



Newscaster

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

October 1999

Manitoba Hydro Communications Y2K preparedness

Barry Malowanchuk, VE4MA

Date: October 18th, 1999
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: Oct. 27 - Article Deadline November Newscaster

WARC: Oct 24 Flea Market - Victoria Heritage C.C.
Nov. 8 - Monthly meeting
Dec. 13 - Monthly Meeting

WSC: Oct 6 - CW classes (evenings)
Oct 14 - Breakfast
Nov 18 - Breakfast
Dec 9 - Christmas party

ARES: Oct 19 - Meeting- Manitoba Health Disaster Service

Flea Market
October 24th, 1999
Victoria Heritage Community Club

WARC: Executive for 1999-2000			
Past President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
President	Darcy Wilson	VE4DDW	783-0421
Vice-Pres./ PR			
Treasurer	Sue Collings	VE4SYM	694-1525
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

RADIOGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT: by Darcy, VE4DDW

I can't believe I've seen the first signs of winter already! The leaves are all gone and the snow has already blessed some of us with its' presence. Now that the weather has turned for the worse, we can all start those big antenna installations we've put off all summer!

Thank you to everybody that was present for the Y2K meeting on Sep 27. The meeting was well turned out with even some new faces in the room. Remember to let your friends know about the work that needs to be done to answer the call from our public officials. We need help from everyone to be prepared for this type of duty. Besides, who wouldn't love to spend a romantic candle-lit evening in a remote police station somewhere in the north? PLEASE put some thought into this!

The big day is still coming in the very near future.....the 1999-MILLENIUM Flea Market is just a few weeks away. On October 24 you have the chance to buy and sell more equipment imaginable. It always seems to amaze me how some radios over twice as old as me are still working just as good as the day they were made! If spending money is not on your mind, come out and enjoy a coffee at Ruth's Kitchen. Say hi to all the strangers since the last flea market

There are three engineers in a car: an electrical engineer, a chemical engineer and a Microsoft engineer. Suddenly the car just stops by the side of the road, and the three engineers look at each other wondering what could be wrong. The electrical engineer suggests stripping down the electronics of the car and trying to trace where a fault might have occurred. The chemical engineer, not knowing much about cars, suggests that maybe the fuel is becoming emulsified and getting blocked somewhere. Then, the Microsoft engineer, not knowing much about anything, comes up with a suggestion, "Why don't we close all the windows, get out, get back in, open the windows again, and maybe it'll work?"

NEWS from the Winnipeg Seniors' Radio Club

by Gil Frederick, VE4AG

With the end of summer, the Club is starting to show signs of greater activity. On September 9th we had our Annual Fall Picnic. Although the day was very cold, with high wind gusts that blew a few things around, and some shower activity, we had a good turnout -- 85, would you believe? Even Bert, VE4AP braved the elements to put in a show, proving that a Ham will come out to a Ham event regardless of the weather, or his age. Good show, Bert - very nice to see you. A big thank you to the organizers, helpers, and especially the ladies who sold tickets, helped set up, and generally kept good order. Because of the severe weather, bingo was not held. However, a date has been set to hold it at the Clubrooms - Wednesday, October 6. Everybody is welcome, and are asked to arrive by 11:30 a.m.. Shortly after a quick noon lunch, bingo will commence, with lots of prizes and door prizes as well. George, VE4GNG, our Social chairman, is hoping to see a large turnout.

The next social event will be the monthly breakfast, at the Days Inn on McPhillips St.. Date is Thursday, October 14, beginning at 9:00 a.m.. Because of Armistice Day (Remembrance Day), the November breakfast meeting will be the THIRD Thursday, the 18th. Please mark your calendars now for this date change.

Tickets for the Christmas Party are available at the Club, or from George, VE4GNG. 17 were sold at the Picnic, a good start. We want to sell 100, being the number of plates contracted for with the caterer. Get your tickets early so you don't miss out on this great get-together. We'll have a full turkey dinner with all the trimmings, lots of music, an appearance by that great group, 'The Intermods', and a sing-a-long. Date is Thursday, December 9th. Doors open

at the Legion, Branch #215 at 3600 DeVries in East St. Paul, at 12 p.m. - dinner will be served after 12:30. Cost per ticket is \$15.00. There is ample free parking at the building, and an elevator for those requiring one to the basement banquet hall. We'll have door prizes and raffle prizes. Listen to speeches by distinguished guests, club executive members and others. Event ends at 3 p.m.

An evening set of CW classes at the Club have been announced - beginning Wednesday, October 6 (tentative at time of writing). They will be held once per week. Because of the Y2K exercises expected later in the year, with HF bands being used in rural areas, and the fact that A.R.E.S. members are being encouraged to upgrade their licenses for HF privileges, A.R.E.S. members are being given priority to attend. This is the reason for classes in the evening, as most are working during the day. For further info, please contact Norm Coull, VE4EH, at 885-1692.

Two Key Man awards were presented: recipients were Colin McBeath, VE4JCM, and Bert Andrews, VE4AND. No one needs to ask why.

The VX4PAG special event station, put on the air during the Pan Am Games period by VE4EEE, Kerri; VE4CCC, Les; VE4YU, Ed and VE4AG, Gil, made over 800 contacts. A special QSL card is being prepared, and will be sent to every station that was worked.

And speaking of the Pan Am Games - what an honour the volunteers received - the honour of being a Captain in the Order of the Buffalo Hunt - the highest honour that Manitoba can bestow upon a citizen. Congratulations to our members receiving this prestigious honour.

The 'old movie' theatre show, put on by Ed, VE4YU on Labour Day Monday at the Club, was not well attended. The show was excellent, and those who did attend were very pleased to have come. So Ed will not have it every 2 weeks, but on occasions when members signify a good turnout. Look for an announcement of the next one soon.

We need a QSL manager. Many QSL cards come in, and the procedure has been that those working a station would be responsible for sending a card out. This has not been happening. We want the Club to follow a good Ham Radio rule of replying to a QSL card with a QSL card - so, if you are interested in handling this very simple but necessary job - please contact Bob, VE4RJH, at 222-8023, or leave your name with a duty officer at 233-3122.

The Boni-Vital Seniors' Sing-a-long was attended by club members Paul, VE4OPC, Bob, VE4RJH, Ed, VE4YU, Bert, VE4AND, Mike, VE4AES, who handled communications. Due to the inclement weather, it was moved from St. Vital Park to the Dakota Community Club - but we hear that it was still COLD regardless.

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full page	\$75.00
½ page	\$40.00
¼ page	\$20.00
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For more information or to place an ad please contact Tom, VE4SE or e-mail ve4se@rac.ca

Comments or if you just want to reach us :

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Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5

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

The 'Broken Clock' award was self-awarded by Bob, VE4RJH, who felt he had the most to say; but he could not find anyone at the meeting who added 'spice' to the proceedings, so there was no 'Lea & Perrins' award made.

We welcome a new member to our Club - Norman Roll, VE4AEO.

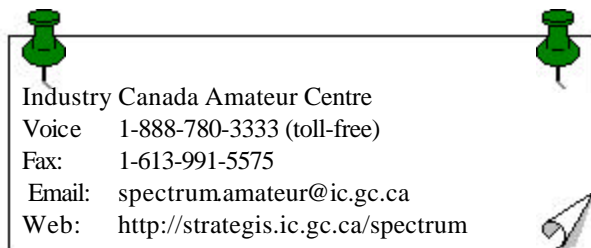
Lila, VE4LIL has sent a card of condolence, on behalf of the club, to Colin Kiddell, VE4CBK on the recent loss of his wife, Jean.

Lila mentioned that Mabel, VE4MPE, is now in a nursing home, the River East Personal Care Home, 1375 Montrose Ave., at phone number 668-7460.

The new G5RV antenna is now in place and working in Room #2 operations. Bob, VE4RJH, was the key man in this installation. It gives us 80m capability, as well as other bands.

Speaking of great guys helping at the club, we want to make special mention of a Ham, who, while not a member of the club, nonetheless does us a great service in looking after computers, upgrading them, fine-tuning the software; and was a major help in setting up and getting the new Satellite station running well - even to being on the roof and helping to install the new antennas. Thanks so much Al Thoren, VE4YZ!

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. Sept. 13th, 1999



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Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL

What a wonderful attendance, 61 in all. The usual round of introductions took place.

ERRORS.

In the minutes from our June 14th 1999 meeting were in the RAC report. The Fax number should have read 613-991-5575. The new assistant director name should read Bob Shehyn VE5FY as well as Adam Romanchuk VE4SN. The new examinations will come into fully into effect January 1, 2001.

MOTION. Moved by Derek VE4HAY

seconded by David VE4DAR that with the corrections made the minutes be accepted as printed in the newscaster. Carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

The financial records have been audited by Adam VE4SN as of July 31st 1999. All Records appear to be in good order and well maintained. Bank balance as of July 31st 1999 is \$3923.60.

PROGRAMS

Tom VE4SE announced tentative programs for the balance of the year. For October 18, a talk on Fleetnet as used for the Pan Am games by a MTS spokesman. November 9th, Dave Place on his disaster volunteering with Red Cross around the world, December 13th the Christmas party. Please read the future newscasters for any change in the programs.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Mariska VE4MMG reported that 66 people renewed their memberships so far. Darcy VE4DDW spoke on the membership draw to be held at the flea market October 24th.

RAC REPORT

Effective 11th September 1999, holder of basic + 5wpm and basic + 12wpm CW may use the 10 metre HF band from 28.mhz to 29.MHz. Industry Canada has issued a revised RIC-2 issue 2 dated Sept. 11, 1999. This modification was a RAC sponsored initiative to encourage HF use by the basic +5 wpm Hams. The RAC outgoing QSL bureau has moved to BOX 11156, Station H, Nepean On. K2H 7T9. It is now managed by Nenad Stevanovic, VE3EXY. RAC president, Ken Oelke VE6AFO has been visiting various clubs and his mandate is to visit numerous clubs across Canada. Mr. Oelke is a Canadian Airlines employee and travels at no cost to RAC. Vice President of international affairs, Dr. Ken Pulfev,P.Eng., has been in Europe attending meetings at the ITM on our behalf. He travels at his own expense. New question banks for the basic qualification will be phased in

starting 1st July 2000 and will be fully implemented by 1st January 2001 says Industry Canada. Assistant RAC Midwest directors are needed in Manitoba & Saskatchewan. Please contact Rick Lord VE4OV for more info at 275-6980 or RAC is looking for a computer savvy Ham to assist with flea market & hamfest listings on the RAC website or perhaps hosted on your own server.

ARES

Jeff VE4MBQ reported on past exercises and reminded and encouraged everyone to attend the Y2K meeting on Sept. 27th.

DX SLEUTHS

Adam VE4SN, the sleuths will meet at the home of Ed Henderson Monday Sept. 20th at 19:00hrs.

FLEA MARKET

Darcy VE4DDW gave an extensive report on the organization & times. Darcy will be in charge of this event.

NEW BUSINESS

Correction, the next WARC meeting date should read Oct. 18th 1999. Blue books are on sale for \$10.00. Darcy brought up for discussion the idea of purchasing an HF antenna for the club. Question? Anyone doing anything for Amateur World Radio? Norm VE4EH expressed his sincere appreciation to all amateurs who volunteered their time during the Pan Am Games.

ELECTIONS

The present executive agreed to stand and Sue Collins VE4SYM was nominated from the floor. We regret receiving a letter of resignation from Les Barclay VE4CCC due to ill health. He feels that at this time he is not able to continue on the executive. We will keep you in mind for the future Les. Best of luck from all of us. Motion, moved by Dick VE4HK and seconded by Jeff VE4MBQ that nominations close. Carried.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

Norm VE4EH has completed his 3rd term on the executive as of Sept. 1999. A very special thank you from the executive and the membership for wearing all those hats and pulling us through the past year.

The meeting adjourned at 20:10 hrs.

DX Sleuths

by Adam, VE4SN

At this point in time it appears that we will have to suspend DX meetings in our homes due to lack of interest. Ed and I will try to come up with some other format in the near future. Please stand by

Hints & Kinks de Ralph, VE4RY

Cutting a slot in wood or metal is easy if the slot is narrow, but can become more difficult if the slot has to be somewhat wider than the hacksaw blade kerf.

A very easy solution is to fasten as many blades as required beside each other until the desired thickness is obtained. Masking tape works fine on wood, or you could run a small nut and bolt through the end-holes for tougher jobs. For protection, use a rag or wear a glove to hold the blades when making the cut.

Substantiating the suspicion that this idea may be "for the birds": my most recent use of this idea was for cutting slots in the ends of a special wooden perch for Sam, the geriatric budgie!

Contest Calendar

October

- 9-10 VK/ZL/Oceania Contest, CW
- 9-10 Southern African HF Field Day
- 9-10 BARTG RTTY Sprint
- 9-10 Two Meter Sidewinder Shootout
- 9-10 Pennsylvania QSO Party
- 10 Iberoamericano Contest
- 10 10-10 Day Sprint

November

- 6-8 [ARRL November Sweepstakes, CW](#)

Winnipeg ARES Report

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by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC

This past summer was mostly concerned with CANWARN and Pan Am Games VIP Transportation. CANWARN ran 17MAY through 12SEP with an ARES CANWARN Controller on-call DAILY 1130-1730 and 1730-2130. Eighteen Winnipeg ARES members and one Pinawa ARES member covered the thirty-four Net Control shifts at VE4WVO:

VE4s ACX, AJR (4shifts), AND, HGD, HAY (3 shifts), HAZ (3 shifts), HK, KAZ, KU, MBQ (6 shifts), MMG, PLG, RCJ, RJH, RST, SE, WF, WTS, YG

The program started out as activation only by the Severe Weather Forecaster at the Prairie Storm Prediction Centre to activation by Severe Wx Forecaster OR the on-call Net Controller. Next season the ECs in the field will also be able to activate the net if they consider it warranted by severe local weather conditions.

My Pan Am Games VIP Transportation report will be elsewhere in this issue or in a future "Newscaster" as space permits.

September has been a busy month for Winnipeg ARES. Our Y2K plans are being refined and we have had several volunteer operations:

02SEP99: Familiarization tour of Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre (VE4EMO). Eighteen members attended: VE4s

AND,EH,MBQ,HAY,HAZ,KAZ,WF,HK,MMG,XYL,
E,DL,DAR,AJR, RST,ACX,VID,DDW

08/08SEP99: Manitoba Hydro HF Test/Standby Net with US power utilities. Involved three members: VE4s SE,KAZ,MBQ

12SEP99: Parkinson Superwalk at Assiniboine Park. Thirteen members participated: VE4s

WF,GWB,DDW,HK,CDP,RST,MMG,ACX,DL,AJR,AND,
,KAZ,SE

Special thanks to Yori VE4ACX for use of VE4TWO portable repeater.

19SEP99: Terry Fox Run. Staffed sites at Assiniboine Park, Kildonan Park, Harborview, Terry Fox Office, and one mobile covering Provincial Director. Seventeen members participated: VE4s

KAZ,KER,DL,CDP,KU,AND,RJH,WF,GMC,GWB,MMG,
HK,AJR,RST,SE,MBQ,DDW

Special thanks to the hams at Prairie Mobile for use of VE4FLN as a city-wide repeater (each park used simplex).

25SEP99: Head of the Red Regatta - Winnipeg Rowing Club. Sixteen members participated on the river and on shore: VE4s

HK,WTS,XYL,SE,KAZ,CDP,GWB,KU,ACX,DDW,YU,
WF,VID,AJR, MMG, MBQ

Special thanks to Yori VE4ACX for use of VE4TWO portable repeater and to WSCRC for letting us set up VE4TWO there. As well, Jim VE4AJR and Wayne VE4WTS provided their own packet gear for transmission of starting times from the start-line to Net Control at Winnipeg Rowing Club. We moved the net around several times, but no stragglers! The weather was terrific, big change from last year.

Dan Michaelis VE4SYG helped out our Y2K plans by donating and programming a GE Phoenix VHF radio to Winnipeg ARES, this generous contribution will allow us to now have three VHF base station kits that can be rapidly deployed. For our Y2K operation we will need at least seven VHF base stations:

WPS 2

WFD 1

RCMP 2

MPIC 2

Our September monthly meeting featured Shauna Eggertson from Manitoba SAR who explained to us how ground search and rescue is currently organized in Manitoba. During the business meeting we approved our 1999-2000 Budget and looked after nominations for the 1999-2000 Winnipeg ARES Executive. The 1999-2000 Winnipeg ARES Executive are:

President Richard Kazuk VE4KAZ

Vice President Tom Mills VE4SE

Treasurer Jim Ross VE4AJR

Secretary Ruth Mills VE4XYL

Fund-Raising Co-Chair Mariska Maguire VE4MMG

Fund-Raising Co-Chair Dick Maguire VE4HK

Thanks to Keri Kazuk VE4KER, outgoing Secretary and to Robert Stegmaier VE4RST outgoing Fund-Raising Chair for their many efforts over the past few years.

We welcome three new Winnipeg ARES members: Ruthie Maman VE4CRS, Bob Poole VE4MAQ, Lawrence Kyle VE4SS

Our October monthly meeting will be Tuesday 19OCT99 1900h at Sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street. Larry Gwiazda from Manitoba Health Disaster Services will be giving us a presentation on health disaster planning.

RAC Bulletins

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

RAC Bulletin 99-088E

Basic + 5 get 10M

Industry Canada has advised RAC that a Canada Gazette Part II Notice to be issued in the Canada Gazette on Saturday, 11 September, 1999 will grant approval for Amateur Radio Certificate holders with both Basic and 5 WPM Qualifications to operate on 10 Metres. The Notice will include the necessary amendment to RIC-2 and the authorization is to be effective 11 September. Amateurs with Basic + 5 WPM qualifications should check the Notice on the Industry Canada web site at <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/spectrum> before operating.

This approval is the culmination of an initiative by RAC in response to requests to RAC Directors by amateurs across Canada. The approval follows extensive RAC/Industry Canada direct discussions, discussions in CARAB meetings, and public consultation by Industry Canada. The 56 responses received from the public consultation were overwhelmingly supportive of the initiative.

RAC appreciates the efforts by Industry Canada to accommodate this expansion of operating privileges. RAC also thanks all those individuals, clubs and organizations who contributed to the review.

For further information, see the RAC web site at <http://www.rac.ca>

Bulletin 99-089E

Amateur Radio Hall of Fame Board of Trustees for 1999-2000

The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointments for the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame Board of Trustees. Under Hall of Fame Chair James Hay, VE2VE, the Trustees will review all nominations and select a candidate for the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame Award to be announced later. The Board of Trustees represents all Provinces as follows:

Newfoundland	Frank Davis	VO1HP
Prince Edward Is.	Frank Graham	VY2FG
Nova Scotia	Dr. Roger Porter	VE1VCE
New Brunswick	Hugh Clark	VE9HC
Quebec	Pierre Goyette	VE2FFE
Ontario	Albert Vaillancourt	VE3DPZ
Manitoba	Gil Frederick	VE4AG
Saskatchewan	Keith McGillivray	VE5VJ
Alberta	Brian Crisal	VE6BCA
British Columbia	Fred Houghton	VE7FFK

Bulletin 99-096E

IC revises guide for Accredited Examiners

On September 16th, Industry Canada released a new version of RIC - 1, entitled

"Guide for Examiners Accredited to Conduct Examinations for the Amateur Radio Operator Certificate"

The revised Radio Information Circular outlines the policies and procedures for examiners who conduct Amateur Radio Operator Certificate examinations on behalf of Industry Canada. The document can be downloaded from the Industry Canada web site at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01007e.html>

Bulletin 99-097E

New Basic and Advanced question banks released.

Radio Information circulars RIC-7 - Basic Qualification Question Bank for Amateur Radio Operator Certificate Examinations, and RIC-8 - Advanced Qualification Question Bank for Amateur Radio Operator Certificate are now available for downloading from the Industry Canada Strategis web site. (The files are quite large; the basic question bank may require up to 260 pages to print !!)

Industry Canada proposes to implement the new exams as of July 1, 2000, but has released the question banks now to give course developers and examiners a chance to gain familiarity with them.

Any questions about changes to the examination curriculum and syllabi should be cleared up when a revised version of RIC -3 is issued in the near future.

The RIC-7 URL

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01900e.html>

The RIC-8 URL

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01901e.html>

RAC 99-099E

Official Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base Amended to Show Qualifications

Effective 01 October, 1999, the official Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base on the Internet has been amended to display the qualifications held by individual Canadian radio amateurs.

The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is a collaborative development by Industry Canada, RAC and Information Gateway Services in response to requests from individual amateurs, clubs and Delegated examiners across Canada to have the qualification data included in the call sign data base on the Internet.

The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is derived from the new Industry Canada data base called the ACCS (Amateur Callsign Certification System)/ SGIC (Syst=E8me de gestion d'indicatifs d'appel et de certification amateur) formed by merging information from the

Department's existing, separate certificate and automated licensing system data bases. This was not a trivial task. Many amateurs will recall receiving a letter early this year from Industry Canada in February or March requesting verification of information. The new data base has been made as accurate as possible, but some errors may exist. Industry Canada has requested that all amateurs check their information and report any errors or omissions to the Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre at the phone numbers or addresses listed below. Clubs should verify the currency of the information for their club station sponsor and report any changes.

All amateurs who obtained the former Amateur or Advanced Amateur Certificate of Proficiency in Amateur Radio prior to 1990 should be shown as holding Basic, Advanced and 12 WPM Qualifications.

The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is available on the RAC web site at <<http://www.rac.ca/callbook>>. Further information will be posted on the web site as it becomes available.

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

Part 20

FINAL PART (20) OF A SERIES ON RADIO BROADCASTING HISTORY IN MANITOBA

Much of the material in these articles was based on the author's (4AG/VE4AJ) recollection of events in the field of radio in Manitoba throughout a period of 60 years.

"The Pas Herald" was the principle source of information on the Marconi wireless stations at The Pas and Port Nelson. The Winnipeg newspapers are the basis of the story on CJCG and CJNC. Information on the various amateur radio clubs was found in the "FREE PRESS", "THE TRIBUNE" and "THE RADIO BUG". The account of de Forest's visit to Winnipeg is from the Winnipeg papers; biographical data on de Forest is from his autobiography, "FATHER OF RADIO", published by Wilcox and Folett, Chicago, 1950. "MANITOBA CALLING" a publication of the Manitoba Telephone System, furnished information on CKY. The Lowry correspondence is located in the Department of Public Works file, RG-11, A1-Box 3 under Radio 1923 in the Provincial Archives of Manitoba.

"HANSARD" and the Sessional Reports of the Departments of Marine and Fisheries, Naval Service and Railways and Canals have proven to be valuable sources of information. The "CANADA GAZETTE" has been consulted for details of the radio regulations as they changed over the years.

A host of publications in the public domain have provided minor details including the "SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN", "RADIO NEWS", the "MANITOBAN", Marconi's "YEARBOOK OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY AND TELEPHONY" and "POPULAR RADIO".

Of the individuals whose remembrances of early wireless were most informative, there are at least five who should be especially thanked. They are, Herb Jeune of Victoria, who was 84 at the time of writing and who had a fund of stories about station VBM; Arthur Scott, possibly the only surviving member of the Canadian Central Wireless Club; Douglas C. Chapman, one of the operators of the FREE PRESS wireless during the General Strike in Winnipeg; Graham Spry of Ottawa, the secretary of the 1919 Winnipeg Wireless Club and particularly, William G. Speechly, ex 4AZ, who suggested several very productive research leads.

Finally I am deeply indebted to Mrs. Elizabeth Cam, who scrutinized the article with professional skill and pointed out numerous errors in spelling, style and syntax.

These 20 articles published in "THE NEWSCASTER" over the past two years were taken from a publication by George Reynolds which is available from the Manitoba Historical Society.

Come to the October meeting of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club and see samples of some of the magazines and letters that served as partial source for this very interesting and informative publication.

Thank you to Mrs. Wilda Ward, daughter of George Reynolds, for her approval of publishing this paper in the NEWSCASTER and for donation of papers, magazines and data used in its creation.

(ed's note. Thank you Ed for putting the multi part article together for us. It has been a very interesting read of these many months. and a great feature for the Newscaster. One which I must say was very consistently submitted - Thanks again.)

Station Identification

by Eric, VE4EPC.

There is a mis-understanding among some Hams as to the correct way to identify their station.

I will attempt to resolve this confusion with quoting the RIC-2 regulation and giving a layman's explanation of the regulation.

The Regulation is in three parts and covers Canada , the United States .

Regulation #1- The operator of an amateur station licensed in Canada shall identify the station by transmitting the call sign assigned to that station.

What this means is that : You as a licensed operator MUST identify your station when transmitting.

: You are to identify your station at the beginning of your transmission.

: You are to identify your station at the end of your transmission.

: You are NOT to exceed more than 30 minutes before Identifying your station.

You as a licensed operator only have to Identify "YOUR STATION " and not the station you are responding to. Having said that: this would only apply to a " one on one conversation".

As you know there are times when on a multiparty conversation on a repeater you will have to identify the stations as well as your own , however if you are the station that is inviting other stations to join the group YOU should be considered as a controller of the repeater and have all calls addressed to you so that you can maintain communications without having other stations breaking in and stepping on the conversations already in progress. These calls should be acknowledged by call signs , much the same way a " NET " is handled. This also applies to simplex operations as well.

Regulation #2- The operator of an amateur station licensed by the Government of the United States has to follow the same rules as regulation #1 but has to include the word "Portable or Mobile " plus the call sign prefix set out in column I of an item of Schedule IV for the geographical location of the station set out in column II of that item, at the end of their callsign. An example would be a station licensed in North Dakota calling a station in Manitoba is: VE4EPC this is NOKUY Mobile VE4 or Portable VE4. This tells you that the station calling is from another country and is in Manitoba (ve4) and is either mobile or portable.

There is another method used that is not in the Regulations and that is to use "VE4 " only at the end of the call sign. This would be NOKUY VE4, and this would indicate that the call sign is a resident of Manitoba but has kept the American call sign or this may be when an American

has dual residency or is working in Manitoba for a period of time and will be returning to the USA .

Regulation #3- This is the same as Regulation #1 with the exception of; in Canada either French or English can be used to identify your station at the beginning and at the end of your transmissions and that you must identify your station for Test Transmissions. What this means is: regardless of what language you speak you must identify your station in English or French. You can have your conversation in the language of your choice after you have identified your station. The term "Test Transmission " means that you are testing your equipment or a repeater operation to see if either or both is working properly. To do so you have to "key up" your transmitter and therefore you are Required to identify your station.

The bottom line is: Know when to use your Callsign .

IF you have any questions or comments please contact me on the air. or via E-Mail address is VE4EPC@escape.ca.

**VIP TRANSPORTATION DISPATCH
XIII PAN AMERICAN GAMES
by Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ**

Amateur planning for the Pan Am Games began in late 1996 when representatives from major amateur radio organizations in southern Manitoba met and agreed on several points:

- ☒ use of amateur radio and amateur radio operators for game operations should be encouraged
- ☒ amateur groups should meet and plan as a consortium so that we are all on the same page
- ☒ the consortium called itself PANAROG for Pan Am Amateur Radio Organizing Group.

PANAROG was composed of representatives from Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club (WARC), Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club (WSCRC), University of Manitoba Amateur Radio Society (UMARS), Manitoba Repeater Society (MRS), and of course Winnipeg ARES.

Unfortunately planning and actually carrying out the 1997 Spring Flood Operation got in the way. In June 1997 the newly hired Pan Am Games Society Telecommunications Manager was contacted about amateur radio and amateur radio operators. We focused not only on the very successful amateur flood operation but also amateur operations such as the Manitoba Marathon, Terry Fox Run, MSOS Games, etc. At the same time inquiries were made with Atlanta ARES about amateur involvement with the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

The Pan Am Games Society (PAGS) Telecommunications Manager was very pleasant to deal with and seemed most interested in possibly tapping some of the 600 amateurs in Winnipeg. We were asked how many hundred application forms PANAROG required without any commitment from PAGS that we would act as radio operators never mind utilize amateur radio.

The information from Atlanta ARES was quite sobering. After two years of meetings with the Atlanta Organizing Committee (AOC) and issue of uniforms and credentials, the AOC decided just prior to the Olympics that the nature of a contract with a major telecommunications vendor left no room for volunteers utilizing their personal amateur gear.

Through the fall of 1997 PANAROG advertised in the various amateur newsletters that we had made representation to PAGS about using amateur radio and amateur operators. PAGS staff remained vague and noncommittal until I was advised 06JAN98 that due to the exclusivity of the PAGS contract with a major telecommunications vendor amateur radio operators would not be required/ permitted.

PANAROG was very mindful of the disappointment experienced by the Atlanta area amateurs so we were not surprised, just kind of hurt that since we were "amateurs" and the Games were big business we were not required. I was quite surprised in July 1998 when I was contacted by Neil Gottfred and Ken Kline of PAGS Transportation Department.

The PAGS Transportation folks wondered if the amateur community was interested in getting involved with VIP Transportation using trunked radio (MTS "Fleetnet"). Initially we planned to utilize one of our own amateurs each shift as a dispatcher on a dedicated talk-group with the rest of us out driving VIPs in PAGS vehicles. A further "selling-point" was that if the trunked radio system went down, our group would be able to communicate via 2 metres!

PANAROG met again and the word went out to our constituents - PAGS wants us after all as volunteers! Once again the local amateur newsletters, meetings, and voice nets talked about Pan Am Games. We had a meeting in FEB99 at the University of Manitoba that drew about 40 amateurs. The PAGS Transportation types were impressed - we had standing room only. So I guess if you want to impress a non-amateur agency ensure that you book a room that you know will be too small!

After several more meetings we ended up with 33 amateurs. A far cry from the 600 or so amateurs in Winnipeg but a good number were probably displeased with the previous treatment. Many people in Winnipeg volunteered as VIP Drivers but not many volunteered as VIP Dispatchers. Once again our role changed and we all became dispatchers.

The Pan Am Motor Pool was located at the former Dominion Bridge facility near Winnipeg Airport. The motor pool ran 24/7 from 18JUL to 10AUG. During the day and evening shifts (not many of us volunteered for nights!) there were usually upwards of 300 vehicles being controlled on eight to ten talk-groups by teams of 1, 2, or sometimes three people per dispatch position.

We used trunked base radios and hand-helds at Dispatch. Many of the amateurs preferred the hand-helds because we could plug in amateur headsets, headphones or just earphones - the room got kind of noisy at times, especially during shift change.

Being amateurs we wanted a back-up communications plan in case the trunked system failed. Winnipeg ARES set up a 2 metre antenna and feed line and cached a 2 metre mobile radio and power supply in the Chief Dispatcher's Office. If the system crashed we would have kept one amateur at Dispatch, sent the rest of the amateur dispatchers out to the vehicle staging lots, and done an ARES fan-out to cover the other major vehicle sites. Unfortunately we never had to implement "Plan B".

VIP Transportation turned out to be one of three Pan Am Games amateur radio operations. Thirty-one amateurs provided communications 25JUL99 for the two Pan Am Marathons (male and female separate) held 45 minutes apart. The Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club had special event station VX4PAG on the air throughout the Games. Hopefully you will have the opportunity to read about these two operations elsewhere in this issue or in the future.

There were many people involved as dispatchers for VIP Transportation: general volunteers that had never used a two-way radio, active duty military, and thirty-three amateurs. The 33 amateurs participating as volunteer dispatchers for VIP Transportation were:

VE4s ACX, AD, AFL, ALF, BAR, DAN, DAR, DGS, DL, EIH, GF, GLR, GWB, HAZ, HGD, HK, HO, IQ, KAJ, KAZ, MAB, MBQ, MJM, MMG, PLG, QEW, RCJ, SE, SN, WF, XYL, YU, and EH (Chief Dispatcher).

Ultimately these amateurs represented Winnipeg ARES (19/33), Manitoba Repeater Society, Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club, 1st Sun Valley Venturers, and Pinawa ARES. We each made a commitment to provide 42 hours as volunteers, most provided many more hours. Hopefully we will be able to recruit some of the non-ARES amateurs for Y2K operations.

I would like to give special thanks to two people. Rhonda my wife who was able to take my hand-drawn, chicken-scratch shift schedule and turn it into a terrific easy to read spreadsheet; and Grant VE4HGD who set up an

