



# West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

## February 2016 Edition

### Upcoming Meeting – February 15<sup>th</sup> 2016

#### This month's topic

*“ Reducing local and home noise in amateur radio stations ”*

*Presented by Gilles Renucci VA2EW*

### President's Message and Report

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ ([ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca](mailto:ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca))

Hi all,

Spring must be around the corner. The Trois-Rivières hamfest has passed, Ham-Con in Vermont and the Laval-Laurentides hamfests are coming up. February is half done.

We had a great presentation in January from Nigel, VA2NM. I've been wanting to break out my soldering iron on a good-sized project and the re-kit of the Small Wonder Labs SWL 30+ just may be it. I've been checking the website for updates, but the kit details haven't appeared yet.

Recently we haven't had many flash talks at the meetings so a reminder may be in order: if you would like to give a short (5-10 minute) talk about something that interests you at an upcoming meeting just let me know and we'll schedule it in. If you don't want to get up in front of the group, but would like to contribute to the meeting in another fashion, we are still looking for members to donate cookies for some months this year. Talk to Keith, VE2MTL, if you are able to help out.

Here is early warning for this year's Show and Tell meeting. It will be May 16, so if you have kits or parts to order or scrounge, get ordering and scrounging.

I know a lot of us suffer through high levels of background noise at our home stations. In many cases that noise comes from outside the home, but in other cases the noise arises from inside our homes. This month Gilles, VA2EW, will show us how to track down and reduce noise from inside the home.

#### **February 15, 2016 Meeting Agenda**

- Tips
- SIGs
  - Information Net Lunch
- Reports
  - Discussion of club membership
- Other Business
- Break (coffee, ragchew, cookies)
- Reducing local and home noise in amateur radio stations

See you on the 15th.

73,  
Malcolm VE2DDZ

# What happened

## Minutes of the January 2016 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL ([kglashan@yahoo.ca](mailto:kglashan@yahoo.ca))

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### *Minutes of the WIARC Meeting January 18, 2016 By Keith Glashan VE2MTL*

The meeting began at 19:41. Malcolm VE2DDZ welcomed the 21 attendees and started the meeting with usual roll call with call signs. Charles VE2RFI was absent tonight. The details of the meeting follow.

#### **1. Tip Time Tips:**

Sorry, but there were no tips provided tonight.

#### **2. Field Day News:**

Eamon VE2EGN talked about his planning meeting next Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup>. You are invited to attend at the Pine Beach Citizens Association starting at 10AM. It is located at 1510 Herron Rd., Dorval, H9S 1B7. Herron Rd. is really the Hi-Way 20 South service road. The PBCA is located at the corner of Thorncrest. Being discussed will be the results of his survey, changes for the next Field Day, and establishing leaders for special interest groups.

#### **3. Repeater 146.910:**

Charles VE2RFI has put the repeater back on the air, but not without difficulty. He removed the power supply, took it to his place, tested it on his bench, only to find it performing well. He returned it to the site, only to have it fail again a short time later. He has replaced it temporarily with a similar one provided by Keith VE2MTL. So far, so good. He will continue debugging the original one. Stay tuned.

#### **4. Financial Report:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ brought up the fact that we have been losing about \$700 a year for the last few years. At this rate, we would go broke in about 10 years. It only makes sense that we start looking at the situation, and begin a plan of action before the money runs out completely. There

was a lot of discussion from the floor suggesting an increase in membership or increasing income. The discussion was positive and energetic. All good stuff.

#### **5. Old QST's:**

Keith VE2XL brought a whole box of old QST magazines. Malcolm VE2DDZ suggested that we auction them off at the February meeting. Any other ideas?

#### **6. DMR Demonstration:**

Tonight, Stan VE2QXP and René VE2RI gave us a presentation and demonstration using their DMR HT's. They communicated across the room using 2 different DMR repeaters which were linked. There was a slight delay, but the quality was perfect. They explained the various codes used to control the zones you want to activate. They can be world-wide, or a continent, a country, a province, or a locality. Very interesting technology, not too expensive, and can fit in the palm of your hand.

#### **7. CSM 2016:**

Malcolm mentioned that the CSM, planned for February is again looking for amateurs to volunteer. There was a discussion on what is required from the amateur.

#### **8. After the Break:**

Tonight, we were treated to a presentation from Nigel Mound VA2NM who talked about building a QRP rig. After building a few kits, Nigel set out to build one from scratch. That means - no prepared circuit board, no chassis, and no bag of parts. Not much more than a schematic diagram. However, he explained that there is help out there, thanks to the internet. Nigel had a large number of slides with circuits, diagrams, blocks, and links. He explained how in the past, the builder had a low chance of success, because test equipment was unavailable or too expensive to own, parts could be pricy and even difficult to find. If you ran into trouble, there was no one to rescue you. Nowadays, there are web based

suppliers, parts are low cost, and are easily obtained from international suppliers with low cost mail orders and free shipping. There are Yahoo interest groups who can help you along, maintain your momentum, and encourage you towards completion. Nigel confirmed how the internet has changed this completely. He decided on a 30 meter CW rig designed by Small Wonder Labs. It was the SW30+ model, a superhet transceiver. He showed us some of the test equipment that he built for the project. He also explained that if you need some help, you might visit Chat With The Designer @ [www.cwtd.org](http://www.cwtd.org). He concluded his presentation explaining the feeling you get when you first hear a DX station coming back to your call. Nigel, thanks for coming. Thanks for all the work you put into your presentation. You are inspiring. Keep up the work, but be sure to come back and tell us about it. "73"

#### **9. Break Time Cookies:**

This evening, the break time treats were provided by Malcolm VE2DDZ. Thanks Malcolm. According to the volunteer sheet, nobody will be providing treats for next month's meeting. The new sheet for the 2016 year still has several spots for volunteers. Remember, it's greater to give than to receive!

#### **10. 50/50 Draw:**

Unfortunately, there was no 50-50 draw this evening. Next month?

#### **11. Door Prizes:**

Ken VE2KLF and Dave VA2DGC brought magazines and other printed materials for distribution. Thank you both.

#### **12. A Pun my Word:**

Is there another word for synonym?

The meeting adjourned at 21:58. See you February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

## Monthly Meeting tips

Have you worked on a ham radio project lately ? Did you discover a solution to a problem that may be helpful for your fellow WIARC members ? Then come and share your tips at our monthly meetings.

A short amount of time will be allocated at the beginning of each meeting for members to share tips. Please let the club's executive know ahead of time so we can manage the meeting schedule accordingly, by sending an email at [ve2cwi@wiarc.ca](mailto:ve2cwi@wiarc.ca)

## Field Day 2016 Planning - Eamon VE2EGN

Nine WIARC and MARC hams got together on January 23rd to plan for Field Day 2016. The three hour meeting was very productive. [You can see the Powerpoint summarizing the survey results here.](#) [Here is the compte rendu from the meeting](#)

## Like Us on Facebook by becoming a member

by Bram Paterson VA2XE ([ve2xcs@bell.net](mailto:ve2xcs@bell.net))



The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the West Island Amateur Radio Club (WIARC). The page header includes the club's name and a search bar. The main content area features a banner with the club's name and logos, including the Canadian and Quebec flags. Below the banner, there are navigation tabs for Discussion, Membres, Évènements, Photos, and Fichiers. A recent post by Bram Paterson is visible, mentioning a new DMR repeater in Pointe-Claire. The page also includes a search bar and a list of group members.

For up-to-date news, become a member of our Facebook Page.  
Follow the link below to access the WIARC Facebook Pages

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/437310523122118/>

# We want to hear from you

by Bram Paterson, VA2XE ([ve2xcs@bell.net](mailto:ve2xcs@bell.net))

Do you have an idea or story that you want to share with your fellows WIARC members. We want to hear from you. Please send your article to the newsletter editor at the beginning of the month to the following email address:

[ve2xcs@bell.net](mailto:ve2xcs@bell.net)

## +++ 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.

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](mailto: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@WIARC.CA](mailto:VE2CWI@WIARC.CA)

#### Executives:

**President :** Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ  
**Vice-president :** Charles Robitaille, VE2RFI  
**Treasurer :** Bram Paterson, VA2XE  
**Secretary :** Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

#### Directors:

**Editor :** Bram Paterson, VA2XE  
**QSL Manager :** Bob Loranger, VE2AXO  
**Webmaster :** Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH  
**Immediate Past :** Ken Fraser, VE2KLF  
**President**

#### Accredited Examiner:

Larry Dobby, VE2DO [DOBBY@AEI.CA](mailto:DOBBY@AEI.CA)  
Mark Morin, VA2MM [mark@partout.ca](mailto:mark@partout.ca)

News and comments are always welcomed; please submit them to the following address, [VE2CWI@WIARC.CA](mailto:VE2CWI@WIARC.CA)

**Website:** <http://www.wiarc.ca>

**Repeaters:** VE2RWI VHF - 146.910 MHz (-) and VE2RWI UHF - 443.050 MHz (+)  
(88.5 Hz CTCSS tone both transmitted and received on the VHF repeater and a 141.3 Hz CTCSS tone only transmitted on the UHF repeater).

#### 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 VE2RWI Repeater

Information Net each Sunday evening at 8PM running for approximately an hour.  
All are welcome to participate.