



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

April 2017 Edition

Upcoming Meeting – April 17th 2017
This month's topic
“ IARU 13 High Speed Telegraphy World Championship ”
Given by Vladimir Banicevic, VA2AN

President's Message and Report

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ (ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca)

Hi all,

Thank-you Harrison for the APRS exposition at the March meeting. I am currently working on hooking my Tiny Trak 4 up to my base VHF radio so I'll have APRS from home as well as from the road. Next, if I can find time, I'll see how a Hamshield combined with an Arduino fares on APRS.

And thank-you Gilles for your demonstration of the uses of Audacity in reviewing the recordings you make of your QSOs. I picked up quite a few pointers that I can use now analyzing my own contacts.

At the March meeting we finalized the date of a group Summits on the Air (SOTA) activation to Mont Shefford: Saturday, May 6th. If you are interested in joining us let me know: ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca.

Congratulations to the new hams who passed their exam at the end of the MARC basic course recently. You may run across Louis VA2ATF, Bénédicte VA2ORU, Benjamin VA2XBJ, Erick VE2LRZ, Nicholas VE2NZG, Farshid VE2QFM, or Simon VA3DZT on the air. If you do, give them a warm welcome to the hobby. And congratulations to Marc-Andre VE2EVN who passed his advanced exam the same day.

The April meeting will be almost the last chance to get in on the group Field Day t-shirt order. Just make your selection of colour and size and bring \$23 to the meeting to give to Harrison and you will receive your shirt in time for Field Day.

Harrison will present financial statements from 2015 and 2016 and a budget for 2017 at the April meeting. He will also update us with current news about Field Day planning.

After the break, Vlad VA2AN, will give us a presentation about the IARU 13 High Speed Telegraphy World Championship. Vlad led the national team of Montenegro at the 2016 World Championships and will share his impressions as well as video and audio from the competition.

Apparently the world record holders are generally young women and they can copy code at truly amazing rates.

President's Message and Report

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ (ve2ddz@ve2ddz.ca)

April 17, 2017 Meeting Agenda

- Tips
- Reports
 - 2015 and 2016 financial statements and 2017 budget - Harrison VE2HKW
 - Field Day – Harrison
- RAQI services - also Harrison
- Other business
- Break (coffee, ragchew, cookies)
- Presentation:
 - The IARU 13 High Speed Telegraphy World Championship - Vlad VA2AN

See you on the 17th.

73,

Malcolm VE2DDZ

What happened **Minutes of the February 2017 WIARC meeting**

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL (kglashan@yahoo.ca)

What Happened

*Minutes of the WIARC Meeting
March 20, 2017*

By Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:41. Malcolm VE2DDZ welcomed 24 attendees, and opened the meeting with the usual roll call with call signs. For the first time Tom VA2FSQ attended the meeting. Welcome Tom. I hope we see you again soon. The details of the meeting follow.

1. Tip Time Tips:

Charles VE2RFI suggested putting up wire antennas before the leaves

appear on the trees. It greatly simplifies the whole operation. Also, Sam VE2LJV mentioned that previous issues of popular electronics magazine are now available online. If you Google popular electronics you can find the website and access all the previous issues.

2. Repeater News:

Charles VE2RFI reported that the 146.910 repeater has been operating quite satisfactorily. There are occasional glitches, but these may not be the fault of the repeater itself. Quite possibly the users, or their poor locations.

3. Field Day 2017:

Harrison VE2HKW mentioned that he

is still negotiating with Pointe-Claire about over details such as the availability of tables. Ovide Park is confirmed.

4. Field Day T-Shirts 2017:

T-shirts from the ARRL will be available to all those who are interested in purchasing them. The cost is C\$23 tax included. You should see Harrison at the April meeting with your cash. They will be ordered, received, and distributed in plenty of time for the event this year.

5. QSO Play:

Tonight, we introduced a new segment into the meeting. Since several people record much of their radio QSOs, especially during contests, there may

be interesting ones which can be shared with the club members. Gilles VA2EW gave a talk during which we heard some of the unusual transmissions which he experienced recently. He noticed that there was an echo on his signal.

He soon realized that this was his own transmission going around the world, and returning on the backside of his beam. He was able to play these recordings which even included some double echoes, meaning that his signal had gone around the world twice. With his software he was able to measure the time delays. He also had recording of an 80m contact to Macau which follows a strange gray line path to the south east. Not using the normal polar routes, or short path, or long path, this method is influenced by the gray line. Therefore he directed his beam in a south east direction and the signals are actually bent northward by the gray line to arrive at the Macau destination. Very interesting.

6. SOTA News:

Malcolm announced that there are plans for a group SOTA to take place on Saturday, May 6, weather permitting of course. He is planning to go to Mont Shefford. It is a moderate climb of 1.9km distance and 175 meters vertical.

7. New Hams @ MARC:

Marc-Andre VE2EVN announced

that 7 of their students passed the Basic Qualification. As a matter of fact, Marc-Andre took, and passed the Advanced Qualification himself. Congratulations Marc-Andre.

8. MARC News:

For the next three months the meetings of MARC will be held at St. Thomas Anglican Church, 6897 Somerled Ave. H4V1V2, corner Rosedale.

9. Solder Spot ?:

Not quite Solder Spot, but Malcolm suggested that there may be enough interest to hold a digital mode interface group building project. There may be differences in the requirements of each person in the group, but there should be sufficient commonality to make a group effort worthwhile. Contact Malcolm if you are interested in joining the team.

10. After the Break:

Harrison VE2HKW was our guest speaker this evening and gave a talk on amateur packet reporting system, also known as APRS. He explained what it is and how it works. He explained that it provides information about who you are, and where you are.

In North America the frequency that is commonly used is 144.390 MHz.

He also mentioned that it supports 67 character messaging. It is often used in ballooning applications for tracking and telemetry. It is also used on the

ISS and other satellites such as No-44 and No-84. However these use a frequency of 145.825 MHz. Harrison showed several pictures of some TNCs and had with him actual hardware which he circulated for our inspection. He also covered the subject of software and various Internet links all related to APRS. Thanks Harrison for the talk this evening. It was most interesting. It showed us how this mode has evolved over the years. We look forward to you giving us more talks in the future. Thanks again. Well done.

11. Break Time Cookies:

This evening, Malcolm VE2DDZ provided the treats. Thanks. According to the sheet, no one has volunteered to provide items for next month's meeting. Remember, we need a few more volunteers for 2017. Thanks.

12. Door Prizes:

This evening, there were no door prizes.

13. A Pun my Word:

Only Irish coffee provides in a single glass all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar and fat.

The meeting adjourned at 22:21. See you Easter Monday April 17th, 2017.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

We want to hear from you

by Bram Paterson, VA2XE (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

Monthly Meeting tips

by the WIARC executive

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.

QSL cards from the VE2 bureau

by Bob Loranger, VE2AXO (ve2axo@videotron.ca)

ATTENTION !!!

if your call sign suffix is listed below, come to the meeting. We have QSL cards for you!

**** AAY, AN, AWC, BBC, DNN, DO, EGN, HKW, KES, KEY, PVP, RFI, TTA, XL ****

See you April 17,

Bob VE2AXO

++ 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.

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



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Batteries Expert is our Field Day sponsor, we recommend you visit them for your batteries needs.

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

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E-mail: VE2CWI@WIARC.CA

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

Executives:

President : Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president : Gilles Renucci, VA2EW

Treasurer : Harrison Kyle, VE2HKW

Secretary : Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Directors:

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QSL Manager : Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

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Mark Morin, VA2MM mark@partout.ca

News and comments are always welcomed; please submit them to the following address, VE2CWI@WIARC.CA

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

Repeaters: VE2RWI VHF - 146.910 MHz (-) and VE2RWI UHF - 443.050 MHz (+)
(A CTCSS tone of 88.5 Hz is required on the inputs of both repeaters in order to access them. The repeaters also transmit the same tone on their output frequencies)

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 VE2RWI Repeater

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