



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

September 2012 Edition

Upcoming Meeting – September 17th 2012
This month's topic
“Radio Talk 2012”
Final preps before the big day

President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

>>> WI~ARCS <<<<

A LOT OF WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE (as they say):

I trust all of you had a fabulous summer and did not mind the global warming and lack of precipitation in places. And, of course, you found some time to “ham it up” on the bands.

First off I must thank all those who organized and ran our tri-club Field Day ... It was a blast! The weather was excellent, as were the Ops who racked up an impressive score for the 1A operation. 6 m was not cooperating with good propagation, but that was offset with a short operating stint at the 6 m console by our “Fox”. Thank you to Louis-Philip, VA2LPQ for this humorous break which broke up the operating tent with gales of laughter (see the 1.5 minute clip on Youtube under VE2ARC). We also had a visit from Dr Steve Stitzer, WA3ZWC a refugee from the International Microwave Symposium held in Montreal this year. As the IMS had wound up and Steve was on his way back to Baltimore, MD, I invited him to drop by before flying out of Dorval (PET) and he enjoyed the break at our FD site (he was there when our “Fox” showed up).

On a sad note I must record the passing of Al Solway, VE2TAS on 2012-JUN-20 (SK) and now Dr Jim Lyons, VE2KN (SK) on 2012-SEP-03. Al's SK ceremony will be part of the SEP-17 meeting while Jim's will be held probably at our October meeting. Both were members of WIARC.

From a Gazette article I noted that Bernie's, VA2BP sons completed their quest of the Northwest Passage (a first) in a 31 foot sailboat at the end of August. They were extremely lucky with the ice conditions getting good leads in the upper passage probably due, in part, to global warming. As they mentioned, the navigational charts were lacking in details of the sea bottom especially when the leads were close to shore! For those interested in further details of their logs of the journey, see www.belzebub2.com.

As for my summer activities, we decided to float (swim) in the Atlantic around Kennebunkport, ME. The water was warm and the grandchildren loved the waves and the beaches. I did take the VHF HT with me on the trip, but did not use it mobile on the roads in respect of the new Distracted Driving laws in VT, NH and ME. No need to get the state troopers excited. However I did use the HT (stationary) in Biddeford, ME and had a chat with a couple of Ops on a local repeater. All they seemed to be interested in was our healthcare system. I was sorry to disappoint them by stating I liked our system, faults included. So much for current politics! Anyway we returned through the White Mountains full of lobster, which I do not need to eat for another year.

After our stay in ME, we returned to our cottage (north of Lachute) and I brought the FT-817 and a 20/40 m dipole along. With an Elecraft T1 tuner, the dipole strung between a flagpole and the TV antenna tower and a mighty 4 Watts I made a pile of contacts over the AUG-19 weekend (Lighthouse weekend). As it happens a lighthouse I made a solid contact with was on Wolf Island, ME in the mouth of the Saco River or about 20 km from where we stayed near Kennebunkport, ME! Another was in Fort Niagara. Over the Labour Day weekend the 4 Watts reached the YL System Net in Washington state although conditions were

going down hill. I am still amazed what you can work QRP as a number of W4s and W5s were on the contact list! I did not try 80 m or below 20 m as the antenna system was designed for 40/20 m (VSWR too high).

On 2012-AUG-31 a small group of WIARCs met with some of our former club members, Fred, VE1FA and Helen, VAIYL from Port Williams, NS for dinner at the Sahib restaurant on Hymus in Pointe-Claire. Needless to say a good time was had and we were brought up to date with happenings in NS and elsewhere. Fred is really interested in the history of the Titanic and has done research on the subject.



Photos of a a group of WIARC members with Fred VE1FA and Helen VAIYL from Port Williams,NS dinning at the Sahib restaurant in Pointe-Claire.

JUN 2012 MTG:

Much of this meeting was taken up with final preparations for Field Day. Please check out the minutes for what else went down.....

SEP 2012 MTG:

Tentative agenda:

- SK Ceremony for Al Solway, VE2TAS who passed away 2012-JUN-20
- Solder-Spot updates
- Other business (Club RA Rive-Sud Hamfest, Oct 20, etc)
- Last minute discussions on RadioTalk2012
- Coffee/drinks/cookies, and rag chew
- SOTA operations during the summer
- Field Day presentation
- 50/50 draw

C U on the 17th of Sep – 2012 ... de .ken. VE2KLF

What Happened

Minutes of the June 2012 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

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The meeting began at 20:04. Ken VE2KLF presided and welcomed the 21 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. We were honoured with the presence of Matthew VE7DUI. Matthew is from the Vancouver area and will be working in Montreal for the next year or so. He decided to pay a visit and attend our meeting tonight. It seems he has a lot of experience in the telecommunications field and would be a valuable addition to our club. Let's hope we can convince him to stay for the long term. Welcome, Matt. Also, it was nice to see Branislav VA2BNE after a long absence. The details of the Monday June 18, 2012 meeting are as follows.

1. **Quick Notes:** Keith VE2MTL was asked to contact François VE2AAY concerning an award certificate sent to the club from RAQI relating to Radio Talk 2011. He agreed to contact him shortly. A breakfast get together for the Sunday night net participants was held at the Manoir on St. Johns and Hymus to celebrate the end of the season.

2. **SOTA News:** They're off again. This time they have planned to join the "VE2SOTA get together" for the overnight week-end adventure taking place on July 21st and 22nd. Look for them on Mont. Mégantic and Mont. St. Joseph. The SOTA web site for up-to-date activity WIARC-SOTA.WIKISPACES.COM.

3. **Solder Spot:** Paul VE2OFH said that activities will resume after the summer. Their web site is SOLDERSPOT.CA.

4. **UHF & VHF Repeaters:** Ken VE2KLF mentioned that our UHF

repeater is still off line and we are still experiencing intermittent problems with the VHF 146.910 repeater.

5. **VE2WD/SK:** Thank you cards were recently received from the family of Bert VE2WD/SK. They were read out and acknowledged.



*Above Bert VE2WD, taken at a recent
WIARC Xmas party.*

6. **Science/Tech 2012:** Once again we reported on the success of the annual "Space Day" event. As well, we reported how rewarding it is for those who help out with the kids. The problem is that it seems that it is always the same 4 or 5 members who are doing everything. We have to deal with groups of up to 25 youngsters at a time. We have only 20 minutes with each group. We need many more amateurs from the club to help out. Ideally, we would have an amateur for each child during the Morse Code segment. Realistically we must have at least 10 of us. So, think about it. You have almost a year. If we cannot staff the event appropriately, the club may not be able to participate.

7. **Radio Talk 2012:** Take note – the date is firm – Saturday September 22nd 2012. The QTH is the St. Ignatius Church hall. That's where MARC

meets. That's where the Solder Spot group meets. You can't miss it. All the speakers are lined up. Now all we need is YOU. So, be there. Come early – Stay late – Learn something – Have fun – Bring someone – Participate – Help out as a volunteer.

8. **Henry VA3OV:** Henry VE3OV announced that he would be participating in a Dx'pedition this summer to PEI. The dates are July 13th and 14th. The call sign will be VY2TT. For more information and to be completely blown away, Henry recommends that you check out the event at PEIDXLodge.com. Besides all this, Henry brought some coax that he has for sale. If interested, contact Henry at ve3ov@hotmail.com.

9. **Field Day 2012:** After the break, George VE2NGH reported on the final details for field day. Everything seems to be in order. No last minute surprises. He reminded us to be at the Pine Beach location for set up at 9AM next Saturday June 23rd.

Tonight, the winner of the 50/50 draw was Andy VE2DNN. Congratulations.

This month, Ken VE2KLF brought a couple of magazines which he donated as door prizes. Thanks, Ken.

Something Punny -. If you jump off a Paris bridge, you are in Seine.

The meeting adjourned at 21:56. See you September 17th, 2012. Have a great summer.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

Radio Talk 2012

September 22, 2012 is a big day to put on your calendar this year. WIARC, together with the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, will host Radio Talk 2012 in NDG. In honour of MARC's 80th anniversary, the Radio Amateurs of Canada will hold their annual general meeting in Montreal. It will follow Radio Talk 2012 in the same venue.

Radio Talk 2012 will build on the excellent reception of last year's event and we are excited to be working with MARC this year. Here is the list of guest speakers you can expect to hear at this year's conference.

Presenters include:

- ⌚ Gilles Renucci VE2TZT, will inform us about interpreting receiver specifications.
- ⌚ Michel Graveline VE2WMG, of *Ballon Radio-amateur du Québec* will present on amateur radio high altitude ballooning.
- ⌚ Claude Everton VE2YI, will tell us about the latest on digital voice modes for amateur radio and compare and contrast the choices.
- ⌚ Space Concordia represented by Sébastien Parent-Charette VA2AVR, will be presenting their ongoing satellite design project.
- ⌚ Jimmy Howard VE2JWH, will speak on amateur communications on laser beams.
- ⌚ Bryan Rawlings VE3QN, the Canadian amateur radio representative to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) will speak about his work representing us to the ITU and the World Radio Conference.

The RAC AGM will start at 16h00 local time, and all interested hams are encouraged to participate. Following Radio Talk 2012 MARC will continue their anniversary celebration with a dinner. From approximately 19h00 they will be meeting at the Bar-B-Barn to cap off the day with a chicken and ribs celebratory dinner, complete with door prizes and guest speaker (Geoff Bawden VE4BAW, President of RAC).

Your presence at this event will be key to a successful event and as such, we are counting on you to be there as well as get the word out to your friends and relations in the amateur radio community. Our two clubs, WIARC and MARC are being watched across Canada by many to see how we do things in Montreal. Let's put our best foot forward and show them the robust community of amateur radio enthusiasts that we are. Radio Talk 2012 will be held

Saturday September 22nd 2012
St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish (Concordia University)
4455 West Broadway
Montreal QC H4B 2A7
Doors open 9h
Admission \$10 (16 and under are free)

For more information see <http://www.radiotalk.ca/>

73 de Radio Talk 2012

WIARC Amateur Radio Certificate Course

Submitted by François VE2AAY

WIARC's 8th Virtual Radio Class will run from
October 4th till December 11th: i.e, Tuesday
and Thursday evenings on a Skype audio conference.

Contact: ve2cwr@live.ca
Details at <http://www.wiarc.ca/faq/course.html>
Submitted by François VE2AAY

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

For Sale:

Icom IC 48A UHF transceiver asking \$100

Icom IC 25A VHF transceiver asking \$100

Icom IC 3200 dual band transceiver asking \$125

Weston Analogue Wattmeter model 432 asking \$50

Weston Analogue Kilowatt meter model 432 asking \$50

Weston Analogue Voltmeter model AC 433 asking \$50

Dumont RMS voltmeter model 346 asking \$75

Sam VE2LJV has many other analogue antique meters for sale for those interested as well as some other transceivers/handie's VHF and UHF. You can contact him by phone at 514-891-9954

Summer Activities Links

Grey Fox Operating at Field Day Video from Bram VE2XCS - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HYwql4y1v8M>

DMR-MARC Demo at Tri-Club ARRL FD 2012 (Bram VE2XCS) - <http://youtu.be/cCONAPkB2IE>

Cliff VA2UTC working N9HC Video from Vern VE2MBS - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4GL-9aUhX8>

Field Day Photos from Morrie VE2BWS - http://www.pbase.com/nunavik/wiarc_field_day2012

Field Day Photos from Vern Ve2MBS - <http://www.hay-net.net/~ve2arc/hamradio/2012/fd2012.php>

Field Day Photos from Carole VA2NDJ - <http://www.dropbox.com/gallery/87477706/1/Tri-club%20Field%20Day%202012?h=20daec>

Field Day Photos from Malcolm VE2DDZ - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ve2ddz/sets/72157630428283502/>

VE2SOTA Mégactivation Video from Jean-Pierre VA2SG - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ggC11wBj0A>

Free Flea Market Tables

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.

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

To advertise items for sale, send details to Bram VE2XCS, the newsletter editor at ve2xcs@bell.net.

He will gladly include them in the next bulletin. Please remember to include all pertinent information relating to the item you wish to sell.

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

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

Accredited Examiners:

Larry Dobby, VE2DO@RAC.CA

Stuart Truba, 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

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 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.

All are welcome to participate.