



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

February 2010 Edition

Upcoming Meeting - February 15th, 2010
This month's topic "Atlantic Crossing"
Given by Bernie VA2BP

President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

WI ~ ARCS:

From the QTH:

An interesting article on amateur radio (AR) service to the current crisis in Haiti is in the current IEEE Spectrum magazine (Feb 2010). The article discusses the embedding of AR volunteers with the Red Cross and other organizations to provide immediate communication links locally and to the world outside. This is a very positive article on AR emergency service. In the same issue there are articles on how communication engineers are gradually restoring the commercial networks although, fortunately, not all Internet services were lost. The Spectrum is the primary IEEE magazine with general coverage articles in electrical/electronics engineering and is distributed globally. For the article and more information go online to: www.spectrum.ieee.org. The article above is under TELECOM: wireless, NEWS Hams in Haiti: www.spectrum.ieee.org/telecom/wireless/hams-in-haiti. For complete information on the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) go to: www.ieee.org.

January 2010 meeting: Most of this is recorded in the minutes and as space is short I shall not repeat it here, save for Bob's, VE2AXO introduction to Log Book of the World setup and features. Thanks Bob!

TX4T: Please wish Gilles, VE2TZT bon voyage and plentiful contacts as he and colleagues head for French Polynesia (FO) for a Feb 09th to 25th Dxpedition. Polish up those HF antennas and dust off your rigs for contacts with the FO Dx'pedition. More information can be found at www.fo2010.org. What a neat way to avoid the Winter blahs here! There is a short blurb in the February QST on page 91.

February 2010 meeting: Berny, VA2BP has promised to entertain us with videos and slides from his recent Atlantic crossing in his 28 foot boat with his son and radios onboard.

Reminders: Your membership fees for 2010 are now due. Please make sure you fill in the membership form and obtain a signed receipt when submitting your dues to the TREASURER. The forms should be available at the meetings and are on the club's WEB site (shell.pubnix.net/~wiarc). Online submission of the forms is not available.

The annual Lester B Pearson School Board Science and Technology Days are scheduled for May 26th and 27th at the St Lazare Airfield as last year. Setup will probably be on the 25th of May and we shall be looking for volunteers to help out and meet the primary school children on the 26th and 27th. The Morse Code practice stations were the main attraction in previous years.

The Shriner's Karnak hall has been reserved for 2010-SEP-18 for our annual hamfest.

The annual North American Field Day will occur on June 26th and 27th. More later ...

The Canadian Ski Marathon (CSM) will be held on February 13 and 14 this year going from Buckingham to Lachute this time. The CSM Radio WEB pages are at www.radio-1.ca. The general pages are at www.csm-mcs.com. Should you wish to volunteer for the communications support (checkpoints) for this annual event, please email radio1@admin2.ca. There should be CSM traffic on VE2RM (147.000- MHz) on Sunday, Feb 14 for those who wish to listen in. There are other simplex links and repeaters along the trail to keep the event flowing and collect data.

C U on Feb 15th ... de .ken. VE2KLF



What Happened

Minutes of the January 2010 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

The meeting began at 20:07. Ken VE2KLF presides and welcomes the 21 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday January 18, 2010 meeting are as follows.

1. **Science & Tech Day:** Ken VE2KLF announced that this year's version of the Science & Tech Day will take place on May 26th and 27th. The venue will once again be Cooper Airport in St. Lazare. Don't forget to reserve the 25th as well for set-up. Join us. It's rewarding, you get fed, and you have fun too.

2. **Ski Marathon:** This years Ski Marathon will be held on Feb 13th and 14th from Buckingham to Lachute. Ken suggested that you visit <http://www.radio-1.ca> for details, including volunteering info.

3. **Publisher Wanted:** Ken restated our need for a new publisher for our monthly bulletin. Come, join us. We won't bite. Rumour has it that the salary associated with the position will be doubled for 2010 and beyond.

4. **Bulletin:** Bob VE2AXO, talked briefly about the physical publishing of the monthly bulletin. He included e-mail and snail mail versions. It is intended that the e-mail version will soon be sent to members and non-members as well. Non-members include many former members, some of which have moved away, etc. It was suggested that even if the bulletin is made available on the WIARC web site, we would continue to e-mail it directly to members as well.

5. **Ken Receives Award:** Ken VE2KLF was presented with an award from McGill University on the occasion of his 45 years of service. Some of us had heard about it and urged 'modest' Ken to share some of the details with us. Congratulations, Ken.

6. **Sea Voyage:** Bernie VA2BP arrived home recently from a Trans-Atlantic sea voyage that he made with his son. Their sailboat was only 28 feet long and Bernie described some of the more difficult events they endured. They travelled west from the Grand Canary Island to La Palma, turning south to Cape Verde. That was the easy part. They then spent 16 days going due west all the way to Martinique in the French West Indies. I make it to be a distance of 2,180 nautical miles. They tried to make HF contacts while en-route with limited success. Congratulations, Bernie to you and the crew. By the way, have you lost weight recently?

7. **Field Day 2010:** Perhaps a little early, but Ken did announce June 26th and 27th as the dates for the ARRL Field Day 2010. It's never too early to start thinking about it.

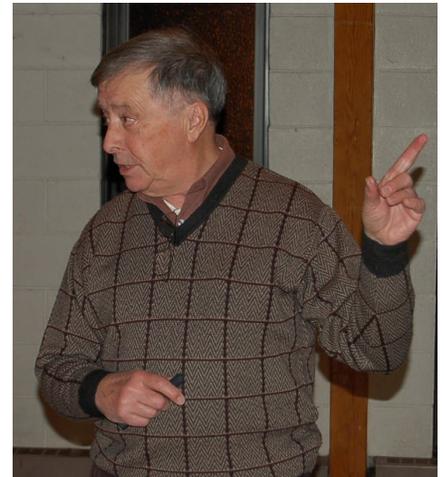
8. **Haiti Earthquake:** There have been many e-mails going around with Haiti disaster frequencies and stories about contacts with 'HH' stations. Members are urged to listen in on amateur frequencies as well as military frequencies. There is some interesting traffic out there. If you missed them, Google will find them for you.

9. **WIARC Constitution:** Again, James VE2KHC was not present to speak to his motion concerning amendments to the constitution. Ken VE2KLF suggested that the motion be tabled until a later date.

10. **Dues are Due:** Happy new year. It's that time again. Please fill out the membership form and see Malcolm VE2DDZ.

After the break, Bob VE2AXO gave a presentation on 'Logbook of the World'. Bob had an extensive power point collection of slides on various aspects of this modern QSL method. He pointed

out that it is much cheaper than using printed QSL cards. The system is an on-line one. It automatically compares uploaded data for matches. Users can easily find and correct errors. It is a high security system that provides easy search capabilities. A host of stats are available to users. It is a wonderful tool to help check awards programs. Hams can check their progress towards an award with a few clicks of the mouse. The system allows for manual entries of contact information from the past. Get yourself started at www.arrl.org/lotw. Thanks Bob for a well researched and comprehensive show. A la prochaine!



**Logbook of the World expert
Bob Loranger VE2AXO**

This month the winner of the 50/50 draw was Terry VE2WTQ. He donated his winnings to the club. Congratulations and thanks.

This month, there were magazines for the taking, compliments of Ken VE2KLF. Once again, Thanks!

Something Punny - I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

The meeting adjourned at 21:53. See you February 15th 2010.

73, and good DX de Keith VE2MTL



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

\$\$\$ Membership Dues for 2010 \$\$\$

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This month, we have included the membership sheet that is required each year.

Check the attachment that came with the Club Bulletin.

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Please print a copy, fill it out, and bring it with you to the next meeting.

Malcolm VE2DDZ is waiting to receive them all.

If necessary, there should be some blank forms at the next meeting.

The bottom tear off portion will serve as your receipt.

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We ask that a sheet be filled out each year. E-mail addresses often change, as do radio qualifications, and certainly our operating practices and interests can change over time.

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Take the time to fill it out thoughtfully.

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Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

Mailing Address - P.O. Box 884 Pointe-Claire, Quebec H9R 4Z6

E-mail: VE2CWI@RAC.CA

President: Kenneth Fraser, VE2KLF

Treasurer: Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president: Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Secretary: Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Accredited Examiners: Larry Dobby, VE2DO@RAC.CA and Stuart Truba, VE2XX@RAC.CA

Newsletter Editor

Keith Glashan, VE2MTL (for now)

Articles and 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, VE2CWI@RAC.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

Held the 3rd Monday of every month, except July & August at: Lakeside Heights Baptist Church, 275 Braebrook, Pointe-Claire (West Island part of Montreal). Visitors are always welcomed.

WIARC NETS on the 146.91 Club Repeater

Information Net each Sunday evening at 8PM running for approximately an hour.

Trivia Net each Tuesday evening at 7PM.

All are welcome to participate.