



# Newscaster

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

June 1999

## M.E.M.O.

### Marc Bruyere Operations of Emergency Measures Organization

Date: May 10th, 1999

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturge on Creek Regional Secondary School

### Other Important Dates:

Articles: Sep t. 1st - Deadline for articles May Newscaster

WARC: June 15 - Marathon Briefing  
June 20 - Manitoba Marathon  
June 26-27 Field Day  
Sept. 13 WARC general meeting

WSC: Sept. 9 - Fall Picnic

DX: At the QTH of VE4SN

ARES: June 29 - Meeting - Note: date change

Other: July 9-11 International Ham Fest at Peace Garden  
July 30 - Aug 1 Camp 807  
August 21-22 MARM Ham Fest at Austin

### RADIOGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT: by Darcy, VE4DDW

I hope everyone is enjoying our wonderful rainy month of May. Remember that everyone wanted rain, now we've got it! Anyone that missed last month's meeting sure missed a great presentation on ATV. Rene, VE4TV explained how easy and CHEAP it can be to get onto ATV. I'm sure we all learned something new!!

I think I should take a few lines to explain the 50/50 draw to everyone:

- 1) In June we have our regular 50/50 draw for cash
- 2) In September we use the WARC half of June's winnings to purchase a prize for September. The winner in September will take home a prize equal to June's winning. And WARC keeps 50% of Sept winning, etc.
- 3) For each month, the prize to be won is bought from the previous month's winnings.

Please tell me this made things a little clearer!!! This month is busy with all sorts of Ham Radio type stuff. By the time you read this, everyone has spent the hard-earned money on some new "stuff" from the hamfest. And some of you will have made some hard-earned cash at the hamfest!!

Now that the rainy spring is over we can all get down to business mowing lawns and planting the garden. My grass is growing up to my knees (by the way if anyone knows where I can get one of those old manual push mowers let me know, I don't have enough grass to buy a new mower, but too much to cut with scissors.)

### Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club Submitted by Gil Frederick, VE4AG

Unlike some radio clubs, our Seniors' Club continues to operate on a regular schedule throughout the entire summer. This means that the station will be operating during regular club hours, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Visitors are welcome to come during these hours. The coffee is always on, and many members are available to show you around and engage you in pleasant conversation.

WARC: Executive for 19 98-99

Past President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
President	Darcy Wilson	VE4DDW	783-0421
Vice-Pres./ PR	Les Barclay	VE4CCC	453-7369
Treasurer	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
Secretary	Ruth Mills	VE4XYL	837-6915
Goodwill	Vern Dutton	VE4VQ	256-5346
Membership	Mariska Maguire	VE4MMG	256-3143
Program	Tom Mills	VE4SE	837-6915
Director@ Large	Susan Keller	VE4SUE	888-9011

Our phone number is 233-3122, and we also monitor VE4WPG (147.39+) and the Trans-Canada calling frequency of 14.140 Mhz. You can e-mail us at [ ve4wsc@pangea.ca ], and view our webpage at URL: [ <http://www.pangea.ca/~ve4wsc> ]. We also operate BBS packet station VE4DRM (145.050 Simplex).

The latest news from VE4WSC includes the report by Ed, VE4YU, our Archives Committee head, that the Club recently acquired items from an estate, mostly QST and CQ books dating back to 1935, so we now have most CQ and QST issues from 1935 onwards.

Upgrades to our computers have been ongoing, with the addition of a CD-ROM drive to the computer in Room #2. Harsha, VE4SAI reports that we have recently donated two computer systems. Abe, VE4ZI reports that the cables from the ceiling to the tower have been installed, and the cabling system is still in progress. From Bob, VE4RJH, comes the info that things are progressing nicely in regards the Satellite station

project, with the expected deadline of completion of June 1 to be met. Because of an estate purchase of some needed satellite equipment, our original projected cost has been reduced considerably, by about \$1300.

Some members are having health problems, and Lila, VE4LIL has sent cards to Ray Bower, VE4CAQ, who is in Health Sciences Centre; to Art Maxwell, VE4AM, who is at St. Boniface Hospital; and to Stan Miner, VE4SRM, who is at home recuperating from a recent heart operation.

One member cannot be located. If anyone knows the whereabouts of Douglas Gibson, VE4DRG, will they please contact Norm, VE4EH, Membership Chairman. We have a new member, bringing our roster to 171. The application for membership from William McMehemy, VE4WCM, has been approved. William's xyl is Helen.

The agreement with the City for use of the duck pond site at St. Vital Park has been received. So mark Thursday, September 9, 1999 as the date of our fall picnic. We have approval for the hours 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. An excellent lunch will be available during the noon hour. Members will be receiving 'Sparks' in early September with all the details.

Nostalgia movies!!! Being well attended and looked forward to by the 'regulars'. The next movie date is Monday, June 7th. Starting time is 1 p.m. Members and friends are invited to attend. There is no cost. Episode 3 of the Ken Maynard series will also be shown along with the feature film, which is a British comedy called "The Wrong

Box'. Ed, VE4YU, the convenor, is to be commended for adding this bit of 'spice' to the club's activities.

We understand the Winnipeg 1999 Hamfest was a big success, and that Colin, VE4JCM won the Club's 50/50 draw.

In regards the grant application to the Winnipeg Foundation for satellite station upgrading, which was presented on April 23, Ed, VE4YU, was advised that there would be up to 3 months waiting period before consideration. Adam, VE4SN made the wry comment that we are a Senior's Club and really don't have that much time; Ed will contact them now!

Permission has been granted to WARC for the use of our generator and coaxial cable for use in Field Day activities at Falcon Lake. Ed, VE4YU will be in attendance and responsible for its use and care.

And, the Trans-Canada Seniors' Net continues to operate. All those interested (you don't have to be a Senior) are asked to check in on Wednesdays beginning at 1:00 p.m. Frequency is 14.128 Mhz.

The next Breakfast meeting is again being held at the Windsor Park Inn, 1034 Elizabeth Rd., at Lagimodiere Blvd., in Ambassador Room 'C' (same as last month). Date is June 9th, starting time is 9:00 a.m. Non-members and visitors are most welcome. Let's have a big turnout! There is a varied, inexpensive menu.

Breakfasts continue to be held each month during the summer (we Seniors don't take a recess), and

in the words of George, VE4GNG (in the "Blips 'n' Blurbs" newsletter), is the following: "Further WSC breakfasts will be held at ONE location only. This location is centrally located, at the DAYS INN at 550 McPhillip's Street. We will meet in a private area on the main floor - the Cactus Room. There is good parking, and Days Inn is a newly-renovated hotel. Dates of breakfasts through to November are: (all Thursdays) - July 8, August 12, October 14 and November 18.

The next Board meeting of the Club will be held in the Clubrooms on Wednesday, June 16th, beginning at 9:30 p.m. Any member may attend. Plans will be finalized for the fall picnic.

## **MINUTES for W.A.R.C. May 10th, 1999** **Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL**

The meeting was called to order at 19:35 hrs with introductions. 46 people signed the attendance sheet.

### MINUTES

Moved by Dick VE4HK, seconded by Derek VE4HAY that he minutes of the April meeting be accepted as printed in the newscaster. Carried Business arising from the minutes, none.

### 50/50 DRAW

Comments or if you just want to reach us :

**Newscaster Editor**  
**Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club**  
**C/O VE4WSC**  
**598 St. Mary's Road**  
**Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5**

<http://www.freenet.mb.ca/amradio>

Darcy VE4DDW, explained to the membership a suggestion received that we continue to sell tickets as usual, half of the moneys collected go to WARC and the other half be spent on a prize instead of cash. Many agreed it would be a change. It was agreed that the power of decision for prizes be left with the executive for their next meeting and the prizes would start at the September meeting. The suggestion was agreed on by a show of hands.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

Norm VE4EH reported a balance as of the end of April was \$3199.38

### **MARM 99**

Tom VE4SE reminded everyone to mark their calendar date for August 21st MARM HAM FEST to be held in Austin MB. It is a one day affair. Camping is available at a reasonable cost. The flea market runs from 10:00 to 14:00 hrs. The auxiliary ladies have agreed to cook and serve another delicious dinner for the same cost of \$8.00 and a shuttle service will be provided during the day to tour the museum. There will be games and prizes for the children. The radio museum will be opened during the Ham fest. To complete the evening there will be a free get together in the Heritage Hall for all those interested in a party and a visit with friends. There may be some music provided as well.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Mariska VE4MMB reported membership renewals are being accepted for the Y2K. Renewals are in the newscaster and will be available at the WARC ham fest on May 29th. The cost is \$15.00 for the year.

### **RAC**

Rick VE4OV reported that President Pat Doherty as well as the secretary of RAC have both resigned. Full text of the resignations will be printed in the next TCA magazine. Rick will be in Arnprior at the end of the month representing us at the board of directors meeting. Although it has taken 6 long years Rick has worked all states on 160m and will now try to work all continents on 160M SSB. Congratulations Rick

### **ARES**

As written in the last newscas ter

### **CODE COURSE**

Norm VE4EH at the request of Manitoba ARES had been authorized to run a code course. The classes will be held at the Seniors Club with Bruce VE4GR assisting, beginning in September.

### **MARATHON**

Kay VE4KF reports that more volunteers are needed for June 20th. Those interested in helping out, and for more information, contact Ralph VE4RY or Kay VE4YF. The Manitoba Marathon meeting for volunteers will be held on Tuesday June 15th, 19:00 hrs at 200 Main St. The Marathon for the Pan Am Games will be held on Sunday July 25th.

### **DX SLEUTHS**

Adam VE4SN told of a Scottish Contest Group using a special prefix of 2S and will be on from May 6th until July 31st. The sleuths will meet at the home of Norm VE4EH on Monday 17th at 19:00 hrs.

### **MRS**

Their meeting will be held at the WARC HAM FEST at 16:00 hrs. Please try to attend if at all possible.

### **WINNIPEG 125 CELEBRATIONS**

On May 16 th at 13:00 hrs Dick VE4HK encourages everyone to check into the net and receive the special 125 QSL card.

### **FIELD DAY**

Derek VE4HAY spoke on Field Day being held on June 26th and 27th at Falcon Lake. HF antennas are needed as well as the help to set up and them take down. Available volunteers please get in touch with Derek.

### **INTERNATIONAL HAM FEST**

Les VE4CCC mentioned that we were still looking for nominees for the Ham of the year award.

### **WARC HAM FEST**

MAY 28th & 29th. Ed VE4YU reported there are still a few tables left for the Flea Market. Dinner banquet is at 18:30 hrs and costs \$25.00 a person. Friday evening between the hours of 17:00 hrs and 22:00hrs there will be a HF and a VHF station set up in the hospitality room (153) with snacks and beverages. An invitation is extended to all to consider attending the Ham Fest events and supporting WARC. There is a lot of planning and work that goes into putting on an event such as this and we look forward to your support.

### **PROGRAM**

The June program will be a presentation by Marc Bruyere on MEMO, Manitoba Emergency Management Organization.

Norm VE4EH told us that Larry VE4LRG has moved to live in the Okanagon leaving us short of a basic and advanced course instructor. Anyone interested in teaching or instructing please contact Norm.

There being no further business Michael VE4MJM moved the meeting adjourn at 20:40 hrs. Our next meeting in June will be the last one for the summer. Please come early and avoid the rush to enroll for your new membership in September.

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

Twenty Winnipeg ARES members attended the 1999 CANWARN Net Control Meeting Tuesday 11MAY at

VE4WWO to review the CANWARN program in Manitoba and discuss how we plan to carry out CANWARN Nets. The CANWARN "season" here will run 17MAY to 13SEP with Controllers on-call 1100-2130h daily. The schedule is totally open from 04JULY onwards so please don't be shy in signing up for a shift or two! The next Controllers meeting is Monday 28JUNE 1900h at VE4WWO (123 Main St).

Spotters are reminded to use the 1-800 Severe Weather Watch phone number that you were provided with in case of a loss of radio communications during a CANWARN Net or if you observe reportable weather events when there is no net in progress. Controllers are reminded to display their ARES ID card when on-duty at VE4WWO.

Dr. Brian Kowalchuk, a Clinical Psychologist with the City of Winnipeg, gave us a presentation on Critical Incident Stress and Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) at our May meeting. CISD is an area that we certainly have not really considered previously. Also the May meeting saw the unveiling of the Winnipeg ARES Display Board (thanks to VE4s MMG, HK, and RST) and the new, improved Winnipeg ARES Brochure (thanks to VE4KER).

Winnipeg ARES annual dues (\$10) are due in June, you can make your cheque out to Winnipeg ARES and bring it to the next WARC or ARES meeting.

The next ARES monthly meeting is Tuesday 29JUNE 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin St - Wayne Schellekens VE4WTS is scheduled to speak to us about GPS/APRS. Please take note of the change in dates (we did not want to conflict with the Marathon briefing).

### **Discussion Paper: Proposal to Streamline the Authorization Process for the Amateur Radio Service**

While it has taken a year since Industry Canada first mentioned that they would create a discussion paper on the proposed merger of the Amateur Documents and the removal of the required annual fee, it has now arrived. Please check out the following web page:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01813e.html>

Please note that this document is in Acrobat Reader. If you do have this program it can also be downloaded.

### **Manitoba Marathon 1999 By Kay, VE4YF**

Weekend hours of the morning till approx. 13:00 on Father's Day, June 20th. If you would like to volunteer for this great

community event please call Kay, VE4YF @ 669-5077 or Ralph @ 663-8894 [before 9 P.M., please] sometime soon.

June 15 has been chosen as the date for the Marathon briefing for those who are volunteering.

### **Contest Calendar**

<b>June</b>	12-14	ARRL June VHF QSO Party
	26-27	Field Day
<b>July</b>	10-11	IARU HF World Championship
<b>August</b>	7-8	ARRL UHF Contest
	21-22	ARRL 10-GHz And Up

### **Y2K Communications**

**By Jeff, VE4MBQ, EC Winnipeg ARES, DEC Manitoba ARES**

A number of volunteer amateur radio operators will be required in the Winnipeg area to provide various civil authorities with back-up communications networks around New Year's Eve/New Years Day in case of Y2K related communication disruptions.

The City of Winnipeg has already asked for support for Winnipeg Police Service and Emergency Response Service (Fire). Manitoba Hydro needs help with an HF link from their System Control Centre in south Winnipeg to some U.S. utilities.

The RCMP have apparently approached Don Mackinnon for help with links from Winnipeg Tele-comm Centre to 45 Detachments.

Emergency Preparedness Canada is utilizing CFARS stations to provide links from Ottawa to provincial and territorial capitals.

Winnipeg ARES in cooperation with Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club will be having a special meeting Monday 27SEP 1900h at Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School on Ness Ave to outline the emergency amateur radio projects set up so far and hopefully recruit some operators.

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

PART 18 OF A SERIES ON RADIO BROADCASTING HISTORY IN MANITOBA

In the Fall of 1923, radio was used for the first time for communication between an isolated Manitoba mine and Winnipeg. The mine was the Bellvue, situated in the wilderness 30 miles inland from the east shore of Lake Winnipeg and 110 miles northeast of Winnipeg. Mail and supplies reached the mine from Riverton, some 75 miles north of Winnipeg on the west shore of the lake. In summer the route was across the lake by boat and then along a winding river with numerous portages to the mine; in winter, by team across lake ice and then over a rough bush trail to the Bellvue. During the spring break-up, when lake and river ice was melting, and during the fall freeze-up when the ice was forming, the mine was cut off from civilization - plane service into the north was only a hope for the future.

The mine manager wanted to investigate the practicability of radio as a means of all-seasons communication with the city and had ordered a receiver and a 20 watt transmitter from the Acme Magneto and Electrical Company in Winnipeg. The owners of the mine, the American Development Company of New York, had applied for an experimental license, which at that time carried a 9 call, with the idea of getting a commercial license if the test proved successful. The author (George Reynolds) was offered a three-way job as assayer, mine survey helper and radio operator. The radio equipment arrived on the last boat across Lake Winnipeg for the year along with advice in the mail that the license application had been rejected because the company did not have a Canadian charter. It would be necessary to reapply in the name of the manager, a Canadian citizen. In the interim, the author would use his amateur call, 4AG, when operating the set.

On November 2 1923, an emergency arose that necessitated getting the radio operational without delay. The mill foreman's wife, Mrs. E. G. Symms, who was expecting a baby, suddenly developed complications with which the local Indian midwife was unable to cope and a doctor was urgently needed. After unsuccessfully attempting to raise a Winnipeg station, contact was made with Harry Drew, 9EBT, Fargo, North Dakota. He was asked to phone the company's Winnipeg office and have them try and get a doctor to the mine. The company's vice-president, H. V. Hudson, contacted Dr. S. Thompson, the resident doctor in Riverton. The doctor volunteered to try and reach the mine. After a hazardous trip by dog team over newly-formed ice on Lake Winnipeg to Manigotagan on the east shore, he was taken by a guide through the bush to the mine, travelling on horseback. He arrived at Bellvue on November 5 in time to save the mother's life, although the baby was stillborn. Because of their part in getting badly needed medical assistance to the remote community, 4AG and 9EGT were awarded citations by the American magazine 'Popular Radio' for the most outstanding achievement by radio amateurs in 1923. Later the station power was increased to 50 watts to enable regular communication with Winnipeg using the special experimental license 9AD.

When good reception conditions returned in the autumn of 1923, CKY introduced an unusual service to its listeners. Sensitive receivers with directional antennae were installed by M.T.S. at locations in the city that were relatively free from man-made interference. The first spot chosen was in the Fort Rouge district, the second on Atlantic Avenue. When one of the receivers monitored a strong signal from a U. S. broadcaster, it was fed by telephone line to CKY and the received program was put on the air. During the course of an evening, a variety of programs from different U.S. stations might be re-broadcast over CKY. Lowry was continually extolling the excellence of CKY productions yet if an entertaining program was coming through from Denver, Des Moines or elsewhere, the unpaid CKY artist was unceremoniously bumped off the air. In some quarters it was felt that this scheme might be counter-productive in that it would encourage listeners to buy receivers capable of picking up U.S. broadcasts direct in preference to CKY's own offerings.

#### NEXT MONTH:

Spectrum assignments below 200 meters -CNRW phantom station license

*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.*

#### RAC Bulletins

<http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbulletin.htm>

#### RAC Bulletin 99-044E

Search for HF digital operators  
Emergency Preparedness Canada (EPC) looking for volunteer amateurs in Ottawa, the provincial and territorial




## CAMP 807

### July 30 - Aug 1st.

**Birchland Trailer Park just west of Dryden**

Draws, Campfires, Swap Tables, Fine Food  
and Great Friends.  
(bring your own cutlery)

For more info contact:

Rick VA3RGA	Scott VA3EXT
807-937-5721	807-937-2062
va3rga@rac.ca	va3ext@rac.ca

snail mail:



capitals who have experience with HF digital operation. Those who have experience with Pactor or Clover or both are highly desirable in the project. EPC is acquiring equipment to establish a digital HF network to support EPC needs in case there are any commercial communications failures during the Y2K timeframe. These activities will be undertaken in co-ordination of the SSB network established by the Canadian Forces Affiliated Radio Service (CFARS). Inquiries can be made to the following means of contact:

### **RAC Bulletin 99-042E**

RAC Treasurer Watson Resigns

After taking office January 1 this year, John Watson, VE3GTX has resigned his position as Treasurer of Radio Amateurs of Canada. Mr. Watson was appointed by Pat Doherty, VE3PD who himself resigned two weeks ago. He assisted with Mr. Doherty's implementation of cost-cutting measures to meet a decline in RAC membership and consequent decline in revenues throughout 1998. Mr. Watson's detailed budget has been presented for 1999. Following a significant loss in 1998, the RAC financial situation is turning around, after a low at yearend.

### **RAC Bulletin 99-045E**

New RAC treasurer

In accordance with the RAC Constitution, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Bill Rothwell, VE3FGW as Treasurer of Radio Amateurs of Canada to serve for the balance of this year's term. Like all Directors and Executive Officers, the Treasurer is a volunteer, serving without compensation.

Bill has a distinguished accounting career, retiring in 1998 as Controller of a major Ottawa real estate and property management company with complex multi-building operations and budgets in the tens of millions of dollars. He has also served as Treasurer for the Canadian national operations of another not-for-profit membership association like RAC.

We are most fortunate to have the services a professional accountant with superb qualifications and experience, who is also a long-time radio amateur. Bill will provide financial support for the RAC General Manager and head office operations.

### **RAC Bulletin 99-046E**

**PROPOSAL TO STREAMLINE THE AUTHORIZATION PROCESS**

Industry Canada has released its proposal to streamline the authorization process for the Amateur Radio Service.

In short Industry Canada proposes:

- ☞ - to make the Amateur Radio Operator Certificate the sole authorization document
- ☞ - eliminate the radio licence thereby eliminating the licence issuance fee, the short term fee and the \$24 annual renewal fee
- ☞ - to modify the operator certificate to include the operator's assigned call sign
- ☞ - to charge a fee (\$60) for user initiated transactions

The complete documentation can be found on the Industry Canada web site at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01709e.html>

Please note this document is in PDF format. If you do not have Acrobat Reader it can be downloaded from the same site.

### **Bulletin 99-051E**

VE6AFO is the new RAC President

In accordance with the RAC Constitution, the RAC Board of Directors is pleased to announce the election of Kenneth (Ken) Oelke, VE6AFO as President of Radio Amateurs of Canada to serve for the balance of this year's term. This election completes the filling of open positions on the RAC Executive. Like all Directors and Officers, the President is a volunteer, serving without compensation.

Ken was born and raised in Alberta and works for Canadian Regional Airlines as a Ground Equipment Mechanic. He gained his organizational skills while serving as Emergency Coordinator, Secretary, Director, Vice President and President of the Calgary Amateur Radio Association. Ken also served as the Alberta/NWT Regional Director for the past 11 years, and was the RAC Field Services Manager for five years. Ken credits his wife Linda-Lou, VE6LGO for his overall inspiration during the many years he has been involved with Amateur Radio.

### **Bulletin 99-048E**

RAC Appoints New Secretary

In accordance with the RAC Constitution, the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce the appointment of Dawn MacKay, VE1MAK, to serve the unexpired term to December 31, 1999 of former Secretary Joe MacPherson, VE1CH. Like all Directors and Executive Officers, the Secretary is a volunteer, serving without compensation.

Dawn is an Office Manager with Nova Scotia Dept of Agriculture Marketing and Food Industry Development Branch in Truro, NS. She is also the Secretary of the Truro Amateur Radio Club and is Editor of their club newsletter. RAC members may recall her article in The Canadian Amateur issue of November, 1998 and the cover photograph of Dawn and her fellow club members during their Pictou

Island IOTA DX-pedition. Dawn's experience in both administration and amateur radio will make her a strong asset to RAC.

### A cheap and quick mast by Allan, VE4QEW

For awhile the only antenna I had up was a small  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave that was attached to the top of the gable end of the house. I thought there must be a better way. Well when I decided to set up an HF station I knew it was time! I had recently helped to dismantle a station for a silent key and thought that what he had as an end support for a dipole could easily be used as a mast for a small to medium sized vertical. It most likely will not hold up any kind of beam although I admit I didn't even try.

This is a quick way to erect mast and for mine (20 feet) doesn't even need guy wires. I have had a Cushcraft HF9V (a 26' antenna) on top for the past year and have no trouble with it. I did lower it for the big wind storm we had in early April but better safe than sorry and this design makes it simple and quick to raise and lower the antenna.

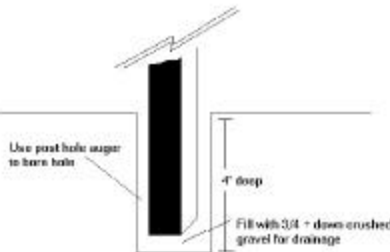
The setup is fairly simple and the fact that it is a tilt over mast makes lowering and adjusting a breeze.

#### Materials needed:

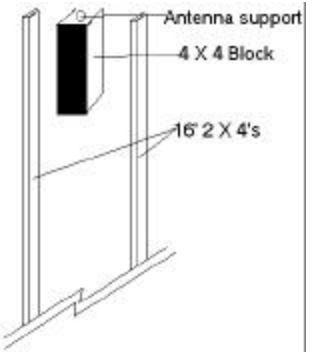
- 1- 6 X 6 X 14' Landscape post
- All Wood should be pressure treated
- 2- 2 X 4 X 16'
- 1- 4 X 4 X 1'
- 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  X 12" Bolts with nuts and 4 washers
- 4  $\frac{1}{4}$  X 7" bolts with nuts and 4 washers
- Paint if desired

#### Method

Start with a 6" X 6" X 14' landscape post. I used a paint-on treatment as well even though it was pressure treated already. Bevel the top in order to shed water. Dig a 4' deep hole with a post hole digger and put a shovel full of gravel in the bottom for drainage and so the wood will not be sitting directly on the dirt. Put the post in and plumb it vertical. Fill around the sides with  $\frac{3}{4}$ " + down gravel tamping it down with a pole as you go. Over fill the hole so there is no mud against the wood and there is a slight slope away from the post. Bore a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " hole through for the mast pivot about 1 foot down from the top. Drill a hole through both 16' 2 X 4's about 5 feet from one

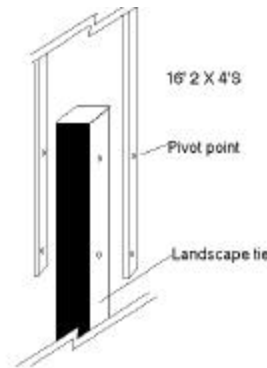


end. This will be the pivot point. At the far end of the 2X4's bolt the ends together straddling the 4 X 4 block. Bore a suitable sized hole down through the block to act as the antenna support.



#### Assembly

Put a washer on one of the 12" bolts and slide it through one of the 2 X 4 pivot holes. Then through the post and then the other 2 X 4. Put on a washer and loosely turn on the nut. Swing the mast to the vertical position and drill another hole through the assembly about 1' from the bottom of the 2 X 4's. Feed the last bolt through using the remaining washers. Tighten the 2 bolts and you're done.



In order to tilt it down to install or repair your antenna simply loosen the top bolt, remove the bottom bolt and swing the mast over.

Total cost of this mast is under \$50.00 and gives you a sturdy platform 20 feet up on which you can install a variety of antennas.

### RadioWorld Store Now Open

As you may already know "Atlantic Ham Radio Ltd" is now closed and many of our staff are now part of "Radioworld Inc." Canada's new Superstore for all types of radios. Radioworld specializes in amateur radio, scanners, shortwave radios, marine radios, aircraft radios and CB radios. The size, selection and expertise is certainly the largest in Canada, if not North America. We thank you for your support in the past and we want to be your Radio store for the new millennium. Visit our new website at <http://www.radioworld.ca> While it is still under construction we are continuously upgrading the site. Please save our new e-mail address <[sales@radioworld.ca](mailto:sales@radioworld.ca)>

### Common Mistakes We Hams Make. By Eric, VE4EPC

Have you found that you enter a conversation without identifying your station?

*If you answered YES you are in violation of rules and regs.*

Have you found that during your conversation you have left microsections between keyups?

*If you answered YES you have ignored common courtesy.*

Have you found that you have broke into an existing conversation to talk to a specific ham and have totally ignored the other party in the original conversation?

*If you have answered YES you have ignored common courtesy.*

Have you entered a multiparty conversation during peak hours on a popular repeater?

*If you answered YES you have contributed to added confusion and the ability of other hams to make a brief call.*

Have you had to express your apologies for stepping on someone because of excessive conversations on repeater operations?

*If you answered YES you probably realize there are too many people on the frequency and you have only contributed to the confusion.*

Have you carried on a lengthy conversation on a repeater with a ham that is only several blocks away?

*If you answered YES you probably should be on a SIMPLEX operation.*

Have you broke into a conversation with two hams that have been in conversation for less than one minute?

*If you answered YES you probably did not monitor the frequency before breaking in or your break was more urgent than the conversation-taking place.*

Have you monitored the frequency for any length of time before you broke in?

*If you answered YES then you are using correct radio protocol and common courtesy.*

Have you kerchunked the repeater without identifying your station?

*If you answered YES you are probably testing your equipment or the repeater operations to see if the equipment is working, but you forgot to ID your station.*

Have you left your conversation without identifying your station?

*If you answered YES you have forgotten to ID your station at the end of your transmission or you where interrupted with your contact and left on hold.*

Have you had conversations on topics of religion or politics and then apologized for the conversation?

*If you answered YES then maybe the topics are to sensitive and should be avoided and therefore not warrant an apology.*

Have you operated from a handheld at low power and received a poor signal report and you still try to maintain communications?

*If you answered YES have you explored the reasons why your communication is of poor quality and corrected the problem before trying to maintain communication?*

If you answer YES to any of the above, YOU may be in Violation of "Rules and Regs" and common radio courtesy. (With the exception of one question.}

A suggestion would be to evaluate yourself and if you fall into any of these categories, correct them before you influence new hams coming onstream as well as getting yourself into a bad habit before it becomes second nature.

## **Packet BBS Call Sign Change** **By Werner VE4UA**

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The VE4UA bbs has now changed callsigns as of the 4th of May 1999, it has changed to VE4BBS. The alias of the BBS will be Mbbbs My BPQ node UABOX with a callsign of VE4UA-3 will still remain the same.

You can connect to VE4BBS via VE4PKT on 145.070 or the nodes...and there are ports on 144.31 direct, and 145.090 via VE4RAG...Right now we have the nodes confused, as they point the VE4BBS connects in the direction of Haywood, MB so if you have difficulty in connecting to the BBS, the try to connect to my node first, VE4UA-3, the issue the BBS or C VE4BBS command and it will take you to the bulletin board.

Some of you may not be aware, but Allan VE4LOM, shut down his BBS when he was using the call VE4BBS and rather than leave the call empty, I applied for same to keep the call active and use it for the Main forwarding BBS here in Winnipeg. I am the 4th Holder of the call, where Bill VE4UB held it first, then Terry VE4TR, and Allan VE4LOM.

For anyone using VE4BBS as a address now, you will have to use the following addressing  
yourcall@VE4BBS.#WPG.MB.CAN.NOAM

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at the following address:

VE4UA@VE4BBS.#WPG.MB.CAN.NOAM

or via internet: ve4ua@ve4www.ampr.org

## **A Bit of Ham Trivia** **By Doug, VE4STD**

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An Anagram is a word or words formed by rearranging the letters of another word or words to create a new expression. As an example from the Ham World the expression "The Morse Code" can be transformed to form the anagram "here come dots". Other anagrams can be found by consulting the web at [www.easypeasy.com](http://www.easypeasy.com).

## **Calling all sailors** **Submitted by Bob VE4RJH**

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*DIANE TURBIDE in Burlington*

When D'Arcey Hilgenberg is planning a weekend barbecue at her home in Hamilton, Bermuda, she'll often make a quick call to her father, Herb, to ask him what kind of



weather she can expect. Herb Hilgenberg, grumbling good-naturedly that he is not in the business of planning social events, will provide her with a reliable forecast for the next few days. Oddly enough, Hilgenberg is based not in the Caribbean but in Burlington, Ont, 50 km west of Toronto. In fact, Hilgenberg is not in the business of weather predictions at all. The daily forecasts that he provides for sailors cruising the Caribbean or crossing the Atlantic are his hobby-albeit an all consuming one. From his 2.5 by three metre windowless basement office, Hilgenberg uses satellite dishes, two computers and radio equipment to capture and analyze meteorological data from around the world, then broadcasts his conclusions to a loyal following at sea. "There is nobody better at analyzing satellite imagery and determining real weather conditions," says Capt. Andrew Bass of the U.S. Naval Academy Sailing Squadron in Annapolis, Md. "Without him, life at sea would be a lot more dangerous."

An amateur operating out of his old laundry room ("My wife prefers the washing machine upstairs, anyway," Hilgenberg shrugs) gives better high-seas reports than official weather sources? According to thousands of pleasure sailors and commercial boaters, the answer is yes. Using high-frequency single sideband radio, Hilgenberg makes contact with 40 to 70 boats a day, advising on conditions and suggesting safe routes. Hundreds of other boaters listen in. One testimonial from Joe Bass, skipper of the U.S.-based Sea Bass, was unequivocal: "I've sailed 100,000 sea miles, but if Herb told me to jump up and down and bark like a dog, I would."

The man who inspires such loyalty is a 60-year-old retired engineer, a trim, meticulous figure who recently gave up a 25-year-old pipe-smoking habit but still downs about 10 cups of coffee a day. Gem man-born, he learned to sail in St. John's, Nfld., where he lived until he was 19. After graduating in engineering from the University of Toronto, he married his Swiss wife, Brigitte, in 1963, earned an MBA and set-fled in Burlington. Hilgenberg worked for computer companies while sailing in races in his spare time. In 1982, the couple and their two daughters, D'Arcey, then 14, and Cathleen, then 6, embarked on a trip to the Virgin Islands aboard their 12-m sailboat Southbound II. leaving Beaufort, N.C., they soon found themselves in gale conditions, 60 knot winds and nine metre waves. They avoided disaster, but the experience spurred Hilgenberg to a deeper study of weather. "I thought, how can a sane man take his family out on the high seas and risk everything?" he says. "There simply wasn't enough information available."

When the family moved to Bermuda in 1984, Hilgenberg started his marine forecasting on a part-time basis. It was there that the U.S. navy's Bass first started listening to what everybody called "The Herb Show." "The U.S. government was spending millions of dollars on oceanographic and meteorological data," recalls Bass with a laugh, "and here

was this part-time hobbyist beating them hands down." It was the start of a fruitful relationship: in April, Hilgenberg will give his third annual lecture at the U.S. Naval Academy Sailing Squadron. This year, he will focus on unusual weather, including the infamous El Nino factor, which Hilgenberg dismisses as a "vast oversimplification of a complex set of patterns."

Since his return to Burlington in 1994, Hilgenberg's "hobby" takes up about eight hours a day, seven days a week. He begins analyzing various sources of weather data-including restricted files he is allowed to get from the U.S. navy's database-at 11 a.m. Then at 3 p.m., he begins a three-hour broad cast. "I help people understand what they're going to experience," Hilgenberg says. "I tell them that if you do this, you might face six hours of bad weather instead of 18. If, at the end of the day, they tell me 'Herb, you called that one exactly,' that's my reward."

Almost his only reward, it appears. Hilgenberg offers his service free, although grateful sailors send unsolicited donations that cover most of his \$10,000 annual costs. His home is filled with plaques, awards, gifts and mementoes. Weather widow Brigitte, herself a ham operator, serves coffee to boaters who turn up unannounced on the doorstep.

She also handles the voluminous mail, some from people whom Hilgenberg has had a direct hand in rescuing. last May, the U.S. Coast Guard in Miami sent a letter of commendation for his assistance in locating a disabled boat and guiding it through a 36 hour ordeal -- one of many such stories. Another case involved a British man in U.S. waters whose wife of 30 years died of an aneurysm on board. After a nearby ship removed the body, the coast guard, worried that the distraught man might commit suicide, asked Hilgenberg to maintain steady contact with him on the three-week trip back to Britain. Says Hilgenberg: "I feel a commitment to all these people."

So much commitment, in fact, that he has had only one day off since last June. After much persuasion, Hilgenberg's wife recently dragged him off to a Sunday matinee. The movie? Titanic.

**WARC DX Sleuths**  
Submitted sincerely by Adam, VE4SN

This months meeting will be at the home of Adam, VE4SN. June 21, @ 19:30 hrs. Come on out and see a true DX station. This meeting is for DX'ers or those who truly want to be a DX'er.

**Membership Report**



—and the Man Who Transmitted It

*George Reynolds, (JAG), of Manitoba, Canada, at the base of his antenna mast.*



## THE MEDAL



The Man Who Picked Up the SOS—

*Harry Drew (Z EBT) of Fargo, North Dakota, whose prompt aid rescued two lives.*

by **Mariska, VE4MMG**

This is an reminder to **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP** or **BECOME A NEW MEMBER OF W.A.R.C.**

Membership dues are \$15.00 per person for the 1999-2000 year.

### WARC - Field Day June 26- June 27

**Falcon Lake Resort Hotel  
Whiteshell Provincial Park**

Minimum Station to consist of :  
3 HF Stations  
1 VHF/UHF  
CW, SSB, FM, Digital  
Beams, Slopers, Di- Poles, Balloon Long Wire

Bar-B-Q at Noon to kick things off.

Come out for the day or the entire weekend  
Bring the YL, XYL, and your Har monics.  
Radio, Swimming, Radio, Hiking, Radio, Nature

This will be a family function. Everyone gets a chance to operate. Let the rest of your family experience the thrill of making that first contact or make it your chance to hear what HF is all about.

Accommodations for the Resort Hotel to be arranged through Derek, VE4HAY 257-1420, or if you prefer you can camp in the Provincial Camp Ground

You can renew by mail or at the September WARC meeting to be held 13 Sept 1999

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