



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

September 2010 Edition

Upcoming Meeting - September 13th 2010
This month's topic
“WIARC 2010 Hamfest”
Preparations for this years WIARC Hamfest

President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

WI ~ ARCS:

Musings from the QTH and vacation:

As I am retired, the only schedule for R&R now depends on the XYL's business. However we did manage a couple of weeks in August at our cottage and then on to a chalet in the Papineau-Labelle reserve (as we have done in the past). The weather at the P-L reserve was about 90 % sunshine daily. We had one severe storm at the end of the P-L vacation with much lightning and rain. My son-in-law and grandchildren were in a tent sleeping 10 feet from an 80-foot pine tree. The XYL and I suggested that this was not a good idea with lightning all around. After a few mumbles and pleading from my daughter the tent occupants retired to the chalet and not a moment too soon as the great rain dump began. As I have mentioned before, RF wise the noise level is at least 20 dB below that in our QTH on the West Island. There are NO power lines, cell phones, TVs, computers and nearest neighbor is 0.5 km away. We were there for the Perseid meteor showers and with NO light pollution, observations were excellent ... although there were more polar orbiters than meteors in a given hour or so of observing.

At the home QTH I am trying to solve an EMI problem with our new fridge. The fridge (with computer control) is generating hash from about 500 to 15,000 kHz, which is conducted into the house wiring. The old toroid on the power cord trick does not reduce the hash significantly and the external G5RV antenna just picks up the radiation from the house wiring. Now I am looking for a full differential and common mode RF filter for 15 A rms as this thing is truly a pain on 80 and 20 m!

June 2010 meeting:

I was unable to attend the June meeting as my daughter was receiving her PhD at the Concordia convocation at Place des Arts that evening. It was an interesting experience as when my daughter was on stage receiving her degree, she was invited to join the rest of the academics on stage and not return to her seat in the audience. Thanks to our VP, Bob VE2AXO for carrying the evening for WIARC along with rest of the executive and the members present. Please see the minutes for the WIARC June 2010 meeting for the details.

WIARC Field Day on June 26 and 27 at the Morgan Arboretum:

Well, if you did NOT show up for our field day at the Arboretum (the largest arboretum in North America), you missed a great time and a chance to assist/operate and to contribute to our total point score. I must thank George, VE2NGH for organizing our FD event and Sheldon, VA2SH for the food planning. Both Sheldon and

George have proved, once again, that our WIARC army does, indeed, travel on its stomach ... with microwave oven, fridge, gas BBQ, etc. We welcomed some of the members of the reconstituted Concordia amateur radio club (CUARC) who turned up to get their feet wet. Some the CUARC members along with George and Sheldon appeared in the picture in the Suburban report on 2010-JUN-30 (page two) which earned us points for press coverage. Our satellite communications masters, George VE2NGH and Malcolm VE2DDZ also earned us bonus points for their satellite contacts as did Vlad, VE2AN with his loan of a solar panel. George and Malcolm constructed and used Lindenblad antenna arrays for the VHF uplink and UHF downlink which, along with new software to track the Doppler shifts, made contacts almost a breeze. A great effort guys! We also earned bonus points for providing coaching in HF communications to 8 newly licensed amateurs. All in all we amassed 1916 points ... not a record ... but satisfying to all who participated. Thank you to all Ops and Non-Ops who turned up to help with the set up, tear down and, of course, operating ... not to mention helping with the food consumption! ;-)

Lost in the Arboretum:

I thought this might provide a bit of a chuckle about life in the ARBO. You can, indeed, get LOST! At about 18:15 on August 22, 2010 my XYL and I were taking a walk on one of the trails in the ARBO. Part of the way along the Orange trail to Chalet Pruche I broke my glasses and then returned to the car in the Conservation Centre parking lot while my XYL continued on along the trail which returns to the parking lot. I waited about an hour in the car for her return. Knowing that the trail should be covered in less than a hour and the sun was setting, I called McGill Security. They showed up in 5 minutes and we went on a tour of the Orange trail in the security vehicle ... lights flashing and sirens chirping. They told me that when we finished the loop, they would have to call Search and Rescue. Fortunately when we returned to the parking lot, the XYL had returned from a farm in Senneville. The nice old farm mom had taken her in when she lost the trail and wound up in the farm. Apparently this was not the first group to wind up on this farm and the daughter returned my XYL to the parking lot. So much for signage!

Reminders:

1. The Shriner's Karnak hall has been reserved for 2010-SEP-18 for our annual hamfest. Keith, VE2MTL will be taking requests for tables. Please look in your junk pile (collection of goodies) for items for the auction and we will be looking for volunteers for food services, admission table, runners, set up and clean up, etc.

2. The next general meeting will be on Monday, Sept 13th 2010, which will deal with the final preparations for our Hamfest.

C U on the 13th of September ...

de .ken. VE2KLF

Sunday Evening WIARC Information Net

by Malcolm Harper VE2DDZ

The regular Sunday evening WIARC information net will resume from its summer break on Sunday, September 12 at the usual time of 8 pm on VE2RWI 146.9100 (-)

What Happened

Minutes of the June 2010 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:34. Ken was absent this evening, so Bob VE2AXO presides and welcomes the 24 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday June 21, 2010 meeting are as follows.

1. **Visitors:** There were a couple of visitors this evening. James VE2EAP was in attendance. Hope to see him again. Also, Mark VA2MM reappeared after a long absence. Actually he rejoined the club this evening. For some of you newer members, Mark served on the executive of WIARC as vice-president and as president back in the 1990's. Welcome back Mark.

2. **Field Day 2010:** Being only a few days away, the main attention of this evening's meeting was field day. Bob encouraged participation in the event by as many members as possible. After a long series of delays, it was finally confirmed that we will be holding the club field day at the Morgan Arboretum.

3. **Coffee Break:** Because of the nature of tonight's meeting, we kept the business portion short and had an early coffee break.

4. **Field Day Director George VE2NGH:** After the break, George VE2NGH, being the field day director for this year, took the floor and gave a complete report on all the preparations to date. He reminded the members that it is this Saturday and Sunday June 26th and 27th. He announced that we will be operating as 1A. There will be lots of food. Sheldon VA2SH is our food coordinator. They gave some details about the plans for meals and snacks,

etc. George introduced the key members. Andy VE2DNN will be taking care of acquiring the generator, the fuel and the shelter for it. Thanks Andy. Security will be provided by Paul VE2OFH. This year the Morgan regulations require that the gate be locked at 10 PM Saturday evening as the regular staff leave. Paul will be given a key to allow our night operators to come and go. Thanks Paul. George reminded us that set-up will be at 9AM Saturday. On-air operations start at 2PM. The Bar-B-Q is back on again this year. It is planned for 6PM Saturday. The event will conclude at 2PM Sunday and members are asked to help with tear down. Although Vlad cannot be present this year, he will nevertheless provide his battery and solar panel so we can get the bonus points. George said that he is trying to get Mr. Cote, Secretary of Public Security de Quebec to attend. Keith VE2MTL will try to get the local news papers to show up. There was lots of general talk from the floor on band usage and timings. Finally, George mentioned that a few members would be going to Morgan on Friday at 4PM to do some preliminary set-up and to insure that there would be no surprises on Sat morning. Thanks George for a great preparation list. All we need now is the weather.

This month the winner of the 50/50 draw was Charles VE2RFI. Congratulations and thanks for donating your winnings to the club.

This month, there were no door prizes. Maybe next time.

Something Punny - The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.

The meeting adjourned at 21:20. See

you Sept 13th 2010. That's right. It's the 2nd Monday in September. We have to get together before the auction which takes place on Saturday September 18th.

73, and good DX de Keith VE2MTL

Doctor JF Makes Housecall



At the repeater site on Cote des Neiges, Jean-Francois, VE2TBH diagnosing the VHF receiver, one evening last June. Thank you JF for taking care of our repeaters in a prompt and efficient manner.

Field Day Pictures

Morrie's photos: <http://www.pbase.com/nunavik/wiarcfd2010>

Bill Fawcett's photos: http://www.flickr.com/photos/bill_fawcett/sets/72157624240489171/

Joe's photos: click through from <http://gallery.me.com/joenasr>

WIARC 2010 Fleamarket & Auction

September 18th 2010 – Shriner's Karnak Hall (3550 Boulevard des Sources, Dollard des Ormeaux, QC)

Directions:

From route 40 go North on Sources boulevard. The Shriner's Hall is on the West side of Sources just North of Brunswick boulevard. A map will be on the WEB site.

Vendors 08:00 hrs; Public 09:00 hrs; Auction 09:30 hrs EDT.

Admission \$5; Tables \$15 (includes one admission).

talkin = VE2RWI 146.910(-) no CTCSS tone on input

Website: www.wiarc.ca

More info : ve2cwi@rac.ca or ve2klf@rac.ca

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

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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://www.wiarc.ca>

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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.