



# West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

**October 2016 Edition**

**Upcoming Meeting – October 17<sup>th</sup> 2016**

**This month's topic**

***“ An Introduction to Test Equipment for the Beginning Ham ”***

***Given by Leo Nikkinen, VE2SI***

## **President's Message and Report**

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

Hi all,

Check out the minutes for a pic of one old gent giving another old gent an award. Congratulations to Keith, VE2XL, for sixty years of ARRL membership. (And thanks to Keith, VE2MTL, for touching up the photo to make us look younger :-).

Thanks Eamon, VE2EGN for the Field Day report at the meeting and in the September newsletter. And thanks also for the great job you have done overseeing our Field Day operations for the past years. 2017 will bring changes with a new Field Day coordinator and likely a new site. What won't change I am sure are great times and great radio.

The week following the September meeting I received the July/August issue of the AMSAT Journal (AMSAT is the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation). It was my personal copy that came in the mail, WIARC's copy came to the WIARC PO box a few days later. To my delight I found the the MARC/WIARC Field Day efforts on satellite had come in tenth in the AMSAT Field Day competition. They noted our participation in their article and published a couple of the photos that I submitted. Congratulations to the four Field Day satellite operators: Harrison VE2HKW, Marc-André VE2EVN, George VE2NGH, and myself.

Congratulations to Gilles VA2EW for attaining DXCC Honour Roll. And thanks very much for the enteratining description of how you got the last few entities.

Thank-you also to the crew from Space Concordia for the report on all their activities. I have to admit that I had no idea that they had so much on the go when I invited them out to speak. It's wonderful to see so much interest and enthusiasm from the Concordia students - and also great to see so many new ham licenses in their group.

There are a few things up for discussion or announcement at the October meeting. Eamon and others have been kicking around some ideas to revitalize interest in VHF/UHF FM repeater use. The Solder Spot is talking about an antenna building project. The SOTAers are planning their annual group activation of Montagne de Rigaud for October 22. Charles VE2RFI is going to organize WIARC's participation in the VIMY special event. It should be a very interesting meeting even before the break.

Our speaker after the break is Leo, VE2SI. Knowing Leo, I would enjoy anything he chose to share with us, but this time I've asked him to give a talk for the new ham. Specifically he will talk on test equipment. It will be a great talk and there will be many good tips even if you aren't technically a "new" ham.

## October 17, 2016 Meeting Agenda

- Tips
- Reports
  - Repeater
  - Solder Spot project
  - Group SOTA - Return to Rigaud - October 22
  - VIMY Station operations
- Break (coffee, ragchew, cookies)
- An Introduction to Test Equipment for the Beginning Ham – Leo, VE2SI

See you on the 17th.

73,

Malcolm VE2DDZ

## What happened Minutes of the September 2016 WIARC meeting

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

### *Minutes of the WIARC Meeting September 19, 2016 By Keith Glashan VE2MTL*

The meeting began at 19:36. Malcolm VE2DDZ welcomed the 32 attendees and started the meeting with usual roll call with call signs. The details of the meeting follow.

#### **1. Keith VE2XL ARRL Award:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ presented Keith VE2XL with an award given by the ARRL for having been a member for 60 years.



*Above - Keith VE2XL receiving the  
ARRL 60 yr. Award*

#### **2. Tip Time Tips:**

Gilles VA2EW advises that operating in parallel can speed up soldering projects immensely. Sam VE2LJV suggests using screenshots on iPhones for printing odd items of interest.

#### **3. Sunday Net:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ announced that he will not be able to take his turn as host for the Sunday evening net this year. There was a short discussion on what seems to be targeted malicious interference taking place during the Sunday evening net. Eamon VE2EGN suggested that he may start a direction finding group to solve the problem.

#### **4. Local Repeaters:**

Our VHF repeater is working satisfactorily. Charles VE2RFI plans to return to the site at some point to switch back the power supplies. VE2BG is currently sitting without ears. Obviously off the air. The VE2RM club has replaced its repeater. Although it is not tuned up yet, it is operating. James VE2KHC said that there is a 103.5 tone on it.

#### **5. Brandmeister System:**

Renée VE2RI talked briefly on the Brandmeister system. It is a direct point to point DMR system. It also accepts D-Star and makes the necessary conversions.

#### **6. SOTA News:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ talked about his busy summer. He operated on 21 different summits in the USA north-east and Canada. That's a lot of hiking and climbing.

#### **7. Field Day 2016:**

Eamon VE2EGN gave a brief report on the clubs performance this year. He promises to have an article about it in next month's bulletin. Eamon took the opportunity to announce that he will be stepping down as our field day coordinator before next year.

#### **8. DXCC Honor Roll:**

Gilles VA2EW describe his quest for recognition on the DXCC honour roll. He needed 331 out of the 340 countries to qualify, but found himself stalled at 330. In a short space of time 2 things happened. First he worked Heard Island.

Secondly, a country was dropped from the recognized list. He found himself with 331 of the now possible 338 countries. This qualified him to receive the award. Tonight, he was able to show us his DXCC Honor roll plate. Finally, congratulations!

#### 9. **Green Hornet Pub:**

Keith VE2MTL, Larry VE2DO, and Keith VE2XL talked briefly about the history of the Green Hornet Pub on Lakeshore Boulevard. The early plans for our radio club took place at that location in the late 60s and early 70s. By now, most of you must have heard that the pub will be torn down to make room for a new condo development. Just a little piece of our vanishing history.

#### 10. **Vimy 100 Special Event:**

There are special events planned for next year's 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge. A tentative date of January 8th to the 14th 2017 is

planned for Quebec amateurs. We would be using the call sign VE100VIMY/VE2.

#### 11. **After the Break:**

After the break, four members of the Space Concordia team entertained us with a progress report on their latest projects. Some of them are already radio amateurs, and the others will be licensed soon. They have projects in robotics, the Alexandr satellite, a balloon launch, and several communication subsystems. They discussed ADCS, the Attitude Direction Control System. They covered details of their radio communications, duplexes, filters, and the orientation of antennas used in the spacecraft division. They even use some SDR. They had a lot of slides and included a long list of equipment. They answered a large number of questions from the audience. These are a bunch of very busy people. It was great to see such enthusiasm from our youth and we wish them success in

their projects and thank them for coming to visit us this evening. We hope they can come again and give us a progress report. Thanks to them all.

#### 12. **Break Time Cookies:**

This evening, the break time treats were provided by Keith VE2MTL. Thanks. According to the volunteer sheet, Bob VE2PDT will be providing treats for next month's meeting. By the way, we need a volunteer for November?

#### 17. **50/50 Draw:**

There was no 50-50 draw this evening.

#### 14. **Door Prizes:**

This evening, we had no door prizes.

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

Why do they put Braille on the drive-through bank machines?

The meeting adjourned at 22:24. See you October 17<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.

## 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 +++

A reminder that tables are available at our monthly meetings.

### \$\$\$ 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)

**Twitter** — <https://twitter.com/westislandarc> **Facebook** - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/437310523122118/>

#### Executives:

**President :** Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

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

**Treasurer :** Bram Paterson, VA2XE

**Secretary :** Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

#### Accredited Examiner:

Larry Dobby, VE2DO [DOBBY@AEI.CA](mailto:DOBBY@AEI.CA)

Mark Morin, VA2MM [mark@partout.ca](mailto:mark@partout.ca)

#### Directors:

**Editor :** Bram Paterson, VA2XE

**QSL Manager :** Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

**Webmaster :** Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH

**Immediate Past :** Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

#### President

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.