARC realized a profit of \$534.05. Thanks go out to all the volunteers without whose help the FleaMarket would not succeed.

A very special THANK YOU to Ruth Mills VE4XYL and her ladies for running the kitchen so very well. Thanks girls.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to everyone who has helped make the FleaMarkets of the past few years very successful. This is the last FleaMarket I will be doing as I have accepted another position and it will require all my attention. To the person taking over the FleaMarket I offer my assistance in any way necessary to get started.

Dan would like to thank everyone as well and also offers assistance to the person taking over the FleaMarket.

**Door prizes & Winners:**

Hat, pin & crest donated by MARM won by VE4JGF Jim Forrester from Emerson, 1 Year RAC Membership donated by Rick Lord won by VE4DY Yves Remillard, Antenna Mount donated by 40 Channels won by VE4AFF Blake Dunn, i/4 wave antenna donated by Prairie Communications won by VE4WTS Wayne, Schellikins G5RV donated by WARC won by VE4QA Charlie Greene.

### **Manitoba Marathon** by Ralph, VE4RY

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#### Fathers' Day - Sunday, June 21st

Well folks, here it is once again time for that friendly nudge and reminder that your chance to participate as a communicator for the prestigious Manitoba Marathon is fast approaching.

At no cost to you, other than some spare time on a Sunday morning you can join the fun. All you need is your two-meter handie-talkie and maybe a spare battery and the rest is easy.

Ask anyone who has participated and you will find that it is a very rewarding (shall I mention free T-shirt?) experience and satisfaction is guaranteed.

We try to match our volunteers to the requirements at the various locations on the route and even if you are newly licensed, you are very welcome to take this opportunity to gain on-air experience in the company of some very friendly hams, young and old and in-between.

So, feel free to call either Kay, VE4YF @ 669-5077 or Ralph, VE4RY @ 663-8894 for further information (call between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. only please).

We require about 60 volunteers and yes, the pre-marathon meeting room is already booked ...and yes, it is air-conditioned.

### **C.L.A.R.A. News** By Pat, VE4PLG

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The CLARA nets will close for the summer on May 26th and open up again September 1st. CLARA has a web page

#### **Club Jackets & Hats**

For those members that have ordered Club jackets they will be available at the May meeting for pick up.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR CHECK BOOKS.**

Club Caps will also be available at the May Meeting.

for those on the Internet. Their e-mail address is <http://www.durham.net/~mjefrry/clara/> so check it out.

In August of 98 the C.N.E. in Toronto has Ladies Day. Cecilia VE3CJR plans to be there and it is hoped that by announcing the event that more CLARA members would participate. Should you be in the Toronto area in August drop by and say HI! to the YL's.

### **From Scientific American** submitted by Vern VE4VQ

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#### *Sent by Gil, VE4AG*

There are two items in last September's issue that should justify a visit to your community's Library. The first one reports on recent developments in the quest for a blue laser while the second one brings Dick Tracy to life with a discussion of a radio-on-a-chip being developed at the University of Michigan.

Several reasons lie behind the search for a blue-light-emitting diode. "Most alluringly, they could be substituted for the infrared lasers used in compact-disc players, permitting a fourfold increase in the amount of data that could be stored on a CD. The short-wavelength blue lasers could also be used in higher-resolution displays and laser printers and in underwater communications systems. All told, billions of dollars are at stake, analysts say."

The leader in the field is a "charismatic researcher in Japan" - Shuji Nakamura - of Nichia Chemical Industries in Tokushima, Japan. Nakamura expects to have blue lasers operating for 10,000 hours - the lifetime believed to be necessary for commercial success - before the end of 1998.

The work at the U of Michigan introduced me to a new acronym - MEMS. It stands for microelectro-mechanical system. A photograph shows the micromechanical filter that "consists of beams coupled by a spring. The 40-micron beams can vibrate millions of times a second when voltages are applied to the electrodes."

Last summer, the U of Michigan received a grant of \$1,600,000 for three years. "These varied projects mean that shortly after the year 2000, the notion of a two-way radio on a chip may indeed become a common-place reality."

### **Hints & Kinks** by Ralph, VE4RY

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Here's one I actually discovered myself the other day when working on yet another microphone for the HF rig:

When the hole in a plastic case is worn and the screw just won't grab hold any more, try making a shim out of plastic wire insulation to take up the slack. A small sliver

placed in the hole beside the screw as it is turned in should enable you to torque it down as tight as new.

*(Ed. Note: - You could also use a flat wooden toothpick in much the same manner on stripped wood screws)*

## Hints & Kinks by Ralph, VE4RY

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If you use one of those window clip antenna mounts, the kind that slips over the edge of a car window, you may be disappointed with the high SWR because of the lack of a counterpoise or ground connection at the feed point. Mine was over 2:1 and while the antenna worked fairly well, I figured it could be improved.

Ferrite RF chokes are known to be effective for curing RFI problems by absorbing RF current on power and coax cables; I wondered if by placing one a quarter wavelength down the coax from the feed point, I could 'fool' the antenna into thinking there was a counterpoise, thus making it act like a coaxial dipole antenna of sorts.

Well, the trick worked! I was able to dip the SWR by sliding the ferrite up and down the coax. The best spot was at about 20 inches as expected, at which point the SWR dropped to about 1.5:1, which was not bad at all. The antenna now performs better than I expected, thanks to one of those magical ferrites.

## ARES Silent Auction By Dick, VE4HK

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Winnipeg ARES would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets for our silent auction on Sunday, April 19. ARES also thanks everyone who donated prizes. The huge crowds around our table were quite a sight to see. The silent auction was a complete success. Expect us back again next spring, with another fine batch of prizes.

Congratulations to the four winners:

Paul Champagne VE4OPC  
Victor Braun VE4VEB,  
C. Macebeo VE4PCM  
Trevor Poole

Trevor just received his licence last Thursday. He won a copper J-pole, an Antenna Book Compendium, a RAC membership, and an ARRL Handbook. The perfect prize for a brand new ham.

Once again, thank you to everyone who purchased tickets, and who donated prizes for our silent auction.

ARES Fund Raising Committee  
Dick Maguire VE4HK  
Mariska Maguire VE4MMG  
Robert Stegmaier VE4RST

## Antique Radio Sale By Dick, VE4HK

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Do you enjoy seeing beautiful antique radios? Do you enjoy listening to the sounds of the 1930's and 1940's on CKVN? Would you like to own an old fashioned radio so you can listen to CKVN on a radio that uses those bottles that glow in the dark?

Well, have I got news for you! The Antique Radio Club will be holding its annual spring flea market and display on the CBC parking lot, behind the CBC building, on the corner of Spence and Portage Avenue, Sunday May 24, beginning at 10:00 am.

Everyone will have the opportunity to see Atwater Kents, Crossleys, and other beauties from the early years of radio. The vendors will be happy to tell everyone about the history of these vintage radios, phonographs, and other goodies on hand. Bring a pocket full of money, and enjoy seeing and buying the radios that will be available.

That is Sunday, May 24 at the CBC parking lot, beginning at 10:00 am

## Upcoming Radio Events

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*May*

### AMATEUR RADIO for BEGINNERS

Instructor: Larry R. Burkhardt  
Electronics Engineer

The current course is already running but, I am now taking names for the next course.

If you who know of anybody (XYL, YL, OM or just a friend) who is interested in taking this course, Please pass on this information and have interested parties contact me personally at 487-0509 after 6 p.m.

9 902-MHz Spring Sprint

- 9 1296-MHz Spring Sprint
- 9 2304-MHz Spring Sprint
- 16 1750-MHz Spring Sprint

**June**

- 13-15 ARRL June VHF QSO Party
- 27-28 Field Day

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

**Part 9**

The FREE PRESS, with its feeble 10 watt set, was having trouble competing for audience attention with the 500 watt TRIBUNE station. Seventy-five foot antenna towers had been erected on the FREE PRESS building by May 4, 1922 and the paper continued to assure its readers and listeners that its 'major broadcasting station' would be on the air shortly. Apparently the manufacturer was having problems getting the bugs out of the transmitter, a radically new design.

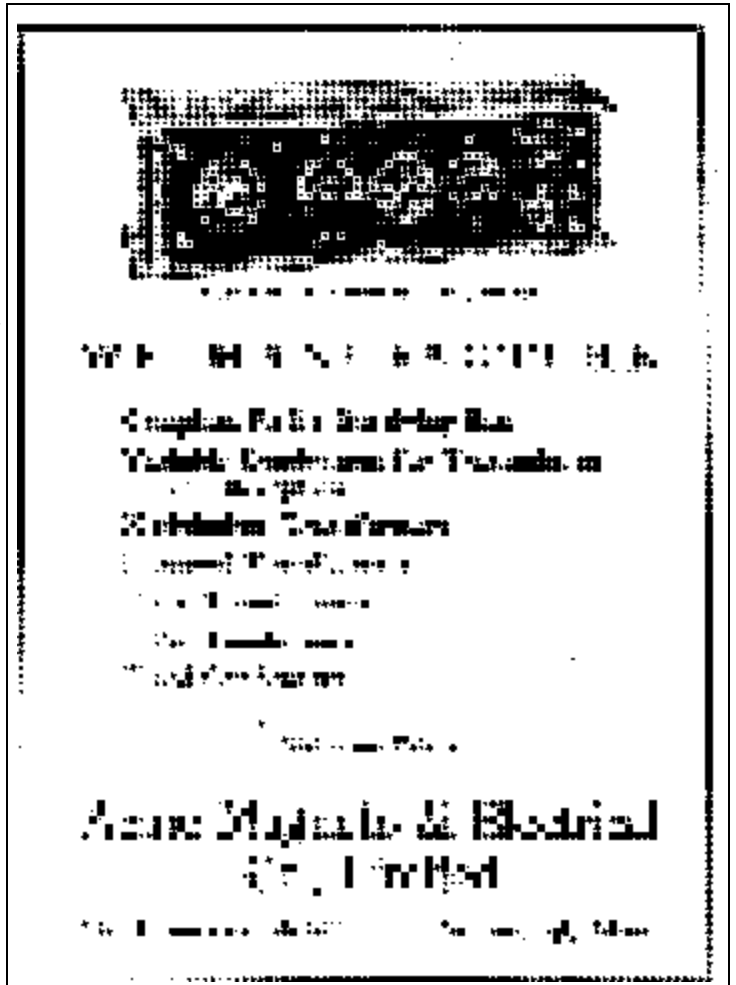
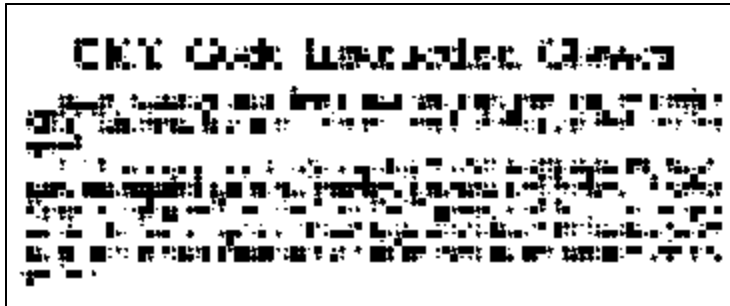
On May 31, the FREE PRESS reported that its broadcasts would sound much louder in the future as alterations and adjustments by operator Foster, 4CR, (Salton's former partner) had provided six times more power in the antenna. As a result, the program was received with a 'storm of enthusiastic applause.' It seems probable that the FREE PRESS acquired the use, on a temporary basis, of the 100 watt set that had been the CKZC transmitter.

By July, CJCG and CJNC had developed a daily program pattern. There were noon-hour news, grain and stock market reports and sports bulletins; each weekday evening a two-hour program consisting of an instrumental and vocal concert with fill-in phonograph records. On Sunday evenings, both stations broadcast a one and a half to two-hour program of sacred music. CJNC (TRIBUNE) began an unusual feature on July 4 - a 15 minute code practice session by the station operator, D. E. Bankart, prior to its evening program.

Instrumentalists and vocalists performed 'gratis' and every music teacher in the city was continually pestering the radio stations to put their prize students on the air. Vocalists ranged from coloratura sopranos to basso profundos plus an assortment of elocutionists and dramatic readers. The piano was the most popular solo instrument

but there was no shortage of violinists, banjo combos, mandolin quintets, coronetists, mouth organ virtuosos, Hawaiian steel guitar artists and xylophonists.

An article in the July 8, 1922 issue of the FREE PRESS was a preview of a controversy that has continued to rage until the present day. The FREE PRESS was extremely critical of a letter written by W. E. Weaver of Hespeler, Ontario, to the American magazine RADIO NEWS. "Speaking from the depths of arrogant ignorance", to quote the FREE PRESS, "Weaver has made the unqualified statement that the boys of Canada, the coming generation of this country, are being exposed to an unavoidable American influence which may result in a loss of pride in their nationality, that American pronunciations threaten to creep into Canadian speech and that American ideas threaten to stifle Canadian individuality. Canadians must realize the necessity for better radio stations of their own if their national life is to be saved from extinction."





The FREE PRESS was particularly incensed at Weaver's allegation that Canadian broadcasts were of poor quality. The FREE PRESS said it had received many letters testifying to the excellence of its programming, not only from Canadian listeners, but from many points in the northern U.S. as well. "Abysmal ignorance of his own country is to be regretted in the writer to RADIO NEWS as characteristic of the poorest citizenship."

**NOTE:**

*Inserted advertisements are extracted from the August/September, 1923 issue of "The Radio Bug" The All-Canadian 'Amateur' Publication*

**NEXT MONTH..**

Air Board patrols set up in 1921 - airborne radiophone tested

*The above information is taken from a publication available at the Manitoba Archives, produced by George F. W. Reynolds, VE4AJ, who became a silent key in 1996.*

- Condensed and submitted by  
Ed Henderson, VE4YU - 1998

**"TOWER WORK"**

**Submitted by Dan, VE4SYG**

A ham writing a letter to his insurance company explaining a recent misfortune.....

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information in block no. 3 of your accident reporting form. I submitted "poor planning caused the accident." You say in your letter to "explain more fully" .I trust the following information will prove to be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator, and on the day of the of the accident I was at work on the top section of my 100 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that, over the course of many trips up and down the tower, I had brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware.

Rather than carry the now-unneeded tools down by hand, I decided to lower them using a small barrel and my "gin pole" still attached to the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up the tower and filled the barrel. I then went back to ground level and untied the rope,

holding it tightly, to insure a slow descent of the 300 pound load.

You will notice in block no. 11 that I had given my weight as 150 pounds. Due to my surprise at being suddenly jerked off the ground at such a rapid rate, I momentarily lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 50 foot level, I met the swiftly descending barrel. This explains my fractured collar bone. After momentarily slowing, I resumed my rapid ascent, not stopping until my hands were three knuckles deep in the pulley.

Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my composure and managed to hold onto the rope despite the excruciating pain. At about this time, however, the loaded barrel hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Now, without the 300 pounds of tools, the barrel only weighed about 15 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block no. 11. As you might imagine, I began a swift plunge down the side of the tower.

Again, at about the 50 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for my two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs, thighs, and lower body.

The barrel encounter slowed me enough to lessen my impact with the pile of tools and hardware and I was extremely fortunate to escape with only a fractured coccyx and three crushed vertebrae.

I regret to report, however, that as I lay there on the pile of tools in excruciating pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel, 100 feet above me, that I again "let go of the rope !!!"

Author unknown

***Parkside Appliance & Electronics***



**Sales & Service of  
Computers &  
Software  
Home repairs offered**

**John. VE4JNF**

*(ed's note: I heard this being told in a comedy routine a few months ago on CKVN by some old time comedian.*

*Instead of tools the barrel was full of bricks from his new chimney . The way the comedian told the story had me rolling in tears while driving. It was the funniest routine I have ever heard. Thank goodness for CKVN and the old memories. IF anyone knows the routine I am talking about I would like to get a recording of it on tape.)*

## **Field Day/98**

### **By Derek Hay**

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It looks like no one has stepped forward to chair Field Day this year, so I guess I will have to do it. But I will need lots of help. Revenue earning work is requiring more of my time lately, so I do not have the very limited amount of time I could previously spend on Field Day available to me any more.

First thing to be done is to find a site to hold the event. Luckily this has already been done. Once again we will hold the event at the Falcon Lake Resort Hotel. I have placed the following rooms on hold;

18 - Studio rooms w/ kitchenette are \$55.00 per night

4 - Hot Tub rooms (couple only) are \$55.00 per night.

These are the same rates that we had last year and are substantially discounted for our event. I can not hold the rooms for very long so please book early by calling Derek, VE4HAY at 257-1420 in the evenings only please. A credit card will be needed, to be used to hold the rooms only. Preference will be given to those who book for both the Friday & Saturday nights.

Now for the event itself. In stead of operating out of a tent as we have in the past few years, this year we have the privilege of operating out of a brand new mini-conference centre. This centre is located at the back of the resort, right next to where we would have set up the tent in the first place. The centre offers individual rooms for each station to be setup as well as a common room for chit-chat and bragging about all those contact you just made. For the really keen operators there are also limited number of sleeping accommodations available in the conference centre.

As has happened in the past crews are needed on the Friday evening to setup towers and antenna etc. This will continue on the Saturday morning as well. We must be fully ready by the starting time of noon. Just before the kick off we will have a Bar-B-Q of burgers & wieners so that everyone who will be operating will not have any excuse to take a break (hi hi). If you have a preferred time that you would like to operate this can also be arranged via a

operating schedule which will be established. Otherwise everyone is welcome to operate at their leisure. One station will be setup for the novice amateur who has heard about HF but has not had the chance to see what it is all about. This station will also be used to introduce the YL, XYL, Harmonics or friends to the joys of Amateur Radio. It is hoped that we will have 3 HF stations setup this year as well as VHF & UHF. If anyone wants to bring their EME or Satellite gear you are most welcome to join into the fun.

Volunteers will be needed to help out with all the arrangements like procuring HF rigs, Cable, Antennas, Towers, food, beverages, etc.. We will also need help loading all this into a 1-ton truck on the Friday afternoon and unloading it on the Sunday afternoon. As well as the setup and tear down of the stations. Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact Derek, VE4HAY at 257-1420.

This weekend is planned to be a family event. The resort offers a number of activities besides radio operating, if you can't convince the rest of the family to pick up a few contacts while your lounging by the pool. There is a Swimming pool, Jacuzzi whirl pool, a dry sauna, video lottery terminals, video arcade, dinning room, and a newly licensed lounge (which will allow kids with an adult). And don't forget the beach, and hiking trails or horseback riding. So the entire weekend can and will be a family event. So bring the YL, XYL and all the harmonics and come out to the WARC-98 Field Day. A great place to meet and socialize with your fellow hams.

## **Editors Ramblings**

### **BY Derek, VE4HAY**

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Lets start off with a joke this month. Thanks Ralph for this one.

Monica Lewinski may be a ham radio operator...it is rumored that she has a "good fist"!

Had some fun with the newsletter this month. Don't know why but it was just fun putting it together. Maybe it had something to do with my excitement about Field Day coming up. Or maybe it is the knowing that I will be helping out in the Manitoba Marathon this year. Or maybe all the other Amateur Radio events that will be happening all summer long. What ever it get the blood flowing and makes the hobby a little more exciting.

Get ready to mark your calendars. The Austin HamFest is being planned for the end of August this year. This will make the event a little warmer than the cool nights in September. It is also rumored that the activities will be crammed into one full day of great events and activities. As soon as I get more detail I will post them here in the

newsletter. So pass the word onto Dave Snyder VE4XN at 728-2463 that I need more info for you.

Not sure if a fellow ham has an e-mail address or if you forgot their address. Then try sending mail to their [callsign@rac.ca](mailto:callsign@rac.ca) It just might make it to your friend thanks to the RAC e-mail alias system. To register on the alias system send a message to "[alias@rac.ca](mailto:alias@rac.ca)" with "callsign=realaddress" in the body of the message. (i.e. VA4KP = [ham@qsy.ca](mailto:ham@qsy.ca)). Then any mail sent to [VA4KP@rac.ca](mailto:VA4KP@rac.ca) will be forwarded to [ham@qsy.ca](mailto:ham@qsy.ca)

I can be reached by e-mail at: [ve4hay@rac.ca](mailto:ve4hay@rac.ca). or on packet at [ve4hay@ve4ua.#wpg.mb.ca.noam](mailto:ve4hay@ve4ua.#wpg.mb.ca.noam)



# News caster

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

May 1998

## TBA

**Come out and see what the  
topic will be.**

Date: **May 11th, 1998**  
Time: 7:30 p.m.  
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

### Other Important Dates:

Articles: May 27 - June Newsletter article deadline

WARC: June 27-28 - Field Day

WSC: May 14th - Breakfast get together

ARES: May 17 - CanWarn training session  
May 19 - Meeting - Severe Weather Video

Other: June 21 - Marathon  
August - Near the end - 4th Annual Austin HamFest  
April 24, 1999 - WARC HamFest & Flea market

### Words from the President of WARC: by Norm, VE4EH

The weather has been so pleasant that it should be commented upon but, in order to not jinx the situation, I will refrain from doing so, and open by commenting on some of our recent activities.

The club executive was pleased to note the increase in Home Brew projects at the last meeting, and hope the trend continues in the future. The change in format appears to have increased the projects brought forward by the membership, as well as contributing significantly to the camaraderie and social atmosphere of the evening.

The Spring Flea Market was once again a success with 334 attendees paying at the door. The success of the Flea Market is due, in no small measure, to the assistance and dedication of the many volunteers involved. On behalf of the executive, I thank you all for your time, and many talents. An era is now drawing to a close. Pat VE4PLG with the able assistance of Dan VE4SYG have, for a number of years, coordinated the many activities involved with the Flea Market. However, it is time to move on to other things, Pat VE4PLG will, in the near future, assume the position of RAC Section Manager for Manitoba. On behalf of the executive and the membership of WARC I thank both Pat and Dan for their work with the Flea Market and wish Pat well in her new position as Section Manager.

Field Day (27 & 28 June) is rapidly approaching and the club is in need of a coordinator to ensure a successful event which will be held once again at Falcon Lake. Please contact the executive if you are interested.

The Executive of WARC is now accepting nominations for the 1998-1999 season. If you are interested in serving on the Executive, let us know.

Please speak to anyone on the Executive as soon as possible, as elections will be held at the June WARC meeting.

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

**Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club**  
**Edited by Gil Frederick , VE4AG , &**  
**Paul, VE4OPC.**

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“Let’s get right down to business”. We have received a letter from CFARS (W/O Bob Schofield, VE3GLO, Manager/Coordinator), advising us that CFARS wishes to re-activate the system which has been dormant for many years (poor propagation being the main reason). It is hoped that it will be fully operational within one year. VE4WSC is one of the CFARS stations here in Winnipeg, being licensed as CIW510. Our secretary Ed, VE4YU, is looking after the reply.

A letter was received from Revenue Canada explaining conversion to the new Business (BN) System, and the new charitable registration number that we must use from January 1, 1998. Those wishing to get further information can search the website [www.pagvs.com]. Gil has downloaded and printed the 15-page Survey, prepared by the Panel on Accountability and Governance in the Voluntary Sector, which members can read at the clubrooms.

Len has reported that the April breakfast at the Norlander was well attended, a total of 30, with 2 guests and 5 first-time club members. He advises that the next breakfast will be held at Garden City Inn on May 14, and on June 11 at the Norlander.

These breakfasts start at 9:00 a.m.; members are invited to bring spouses and guests and visitors are welcome.

Adam, VE4SN, reports that the Club Rules Committee is nearing the end of its role in preparing the new “Rules”. A presentation will be made in May or June, so it is requested that any member desirous of having input into this important document should do so a.s.a.p., either in writing or by phone to Adam.

We are sorry to report two more Silent Keys: Stan, VE4SCM, on March 26th, and George Shutler, VE4GHS, on April 19. We have one new member: Tom Heinrichs, VE4RT, P.O. Box 41, Grp. 551, R R 5, Winnipeg, MB R2C 2Z2.



Congratulations to our senior member Bert Anderson, VE4AP, who celebrated his 90th birthday; also to Art Maxwell, VE4AM, who celebrated his 94th.

Again, for the third successive year, members Vern, VE4VQ and Gil, VE4AG, set up the Radio Club hands-on display at the Provincial Science Fair, held April 24-26 at the U of Winnipeg. In attendance on Friday, working on crystal radio projects, were students from Marion School. The Morse code practice setup (built by the class) was a big hit, with a large number of passersby stopping to tap their names out by looking at the Morse code sheet on display. Dates for the 1999 Provincial Science Fair - April 22,23,24,25.

Without a flood and Spring blizzard this year, the club’s activities seem to be very limited, so there is nothing else to report at this time. Enjoy our summer days!

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

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My April “Newscaster” report did not appear so this report is somewhat longer than usual - some kind of communications breakdown!

Our March meeting featured CAF Capt.. Jay Burt who is a SAR Navigator with 435 Transport and Rescue Squadron here in Winnipeg. Capt. Burt gave us an excellent multimedia presentation on CF SAR and on the particular role of his squadron.

Our April meeting featured Ed Henderson VE4YU who gave us a presentation on portable HF as well as reinforcing that amateur operations in foreign countries often have different regulations than in Canada.

Winnipeg ARES recently received a lovely Flood Response Appreciation Certificate from the City of Winnipeg signed by Her Worship Susan Thompson and Emergency Program Coordinator Mark Bennett for our role in 1997 WINNIPEG Flood Operations. We had the framed certificate on display at the Flea Market and may have it at the next few monthly meetings before hanging it up on the wall at VE4EOC.

Our booth at the recent WARC Flea Market was very successful thanks to the amateurs who contributed items to the four auction lots, the amateurs who bought silent auction tickets and to the WARES Fundraising Committee of Robert VE4RST, Dick VE4HK, and Mariska VE4MMG. Please see Robert’s report for the list of auction donors and prize lot winners.

I was privileged to give a twenty minute presentation on 1997 ARES Flood Operations (Emerson to Petersfield)

Saturday 7MARCH98 at the Fifth Annual Manitoba EMO Conference. MEMO is a very strong supporter of amateur radio in emergency communications.

Our first CANWARN Training Session on 19APRIL had forty-seven amateurs in attendance (20 from Winnipeg). We have scheduled another training session for those who were unable to attend in April:

SUNDAY 17MAY98 1300h  
Winnipeg Wx Office  
Via Rail Station  
400 - 123 Main Street

We are looking for RURAL based observers and WARES members to act as Net Controllers during CANWARN Nets. We do not require Winnipeg based observers at this time. Please let me know by Monday 11MAY if you are planning to attend.

We MIGHT be involved 8AUG98 with the National Triathlon at Birds Hill Park, if we are covering it we may need some help!

1998-99 WARES dues (\$10) are due JUNE98. Please submit a passport-type photo with your dues cheque (payable to "Winnipeg ARES") as we will be issuing new ARES ID cards. The few people delinquent in 1997-98 will be soon struck from our roster.

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday 19MAY98 at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street at 1930 hrs. Jim Ross VE4AJR will let us listen to a Net Control tape from 1998 Sled Dog Races to allow us ALL to get an idea of some of the QRM and QRN that our Net Controllers have to suffer. We will also be watching a Severe Storm Video from Environment Canada.

### **MINUTES for W.A.R.C. April 13, 1998** **Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL**

The meeting was held in the Sturgeon Creek Collegiate cafeteria with some 60 members in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hrs with member introductions.

Announcement from Pat VE4PLG, that Sun. April 12th, Bert Anderson celebrated his 90th birthday. Bert now lives in the Kildonan Personal Care Centre and although he is unable to transmit on his radio, he does monitor. Pat extended best wishes from the membership. Tom, VE4SE will get a card sent to him on behalf of the WARC members.

This evenings door prize will be a 50/50 draw and WARC will match the half and send it out to the CNIB who are canvassing for funds for the visually impaired Hams.

### **JACKETS.**

Norm VE4EH reported they are still in the process of being made up.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Dan VE4SYG, no report

### **PROGRAM**

Lee VE4ANC. This evening in Home Brew night. May 11th. program will be a surprise.

### **RAC.**

Rick VE4OV reported on the RAC bulletins which are available in the Internet.

### **CONGRATULATIONS.**

Pat VE4PLG has been appointed to Section Manager for Manitoba ARES, effective July 1st 1998. She will take over from Blake Dunn VE4AFF.

### **CORRESPONDENCE.**

Rick VE4OV read a letter from Allan Mcilwain in Colorado. Formerly VE4AKM, now VE4AKM portable W8.

### **FLEA MARKET**

Pat VE4PLG reported that all tables to date have been sold for the April Flea Market. Doors to open for the vendors at 9 am and buyers at 10 am. Jim VE4AJR will do the talk in. Pat also announced this to be their last Flea Market as coordinators.

### **ARES.**

Jeff VE4MBQ reported on the CanWarn training session to be held Sun. April 19.

Also shown was the flood response appreciation certificate WARES received from the City of Winnipeg. A reminder to the membership that WARES will have a silent auction booth at the Flea Market. They expect to have the latest Sherlock St. guides to sell as well. The draw will be made around noon. Next general meeting April 21, 1998 at 19:30 hrs at Sir William Stevenson Library.

### **Notices for the Good & Welfare**

☞ Tom VE4SE reported on the MRS repeater installation event at Morris Man and expressed appreciation to be given to the persons involved having given their time, efforts and energy for a big job well done.

- ☞ Derek VE4HAY reminded the membership of the MRS semi Annual meeting on Thurs. April 16th at 19:00hrs at the Elmwood Legion.
- ☞ Larry VE4CPU reminded those planning to attend the MRS meeting to make sure they remove their hats when entering. This being the Legion rules we must respect their wishes.
- ☞ Norm VE4EH announced Field Day will be held June 26th & 27th. We need volunteers to organize this event.
- ☞ Ralph VE4RY. Manitoba Marathon will be run on June 21st. Radio operators are needed to support this event. If you are available, please phone Kay VE4YF at 669-5077 between the hrs. of 9 am and 9 pm, or Ralph VE4RY at 663-8894.
- ☞ Larry VE4LRB is trying to organize a CW class. Please call Larry at 487-0509 for more details.

The 6 Home Brew participant winners of \$25.00 each were; Phil Core VE4KOR, Ralph VE4RY, Rolf VE4VZ, Jack VE4AJG, Charlie VE4QA, Larry VE4LRB.

An enjoyable evening of fellowship, coffee, cookies and the viewing and discussions of the Home Brew projects that were brought in. The 50/50 draw of \$37.00 was won by Ruth VE4XYL. The meeting was adjourned at 20:00 hrs.

## RAC Bulletins

Reply-To: [rachq@king.igs.net](mailto:rachq@king.igs.net)

### RAC Bulletin 98-25E

Radio Amateurs of Canada  
Annual General Meeting of Members  
Sunday, May 24, 1998

All members of RAC are encouraged to attend.  
Location: Emergency Preparedness College  
27 Baskin Drive  
Amprior, Ontario  
Time: 10:00 AM

### RAC Bulletin 98-31E

VHF/UHF Bandplans

ATTENTION PACKET OPERATORS/ FREQUENCY COORDINATORS and ALL USERS of the 144 - 148 MHz Band.

Please review the following proposals for changes to accommodate Space Communications on our 2 metre band and forward comments to VE3DSS by May 15, 1998. (This is a repeat of a bulletin posted by VE3DSS in January). ... As Amateur Radio evolves, so must our bandplans. I've made this statement many times over the last 12 years, and will

continue to do so. Bandplans are a vehicle to guide us in our operations so that all user groups in the amateur community can operate with minimal mutual interference. At the AMSAT conference held in Toronto in October, issues were raised to those in attendance regarding the need for spectrum for manned space missions. These space missions are currently occurring from MIR and the Shuttle. In the future they will include regular operations from the new space station, from the moon and eventually as part of a manned mission to Mars. While spectrally efficient communications technologies are available for space communications including SSB and digital modulation schemes, current communications continues to utilize FM for it's overall simplicity. One result of this is the problem of trying to shoehorn communications needs into our 2 metre and 70 cm bands without causing disruption to current ground based operations. This problem has been on-going for a decade and needs some long term resolution within the global amateur community. In the mean time, AMSAT have proposed the utilization of certain frequencies for voice and packet uplinks/downlinks on these bands that must be considered by all users in Canada and worldwide in order for these space operations to fulfill their potential.

The following was proposed at the IARU International Satellite Forum held on October 19 , 1997 in Toronto. The information has now (January 1998) just been confirmed in writing from Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, who is the IARU AMSAT Frequency Coordinator. These proposals, after discussion domestically, will be voted on in Region 2 at the Triennial Region 2 IARU Conference in Venezuela in August, at the Region 1 VHF Conference in February and in Region 3 later this year.

- ☎ Actual - 144.49,144.47,144.45 - Digital Systems (low power, and used where 145 MHz/147 MHz frequencies are saturated and unavailable )
- ☎ Proposed - 144.49 MHz utilized as the worldwide uplink Frequency - 144.47 and 144.45 as standby alternate uplinks.
- ☎ Comment - may support voice and digital modes, and crossband operations with 70 cm.
- ☎ Actual - 145.79 MHz . Digital network frequency. 145.8125, 145.99 Amateur Satellite Service.
- ☎ Proposed - 145.8 MHz worldwide downlink frequency with 145.8125 MHz and 145.99 MHz as standby alternate frequencies.
- ☎ Comment - may support voice and digital modes, and in-band or crossband operations.
- ☎ Actual - 435 - 438 MHz - Amateur Satellite Service
- ☎ Proposed - 435.7 - 435.8 MHz - Manned Space Operations. 437.5 - 438 MHz - Manned Space Operations
- ☎ Comment - Future manned space operations from the International Space Platform and MIR

Further, tests are proposed between now and May 31, 1998 to test split band operation using 437.5 uplink and 145.8 MHz Downlink, and 144.49 MHz uplink and 145.8 MHz downlink. In addition, those using 145.79 MHz may be able to get some limited financial assistance to cover the cost of re-crystallizing equipment from AMSAT. This was to facilitate the clearing of U.S. APRS operations, but should extend to other operations beyond APRS. Each case would be handled individually, and would likely be limited in terms of \$\$\$. Contact AMSAT for details. Note that AMSAT and TAPR are working closely in the U.S. to clear 145.79 MHz and move down to the current "Canadian" APRS frequency of 144.39 MHz!

As a side note, there may be some future proposals for additional satellite frequencies that may include frequencies at 50 MHz and 29.7 - 30 MHz. This message was sent out originally in January - this one is a further request for comment being sent through the RAC Bulletin system, please e-mail or send comments to: Dana Shtun, VE3DSS Chair RAC VHF UHF Spectrum Management Committee 14 Ashwood Crescent Etobicoke, Ontario M9A 1Z3 or - e mail to ve3dss@aracnet.net

### **RAC Bulletin 98-26E**

New DXCC country and deleted country

A new DXCC country The Temotu Islands - H40 (four zero) situated approximately 350 km from the Solomon Island group has received preliminary approval from the DXCC desk. A full scale DXpedition will on the island during this weekend's CQ WPX SSB Contest and will continue for approximately two more weeks. The H40AA callsign will be activated only at 2359 UTC on March 31st. The contest operation itself will count only for Solomon Islands under the current rules and team members will use their individual H44 callsigns. QSLs for the H44 operations will be to the home call of the individual operators. H40AA QSLs will be handled by OH2BN. Do not send any cards for these operations to the H44 bureau.

DXCC country deleted.

The ARRL DXAC and Awards Committee have voted to delete Southern Sudan (ST0). QSO's made before January 1, 1995 will count for the deleted country.

### **RAC bulletin 98-32E**

2 meter TE

First Two Metre Trans-Equatorial Propagation DX Reported in Cycle 23 JR4ENY/1 reports that on April 16 at 1059 UTC JH4JPO in Yamaguchi, Japan using a TS790 and 16 el beam heard the VK8VF CW beacon on 144.480 MHz from Darwin, Australia - a distance of approximately 8000 km. Peak signal strength was RST559 at 1104 UTC. The reception

faded out at 1125 UTC. This was the first opening between JA and VK in Cycle 23. Canadian two metre operators are urged to watch for similar Trans-Equatorial Propagation openings with South America.

### **RAC Bulletin 98-36E**

Amateur's licence suspended - willful Interference

RAC has been informed that Industry Canada has suspended the licence of a Central Ontario amateur for six months. The suspension followed an investigation by the Department into complaints by amateurs about malicious interference on 2 Metre repeaters spanning a period of more than two years.

The repeater users played a major role in the investigation by collecting evidence and assisting in identifying the offender. Industry Canada has advised that the amateur cannot be named because the information concerning the suspension relates to a matter between a private individual and the Government of Canada. Since it is considered personal information, it is protected under the Privacy Act. The amateur could have been identified only if Court documents had been filed and the case thus had become part of the public record. RAC appreciates the action taken by Industry Canada to resolve this interference problem.

### **RAC Bulletin 98-29E**

Manitoba SM Election

Patricia L Giesbrecht, VE4PLG was recently elected Section Manager for a two year term that will begin on July 1, 1998 in the Manitoba Section .Pat ran unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election

### **Spring FleaMarket Report by Pat VE4PLG**

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Well, the Spring FleaMarket has come and gone, and it was another success. WARC realized a profit of \$534.05. Thanks go out to all the volunteers without whose help the FleaMarket would not succeed.

A very special THANK YOU to Ruth Mills VE4XYL and her ladies for running the kitchen so very well. Thanks girls.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to everyone who has helped make the FleaMarkets of the past few years very successful. This is the last FleaMarket I will be doing as I have accepted another position and it will require all my attention. To the person taking over the FleaMarket I offer my assistance in any way necessary to get started.

Dan would like to thank everyone as well and also offers assistance to the person taking over the FleaMarket.

**Door prizes & Winners:**



Hat, pin & crest donated by MARM won by VE4JGF Jim Forrester from Emerson, 1 Year RAC Membership donated by Rick Lord won by VE4DY Yves Remillard, Antenna Mount donated by 40 Channels won by VE4AFF Blake Dunn, i/4 wave antenna donated by Prairie Communications won by VE4WTS Wayne, Schellikins G5RV donated by WARC won by VE4QA Charlie Greene.

### **Manitoba Marathon** by Ralph, VE4RY

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#### Fathers' Day - Sunday, June 21st

Well folks, here it is once again time for that friendly nudge and reminder that your chance to participate as a communicator for the prestigious Manitoba Marathon is fast approaching.

At no cost to you, other than some spare time on a Sunday morning you can join the fun. All you need is your two-meter handie-talkie and maybe a spare battery and the rest is easy.

Ask anyone who has participated and you will find that it is a very rewarding (shall I mention free T-shirt?) experience and satisfaction is guaranteed.

We try to match our volunteers to the requirements at the various locations on the route and even if you are newly licensed, you are very welcome to take this opportunity to gain on-air experience in the company of some very friendly hams, young and old and in-between.

So, feel free to call either Kay, VE4YF @ 669-5077 or Ralph, VE4RY @ 663-8894 for further information (call between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. only please).

We require about 60 volunteers and yes, the pre-marathon meeting room is already booked ...and yes, it is air-conditioned.

### **C.L.A.R.A. News** By Pat, VE4PLG

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The CLARA nets will close for the summer on May 26th and open up again September 1st. CLARA has a web page

#### **Club Jackets & Hats**

For those members that have ordered Club jackets they will be available at the May meeting for pick up.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR CHECK BOOKS.**

Club Caps will also be available at the May Meeting.

for those on the Internet. Their e-mail address is <http://www.durham.net/~mjefrry/clara/> so check it out.

In August of 98 the C.N.E. in Toronto has Ladies Day. Cecilia VE3CJR plans to be there and it is hoped that by announcing the event that more CLARA members would participate. Should you be in the Toronto area in August drop by and say HI! to the YL's.

### **From Scientific American** submitted by Vern VE4VQ

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#### *Sent by Gil, VE4AG*

There are two items in last September's issue that should justify a visit to your community's Library. The first one reports on recent developments in the quest for a blue laser while the second one brings Dick Tracy to life with a discussion of a radio-on-a-chip being developed at the University of Michigan.

Several reasons lie behind the search for a blue-light-emitting diode. "Most alluringly, they could be substituted for the infrared lasers used in compact-disc players, permitting a fourfold increase in the amount of data that could be stored on a CD. The short-wavelength blue lasers could also be used in higher-resolution displays and laser printers and in underwater communications systems. All told, billions of dollars are at stake, analysts say."

The leader in the field is a "charismatic researcher in Japan" - Shuji Nakamura - of Nichia Chemical Industries in Tokushima, Japan. Nakamura expects to have blue lasers operating for 10,000 hours - the lifetime believed to be necessary for commercial success - before the end of 1998.

The work at the U of Michigan introduced me to a new acronym - MEMS. It stands for microelectro-mechanical system. A photograph shows the micromechanical filter that "consists of beams coupled by a spring. The 40-micron beams can vibrate millions of times a second when voltages are applied to the electrodes."

Last summer, the U of Michigan received a grant of \$1,600,000 for three years. "These varied projects mean that shortly after the year 2000, the notion of a two-way radio on a chip may indeed become a common-place reality."

### **Hints & Kinks** by Ralph, VE4RY

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Here's one I actually discovered myself the other day when working on yet another microphone for the HF rig:

When the hole in a plastic case is worn and the screw just won't grab hold any more, try making a shim out of plastic wire insulation to take up the slack. A small sliver

placed in the hole beside the screw as it is turned in should enable you to torque it down as tight as new.

*(Ed. Note: - You could also use a flat wooden toothpick in much the same manner on stripped wood screws)*

## Hints & Kinks by Ralph, VE4RY

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If you use one of those window clip antenna mounts, the kind that slips over the edge of a car window, you may be disappointed with the high SWR because of the lack of a counterpoise or ground connection at the feed point. Mine was over 2:1 and while the antenna worked fairly well, I figured it could be improved.

Ferrite RF chokes are known to be effective for curing RFI problems by absorbing RF current on power and coax cables; I wondered if by placing one a quarter wavelength down the coax from the feed point, I could 'fool' the antenna into thinking there was a counterpoise, thus making it act like a coaxial dipole antenna of sorts.

Well, the trick worked! I was able to dip the SWR by sliding the ferrite up and down the coax. The best spot was at about 20 inches as expected, at which point the SWR dropped to about 1.5:1, which was not bad at all. The antenna now performs better than I expected, thanks to one of those magical ferrites.

## ARES Silent Auction By Dick, VE4HK

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Winnipeg ARES would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets for our silent auction on Sunday, April 19. ARES also thanks everyone who donated prizes. The huge crowds around our table were quite a sight to see. The silent auction was a complete success. Expect us back again next spring, with another fine batch of prizes.

Congratulations to the four winners:

Paul Champagne VE4OPC  
Victor Braun VE4VEB,  
C. Macebeo VE4PCM  
Trevor Poole

Trevor just received his licence last Thursday. He won a copper J-pole, an Antenna Book Compendium, a RAC membership, and an ARRL Handbook. The perfect prize for a brand new ham.

Once again, thank you to everyone who purchased tickets, and who donated prizes for our silent auction.

ARES Fund Raising Committee  
Dick Maguire VE4HK  
Mariska Maguire VE4MMG  
Robert Stegmaier VE4RST

## Antique Radio Sale By Dick, VE4HK

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Do you enjoy seeing beautiful antique radios? Do you enjoy listening to the sounds of the 1930's and 1940's on CKVN? Would you like to own an old fashioned radio so you can listen to CKVN on a radio that uses those bottles that glow in the dark?

Well, have I got news for you! The Antique Radio Club will be holding its annual spring flea market and display on the CBC parking lot, behind the CBC building, on the corner of Spence and Portage Avenue, Sunday May 24, beginning at 10:00 am.

Everyone will have the opportunity to see Atwater Kents, Crossleys, and other beauties from the early years of radio. The vendors will be happy to tell everyone about the history of these vintage radios, phonographs, and other goodies on hand. Bring a pocket full of money, and enjoy seeing and buying the radios that will be available.

That is Sunday, May 24 at the CBC parking lot, beginning at 10:00 am

## Upcoming Radio Events

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*May*

### AMATEUR RADIO for BEGINNERS

Instructor: Larry R. Burkhardt  
Electronics Engineer

The current course is already running but, I am now taking names for the next course.

If you who know of anybody (XYL, YL, OM or just a friend) who is interested in taking this course, Please pass on this information and have interested parties contact me personally at 487-0509 after 6 p.m.

9 902-MHz Spring Sprint

- 9 1296-MHz Spring Sprint
- 9 2304-MHz Spring Sprint
- 16 1750-MHz Spring Sprint

**June**

- 13-15 ARRL June VHF QSO Party
- 27-28 Field Day

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

**Part 9**

The FREE PRESS, with its feeble 10 watt set, was having trouble competing for audience attention with the 500 watt TRIBUNE station. Seventy-five foot antenna towers had been erected on the FREE PRESS building by May 4, 1922 and the paper continued to assure its readers and listeners that its 'major broadcasting station' would be on the air shortly. Apparently the manufacturer was having problems getting the bugs out of the transmitter, a radically new design.

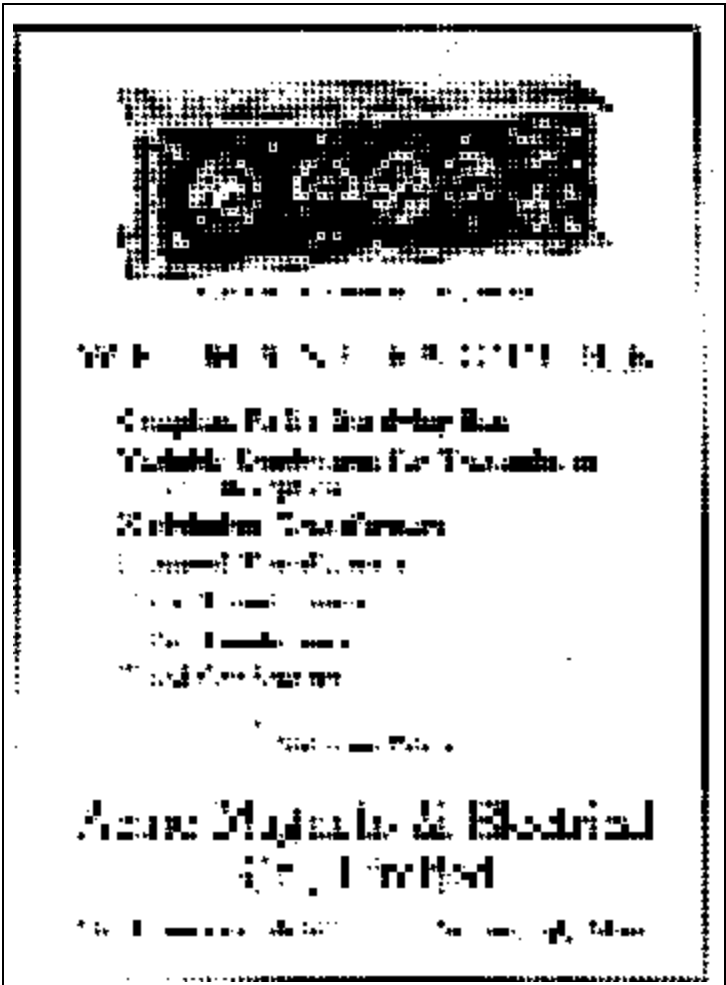
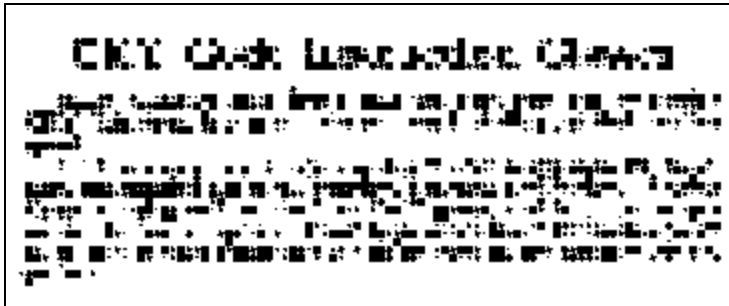
On May 31, the FREE PRESS reported that its broadcasts would sound much louder in the future as alterations and adjustments by operator Foster, 4CR, (Salton's former partner) had provided six times more power in the antenna. As a result, the program was received with a 'storm of enthusiastic applause.' It seems probable that the FREE PRESS acquired the use, on a temporary basis, of the 100 watt set that had been the CKZC transmitter.

By July, CJCG and CJNC had developed a daily program pattern. There were noon-hour news, grain and stock market reports and sports bulletins; each weekday evening a two-hour program consisting of an instrumental and vocal concert with fill-in phonograph records. On Sunday evenings, both stations broadcast a one and a half to two-hour program of sacred music. CJNC (TRIBUNE) began an unusual feature on July 4 - a 15 minute code practice session by the station operator, D. E. Bankart, prior to its evening program.

Instrumentalists and vocalists performed 'gratis' and every music teacher in the city was continually pestering the radio stations to put their prize students on the air. Vocalists ranged from coloratura sopranos to basso profundos plus an assortment of elocutionists and dramatic readers. The piano was the most popular solo instrument

but there was no shortage of violinists, banjo combos, mandolin quintets, coronetists, mouth organ virtuosos, Hawaiian steel guitar artists and xylophonists.

An article in the July 8, 1922 issue of the FREE PRESS was a preview of a controversy that has continued to rage until the present day. The FREE PRESS was extremely critical of a letter written by W. E. Weaver of Hespeler, Ontario, to the American magazine RADIO NEWS. "Speaking from the depths of arrogant ignorance", to quote the FREE PRESS, "Weaver has made the unqualified statement that the boys of Canada, the coming generation of this country, are being exposed to an unavoidable American influence which may result in a loss of pride in their nationality, that American pronunciations threaten to creep into Canadian speech and that American ideas threaten to stifle Canadian individuality. Canadians must realize the necessity for better radio stations of their own if their national life is to be saved from extinction."



The FREE PRESS was particularly incensed at Weaver's allegation that Canadian broadcasts were of poor quality. The FREE PRESS said it had received many letters testifying to the excellence of its programming, not only from Canadian listeners, but from many points in the northern U.S. as well. "Abysmal ignorance of his own country is to be regretted in the writer to RADIO NEWS as characteristic of the poorest citizenship."

**NOTE:**

*Inserted advertisements are extracted from the August/September, 1923 issue of "The Radio Bug" The All-Canadian 'Amateur' Publication*

**NEXT MONTH..**

Air Board patrols set up in 1921 - airborne radiophone tested

*The above information is taken from a publication available at the Manitoba Archives, produced by George F. W. Reynolds, VE4AJ, who became a silent key in 1996.*

- Condensed and submitted by  
Ed Henderson, VE4YU - 1998

**"TOWER WORK"**

**Submitted by Dan, VE4SYG**

A ham writing a letter to his insurance company explaining a recent misfortune.....

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information in block no. 3 of your accident reporting form. I submitted "poor planning caused the accident." You say in your letter to "explain more fully" .I trust the following information will prove to be sufficient.

I am an amateur radio operator, and on the day of the of the accident I was at work on the top section of my 100 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that, over the course of many trips up and down the tower, I had brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware.

Rather than carry the now-unneeded tools down by hand, I decided to lower them using a small barrel and my "gin pole" still attached to the top of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up the tower and filled the barrel. I then went back to ground level and untied the rope,

holding it tightly, to insure a slow descent of the 300 pound load.

You will notice in block no. 11 that I had given my weight as 150 pounds. Due to my surprise at being suddenly jerked off the ground at such a rapid rate, I momentarily lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 50 foot level, I met the swiftly descending barrel. This explains my fractured collar bone. After momentarily slowing, I resumed my rapid ascent, not stopping until my hands were three knuckles deep in the pulley.

Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my composure and managed to hold onto the rope despite the excruciating pain. At about this time, however, the loaded barrel hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Now, without the 300 pounds of tools, the barrel only weighed about 15 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block no. 11. As you might imagine, I began a swift plunge down the side of the tower.

Again, at about the 50 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for my two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs, thighs, and lower body.

The barrel encounter slowed me enough to lessen my impact with the pile of tools and hardware and I was extremely fortunate to escape with only a fractured coccyx and three crushed vertebrae.

I regret to report, however, that as I lay there on the pile of tools in excruciating pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel, 100 feet above me, that I again "let go of the rope !!!"

Author unknown

***Parkside Appliance & Electronics***



**Sales & Service of  
Computers &  
Software  
Home repairs offered**

**John. VE4JNF**

*(ed's note: I heard this being told in a comedy routine a few months ago on CKVN by some old time comedian.*

*Instead of tools the barrel was full of bricks from his new chimney . The way the comedian told the story had me rolling in tears while driving. It was the funniest routine I have ever heard. Thank goodness for CKVN and the old memories. IF anyone knows the routine I am talking about I would like to get a recording of it on tape.)*

## **Field Day/98**

### **By Derek Hay**

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It looks like no one has stepped forward to chair Field Day this year, so I guess I will have to do it. But I will need lots of help. Revenue earning work is requiring more of my time lately, so I do not have the very limited amount of time I could previously spend on Field Day available to me any more.

First thing to be done is to find a site to hold the event. Luckily this has already been done. Once again we will hold the event at the Falcon Lake Resort Hotel. I have placed the following rooms on hold;

- 18 - Studio rooms w/ kitchenette are \$55.00 per night
- 4 - Hot Tub rooms (couple only) are \$55.00 per night.

These are the same rates that we had last year and are substantially discounted for our event. I can not hold the rooms for very long so please book early by calling Derek, VE4HAY at 257-1420 in the evenings only please. A credit card will be needed, to be used to hold the rooms only. Preference will be given to those who book for both the Friday & Saturday nights.

Now for the event itself. In stead of operating out of a tent as we have in the past few years, this year we have the privilege of operating out of a brand new mini-conference centre. This centre is located at the back of the resort, right next to where we would have set up the tent in the first place. The centre offers individual rooms for each station to be setup as well as a common room for chit-chat and bragging about all those contact you just made. For the really keen operators there are also limited number of sleeping accommodations available in the conference centre.

As has happened in the past crews are needed on the Friday evening to setup towers and antenna etc. This will continue on the Saturday morning as well. We must be fully ready by the starting time of noon. Just before the kick off we will have a Bar-B-Q of burgers & wieners so that everyone who will be operating will not have any excuse to take a break (hi hi). If you have a preferred time that you would like to operate this can also be arranged via a

operating schedule which will be established. Otherwise everyone is welcome to operate at their leisure. One station will be setup for the novice amateur who has heard about HF but has not had the chance to see what it is all about. This station will also be used to introduce the YL, XYL, Harmonics or friends to the joys of Amateur Radio. It is hoped that we will have 3 HF stations setup this year as well as VHF & UHF. If anyone wants to bring their EME or Satellite gear you are most welcome to join into the fun.

Volunteers will be needed to help out with all the arrangements like procuring HF rigs, Cable, Antennas, Towers, food, beverages, etc.. We will also need help loading all this into a 1-ton truck on the Friday afternoon and unloading it on the Sunday afternoon. As well as the setup and tear down of the stations. Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact Derek, VE4HAY at 257-1420.

This weekend is planned to be a family event. The resort offers a number of activities besides radio operating, if you can't convince the rest of the family to pick up a few contacts while your lounging by the pool. There is a Swimming pool, Jacuzzi whirl pool, a dry sauna, video lottery terminals, video arcade, dinning room, and a newly licensed lounge (which will allow kids with an adult). And don't forget the beach, and hiking trails or horseback riding. So the entire weekend can and will be a family event. So bring the YL, XYL and all the harmonics and come out to the WARC-98 Field Day. A great place to meet and socialize with your fellow hams.

## **Editors Ramblings**

### **BY Derek, VE4HAY**

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Lets start off with a joke this month. Thanks Ralph for this one.

Monica Lewinski may be a ham radio operator...it is rumored that she has a "good fist"!

Had some fun with the newsletter this month. Don't know why but it was just fun putting it together. Maybe it had something to do with my excitement about Field Day coming up. Or maybe it is the knowing that I will be helping out in the Manitoba Marathon this year. Or maybe all the other Amateur Radio events that will be happening all summer long. What ever it get the blood flowing and makes the hobby a little more exciting.

Get ready to mark your calendars. The Austin HamFest is being planned for the end of August this year. This will make the event a little warmer than the cool nights in September. It is also rumored that the activities will be crammed into one full day of great events and activities. As soon as I get more detail I will post them here in the

newsletter. So pass the word onto Dave Snyder VE4XN at 728-2463 that I need more info for you.

Not sure if a fellow ham has an e-mail address or if you forgot their address. Then try sending mail to their [callsign@rac.ca](mailto:callsign@rac.ca) It just might make it to your friend thanks to the RAC e-mail alias system. To register on the alias system send a message to "[alias@rac.ca](mailto:alias@rac.ca)" with "callsign=realaddress" in the body of the message. (i.e. VA4KP = [ham@qsy.ca](mailto:ham@qsy.ca)). Then any mail sent to [VA4KP@rac.ca](mailto:VA4KP@rac.ca) will be forwarded to [ham@qsy.ca](mailto:ham@qsy.ca)

I can be reached by e-mail at: [ve4hay@rac.ca](mailto:ve4hay@rac.ca). or on packet at [ve4hay@ve4ua.#wpg.mb.ca.noam](mailto:ve4hay@ve4ua.#wpg.mb.ca.noam)