



President's Message and Report

WI ~ ARCS:

EVENT MAP OF 2009 and REPORT to the Annual General Meeting

January-19: Larry, VE2DO presented the ARRL DXCC certificate to Keith, VE2XL at the December 2008 meeting. At this Annual General Meeting Dave, VE2DGC acted as the nominating committee and Keith, VE2XL was the president and scrutineer. There being no nominations, other than the current executive, the current executive was acclaimed for 2009.

François', VE2AAY Basic Certificate Skype course produced five graduates: Joe, VE2JQE; Charles, VE2RFI; Lee, VA2XTL; Steve, VA2UFP and Peter, VE2PVP. All pass with over 80% obtaining their HF endorsement.

The VE2CWI 2 m Info Net on Sundays at 20:00 local proceeded with three new net controllers: Malcom, VE2DDZ; George, VE2NGH and Al, VE2WRI sharing the load. Wayne, VE2WRH revived the old Trivia net on Fridays at 17:00 local.

February-16: The Canadian Ski Marathon operated from Lachute to Buckingham this year (07 and 08 Feb) with some of our members assisting with the communications.

Bob, VE2AXO gave us a talk on QRP (FT-817ND) DX operations. Ken, VE2KLF presented Bob with the ARRL DXCC award for RTTY.

Andy, VE2DNN presented the final financial report for 2008.

March-16: The church hall we meet in became temporarily unavailable leaving our members out in the freezing cold. The club was not informed of a lock change a few days before the March meeting. All was restored when we finally located the new janitor with a new key and the remaining hearty survivors warmed up at what remained of the meeting.

Ken, VE2KLF gave a short rundown on his experiences with DTV converter usage in the Montreal region.

Gilles, VE2TZT noted that our club came first in Canada in the 1A category for the 2008 Field Day operations and suggested that we run 2A in 2009 as a challenge.

April-20: James, VE2KHC discussed the new regulations governing emergency operations and the requirements for those "on site" during an emergency operation. This prompted a discussion on Canwarn and ARES in Ontario and Quebec.

Keith, VE2MTL tried placing ads for our meetings in a few of the local newspapers with no guarantee of publication and little results.

Gilles, VE2TZT gave a live demonstration of the PSK31 mode with a QSO with KX4P in Virginia.

May-18: Four submissions were presented at this "show and tell" meeting. Gilles, VE2TZT showed his 3 element 2 m Yagi and an 8 element Quagi he used to track down noise sources from Hydro Quebec equipment (insulators). Keith, VE2XL demonstrated a modified CB SWR/Power meter for amateur radio use and a transistor tester he built from a QST article. Charles, VE2RFI illustrated a portable (backpack) adjustable dipole antenna including a balun. Our historian, Dave, VE2DGC keyed a Ford T ignition coil spark transmitter to illustrate how an old coherer (detector) functioned at 1.5 m away from the spark transmitter... early "ultra wide

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West Island Amateur Radio Club

Founded in 1972

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WIARC is you, our club members and:

President: Kenneth Fraser, VE2KLF

Vice-president: Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Treasurer: Andy Foot, VE2DNN

Secretary: Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

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Newsletter Editor: Morrie Portnoff, VE2BWS

(Articles and your comments are always welcomed, please submit them before the first Monday of the month for publication in that month's edition to the editor's attention, chelsea13313@yahoo.ca)

Website: <http://shell.pubnix.net/~wiarc>

(Webmaster: Wayne Hodgins, ve2wrh@rac.ca)

Repeaters: VE2RWI VHF - 146.910 MHz (-)
VE2RWI UHF - 443.050 MHz (+)

(141.3 Hz CTCSS tone transmitted by both repeaters).

Monthly Meetings: Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of every month, except July at: Lakeside Heights Baptist Church, 275 Braebrook, Pointe-Claire (West Island part of Montreal). Visitors are welcomed!

UPCOMING MEETING

Dec. 14, 2009

This month's topic

"Annual General
Meeting"

From the Editor's Key

Good day my fellow WIARCians...

First I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season to all and your families. Hopefully Santa will be kind and generous in restocking your hamshack with new trinkets.

As you all probably know this is my last club Bulletin as its editor. I wish to thank all those whom have contributed materials over the past many years. With out your input the Bulletin would have been much less interesting and informative. I hope a fellow member whom is NOT on the Executive (they already do enough for the Club) will pick up the challenge of putting together the Bulletin. It really is not that difficult and can be fun. So with that I am closing with a final...

73, Morrie Portnoff VE2BWS

President's Message cont'd from Page 1
band" communications!

May- 27/28: Our club participated in the annual Science and Technology days as one of the partners for this Lester B Pearson school board event. Once again the children enjoyed our FRS radios, a 2 m IRLP link to Hollywood, Ca and, the best Morse code practice ever. We had proficiency certificates (an nice idea from Morrie, VE2BWS) for each student on one of the six keys and oscillators we provided. Kudos to all who helped with this educational event... Malcom, VE2DDZ provided the introduction to amateur radio to all the student groups who visited our booth (hangar at the Cooper's Airfield in St Lazare) and was assisted by Johan, VE2SWE and Bob, VE2AXO. Thanks go to George, VE2NGH; Andy, VE2DNN and Ken, VE2KLF for the use of their equipment. Keith, VE2MTL; Ray, VA2RY and Ed, VE2EZJ helped with the setup and Cliff, VE2YU set up the VE2RMP repeater for the 2 m IRLP service. Gunter, VE2BHH and Keith, VE2MTL were snapping pictures all over the place as usual.

June-15: Andy, gave a brief rundown of the WIARC financial position pointing out that the GICs are not earning much interest these days.

Most of the meeting was given over to Gilles, VE2TZT to discuss the plans for the upcoming Field Day at the Morgan Arboretum. It was finally decided to run in the 1A category again, but with more participation by new operators. Much time was devoted to the gathering of "bonus" points like PV solar panel operations and educational points for instructing prospective hams.

June-28/29: Field Day this year was another success with more operators at the controls. We set up our 1A station in the Morgan Arboretum adjacent to the Conservation Centre. Unfortunately new fire regulations canned the BBQ this year. The weather was quite favourable this year and we came fourth in Canada with 2348 points in the 1A category. Again Gilles, VE2TZT, the master archer, put up the antennas and brought his equipment. Thanks also to those helped us run for the full 24 hours; Andy (who procured the generator), Ken, VE2KLF; Sam, VE2LJV; Vlad, VA2AN; Bob, VE2AXO; Morrie, VE2BWS; Branislav, VA2BNE; Berny, VA2BP; Charles, VE2RFI and many others. Of particular interest and bonus points earned was the satellite station set up by Malcom, VE2DDZ and George, VE2NGH.

September-14: Morrie, VE2BWS presented a super slide presentation of our field day exercise and life on the Main.

Please see page 4

What Happened

Minutes of the November

WIARC Meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:46. Ken VE2KLF presides and welcomes the 21 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday November 16, 2009 meeting are as follows.

1. Visitor: Sheldon VA2SH attended our meeting tonight. We have not seen him around here for quite some time. Welcome, Sheldon and we hope to see you more often.

2. SK VE2EXQ Jim: Regretfully, this afternoon some of our members attended the funeral service for Jim Costello VE2EXQ. He had last attended a regular meeting in February of this year. He had not been well since. Reg VE2AYU brought his CW equipment and led the silent key ceremony for Jim.

3. Nominating Committee: George VE2NGH has graciously accepted to chair the nominating committee this year. If anyone wishes to nominate someone for an executive position, please see George. Don't forget that the AGM takes place at our next meeting, December 14th 2009. Yes, it's the 2nd Monday this time.

4. Publisher Wanted: Morrie VE2BWS has announced that he will be unable to continue as publisher for our monthly bulletin after Jan 1, 2010. If you would like to take on this task, Morrie has

agreed to assist you throughout the transition. Please consider it.

5. Christmas Dinner: We were reminded about our annual Christmas dinner being held on Wednesday December 2nd at 7PM. The venue, the same as last year, is Casa Greque, located at 13081 Gouin Blvd. West, in Pierrefonds. Don't forget to bring your own wine or beer. As well the MARC Christmas dinner was announced. It will be held Saturday December 5th at Antico Martini 6450 Somerled in NDG.

6. WIARC Web Site: Since the trivia net seems to have found new life on Tuesday evenings, the attention has now moved to the matter of the Club web site. There was a lot of open discussion from the floor. There were lots of diverse suggestions. There seems to be no shortage of expertise in our club when it comes to registering domain names and formatting web pages. Stay tuned.

7. QST Article: Keith VE2XL, made us aware of an article in the Dec 2009 issue of QST written by Fred VE1FA. It is about modifications to a Collins 30L-1 linear amp. Take a look.

8. FD Results: The results are in and published. WIARC placed 4th in Canada in the 1A category for 2009. By the way, Gilles VE2TZZ mentioned that his QTH will be visited shortly by a camera crew from RDI. We have to start watching RDI from now on.

9. DBJ-1 Antenna: Sam VE2LJV, is looking for information on a DBJ-1 antenna. Anyone?

After the break, we did not have a speaker for the evening. There were a few contributions from the floor, however. Ken VE2KLF told us about some of his recent experiences attending the McGill oral exams. One topic included

the use of RF to detect breast cancers. By setting up several antennas around the breast, and switching the transmit and receive sequences, they have been able to detect tumours as small as 2mm. Ken also talked about another research project using 'patch' antennas. Malcolm VE2DDZ, introduced some Bluetooth interfaces to older cell phones. These devices are used as add-ons to phones that are not Bluetooth ready. Malcolm talked about applying them to amateur radio use. Good stuff fellows. Keep them coming.

This month the winner of the 50/50 draw was Joe VE2JQE. Congratulations.

This month, there were no door prizes.

Something Pun'y - Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

The meeting adjourned at 21:35 EST. See you December 14th.

73 and good DX de Keith VE2MTL

WIARC AGM

2009

The annual Annual General meeting (AGM) of the West Island Amateur Radio Club will be held on Monday, December 14th.

George VE2NGH, has accepted the role of Chair of the Nominating Committee and will oversee the proceedings.

All nominations for positions should be directed to him.

WIARC NETS

Information Net each Sunday evening on the 146.910 Club repeater starting at 8 PM running for approximately an hour. All are welcome to participate.

Also, there is a Trivia Net held each Tuesday evening beginning at 7 PM until 8:00 PM

The rest of the meeting covered a range of topics from Yagi antenna design to WWVB (60 kHz) synchronized wristwatches.

September-19: Once again our hamfest was held at the Shriner's Hall on Sources boulevard. The attendance was about the same as last year and we managed a reasonable profit for our club. There were fewer fleamarket tables this year, but the big disappointment was the lack of items for the auction. We have to dig more stuff out of our basements! Larry, VE2DO managed to auction most of the items that were on the auction tables. Many thanks to the volunteers: Fred, VE2LSQ for the talk-in; Ken, VE2KLF and Francois, VE2AAY on the accounts table; Morrie, VE2BWS and Berny, VA2BP on the admissions table; Keith, VE2MTL and Terry, VE2WTQ for KP duty and Keith, VE2MTL for the sound system. And let us not forget our one vendor, Sheldon, VE2SHW, Radio HF who provided the door prizes.

October-19: Due to consistent low numbers of check ins for the Trivia Net on Fridays at 17:00 local, it was moved to Tuesdays at 19:00 local with the concurrence of Wayne, VE2WRH, the net controller.

Much of the early part of the meeting revolved around a discussion of the new cell phone regulations as they affect vehicle drivers while mobile. Our discussion was centered on how the new regulations relate to the use of amateur radio equipment while mobile as a driver. Since this is a matter of provincial regulation, the current regulations in Quebec and a few other provincial jurisdictions were on the floor. This proceeded to gravitate to general distractions in the driver's environment. All in all it was an interesting discussion, which will probably return to haunt us in the near future as the regulations develop.

Our mystery speaker after the coffee break turned out to be Gilles, VE2TZZT who launched into a practical demonstration of his new toy ... an Array Solutions model 2180 Vector Network Analyzer. The tuning of a 3-element tape Yagi was the load used for the main demo. All ham shacks should have one along with a spectrum analyzer!

We will look for updates on VNAs for the amateur radio crowd especially with regard to higher frequency operating ranges unless you have that champagne pocket that can afford the \$50K – 300K commercial items and accessories.

November-16: A Silent Key ceremony was held for Jim Costello, VE2EXQ. Reg, VE2AYU manned the key for the tribute to Jim.

Morrie, VE2BWS our bulletin editor has ask to step down from that task at the end of 2009. Therefore the club is seeking a volunteer to step in. Many thanks go to Morrie for his excellent composition of our bulletins (especially the pics) over the years.

The move of the Trivia net to its new day and time appears to be successful.

Revision of the WIARC WEB pages was briefly discussed and a number of suggestions were put forward. Joe, VE2JQE volunteered to assist Wayne our current webmaster in this task and a new link has been established.

After the coffee break Ken, VE2KLF discussed a project being worked on by McGill undergraduate students, which uses micro-waves for breast cancer detection. Malcom, VE2DDZ with a box of Bluetooth audio converters he picked up, followed this. He intends to use them for short wireless audio links to amateur radio equipment.

December 2009 Meeting: Notice is hereby given of the 2009 Annual General Meeting and Elections of the Executive for 2009. Nominations should be directed to George, VE2NGH and Keith, VE2XL will act as scrutineer.

The annual Xmas dinner on December 02 drew a real crowd of 25 and all had a good time.

Seasons Greetings and Best Wishes for the New Year!

C U on Dec 14th... de .ken. VE2KLF

