



News-caster

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

November 1998

If you really want to devote yourself to things that are truly beyond comprehension, then try to make sense out of

DUPLEXERS

A close look at what they are and how they are tuned.
This is a hands-on experience.

Date: November 9th, 1998

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: All summer long to submit articles

WARC: November 9 Meeting
December 14 - Meeting

WSC: September - Amateur classes starting

ARES: November 17 - Monthly Meeting
Feb 13,14 - Training session - Sled Dog Races

Other: May 29, 1999 - WARC HamFest & Flea market

RADIOGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT: by Larry, VE4LRB

The temperature outside has turned a wee bit nippy and the sun spot count is up sharply; just in time for some DX work during our long, cold winter nights.

REMINDER: We still need nominations for Keyman, Oscar and Pioneer awards. Contact me and give me the names of those people you feel deserve these awards ASAP.

On a more serious note, sadly WARC's membership has been steadily declining during the past few years and present numbers are unable to sustain the club budget unless we cut out certain activities. To meet our budget requirements for this year, we need 200 paid up members. Last year, you voted to have a Ham Fest this spring. You may recall, it was agreed the Ham Fest would cost \$2,000.00 to mount. We need an additional 200 paid up members to pay for that.

To those members who have paid their dues, good luck at the November meeting draw; thanks to the generosity of Kenwood who donated this exceptionally fine prize.

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

First, let's mention the Christmas Party coming up on December 10th. The important thing right now is to get your tickets. The dinner this year is a fully-catered affair, and we need to know how many are coming. Tickets are \$15 per, or \$25 for 2 people coming together (any combination). Tickets are available from the Duty Officer at the Club, or from Ed, VE4YU. Those wishing to make other arrangements are asked to call the Club at 233-3122, and we'll make sure you get your tickets. Members, partners, friends are all welcome.

RAC has just announced some welcome news: the increase in the membership fee has been rescinded, and anyone who has already paid the \$49.95 fee will have \$10.00

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

refunded. A drive for memberships will be launched, and there will be a few incentives to join- more on this later.

Anyone who wants to talk computers (both PC and Mac) on the air can find the "Microcomputer Network" (formerly the Atari Microcomputer Network) on 14.325 MHz, at 1600Z every Sunday morning (except when the Hurricane Net is on - or major contests). NCS is KD7VA, Dave in Las Vegas. Many members are highly qualified and can answer any questions you may have.

The Canadian Red Cross Net continues to operate every Sunday at 1900Z. Frequency is 14.128 MHz. NCS station this month is VE6RCC (the Red Cross station) in Calgary. VE4WSC is the official Red Cross affiliate in Manitoba.

All members are urged to make December 16 the day they attend the Club for the Annual General Meeting. This is the ELECTION meeting, and members are in control of putting the next Board together. Make your voice heard - please attend. The Nominating Committee is Alf, VE4ALF and you can place your nominations, prior to the meeting, with him.

The next date for a get together is November 12 when we hold the monthly breakfast. Site is the Garden City Inn, McPhillips at Jefferson. Starting time is 9 a.m. Everybody reading this is welcome to join us.

Gil is starting to formulate the VE4WSC homepage. You can watch it take shape by logging onto Gil's homepage: www.pangea.ca/~gilfred/

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. October 19, 1998 **Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL**

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hrs. 56 attending members introduced themselves.

Previous Minutes. Moved by David VE4DAR, seconded by Dick VE4HK that the minutes be accepted as printed in the newscaster. Carried.



Treasurers Report

None at this time.

Standing committees

ARES. In Jeffs VE4MBQ absence Tom VE4SE gave report on the Pam Am Games. "PANAROG" which involves all amateur radio operators. Contact people for ARES, Jeff VE4MBQ, for MRS, Tim Rafferty VE4THR, for WSC, Bob Hall VE4RJH, for WARC, Norm Coull VE4EH.

RAC

VE4OV Rick expressed a big thank you to Derek Hay for the issues in the newscaster.

In his report to date he brought us up to date on issues with the RAC, Industry Canada and the Canada Advisory Board. Gil Frederick VE4AG has accepted the job of being on the selection board for the awards for the Radio Hall of Fame. RAC emergency manuals are now available at a minimal cost.

RAC operating manuals are also available. Rick didn't mention if there was any cost for these. Rick also encouraged every one to join RAC.

DX Sleuths

Adam VE4SN reported the cycles are up and the HF bands are opened. He encouraged everyone to tune in and take the advantage of the operating HF Bands.

MRS

Roy VE4EN said membership fees are due and to those using the repeaters to please renew.

WARC Memberships

Garth VE4GDF reports that as of Oct.19th our paid up membership is 152. A remainder to all that the membership draw will be held at the WARC meeting on Monday Nov.9,1998'

To clarify the misunderstanding of the membership prize, Kenwood has donated a 2mtr radio, the TM261 only. The rest of the package was purchased by WARC.

Flea Market

No report at this time.

HAM FEST 99

Ed VE4YU reported that the ads are being prepared to advertise in the various magazines.

Awards

Larry VE4LRB reported that for the Oscar, Keyman and Pioneer awards, only one name has been submitted so far. For the special events station the Christmas Capitol of Canada, Larry encouraged people to participate.

The next meeting of WARC will be held on Monday, Nov.9 1998 at 19:30 hrs.

Meeting adjourned at 20:00hrs

RAC Bulletins

Reply-To: rachq@king.igs.net

RAC Bulletin 98-88E

1998 Field Day results

The results of the 1998 Field Day will appear in the December 1998 issue of QST. Field Day results typically have appeared in the November issue, which, this year, carries instead the updated and corrected results of the 1997 ARRL 10-Meter Contest. This November's issue does include several photographs from this year's Field Day event, submitted by numerous participants.

RAC Bulletin 98-90E

Emergency Coordinator's Manual

This is a reminder to all ARES SEC, DEC and EC appointments that the RAC Emergency Coordinator's Manual is available for downloading free of charge from the RAC web site. This essential RAC ARES manual is in a password-protected area, so it is imperative that we have your, or your appointed representative's e-mail address to send you the password. All of the above appointments who have not received your password and downloaded the manual should advise me immediately of your or your representative's e-mail address so that you may be assigned your password. Appointments who are not on e-mail and cannot designate a representative to receive the password, can request a photocopy of the 90 page manual from RAC Headquarters for a nominal cost of \$10.00 including handling, postage and tax. If neither of the above is possible for you, please contact me and we will find an acceptable solution.

The last section of the RAC Emergency Coordinator's Manual contains the optional Emergency Coordinator Certification open-book examination. We encourage all SEC, DEC and EC appointments (and even Section Managers) to obtain the manual, write and submit the exam to me. Successful candidates will receive a diploma and listing as a CEC on the RAC web site.

RAC Bulletin 98-93E

Membership increase rescinded

A major restructuring plan at RAC, leading to an operating expense reduction of \$80,000 to be realized mainly through reductions in paid staff, decrease in office floor

space rental and costs of publishing TCA is under preparation. As a first step in this process, RAC's Directors have approved passing along part of these operating cost savings to members by rescinding the \$10.00 membership fee increase. This will reestablish cost of membership at \$39.95 and make it more affordable for Canadian Radio Amateurs to belong to their national organization.

The \$10.00 membership fee increase is rescinded immediately and any members who paid the at the \$49.95 rate will be compensated. Watch for announcement of a new membership campaign in November at the \$39.95 rate with prizes and other incentives.

ARES Flea Market Raffle

by Dick, VE4HK

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Emergency Service held its annual Loonie Bin 50/50 draw during the WARC fall flea market, on October 25. Tickets sold for \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00. Our Loonie Bins were filled up with tickets and loonies by noon. Congratulations to the lucky winner, Ed Henderson VE4YU, who took home \$130.00. Winnipeg ARES thanks everyone who purchased tickets for our draw. You can be assured that the money raised will be used for a good cause. Thanks to the ARES Fundraising Committee;

Robert Stegmaier VE4RST

Dick Maguire VE4HK

Mariska Maguire VE4MMG

Upcoming Radio Events

November

7-9 ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW

21-23 ARRL November Sweepstakes, phone

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.

ARES Committee Report

by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

Our October meeting featured CAPT Ron Shanks, Domestic Operations Officer, Land Forces Western Area who gave us a very interesting presentation explaining how DND provides military aid to the civil authorities.

A correction to last month's report: SIXTEEN not fifteen volunteer operators covered the Terry Fox Run 20SEP98, Joe VE4WF was omitted from the list in last month's report.

WARES provided volunteer amateur communications Saturday 10OCT98 for the 4 Km Head of the Red Regatta on the Red River. Thanks to Yori VE4ACX for use of his portable repeater VE4TWO, Prairie Communications for use of VE4PMC, Wayne VE4WTS and Michael VE4MJM for use of packet equipment at the Start and Finish areas. The sixteen volunteers who once again braved rain, wind, cold, and waves were:

VE4 ACX, AJR, CDP, HK, KAZ, KU, MAB, MMG, MJM, RST, SE, VID, WF, WTS, XYL, VE3GKG.

The Winnipeg ARES booth at the WARC Flea Market 25OCT98 was a success once again. Thanks to all of the Flea Market patrons who continue to support us and to the booth staff: VE4s HK, MBQ, MMG, RST. Congratulations to Ed VE4YU who was the winner of the 50-50 draw.

Norm VE4EH and Robert VE4RST are scheduled to attend the MEMO Emergency Public Information (EPI) course 27-29 OCT - hopefully we'll be able to make our own Public Information Plan with regards to WARES activities. Yori VE4ACX is scheduled to attend Manitoba Emergency Management course 2-6 NOV. Mariska VE4MMG is on standby for a City of Winnipeg MEM course 23-27 NOV.

We will be providing volunteer amateur communications 13,14FEB99 for the Festival du Voyager sled Dog Races - a sign up sheet will be available at our next meeting.

The next monthly WARES meeting will be Tuesday 17NOV98 1900h (note time change) at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. We will be dealing with the 1997-98 Financial Statement and the 1998-99 Budget. Dave wood VE4KU will be speaking about Solar Power and I will be reporting on my recent trips:

- i) Arnprior Emergency Telecom Course
- ii) Vancouver Emergency Preparedness Conference.

RAC Manitoba QSL Bureau Bulletin

by Adam VE4SN, Bureau Manager

Fellow Radio Amateurs:

For most of its existence, the Manitoba QSL Bureau has used Method C for the purpose of QSL card distribution to Manitoba ham operators. This method required participating hams to provide the Bureau with self-addressed envelopes as well as money for postage. When either or both envelopes and/or money became depleted, hams were advised by notice to renew same.

For a variety of reasons, not the least of which is a collection of multi-sized envelopes, no envelopes, constant reminders etc., I have decided to switch to Method B.

This method only requires that ham participants provide the funds to cover costs and I will purchase the necessary envelopes. Normally, this would be a mammoth task to address all envelopes that would be needed for any particular mailing. Needless to say, I am not quite that ambitious! With the help of RAC headquarters and our colleagues in the Moncton area, I have acquired a computer program to print address labels based on the latest information provided by Industry Canada as the data base. Believe me, this makes the task a great deal simpler!

As well as an up-to-date address being printed on each label, the following information appears after the individual's call sign:

VE4SN c 8 \$ 4.65

The number after the "c" indicates the number of cards being mailed, and the figure after the dollar sign indicates the amount of money remaining in the postage fund. This facility will preclude the necessity of constant reminders to update your funds.

Besides the cost of postage, individual funds will be responsible for cost of envelopes, (\$0.07 for the small ones and \$0.11 for the larger ones, tax included). One cent will also be deducted for cost of each address label.

I feel that this system will be much more efficient than the previous one. All that ham subscribers to the Bureau will have to provide are the funds with no worry about envelopes. From my standpoint, the process of mailing will be easier and I won't have to concern myself with constant reminders being sent out (and ignored)... hi! Method B will be implemented immediately. Thank you and..... 73

The "OSCAR" Award - How It Got Its Name

by Gil Frederick, VE4AG

The "Oscar" Award (proper designation is "The Past President's Award"), was first awarded in the spring of 1978.

The first recipient was Alex Henderson, VE4GH, who was the 'coffee man' at all the W.A.R.C. meetings - and did this duty faithfully over many years.

A letter was written by Alex, and published in the club newsletter, then called "Q.U.A.", in April, 1978. It read as follows:

TO THE MEMBERS OF W.A.R.C.

I'm taking this opportunity to express my gratitude to the coffee addicts of the Club. I must include at this time the coffee urn for the part IT played in making it possible for me to be chosen to launch the W.A.R.C. "Oscar ?Award".

I've dubbed it "Oscar", not only as it alludes to the Hollywood symbol, but because the topic of the evening (at time of presentation) was on the Oscar satellite program and the launching of the latest Oscar satellite.

I ask to be excused for my inability to express myself adequately at the time of presentation. As I was taken somewhat by surprise and without the benefit of any fortification, I was somewhat embarrassed at first. Then when I realized what was happening, I couldn't help but think of so many more deserving hams that should have been up there in my place.

Since one does not become addicted to such things as the printed page, e.g. the pages of Q.U.A.; the minutes of the last meeting, the treasurer's report, etc. or Net control, traffic handling, auctioneers chatter, registering of licence plates, or other necessary jobs — 'tasks' involved in providing the benefit the Club enjoys, I can't help but feel that due to unintentional pressures by the addicts, these more deserving hams were by-passed when the choice was made.

Coming as a surprise as it did, the program must have been put together in haste. Rather than facing the difficult job of selecting a winner off the top of the list, at this time I feel that the powers-that-be picked me from the bottom of the list in order to get the machinery in motion.

It's my understanding that this is to be a continuing event. I hope so. I want to offer my sympathy, at this time, to those who are going to have to pick the next winner. None of us I'm sure would want to have to make a choice from those who, over the years, have been so dedicated and have worked so hard for the Club.

The Club of course offers some opportunities to those who want to do their own thing. Since I have chosen to support the habit of the addicts, I have been held in some regard by those who suffer the need for this stimulant.

Except for helping to keep us awake while D.X.-ing, it does little for the development of Ham radio in general.

I'm not condemning the choice that was made, for obvious reasons. I'm simply trying to point out how I feel about it.

What I am trying to say is, Thanks Fellows - it's a beautiful way to be embarrassed!

I hope I am not overrating the award by dubbing it 'OSCAR', but to me it IS an 'Oscar'. I'm very pleased and proud to hang it in my shack.

Sincerely, Alex VE4GH

Members will also be interested to know that, later, the name 'Oscar' was studied by a member, John Gowron, VE4ADS, and he came up with the phrase "Outstanding Service Concerning Amateur Radio."

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

Part 13

I guess the Halloween goblins caught up with Ed, VE4YU and Part 13 did not make it to the press in time for the newsletter.

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.

Editors Ramblings BY Derek, VE4HAY

This newsletter is a little late this month. Sorry about that. Entirely my fault, Please do not blame the executive. With the meeting being late last month, I did not consider that the deadline was actually one week after the last meeting.

I guess no one else considered the deadline was that soon either. Because at deadline time all I had was the Presidents message (which was handed to me at the last meeting). The rest of the articles arrived on Halloween night. And since the harmonics come first, well that's what delayed the Newscaster.

OK, so I'm rambling to fill these last few lines. I got good news from the Flea Market. Take a look at what's on the finger of Kay, VE4YZ these days. No wonder she's smiling from ear to ear. Congrats. Is the club invited ???

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

***** LAST CHANCE *** LAST CHANCE *** LAST CHANCE *****

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!!!

***** LAST CHANCE *** LAST CHANCE *** LAST CHANCE *****

**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
 C/O WSC 598 St. Mary's Road
 Winnipeg, MB. R2M 3L5**

Application for membership renewal

For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30,1999

New: Renewal:

Call Sign: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Code: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

License Class- Basic Basic +5 Basic +12
 Advanced Advanced +5 Advanced +12

Payment of \$15.00

Cheque Cash

Please check if you do not want your information released to the Manitoba Blue Book