



Newscaster

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

September 1998

**FIRST MEETING OF THE '98/99 SEASON, COME ONE
COME ALL AND ENJOY A**

SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER

**MEET OLD AND NEW FRIENDS AND BRING
EVERYBODY UP TO DATE WITH HOLIDAY GETAWAYS
AND SUMMER FUN!**

Date: **September 14th, 1998**

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Other Important Dates:

Articles: All summer long to submit articles

WARC: October 13 - Meeting

WSC: September - Amateur classes starting

ARES: Sept. 15 - Meeting

Other: Sept. 19 - World Amateur Radio Day
April 24, 1999 - WARC HamFest & Flea market

Words from the President of WARC: by Norm, VE4EH

It is now the middle of August and I do hope everyone had a very pleasant summer. As some of you know, I have been working with the Air Cadet organization all summer in Gimli, MB., which prevented me from attending the last general meeting or any of the summer activities associated with Ham Radio. The weight of responsibility then fell to Larry VE4LRB as Vice-president to ensure the club functioned normally, for this I thank-you Larry.

There are of course, a number of accolades to be handed out the summer activities. A heartfelt thank-you to the following people:

Kay VE4YF and Ralph VE4RY for another successful year in support of the Manitoba Marathon;

Ruth VE4XYL and Tom VE4SE for organizing and overseeing WARC's input to a very successful International Ham Fest; and

Thank-you to all, particularly, the many volunteers and unsung heroes that make all the events such a success.

I hope to see you all at the September meeting, hope you enjoy the remainder of the summer.

P.S. Rumor has it that the membership prize for this year is a complete amateur radio station. so renew your membership in September, particularly, new or younger hams with limited resources. See you soon.

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

The WSC newsletter Sparks will be mailed out in the first week of September. If you are a member of WSC and have not received your newsletter by Mid-September please get in touch with the club to verify your address and membership status.

WARC: Executive for 1998-99			
Past President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
President	Larry Burkhardt	VE4LRB	487-0509
Treasurer	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
Secretary	Ruth Mills	VE4XYL	837-6915
Vice-President	Dan Michaelis	VE4SYG	339-3018
Goodwill	Vern Dutton	VE4VQ	256-5346
Membership	Garth Fewster	VE4GDF	633-1012

ARES Committee Report

by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

Our June meeting featured Dick Maguire VE4HK who gave us a presentation on Amateur Message Handling. Our August meeting featured Bill Bowman VE4UB who gave a presentation on Selkirk ARES and some Manitoba Amateur history.

We provided limited dispatch assistance 08AUG98 for the Birds Hill Triathlon. Thanks to Comtelco and Prairie Communications for loan of some equipment. Volunteer operators were: VE4s AND, HK, MBQ, MMG, WF.

On Thursday 10SEP98 we will hold the amateur briefing for Corporate Rowing Challenge and Parkinson Superwalk at the MAHCP Office 216-819 Sargent Ave 7PM.

Our September meeting is Tuesday 15SEP98 at 7PM (note time change) at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Dave Place VE4PN will be giving us a presentation on International Amateur Disaster Assistance. We will also hold the briefing for the Terry Fox Run. WARES has the library booked now for the third Tuesday of the month thru December 1999.

The term of 1997-98 WARES Executive will end soon. The current members are standing for another term. If anyone else is interested in being nominated for the 1998-99 WARES Executive you must contact me by Monday 14SEP.

The CANWARN station at the Weather Office is now VE4WWO. Since the Summer Severe Wx season is drawing to a close Environment Canada has asked us to scale back the CANWARN operation after Sunday 06SEP. After 06SEP we are dispensing with a Controller on-call 1200-2100h - in the event of severe wx necessitating a CANWARN Net the Severe Wx Forecaster will notify the WARES Duty EC who will have to find a CANWARN Controller. A winter CANWARN program is currently under consideration. Thanks to all the spotters in the field and special thanks to the sixteen WARES members who were on-call as Controllers thru the summer:

VE4s AES, AJR, DAR, HAY, HGD, HK, KAZ, KU, MBQ, MMG, PLG, RJH, RST, SYG, WF, YG.



Contrary to what was reported at the August meeting, The Cancer Run for the Cure (Sun 04OCT) does not require our assistance. They have been able to borrow commercial HTs from an auto-parts business that is closed on Sundays.

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. June 8, 1998

Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL

The last WARC meeting for the 1997-1998 year was held at the Bruce Middle School Auditorium. There were 56 members in attendance. Introductions were made in the usual manner.

In the secretaries absence at the May meeting no minutes were taken.

Correspondence:

None

Membership:

A reminder to all that membership renewal forms will be printed in the Sept. Newscaster.

Treasurers Report:

Rick VE4OV reported to date that there is a balance of \$2557.82. The reason for the low balance is that the club has prepaid the club jackets and hats which will be reimbursed. Rick retires as treasurer and this will be his last meeting in that position. Thanks Rick for a job well done.

Program:

Cal Rallick, a representative from Industry Canada will be our guest speaker this evening with a proposal on future licensing changes. Lee is also retiring from program director to his favorite hobby, Radio Station CKVN. He reminded us it will be back on the air starting June 12. Many thanks to Lee for the interesting programs he has brought us in the past.

ARES:

Dick VE4HK reminded us of the next ARES meeting to be held on Tues. June 16. The program presentation on message handling will be put on by Dick VE4HK.

RAC:

Rick VE4OV spoke on the RAC bulletins 41-50. He also reminded the members of the upcoming Canada Day Contest. Rick's term as a RAC representative is over. He wishes to run for re-election in Sept. and has forms available for signatures of those who feel they'd like to see Rick nominated for re election.

A suggestion was made that all the bands be opened on HF to basic +5 on CW. This would encourage more CW and enable many to pick their speed to 12wpm.

DX Sleuths:

No report.

Marathon:

Kay VE4YF reminds all those participating in the Marathon to attend the meeting on Tuesday June 9 at 19:00 hrs at 200 Main Street.

Information:

Vern VE4VQ advised that the Marion school where he volunteers is the only elementary school in Wpg. with a 2mtr working antenna on the roof.

WAW award:

Dick VE4HK made the presentation of the Worked All Winnipeg award to a deserving participant, George Gillespie VE4GNG, who contacted 35 stations on the TLC net.

IHF:

A progress report on the International Ham Fest was given by Ruth VE4XYL.

Field Day:

Derek VE4HAY with information on field day. Encouraged everyone to try and attend. There were rooms available to Hams at the resort hotel. Asked for help to load & unload the truck. Asked for equipment that could be borrowed. He also made a suggestion that WARC consider buying a CT log. A reminder to all that articles are needed for our Sept. issue of the Newscaster.

Rick VE4OV brought in a bunch of Ham pictures from past Hams. They were given to the secretary VE4XYL with the hopes they will be set up and taken to the WSC.

YORI VE4ACX gave an update on the repeater problems and what was being done to try and fix them.

Elections:

Elections for the calendar year of Sept.1998 to June 1999 were held. There were two vacancies to fill. Garth Fewster VE4GDF and Vern Dutton VE4VQ were elected, however it was not decided on what positions either would serve.

Awards:

Keyman Awards were presented to three recipients. Derek Hay VE4HAY for his work on the Newscaster.

Dan Michaels VE4SYG and Pat Giesbrect VE4PLG for their work on the Flea Market.

Door Prize:

As no prize was bought a 50/50 draw was held instead and the winner of \$27.00 was Bert Andrews VE4AND.

Next meeting:

Will be held on Monday September 14, 1998 at 19:30hrs in the Sturgeon Creek School auditorium.

Wishing everyone a wonderful and safe summer.

Meeting adjourned at 20:30 hrs

Membership Report

by Garth VE4GDF

****IMPORTANT****IMPORTANT****IMPORTANT***

RENEW YOUR W.A.R.C. MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 9th MEETING and you will be Guaranteed a chance to win the following package to be drawn that evening.

Thanks to the generosity of KENWOOD of Canada who donated the TM 261 A transceiver, the draw prize will consist of the following:

Kenwood TM 261 A 50 Watt VHF transceiver DTMF mic
ICT Base station power supply for the Kenwood transceiver
Maxrad MBX 150 6bd gain base station antenna
50 feet of RG-213U coax cable with PL-259 connectors.

Package price is worth approximately \$1000.

Only those members who renew their membership and pay their dues by the above date will be eligible for this draw.

GOOD LUCK TO THE WINNER FROM YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE!!!

RAC Bulletins

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.

Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

RAC Bulletin 98-46E

Band plans approved

At its recent meeting in Arnprior Ontario, The RAC Board of Directors approved all remaining interim bandplans. This means that there are now approved plans for all the bands available to the Amateur Service in Canada. The RAC plans were arrived at by consensus and are voluntary in nature. The plans were drafted by volunteers participating on the band planning committees, and then the interim plans were published in TCA and on the RAC web site for an extended period of time. Approval of the plans in the microwave region will strengthen RAC's position at domestic and international meetings where we are called upon to defend our spectrum allocations against encroachment by other potential users

RAC Bulletin 98-47E

ARISS

RAC President Farrell Hopwood is pleased to announce that Robin Haighton VE3FRH, Canadian Vice President for AMSAT North America, has agreed to join the ARISS team. ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) was founded in the fall of 1996, and is composed of representatives from all of the countries participating in the Space Station program.

Canada has two members on the team, one from RAC (currently Ken Pulfer VE3PU), and one from AMSAT. As the AMSAT representative, Robin will be attending a meeting at Surrey, England in July, and will participate in discussions about the planning, design and implementation of the Amateur Radio station which will fly on the International Space Station beginning in about 2002.

RAC Bulletin 98-52E

RAC REQUESTS 10 METRE BAND FOR BASIC + 5 WPM

RAC has asked Industry Canada to permit holders of the BASIC and 5 WPM Morse certificates to operate in the 10 Metre band. RAC stated that it believes this proposal would be an important step for the growth and stability of the Amateur Radio Service, by offering amateurs who now meet basic international requirements the opportunity to operate on a worldwide long distance (DX) high frequency band during the upcoming favorable sunspot cycle years.

RAC reminded Industry Canada of the acceptance and success of the pre-1990 regulation that permitted holders of the former Amateur certificate to operate 10 Metre Phone. This encouraged and prompted thousands of Canada's amateurs to obtain the Advanced Amateur certificate.

The request by RAC was a result of queries and requests from amateurs at club meetings and at hamfests across the country in support of such an upgrade in privilege. RAC hopes for a quick response from Industry Canada so that joy and pleasure of working HF on 10 Metres could begin during the current rise in the current sunspot years for these newcomers to Amateur Radio.

RAC Bulletin 98-53E

IC PLAN – SUGGESTED LETTER TO YOUR MP

RAC is frequently asked to provide an outline of a letter which concerned members and others may use in enlisting the help of Members of Parliament to bring a halt to Industry Canada's project to eliminate the license fee and ongoing essential operator records.

While it is always more effective to write using your own words, RAC offers suggested text below to assist you in your preparation and presentation.

RAC encourages everyone to write to his/her MP with a copy to Minister Manley.

For those with e-mail capabilities a bulk e-mail to all MPs can be provided through the following address. One e-mail message goes to all MP's !Send to <parl-can-all@earth-net.net> This site will then forward your message to every MP.

SUGGESTED LETTER TO YOUR MP

Dear XXXXXX
Member of Parliament

Recently, officials of Industry Canada announced plans to change the procedure for certification and licensing of Radio Amateurs. Industry Canada has termed this as:

“A PROJECT TO IMPROVE AUTHORIZATION OF THE AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE.”

The program as presented will be anything but an improvement to the Amateur Radio service. It has the potential to devastate Amateur Radio because it has no provision to track essential information on licensees. Industry Canada officials are unable to give clear answers to our questions or provide adequate assurances that Amateur Radio will be protected from potential serious abuse under this loosening of regulatory control.

Radio Amateurs are willing to accept changes that will bring increased efficiency and streamlining to administration of the licensing and regulatory process. Instead of conducting a meaningful dialogue and consultation with our national organization through the joint Industry Canada-Radio Amateurs of Canada Advisory Board, IC

Officials are attempting an end run around the process. They are sending their officials on a selling mission to Amateur Radio clubs and groups. The package they are promoting includes elimination of approximately one million dollars in license fees as an enticement. Can the government afford to throw away this revenue? The main result of this departmental campaign is confusion and anxiety within the Amateur community.

The Amateur Radio service is a vital resource in this country. It has proven its worth in countless emergencies. The ice storms in Quebec and Ontario and the Manitoba and Saguenay floods are recent examples. Amateur Radio operators are certified and licensed to operate over wide segments of a spectrum that surpasses national borders. Amateur operators require a high level of technical and regulatory knowledge to be qualified to operate on domestic and international radio bands. The government proposal would seriously diminish Industry Canada's ability to control and regulate in a responsible manner. It's like issuing driver or pilot licenses for life with no requirement to re-validate on regular basis and no way to track the actions and location of people claiming such qualifications.

If government continues to diminish its ability carry out its regulatory obligation to manage and control in a responsible manner, the Amateur service will seriously deteriorate. Its ability to provide needed community and emergency service could be jeopardized and maybe even destroyed. It would inevitably lead to the loss of the ability to control who operates, and how and where! With no means of identifying certified operators, the essentials in the maintenance of order on these international radio frequencies is lost. It would be an embarrassment nationally and among the international family of nations. What's more, the integrity of the Amateur Radio Service, which has served Canada well for over 85 years would be lost.

Please intercede with Industry Minister Manley to stop this regressive move and request that his officials regulate in a fair and prudent manner. To a responsible licensee anything that will weaken the standards and character of Amateur Radio is simply unacceptable.

Yours very truly,

(Your signature)

(Your full name and postal address)

RAC Bulletin 98-57E

Worked All RAC Award

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) is pleased to announce the following award available to all Radio Amateurs worldwide. WORKED ALL RAC (WARAC)

A certificate will be issued to any Amateur who confirms two- way communication with an Official RAC Station using the suffix "RAC" in at least 10 of the 13 prefixes.

VE1, VA2, VA3, VE4, VE5, VE6, VE7, VE8, VE9, VO1, VO2, VY1, VY2.

Effective date of the award is 0000 UTC July 1, 1998.

For further details, please visit the RAC web site at:
<http://www.rac.ca/warac.htm>

The application form is also available on the web site at
<http://www.rac.ca/awapp2.htm>

RAC Bulletin 98-61E

RAC President announces resignation

Radio Amateurs of Canada President Farrell (Hoppy) Hopwood, VE7RD, has advised the RAC Board of Directors that he is resigning from his position as RAC President and Board Chair effective December 31, 1998. The RAC Directors will now convene the "RAC Elections Committee" as outlined in the corporation's bylaw, to elect a new president to fill the one-year remaining in Mr. Hopwood's two-year term.

In his message to the RAC Board, Hoppy stated, "...It is to address long-standing personal wants and to be better able to meet my obligations to my family that I have decided that it is time for me to step down. ...I am very grateful for the honour and the privilege of serving our members and the amateur community as RAC's first President during these times of formation and growth. I cherish the great privilege of working and sharing with each of you and with many other friends and volunteers over the years. The vision, the challenges and the wonderful accomplishments shared with you all hold a special place in my memory and in my heart. I now look forward to living out the promises and dreams that beckoned me when I retired from B.C. Tel in 1992."

Hoppy has been an amateur since 1956. His contribution to national amateur radio organization began in 1985 when he worked with the EXPO 86 Amateur Radio Station Committee as a representative for the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation (CARF). He was appointed a CARF Vice President in 1986 and later elected as the CARF Pacific Region Director in 1988. He became President of CARF in 1990. Hoppy was a leader in the move to merge CARF and the Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL) into the Radio Amateurs of Canada. He was elected RAC's first President in 1993.

RAC Bulletin 98-63E

J11KIT becomes new PM of Japan

Radio Amateur, J11KIT Wins LDP Presidency

On July 24, Foreign Minister, Keizo Obuchi, a member of the House of Representatives, an enthusiast for amateur radio, was elected as a president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) of Japan.

Obuchi, a member of JARL and a very good friend of Shozo Hara, JA1AN, president of JARL, established his amateur station JI1KIT in 1975 and made a great contribution to JARL as well as Japanese amateur radio community.

As the new LDP leader, Obuchi will be elected prime minister of Japan in an extraordinary session of the Diet on July 30th. (Text from JARL)

RAC Bulletin 98-73E

Current Concerns on RAC website

A newly opened section of the RAC web site will provide an opportunity for readers to keep up to date on current issues affecting Amateur Radio, and for RAC to seek input and guidance from all Canadian Amateurs. The RAC Reading Room will continue to carry the "Notice Board", and the "What's New" sections for brief news items.

A forum page will seek your input on a different topic each month. For September we just want to know what aspects of Amateur Radio you consider to be most important. If you have difficulty finding a page, it's because many of the links on the RAC home page have been moved to the Current Concerns section

RAC Bulletin 98-69E

World Amateur Radio Day set for September 19

As the International Amateur Radio Union member society for Canada, Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to endorse Canadian participation in World Amateur Radio Day.

"Communicating Worldwide for Three Quarters of a Century" is the theme of this year's World Amateur Radio Day, set for September 19. The event marks the first two-way transoceanic Amateur Radio contact between French station 8AB and American stations 1XAM and 1MO on November 27, 1923.

The historic contacts ushered in the era of worldwide shortwave communication. IARU Region One will broadcast a special program on shortwave that traces the early history of shortwave communication and the contributions amateur radio has made to the development of radio science and the understanding of HF propagation. The program will air to North America on September 19 at 2100 UTC on 15205 kHz. For more information, contact Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS5AKV, e-mail hans@intekom.co.za.

RAC suggests that Canadian amateur radio clubs may wish to use this occasion to publicize amateur radio at a local level through such means as a mall display or other public demonstration, or through a news release to your community newspapers. If a local event on that day is not practical, a recording of the broadcast will be a useful public relations tool for use at a later date.

RAC Bulletin 98-72E

SET 1998

The RAC Field Organization is pleased to announce that we are reactivating the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET) this Fall. We feel it is very important to demonstrate the cohesion between Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) groups and National Traffic System (NTS), as well as to demonstrate to served agencies and the public what services can be provided under simulated emergency conditions.

The main weekend for the 1998 SET is Oct 3-4, but ARES teams or nets may conduct their exercises anytime between September 1 and November 30. Consult with your Section Emergency Coordinator before settling on a date as a SET works best if there is active participation in a number of areas throughout a Section, and involving more than one local net, if possible.

Whether you are part of a new or experienced ARES group, the SET is a great opportunity to learn or practice useful skills in traffic handling, net operation and emergency communication management. For more information and guidelines check the RAC Web page. The URL is: <http://www.rac.ca/set1998.htm>

RAC Bulletin 98-74E

Canadian [CQ-Contest] Reflector

Several new reflectors (mailing lists) have been formed with "Canadian Content" in mind.

Check out <http://narc.net/reflector.html> for more information or send e-mail to: MAJORDOMO@GPS.ANDOR.NET with "lists" as the text. Current lists include the Canadian Contest reflector, local VEL contest announcements, Western Canada VHF weak signal, and a Canada wide swap/for sale reflector, and RAC matters. Other lists may be added if there is a need.

RAC Bulletin 98-78E

Pat Doherty VE3PD President-Elect of RAC

Pat Doherty, VE3PD, Ontario North Director for Radio Amateurs of Canada, has been elected President of RAC by

the Board of Directors to succeed Farrell "Hoppy" Hopwood, VE7RD, effective January 1, 1999.

In addition to Mr. Doherty, RAC Vice-President and General Counsel Tim Ellam, VE6SH, was also in the running. Both candidates were duly nominated in advance of the August 15 deadline.

The August 30 election was held to fill the unexpired term of President and Chair of the Board of Directors Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD, whose resignation becomes effective on December 31, 1998.

The election was conducted in strict conformity to the applicable sections of RAC's By-laws by an Election Committee consisting of Chair Robert Kirkpatrick, VE1VAR, and RAC Secretary Joe MacPherson, VE1CH, who acted as Election Committee Secretary. The seven elected Regional Directors on the RAC Board were polled for their vote.

An Amateur since 1974, Pat, of Murillo, Ontario, near Thunder Bay, brings considerable experience and skills to the post. He has been Ontario North Director since July 1, 1996, enjoys DX and satellite work, is Net Manager of the Northwestern Ontario ARES Net, and has served as RACHF Band Plan Coordinator. Over the past two years, he has also served on various RAC committees and working groups.

In his professional life, Pat was employed for 38 years by N.M. Paterson & Sons Limited, a grain elevator and steamship company, retiring as Vice-President and General Manager of the Steamship Division in 1991.

IHF REPORT **by Ruth Mills VE4XYL**

The 35th annual International Ham Fest was held July 10th, 11th, and 12th at the International Peace Gardens. This year it was hosted by WARC and the Bismark and Minot clubs. The event went off very well without any major snags or unpleasant surprises.

The attendance statistics kept over the years has been on an average of 311 registered entrants. In 1997 the attendance was 257 and this year was 284 registered.

There were many good prizes donated and the total expense to WARC was \$357.24, money which was spent to cover the costs for kids prizes, treats, the ladies tea, which included food and some prizes. An itemized accounting has been submitted to WARC'S treasurer and secretary.

A record of prize donors is available from VE4HK or VE4XYL. Letters of thanks to the donors is being sent out by the prize committee person, Dick VE4HK, who did an

excellent job of getting prizes for the Ham Fest. Thanks Dick.

A highlight for fun at the kids games on a very hot day was bobbing for apples and also being entertained by a clown, Dave VE4DAR. Thanks Dave for keeping the kids busy while the parents were shopping at Burghardts.

The topic of conversation for 3 days around the camp field was "Mosquitoes". As some one said "There are more mosquitoes here than blades of grass". It was also suggested that we name the Mosquito as the Ham Fests national bird until it was pointed that it would then be on the protected list and you would not be able to kill them. That idea was quickly squashed along with some of the mosquitoes.

I wish to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all who helped me to see this event through. To the committees who worked in their groups to see the assigned responsibilities ran smoothly. To those who were available for a few hours or worked as the were needed. To the Bismark and Minot clubs who all worked together with us to make up a very successful team.

A very special thank you to Mariska VE4MMG who worked with me in Winnipeg and was my right hand at the Ham Fest. She took a special interest in this event and worked with all the committees to assist in getting the jobs done.

A hearty thank you to the non hams, Dianna Allan XYL of VE4RA Rick, Betty Andrews XYL of Bert VE4AND, Sheila Hauk XYL of VE4CS Norm, and to Ruthy Maman, a special friend of Dave VE4DAR. These ladies offered and helped where ever and when ever they were needed.

Thank you to all the donors of prizes which were very much needed and appreciated. There was also an excellent representation of WARC members so to all, THANK YOU most sincerely for your support.

Upcoming Radio Events

September

12-14	ARRL September VHF QSO Party
19-20	ARRL 10-GHz Cumulative Contest

Hints & Kinks **by Ralph, VE4RY**

Some Thoughts on Collinear Two Meter Antennas

When constructing end fed two-meter double zepp or extended double zepp antennas, one basic design consideration is often overlooked.

Using the center fed configuration, the top and bottom elements are of equal length. But, when you end-feed a collinear antenna as in a two-element J-pole, only the top element sees an "end effect", where it meets with free space. Since the bottom element is continuous from the 1/4-wave drive stub to the phasing stub, there is no end effect on this section.

Actually, the bottom section should be a few percent longer than the top section. There is likely only a marginal degradation in performance by making the lengths equal, but it is nevertheless interesting that most magazine articles on construction of these antennas seem to ignore this aspect of antenna theory and show both elements as being the same size.

I built an extended double zepp out of #14 insulated wire using 450-ohm ladder line for the 20-inch drive stub and the 8-inch phasing stub. The bottom wire element is 50-3/4" long and the top one 49-1/2". It works very well, but it is ten feet long! A great portable antenna, that is if you can find a suitable tree branch to hang it on.

The Story Behind NU1AW **Submitted by Ed Henderson - VE4YU**

Taken from a QSL card received from Amateur Radio Station NU1AW, International Secretariat Club Station of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)

At first, Amateur Radio stations had no prefixes indicating the country where they were located. After transoceanic Amateur Radio communication became commonplace in 1924, 'hams' began using an informal system of prefixes (called "intermediates" at the time) where "A" stood for Australia, "C" for Canada, "U" for the United States of America, etc. This worked fine at first, but did not provide enough options. January 1927 QST unveiled a new intermediate list - the work of the Executive Committee of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was a two-letter system with the first letter indicating the continent ("A" for Asia, "N" for North America, "F" for Africa etc.) and the second letter indicating the country. Thus, stations in the 48 contiguous United States of America used "NU".

The new system was soon overtaken by events. International regulations adopted later that same year included the allocation of a series of "call signals" such as K, N, and W for the United States of America. USA Radio Amateurs sported the voluntary NU prefix for just 20 months before it was replaced with W.

The founding president of the IARU was Hiram Percy Maxim, 1AW, who held that office until his death in 1936. In 1996, the FCC issued the IARU the callsign NU1AW. It commemorates HPM and the IARU's creative - if short-lived - solution to the problem of international identification of stations.

The inaugural operation of NU1AW was in the 1997 IARU HF World Championship. It will be operated on special occasions in the future.

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

Part 11

The amateur broadcasting station was a unique Canadian institution. Its purpose was to provide radio programs in communities not reached by the larger urban broadcasters. Amateur broadcast licenses were issued only to 'bona fide' radio clubs of a non-profit nature, not to individuals or commercial interests. Manitoba never had any amateur broadcast stations for reasons that will be discussed later. Some writers on Canadian radio continue to confuse amateur broadcasting stations with Amateur Experimental or 'ham' stations. They are in no way related; the mix-up is caused by the use of the word amateur in both designations.

Another change in the regulations saw the allotment of figure 6 calls to technical and training school stations. Kelvin Technical High School, formerly XEY, became 6AB while St. John's Technical High School was issued the call 6AX.

Besides the licenses issued to Salton, the Free Press and the Tribune, the Radiotelegraph Branch granted broadcast licenses to George E. Bell and Canadian Westinghouse. Neither opened stations in Winnipeg. Bell became involved in the operation of stations in Calgary and Regina while Westinghouse decided to specialize in the manufacture of receivers rather than enter the broadcast field.

With the arrival of autumn, the reception of distant stations improved and the number of broadcast listeners increased at a prodigious rate. Many of the radio fans were building their sets either from construction articles in radio magazines or from home-assembly kits. A vacuum tube receiver was a necessity for picking up the faraway broadcasters. Most utilized regeneration, a method by which the feedback of energy in the circuit increased sensitivity and signal strength. In 1922, all receivers were powered wholly by batteries since the technique of using ac power to run a set was still under development. A wide variety of

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of Radio Sets and Supplies

E. T. EATON

vacuum tubes was on the market for the set builders and the favorite was the Northern Electric "peanut" tube at \$5.00 which required only a single dry cell for filament supply.

Among the more popular factory built receivers was the Westinghouse "RC", a regenerative receiver with two stages of audio amplification which had sufficient output to operate a loud speaker to a room volume and which sold fully equipped for \$175.00. Another was the Westinghouse "Aeriola Senior", a single tube regenerative receiver which cost \$65.00 less earphones, batteries and aerial.

There had been an astonishing proliferation of broadcasting stations in the U.S., many of them could be heard in Winnipeg by even a single tube receiver. Interference with reception, particularly of distant stations, was an annoying problem. Sparks from the trolley wires as the street cars rattled along, the firing of the ignition of the ubiquitous Model T Fords, the "hash" from faulty insulators on hydro lines and from defective electric apparatus, could blot out weak signals. Probably the worst offenders were the regenerative receivers themselves. When adjusted past the point of maximum regeneration, the setting where the feedback of energy made them most sensitive, they broke into oscillation. In other words, they became miniature

transmitters whose squeals and whistles could be heard for blocks by other receiving sets.

A well-orchestrated campaign tried to lay much of the blame for interference on the radio hams. A spark transmitter could cause an intolerable noise on a broadcast receiver and when Salton's CKXC first went on the air, a few malcontents were trumpeting "spark forever." But the formation of the Manitoba Radio Association, shortly after the newspapers began broadcasting, brought agreement among Winnipeg amateurs to respect voluntary "quiet hours" between 7 and 10:30 pm. This step was taken in order to avoid confrontation with a militant and growing horde of BCLs (broadcast listeners) many of whom were threatening to demand repressive action against amateurs. The hams had already begun to dismantle their out-of-date spark sets and convert them to the much more efficient tube transmitters which had a far lower interference threshold. The most popular tube among the amateurs was the UV202, better known as the five-watt bottle. The UV202 required a 500 volt power supply that was furnished by a homemade chemical rectifier pack that converted ac to dc. There were no rectifier tubes available to amateurs.

NEXT MONTH..

The Winnipeg newspapers strive to quit the radio business and MTS seeks complete control of radio in Manitoba.

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

Field Day 98 **By Derek VE4HAY**

Field Day has come and gone. While attendance was down those who did show up had a great time. We kept the radios operating as best we could, with the poor band conditions (solar flare days before the event did not help) and the electrical storm that was raging outside. Our long wire antenna did not do so well because of the lighting and the wind we had a hard time keeping it up. Not sure how our score is in relation to others, but we must have had the best accommodations of any field day station. I hope to hear soon on how well we did. Look for pictures of the event in the coming months.

1999 Bluebook **by Rick, VE4RA**

It is time once again to update the Manitoba "Blue Book". There have been over 350 changes to calls since the call book was last updated. We have compiled a list of those calls that have changed as of the latest records from Industry Canada. Some calls have been deleted while others have had address changes. This is the data that will be used in the next edition of the "Blue Book". We are asking that all amateurs who want their call sign information to be correct please call Bill Bowman or Rick Allan.

We try our best to get up to date information on all amateur call signs using all possible sources. We need everyone's help to ensure that the data is as accurate as possible. So Please, if you know of someone whose call information has changed please give us a call, e-mail, or via 2 meters.

Bill Bowman 482-3402 e-mail ve4ub@bmsl.mb.ca

Rick Allan 697-3772 e-mail rickalla@mts.net

Editors Ramblings **BY Derek, VE4HAY**

This starts another year as the editor of the newscaster. The past years it has been fun writing, editing, composing and begging for articles. And it has paid off. I want to thank all the members and the executive of the Winnipeg Amateur

Radio Club for the awarding me a keyman award at the last meeting for the work I have put into the Newscaster over the years. What a shock and thrill to receive the award.

OK, enough of the blushing. Welcome back. I trust the summer was eventful and exciting. I know mine was. I traveled over to Scotland and became MM0/VE4HAY for about 18 days. made a couple of contacts. Not much activity during the summer, at least in the areas I traveled. I did stumble across a large antenna farm near Bannockburn, but the old man was not at home to offer me a tour. When I got home I expected a full mailbox of articles for the Newscaster. I guess I was mistaken in my wishes.

I can be reached by e-mail at: ve4hay@rac.ca.

