



# West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

October 2011 Edition

**Upcoming Meeting - October 17<sup>th</sup> 2011**

**This month's topic**

**“ Canada's Digital OTA HDTV Transition - Presentation given by Steven Faguy VA2SMF ”**

## President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

>>> WI ~ ARCS <<<

### Thanksgiving tales from the cottage:

What a great Thanksgiving holiday this year as the weather was perfect all around! Tradition has it that, for me, this weekend is cottage close up for the winter. Drain all the H<sub>2</sub>O out and place antifreeze in all drains. And at the well head, the pit adapter worked on the first try as the water was drained back in to the well. My son and I had quite a time with it last year and another trip was required just before freeze up. But I did have time for a short swim in quite cold water which was refreshing after trimming several spruce trees that deer had munched on last winter.

However I did manage some HF work with my trusty FT 817 as I brought a 20/40 m dipole along which just fit between the TV tower and a metal flag pole (read “massive lightning rod built by Dominion Bridge”) on the property. At 35 feet off the ground and on a hill to boot, the dipole performed very well with lots of traffic on 20 and 40 m in the evening. I tuned around 80, 17, 15 and 10 m and conditions were good, but the best tuner match (Elecraft T1) was on 20 and 40 m of course. So (portable) with a mighty 3 – 4 Watts on 20 m, I had a short chat with Danilo, CE4SES in Chile, before I pulled the plug. Like I said, it was a great TG weekend!

### Sep 2011 MTG:

Please see the minutes for 2011-SEP-19.

### Oct 2011 MTG:

Tentative agenda:

- Update to Radio-Talk 2011 plans for November 26, 2011 ... VE2WTQ, Terry and/or Morrie, VE2BWS
- Solder-Spot ... VE2OFH, Paul
- 2011-OCT-15 Octoberfest with WIARC demo at the Morgan Arboretum: Malcolm, VE2DDZ; Paul, VE2OFH
- Other business
- Coffee/drinks/cookies, and rag chew
- Speaker: VA2SMF, Steven will bring us up to date on DTV systems in the Montreal area
- 50/50 draw

**Notes:** VE2REX, the Covey Hill ARC VHF repeater on 146.685- MHz has been having repeater failures lately on the Friday evening nets (at 20:00 local). Please keep posted as they find the problem(s). The Fall General Meeting for CHARC will be held at the Ormstown golf club @ 10:00, 673 Rang Dumas. The speaker will be VA2SPB, Alain, who will talk on the new D-Star repeater, VA2REX on 70 cm and D-Star systems in general. Lunch (\$15/) will be at 12:00. Date: Saturday, 2011-OCT-22.

C U on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October – 2011 ... de .ken. VE2KLF

# What Happened

## Minutes of the September 2011 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

### Minutes of the September 2011 WIARC meeting by Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:55. Ken VE2KLF presided and welcomed the 23 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday September 19, 2011 meeting are as follows.

1. **Field Day Recap:** George VE2NGH gave a brief summary of field day 2011 activities. He explained how he reported more than 4,000 points, which included a lot on 6 meters. He mentioned how they lost all satellite contacts because of the RFI emanating from the Vidéotron equipment right across the street. He was happy to see so many visitors at Pine Beach site. He explained that although the final expenses have been tallied, the WIARC and MARC shares cannot be determined until the VE2CUA club receives a determination from the Concordia office.

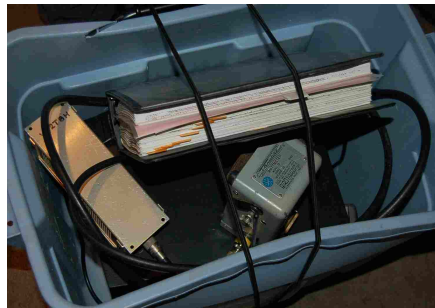
2. **Morrie Pics:** Morrie VE2BWS gave a very professional video presentation on Field Day 2011. It included about 180 pics and even had a musical background. Nicely done, Morrie.

3. **Radio Talk 2011:** Morrie VE2BWS continued with an update on the status of "Radio Talk 2011". They have now settled on Saturday November 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 9AM. The event will be held at our regular Church meeting QTH. Being the first event of this type, no one is sure just how long it will run. It might be over by 1 PM, but it could last until 3 PM. Morrie put out an appeal for volunteers. There were several comments and suggestions from the floor. The importance of "publicity" was stressed by all. He recommended that you refer to <http://radiotalk2011.wordpress.com> for details. It's your event. Let's show them what we can do.

4. **Solder Spot:** Paul VE2OFH introduced his plans for a 40 meter radio construction project to begin this fall. Since these kits are costly, he needs a commitment from the participants before ordering them. Please contact Paul ASAP. Thanks.

5. **Radio Course:** Malcolm VE2DDZ reminded the members that François VE2AAY will be starting his "On-Line" Westminster Radio Course at the beginning of October. If you know someone interested, please contact François at [VE2CWR@RAC.CA](mailto:VE2CWR@RAC.CA).

6. **WIARC UHF:** J-F VE2TBH brought our new UHF club repeater to the meeting and set it up to demonstrate it to the members. He used a rubber duck for an antenna and output into a dummy load. It is a commercial Motorola Radius 1225 model. J-F plans to set the output power to 20 watts to keep operations "cool". He explained how the repeater is completely software programmable throughout.



*Pictured is our new UHF repeater in a box all ready to be installed.*

7. **Oktoberfest:** The Morgan Arboretum has invited us to participate at their Oktoberfest event which will be held this year on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 1PM to 4PM. Four members volunteered to demonstrate Amateur Radio to the public for the afternoon. They are Paul VE2OFH, Malcolm VE2DDZ, Charles VE2FRI, and Sheldon VE2SH. Thanks, fellows.

8. **South Shore:** It was announced that the South Shore Hamfest will be held this year on October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

9. **Flea Market Tables:** Tonight, there were flea market tables with various pieces of equipment set up for inspection and purchase. For some reason this practice has gone out of favour in recent years. It was good to see its revival. The participants were Henry VA3OV, Ken VE2KLF, and Andy VE2DNN.

10. **HDTV News:** After a lengthy break, Ken VE2KLF showed some of the changes to his home TV antenna system. He has several pics of the old and new antennas and the successful installation. He even showed antenna patterns available from his QTH using [www.tvfool.com](http://www.tvfool.com). Try it yourself.

Tonight, the winner of the 50/50 draw was Ken VE2KLF, who donated his cash prize to the Club. Thanks and congratulations.

This month, Andy VE2DNN provided some magazines as door prizes. Thanks again, Andy.

Something Punny - The math professor went crazy with the blackboard. He did a number on it.

The meeting adjourned at 22:12. See you October 17<sup>th</sup> 2011.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

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## Morrie VE2BWS 2011 Tri-Club Field Day Video

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Here is a web link to Morrie's Field Day video on his Youtube Page.

<http://youtu.be/y4DmRnq0Azg>

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## WIARC Celebrates

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WIARC was part of the celebration to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> birthday of J-F Gagnon VE2TBH. On a warm Saturday evening on October 8<sup>th</sup>, approximately 60 friends and family members gathered at a fine restaurant on the shore of Chambly Basin to mark the occasion.

*Pictured here representing the WIARC family from left are - Keith VE2MTL with XYL Linda, Keith VE2XL with XYL June VE2XS, Jose VE2FLT with J-F VE2TBH, and François VE2AAY with XYL Ginette.*

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## WIARC Amateur Radio Licence course

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Once again this WIARC will hold an amateur radio Licence course given by François VE2AAY from October 04th 2011 through December 13th 2011 on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 19:15 and 21:00. The course will be run as a virtual class via an internet audio conference. Sessions will be recorded as MP3 files, making studying at your convenience possible. The cost of the course is Approximately \$60.00 which includes study material, some eighteen 90-minute lectures, in class Industry Canada exam at the end of the course and a one-year membership in the West Island Amateur Radio Club. If you know anyone interested in getting their ham licence, ask them to email François at the following email address for more information and to register

Francois, VE2AAY: [ve2cwr@live.ca](mailto:ve2cwr@live.ca)

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## Free Flea Market Tables

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Flea-market tables available free to members. Members are reminded that there are always tables available at the regular monthly meetings. This practice was very popular years ago. Lately, it seems to have fallen out of practice.

So, if you wish to sell something, or clean out your basement, or do your spring cleaning early, you don't have to wait for the next Hamfest. Just bring those junk boxes, antenna parts, and old rigs to the next WIARC meeting and set up your table at the back of the hall. It's free. It's fun. It's win-win.

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## \$\$\$ Swap Shop \$\$\$

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TP-Link TL-ANT2409A 9dBi Flat panel directional antenna, come with 3ft of low loss CFD-200 coax with male RP-SMA connector. Can be mounted indoors/outdoors, come w/ mounting hardware. Perfect to improve wi-fi coverage for any 802.11 b/g/n (2.4 GHz) wireless router. Asking 20\$. Contact: Bram VE2XCS at [ve2xcs@bell.net](mailto:ve2xcs@bell.net)

To advertise items for sale, send details to Bram VE2XCS, the editor at [ve2xcs@bell.net](mailto:ve2xcs@bell.net). He will include them in the next bulletin.



The West Island Amateur Radio Club presents...

**RADIO TALK**

**2011**

and much MORE...

HF Radio      VHF Radio      D-Star      UHF Radio

Shortwave Radio      Amateur Radio      HAM Radio

Satellite Radio      Radio Demonstrations      Antique Radio Displays      Repeaters

[www.radiotalk2011.wordpress.com](http://www.radiotalk2011.wordpress.com)

Come and hear how radio is alive and well in our modern society. Whether it be commercial radio (AM/FM) or HAM/Amateur Radio, the technology has evolved as has the medium.

"The medium is the message."  
Marshall McLuhan

"The spoken word was the first technology by which man was able to let go of his environment in order to grasp it in a new way."  
Marshall McLuhan

# Saturday November 26th 2011

Doors Open at 9AM

Presentations begin at 9:30AM

\$5 at the door (Children under 16 years are free when accompanied with an adult)

**Lakeside Heights Baptist Church**

**275 Braebrook**

**Pointe-Claire**



Photocopy and Graphic Design Services  
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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](mailto:VE2CWI@RAC.CA)

#### Executives:

**President :** Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

**Vice-president :** Charles Robitaille, VE2RFI

**Treasurer :** Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

**Secretary :** Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

#### Directors:

**Editor :** Bram Paterson, VE2XCS

**QSL Manager :** Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

**Webmaster :** Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH

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Stuart Truba, [VE2XX@RAC.CA](mailto:VE2XX@RAC.CA)

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](mailto:VE2CWI@RAC.CA)

**Website:** <http://www.wiarc.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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.  
All are welcome to participate.