



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

September 2011 Edition

Upcoming Meeting - September 19th 2011

President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

>>> WI ~ ARCS <<<

Summer vacation tales:

Welcome back everyone! Besides going to our cottage on Lake MacDonald (Harrington Township, QC) we decided, once again, to take a chalet in the Papineau-Labelle reserve for a week and a half. As I noted before the reserve is devoid of noisy power lines, the RF background is exceptionally low. The only interference comes from the chalet's inverter fluorescent lamps, which operate from solar/battery power. This particular chalet has its own PV panel. The fridge, stove and water heater runs on propane. I discovered that the new fluorescent lamps (CFL) are designed to work on 12 V dc. According to the local warden the old PV panel was stolen last winter and now there are locked winter gates on that section of the reserve roads.

Therefore I brought my FT-817nd, a 20/40-m dipole, 10-foot collapsible vertical (tank) antenna, homebrew random wire antenna tuner, Elecraft T1 autotuner and a foldable solar panel to charge the 817's battery pack. The vertical (with two wire radials) was less than spectacular in performance, but a lot of signals were heard. I made a couple of weak signal contacts (US) with about 3 W and the 20/40-m dipole 15 feet off the ground. I did not bring a bow and arrow kit to get the antenna up higher! The dipole was orientated 20/200 degrees for European contacts and, indeed, many of the big guns from across the pond were heard. On the other hand I spent much more time with the grandchildren and swimming in the lake. There was quite a bit of wildlife around (loons, ducks, deer, wolves, fish in the lake and a misguided fox, which decided to chew on my coaxial feed line!) Lesson number one: do not FEED the animules ... although this does seem to apply to the reserve section wardens.

The other vacation tale in the reserve happened when a rock on an off-road trip decided to bite my MPV's transmission case. Indeed, we were lucky to make the 210-km trip home not knowing there was a small crack in the tranny case. Yes, the engine light was flashing, but I knew another of the 6 ignition coils had failed. That, of course, lets raw gasoline flow into the catalytic converter, which does wonders to the catalyst. I took my 8-year-old MPV to the garage to hear the bad news and gave it the last rites (read scrap heap). The upshot of all this is a new 2012 M5 to play with. Unfortunately (or fortunately) I could not reuse my VE2KLF plate for the registration/insurance as the vehicle is now properly classed as commercial for my XYL's business, but that is another tale!

Jun 2011 MTG:

Please see the minutes for 2011-JUN.

VE2RWI UHF Repeater:

The club has purchased a Motorola (Commercial) UHF repeater of 2000/2001 vintage. Jean-Francois, VE2TBH has programmed the unit for our use on 443.050+ MHz and it puts out 42 watts maximum. J-F has backed this off to run at a slightly lower output power to let the PA coast (under less strain). Remember that there is an 8 bay collinear vertical antenna array at the top of the tower! The unit has been under test into a dummy load at J-F's QTH and he commented that the programming was a snap. The RAQI unit would have been more costly, was of an older vintage and the programming of the controller is the pits! The usual 141.3 Hz CTCSS tone will be on the OUTPUT as it is for the 2 m VHF repeater for mobiles near sources of interference (intermod sites). We are awaiting final installation at the Cote des Neiges site. Please note that the installation crew will be by two or three of our members as that is all there is room for at the site. Hopefully we can arrange for a tour for other members at a later date. In the meantime (when we know the installation is going down or later) you can assist by monitoring and calling in. The other fly-in-the-ointment is our status with company operating the site and we are waiting to hear from them. The worst case scenario may require us to move to another site ... suggestions? IRLP/ECHOLINK (if a majority of our membership indicates an interest for the UHF

machine) will require a “secure” radio link from the current site to someone who is willing to provide an access point. This is on the agenda for our monthly meeting discussions.

Sept 2011 MTG:

Tentative agenda:

- Field Day 2011 summaries ... VE2NGH, George
- Radio-Talk 2011 plans for November 26, 2011 ... VE2WTQ, Terry and/or Morrie, VE2BWS
- Solder-Spot ... VE2OFH, Paul; VE2EGN, Eamon
- UHF repeater updates, IRLP/ECHOLINK use
- 2011-OCT-15 Octoberfest at the Morgan Arboretum would like a small demo of our club’s activities at the Conservation Center 12:00 – 16:00 for those attending the Fest (Public and ARBO members) ... an HF station and posters? Volunteers? *

Other business:

- 50/50 draw
- Coffee/drinks/cookies, and rag chew

* Unfortunately I cannot be there as that weekend is my 50th reunion for McGill Grads and I shall be downtown with my class (Electrical Engineering) of 1961.

Notes: WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS (HAMS). WIARC Info Net is back on VE2RWI, 146.910- MHz Sundays @ 20:00 local

The CHARC Net is back on VE2REX, 146.685- MHz Fridays @ 20:00 local ... Net Control is Steve, WIHIO.

C U on the 19th of September – 2011 ... de .ken. VE2KLF

What Happened Minutes of the June 2011 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Minutes of the June 2011 WIARC meeting by Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 20:00. Ken VE2KLF presided and welcomed the 19 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday June 20, 2011 meeting are as follows.

1. **VE2RM D-Star:** Ken VE2KLF talked briefly about the VE2RM club repeater and their plans to put a new UHF D-Star machine in service. Apparently they had not used their UHF frequency pairs for some time. When they began work on this project they realized that they had been lost to another group. For now, Ken asked us to monitor 442.250 and 442.625 occasionally and report any activity to him.

2. **WIARC UHF:** Ken VE2KLF announced to the club our intention to replace our old UHF club repeater

with a commercial Motorola model being offered for sale by RAQI. Our old one was operating on very low power for the last couple of years and recently failed completely. It was taken off the air in mid April.

3. **Space Day:** Ken VE2KLF showed the certificate that the club received in appreciation of our participation at this years Science and Technology event. It went well again this year. However, we could make it really fly if we had more participation by our members. We could use as many as 20 volunteers.

4. **Hamfest 2011:** Terry VE2WTQ did not have too much to report on the plans for the club hamfest. He and Morrie VE2BWS have looked at using our regular meeting QTH for the “Radio Talk 2011” event. It seems quite suitable for their plans so far. Terry could not confirm this since he has not been able to contact anyone at the Church to discuss availability. Our Lakeside Heights Baptist church location, although quite small, might be

just right to get an informational event off the ground. Next year, who knows?

5. **MARC News:** Vern VE2QQ announced that MARC will be participating once again at Canada Day celebrations in Millennium Park. Pay them a visit on July 1st. Bring the family.

6. **Field Day 2011:** George VE2NGH gave a final report on the plans for field day. He referred to the operating schedule that he recently published and in particular to a spot he has reserved on Sunday AM for newcomers. He said that in a recent rehearsal, 6 of them were able to raise and lower our 40 ft. tower in an hour. He mentioned his plans to get as many bonus points as possible. These include Vlad VA2AN and his solar power equipment. He confirmed that he is prepared for multi mode operations including PSK31, RTTY, Satellite, and VHF 6 & 2 meters using a 30 ft. tower, and of course the usual HF bands. We are using the VE2CUA call this year. All this and we will still be classified as “1A”. Hope to see you all at Pine Beach. Set-up scheduled for 8 AM Saturday.

7. **No Guest Speaker:** Tonight was reserved completely for Field Day preparation. After a lengthy break, members exchanged equipment to be used during Field Day. The kitchen supplies and coffee pot were taken from the church. Other items included the Club Banner, tents, sound equipment, fire extinguisher, and Amateur Radio brochures for the

information booth. I hope we thought of everything!

Tonight, the winner of the 50/50 draw was Eamon VE2EGN, who donated his cash prize to the Club. Thanks and congratulations.

This month, Ken VE2KLF provided some magazines as door prizes.

Thanks again, Ken.

Something Punny - When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.

The meeting adjourned at 21:24. See you September 19th 2011.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

TRI-CLUB 2011 ARRL FIELD DAY EVENT

Prepared by George Hedrei, VE2NGH

As coordinator for this year's 2011 Field Day event for the West Island Amateur Radio Club (WIARC), I decided to do something very different from last year to involve more amateur radio operators and to have more public exposure to amateur radio. Being also an active member of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club (MARC), and also helping to revive the Concordia University Amateur Radio Club (CUARC), I had thought of organizing this year's field day involving all three clubs.

AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, during the past few years WIARC had held its Field Days at the Morgan Arboretum which is a large forest conservation area on the West Island of Montreal. It is very difficult for the public and amateurs to get to and virtually impossible if you have no car. The only public that you would meet were nature-lovers would spend time walking through the conservation area. Because of the trees, only wire antennas were practical and the trees make for difficult VHF and satellite operation. The mosquitoes and bugs make operating in a closed tent essential, which gets very warm when the sun is out and with this year's very wet spring would have made life just miserable. So I had an idea inspired by the yearly Canada Day activities hosted by the city of Dorval at Millennium Park on the shores of Lake St. Louis on the West Island of Montreal. The MARC has operated Canada Day there many times and the location would be perfect. After checking with the city, it was discovered that we could not use that park due to the St-Jean Baptiste Holiday celebrations on the Friday before our event. We then scouted around in the winter and found a beautiful park on the lake just down the road – Pine Beach Park. This park is right in the middle of a suburban residential area and is also on a main road. Public transportation is around the corner and there is plenty of free parking. The houses are far enough away that we should not disturb the neighbors with noise or RF. The location gives us an unobstructed East to West view over the water. This park has a large gazebo next to the lake that is sometime used for outdoor events. This is where we could install all the tables for the radios, equipment, and food tables. The city also installs portable toilets for the summer and we have access to water. There is also electricity available to use for cooking, refrigeration, etc at the gazebo site.

I presented my idea to all three clubs during the January club meetings and it was very well received by all members and almost everyone welcomed this change in Field Day operations, not to mention the MARC who had not held a field day in a number of years. Once the idea was approved by the executives of all three clubs, we started to organize as there was a lot of work to do! First we had to secure permission from the city of Dorval to use the park. We still kept Morgan Arboretum as our backup plan B since we found out that the park gazebo is sometimes reserved for outdoor activities. Right from the beginning, we decided to use the Concordia University club call VE2CUA in order to get this call back on the air again after many years of dormancy.

During the winter club meetings, volunteer lists were handed out to recruit participants and operators. Since there were three clubs involved it was decided to split all the expenses between them. For planning efficiency, I had decided to divide the event operations into major function groups; technical, security, food, logistics and transport, media and public relations, treasury, and permits. Each group had a leader who was responsible for recruiting their own team to get their tasks done. Every few weeks we held planning meetings, where I would assign tasks as they came up to each group leader. We would also discuss what was needed in terms of equipment and supplies and whether we could afford them. We would review the progress of all assigned tasks and if there were any obstacles or problems that the groups encountered since the last meeting, they would be addressed immediately and they would be solved by the following meeting. This method proved to work very well as we avoided problems and surprises that always come up at the last minute. The only thing that we were not in control of was the weather!

As leader of the technical group I had started the plans for our station. I would have liked to operate as 2A but in looking at the time required to design, build, and test the various filters involved, quickly made me shelve this idea for a future event. This year we were allowed a free VHF/UHF station without changing our operating class. So I had decided to go with a 6m and 2m station in addition to the HF station. This was also the first field day where I had decided to use Yagi antennas with towers for the higher bands.

Now the race was on to acquire all the equipment and put it all together. Since a part of my own shack consists of a Yaesu FT-1000D complete with computer interfaces, keyer and PSK/RTTY interface, I decided to use this setup for our HF station since it was already

configured and working. We borrowed Sheldon Werner's (VA2SH) IC-7000 radio to use on 6m and 2m. I decided to use two computers running N1MM logger but they would log separately. I had prepared the power and grounding buss arrangement which I had used last year. I also decided to use my FT-736R and laptop running SAT-PC32 for the satellite station. Last year Malcolm Harper (VE2DDZ) and I built a set of Lindenblad antennas for 2m and 70cm which would be used along with an Arrow antenna mounted on a camera tripod. I also had GaAs-FET preamps and power amps for both bands.

For the antennas, the MARC had an old Cushcraft A4 tri-bander which was not used for over 15 years. We also borrowed a 5-element 6m beam. Paul Iarerra (VE2OFH) and I spent two weekends cleaning the HF elements and traps and figuring out how to properly put everything back together to make the antenna work. To check the tuning, we had brought the HF beam to a local park and raised it to 20 feet with using Paul's fiberglass sections as a mast. This antenna design has not changed in 20 years since the only manual we had was the one for the current A4-S that we had downloaded. I think we were very lucky here!

The WIARC club had a DMX 40 foot tower which they used to use for past Field Days. The MARC also had a 30 foot Delhi TV tower which we would use for the VHF station. We also decided to make a "test run" to walk up the towers since none of us had any experience in doing this before. We took HF the tower to a local park on a Saturday morning and measured out all the guy ropes. I was surprised that 8 men were able to set this up and take it back down again in under two hours in a light rain! All the guy ropes were measured out, labeled, and tied to the tower ready for field day and we knew exactly how many men it would take, and the procedure to safely walk up this tower. I was NOT leaving anything for the last minute inviting the possibility of an accident!

I had decided to use a 40m sloping vertical which would be held up by the HF tower. It would use a single elevated horizontal radial. I would use the same antenna for 80 meters but in order to obtain an ideal sloping angle of no more than 30 degrees from vertical, I needed a 68 foot high support. The park does not have trees that high. Fortunately Paul (VE2OFH) had purchased 60 feet of surplus fiberglass mast that comes in 4 ft sections. I decided to use this as the support for the 80m sloper. We also did a "test run" with this mast and after a few hesitant moments we managed to hoist it up and back down again. We used three levels of three guys for each level. In retrospect I really suggest that these fiberglass masts should have 4 guy supports rather than three to give a more even support to the structure.

The last few weeks before the event were spent getting everything ready and most importantly to test each radio system beforehand. You do not want to give Murphy a chance to play his tricks! Each radio station was bench tested with the logging computers. Each interface was verified that it worked for CAT control, RTTY, CW, and PSK31. We needed around 150 feet of rotor cable and we could not afford to buy it so we put our "HAM" inventiveness to work and made the rotor cable out of 12 gauge electrical cable for the power conductors and CAT-V cable for the direction signal. We needed a lot of coax so we begged, and borrowed it from different Hams.

The permits were acquired, the park was reserved, and the food was bought a few days before Field day. When we got the permission from the city of Dorval even the mayor promised to stop by the day of the event. All was needed, was a repeat of the fantastic weather that we had the previous weekend. But that was not to be! No matter how hard or carefully you prepare there is always something that comes along and for us Mother Nature surprised us with torrential rains Saturday morning. But this is Field Day and the motto is – "rain or shine".

So we prepared some contingencies and loaded up the gear to arrive at the park for 8 AM. Paul's pickup truck with all the antennas, elements, and gear looked like one of those scrap metal trucks you see driving around the day before trash day!

It was pouring rain when we arrived at the park and I admit my heart sunk. I hardly slept or ate during the last few days, and I have a day job too. But Mother Nature can also be kind, and the rain stopped occasionally and sometimes it came back as a light mist. We quickly went to work and got the HF tower set up without any difficulties as we had rehearsed it. While I was setting up the VHF tower and antennas another crew started hoisting up the 60 foot fiberglass mast. All of a sudden, I heard a big crack and some yelling. The poles were almost fully assembled and hoisted when at around the 45 foot mark, one of the poles broke and the entire mast came down. Luckily no one was injured but the mast sections that fell dug a 6 inch carrot out of the ground. I was told that the top of the mast was bent over like a piece of spaghetti before it broke. The hardest thing in this situation was to coordinate all the people on the guy ropes as the mast went up. The HF tower went up faster since we had only one set of guys compare to three sets for the fiberglass mast. It is extremely important to designate only ONE person as the "boss" for this type of job. He should be the only person giving orders. If not then you are inviting disaster and possible serious injury.

It was now after 12 PM and we still had a lot of work to do. That rain really delayed us in the morning. When it was time to install the 2m antenna above the 6m beam, a rusted boom to mast clamp broke apart. I forgot to check the clamp and its bolts! I decided then and there to abandon 2 meters and concentrate on 6m. While we were working completing the antenna setup, the weather cleared a bit and the sun came out. When all the antennas were up and the cables were brought to the gazebo, I started setting up the equipment. While that was being done, other crews set up tents for sleeping, and started setting out the food and Barbeque. I even brought from home a small fridge, microwave, and hotplate for cooking breakfast and to warm up Paul's famous chili. We had decided to buy food to feed only the participants but it turned out that there was so much food that we even fed some of our Ham colleagues who dropped by during the event.

I had decided to rent an inverter generator with a capacity of 3.5 KW. This was set up with its own shelter around 50 feet from the gazebo. Two 12 gauge extension cords fed power back to the radio stations and each line had surge suppressors installed. I even had a line voltage and frequency meter to monitor AC line performance. The inverter generator kept excellent regulation of both voltage and frequency with two 100 watt radios, computers, rotors, lights, etc connected as loads. The generator was much quieter than the regular construction types so we did not have to install it too far away thus preventing excessive voltage drops in the extension cords. This also turned out great for neighborhood relations. I highly recommend this type of generator and it is recommended for powering sensitive electronic equipment.

I was still setting up the radio equipment when the start time approached. To top things off, it started to rain again and we had to install tarps on the gazebo side openings to block us from the wind and rain blowing off the lake. Then Murphy showed up. The Winkey interface did not work and the radio gave no RF power on SSB and CW, only on FM! My heart was sinking fast and I was ready to go home! Now I had to do some debugging and it was approaching 3 PM. An incorrect drive setting on the radio fixed the RF output but the computer was acting strange along with the Winkeyer. Meanwhile the 6m radio was set up and working and the boys started on 6 and to our surprise the band was open! Back at the HF camp, it turned out that the gazebo frame which is made of steel was not properly grounded. Even with a single-point grounding system with a copper ground buss, copper braid, and 6 foot copper ground rod, we had stray RF floating around messing up the computer and USB keyer. I repositioned some of the coaxial cables and rerouted some grounding and finally got the system to work. The computer still needed to be rebooted once in a while and I had grounded its enclosure too. One can never predict beforehand and without testing how the ground system will perform with HF RF at a field day location.

At 4:30 PM we started operating HF CW with one of our best CW operators Vlad (VA2AN). He started running on 15m and the band was open.

The 6m operator Cliff Tooher (VA2UTC) was putting away the QSO's since 6m was open to the USA due to a sporadic E opening. I had watched the spotting networks all week and 6 was open on Friday. I hoped that this would hold over the weekend. Now that my work was done for now I could sit down for the first time. I was cold, hungry and very tired, and I even started to lose my voice from too much yelling instructions. We were lucky that the weather was decent for the rest of the afternoon into the evening. Our cook Charles Robitaille (VE2RFI) started to prepare some delicious BBQ chicken, hamburgers, and hotdogs. Then the crowds started to come by. We had visitors not only from our three clubs but from the general public. This went on all evening. At one point when I was operating HF SSB with the headphones on, I was going to make a comment on amount of talking I heard behind me which was disturbing. I turned around to see I was surrounded by a crowd of teenagers mesmerized at what we were doing with the radios. Our public relations chief Keith Glashan (VE2MTL) had set up a very nice information booth with club flyers, ham radio pamphlets, and even a code practice oscillator. We were a real attraction that Saturday evening!

During the night it started to rain and we had to put extra tarps in front of the gazebo to keep the rain from blowing in. When the rain stopped, the wind started to really pick up off the lake. I had the crew continually check the towers but they held up fine and did not even move. Even the fiberglass mast stayed in place. We operated on 15, then on 20 meters till late in the evening. We then switched to 40 meters which was very busy. We had our CW operators Vlad and Bob Loranger (VE2AXO) operate a total of 6 hours that evening since Bob could not come on Sunday. Cliff and I took over with SSB to give them a break. 6 meters finally died a little after sunset. At around 4 AM we switched to 80m with Vlad at the key. I then decided to go to one of the tents to get some much needed sleep since I was up almost 24 hours. The next morning Paul treated us to a great breakfast of bacon, sausages, eggs which we ate heartily. 6 meters opened up again around 10 AM but we could see that the sporadic E cloud was dissipating since the contacts were fewer than on Saturday. After 80 meters closed down after sunrise, we moved to 40 and ran until past 9 AM. Then we tried 10 meters and it seemed to be in good shape. We finished the event on 15 and 20 meters.

On Sunday I had the station open to all operators in order to teach some new Hams how to operate on HF in a contest situation. When one was coached on HF, another was on the 6 meter radio. Louis-Philippe Querel (VA2LPQ) did a few nice runs on HF and 6 meters, as well as some other students from the Concordia University club.

The previous week I had trained Marc-Andre (VE2EVN) from the Concordia club on how to operate the satellite station. I helped him set up the station but we encountered quite a few equipment problems on Saturday, and coupled with the rain could not get much operating done. We heard a few QSO's but just could not make the contact even when we switched to the Arrow antenna. Also with the loss of HO-68 and the fact that AO-51 was shutting down at eclipse, there were not many favorable satellite passes. I had the station set up for both V/U and U/V capability with pre-amps and power amps on both bands. We had no pre-amp relays though and had to change modes manually. Something happened and the 70cm GaAs-FET pre-amp died. That just about killed our hope in getting the 100 points for a satellite QSO. The next morning when the weather was nicer (but still humid), I brought the entire satellite radio table out of the gazebo onto the park sidewalk. I was going to use the shorter coax cables from the Arrow antenna on the tripod along with the built-in pre-amp of the 70cm power amp to try one last pass of AO-51 which we found out was operational. Then we heard a very strong pulse-type interference on the 436.800 MHz downlink frequency. The interfering signal seemed to come from all over the place so we could not null it out with the Arrow antenna. I tried to transmit to AO-51 and I heard my voice come back from the satellite but the interfering signal was swamping the discriminator and there was no way I could even pick up an entire call sign even though the signal from the satellite was fairly strong between the interfering pulses. That ended our satellite chances for the event.

Some of our hams had portable scanners and they traced the interference to a Vidéotron fiber-optic to cable translator on a pole around 250 feet from our site across the street. We also found many unterminated cable taps just leaking cable RF! I think we found the downside operating in this park!

Even though we lost our 100 satellite bonus points one of the councilors for the city of Dorval Mrs. Margot Heron came by to check out our operations so we gained 100 points there. After the event ended at 2 PM we started to tear down the site and it went very quickly with no major problems even though everyone was very tired. The weather on Sunday afternoon was very nice and that also helped in the teardown. We were all packed up by around 5 PM and I went home to some very much needed rest, but not before performing a preliminary check on the logs and our score! Despite being delayed over 2 ½ hours due to the weather we managed some very decent results. We managed a total 505 CW and 620 SSB QSO's out of which 207 QSO's were on 6 meters thus giving us a total of 3260 QSO points. Coupled with our 850 bonus points we had arrived at a total of 4110 FD points for our class 1A. Not bad at all for a first try with portable towers at a completely new and different location.

I must thank everyone from the WIARC, MARC, and CUARC clubs for all their enthusiasm and effort in making this year's Field Day a huge success. It was very nice to see all of the members of these three clubs work together in harmony to make this field day a safe, fun, and extremely sociable event despite the poor weather. A very public location helps tremendously in showing people in general what amateur radio is all about.

I thoroughly enjoyed preparing for this Field Day event despite the equipment problems, weather, frustration, lack of sleep, lost voice, and on top of it all, catching a cold. Everyone had a lot of fun with Ham radio, socializing outdoors, and meeting new friends. As for myself as a Ham, I say that it was all worth it. After all we are all Hams right?

73 de
George
VE2NGH

PHOTOS OF THE TRI-CLUB 2011 ARRL FIELD DAY

by Bram Paterson, VE2XCS



The Gazebo at Pine Beach Park with George VE2NGH, Dorval city councilor Mrs. Margo Heron, and Paul VE2OFH.



Our 6m Yagi on a 20ft tower with a rotor



Our 6m SSB station



Bob VE2AXO operating CW on HF

More WIARC 2011 Field Day pictures and video on the web

by Bram Paterson, VE2XCS

Here are link to pages with picture and video of the WIARC 2011 Field Day posted on the web by WIARC members.

Morrie VE2BWS : <http://www.pbase.com/nunavik/fieldday2011>

Bram VE2XCS Youtube page: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fcJyWbhwQM>

WIARC's Website : http://www.wiarc.ca/photo_gallery/default.html

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 \$\$\$

If you like to advertise an item you wish to part with, please send an email to ve2cwi@rac.ca before the first Monday of the month for publication in that month's edition to the editor attention.

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

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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.