



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

June 2013 Edition

Upcoming Meeting – June 17th 2013

This month's topic

“ Show and Tell ”

Come show us your projects at the June meeting.

President's Message and Report

by Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

May Meeting

It was great to hear about the first few WIARC dxpeditions from Mark, VA2MM at the May meeting. It's a topic I've been interested in learning more about since I first heard WIARC used to run dxpeditions. I don't know that I'd be up to drive 24 hours straight through to Chisasibi, but the rest is something I'd like to try some day. Serendipity brought Fred VE1FA and Helen VA1YL as visitors to this meeting on their way back from Dayton. They were major participants in many of WIARC's dxpeditions and it was good to finally meet them.

Also thank-you to Cliff, VA2UTC for his "flash talk" on Q-codes. It was fun to hear more about where Q-this and Q-that come from. These "flash talks" - mini presentations of 5 to 15 minutes - are something we want to do more of at our meetings. If you have a short presentation you'd like to give, or have a topic you'd like to hear about, let one of the executive know and we'll try to schedule it. Ralph, VE2GO will give us a flash talk at the June meeting. The topic will be something about transmission lines.

Summer is Coming

The June meeting will be the last before the summer break. As has become usual, there will be no scheduled WIARC meetings in July and August. We return Monday, September 16.

Dan, VA2KEY points out that while WIARC shuts down for the summer, many of us, myself included, are more active in amateur radio during the summer than at any other time of year. We have decided to open the church on the third Monday of July and August for members to get together if they wish. There will be no presentations scheduled or refreshments arranged, but a member of the executive will open the hall for any members who want make use of it on the evenings of July 15 and August 19.

The Sunday night 2m net will have its usual summer shutdown. There will be nets June 30 and September 8, but no nets in between.



CY9CWI dxpedition to St Paul Island. l -> r Al VO1NO/VE1; Wally; Reg VE2AYU; Lynn VE1ENT; Lowell VY2OX; Hellen VE2AK; Fred VE2SEI; Dragan VE2ZIV; J-F (Jeff) VE2TBH; Bill VE1MR

Silent Key Ceremonies

One or two members have raised the issue of whether WIARC should continue to perform SK ceremonies during the monthly meetings. The executive has discussed this and feels that yes we should continue to have the SK ceremonies, but only for WIARC members and noted ex-members. If you have an opinion on this issue, please bring it to the June meeting.

Radio Talk 2013

Plans for Radio Talk 2013 are humming along. Terry, VE2WTQ had a BBQ at his QTH June 1, well attended by RT volunteers and organizers. Let one of the organizers know if you'd like to be put on the list to be kept up-to-date on the planning or check out the blog at radiotalk.ca. The blog is run by Cliff, VA2UTC this year.

Congratulations Peter

Charles, VE2RFI and I went down to the Sorel hamfest on June 2 partly to check out the hamfest, but mostly to attend the RAQI Annual General Assembly. Neither the hamfest nor the meeting were particularly interesting, but while there we ran into new WIARC member Peter Kartsakis and found out that he had just recently passed his "Basic with Honours" certification exam. Congratulations Peter.

Field Day is only two weeks away as I write this. This is one of my favourite amateur radio activities of the year. I encourage everyone to come down to our new location at Centennial Park in Beaconsfield. If you're a new ham or if you haven't got your certification yet, George, VE2NGH tells me that Sunday morning is a great time for you to come by the site. Someone will be available to explain the station and we'd love to put a mic in your hand and get you on the air.

Show and Tell

The June meeting will be the Show and Tell meeting. Bring your projects down and tell us about them. This is always a fun meeting.

June 17, 2013 Meeting Agenda

- 2012 final financial report
- SK ceremonies
- Radio Talk 2013
- Special Interest Groups
- Transmission lines - VE2GO
- Field day planning and discussion - VE2NGH
- Other business
- Break (coffee, cookies, ragchew)
- Show and tell

See you on the 17th. 73, Malcolm VE2DDZ

What Happened **Minutes of the May 2013 WIARC meeting**

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

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Minutes of the WIARC Meeting May 20, 2013
By Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:40. Malcolm VE2DDZ presided and welcomed 27 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs.

The details of the meeting follow.

1. WIARC Visitor: Tonight, 2 surprise visitors from the past. Fred VE1FA and Helen VA1YL passing through Montreal after a trip to Dayton.

2. Quick Notes:

--Malcolm mentioned that on May 26th, Harrison VE2HKW will be the

net controller for our Sunday information net. At 16, he will be our youngest ever to host the net. Tune in. On Sunday May 19th, Marc-André VE2EVN was net controller. Thanks, Marc-André.

--The launch of Amsat Fox 1 will be delayed by one year. Now planned for Fall 2014.

--Two new members joined the club last month. They were Normand Arsenault and Peter Kartsakis. Welcome!

--E-Mails of general interest to members are currently filtered through Malcolm. Since he alone has the up-to-date members list, this practice will be maintained for the time being.

--Field Day 2013 plans. Paul VE2OFH confirmed that we will be using Centennial Park in Beaconsfield this year. He and a few members will scout the grounds for suitable antenna locations. Possible tower this time?

--On Solder Spot, Paul VE2OFH said that the antenna workshop has attracted 17 registrations. He is now looking for a suitable room in which to hold classes. He hopes to start in June. Paul also mentioned that he had 8 registrations for the Power Distribution Box project. Check their web site.

--It's Show & Tell time at our next meeting. So finish off those projects and get ready to strut your stuff. Almost anything goes.

3. **Radio Talk 2013:** Terry VE2WTQ spoke again about the status of Radio Talk for this year. The date will be Sept 21, 2013 starting at 08:30 and ending around 16:30. The QTH, same as last year, Loyola Parrish Church. This will be a Tri-Club event.

There will be presentations, Q&A's and a concession lunch available for purchase. In the exhibit hall, there will be an operating HF station. As well you will see tables displaying Antique radios, presentations by Solder Spot, by SOTA, on emergencies, and Vendors too. So far there are 5 speakers lined up. They have been allotted 45 minutes each. All that is needed now is an energetic bunch

of volunteers. The current slate of volunteers will be meeting in early June at Terry's QTH.

4. **Flash Talk:** Cliff VA2UTC gave a Flash Talk on the history of Q-codes. They were used originally by ocean going vessels. Now, they are used at Sea, in the Air, and by Radio Amateurs. They are even used by the Miami police. We amateurs use mainly 15 of them, though there are 100 in total. Cliff explained how they standardized the messaging system, and improved accuracy.

Thanks Cliff for an interesting look back at a system we all take for granted. We'll expect another QST at our QTH soon, QSL?

5. **Break Time Cookies:** Break time snacks were provided this month by Dusty VE2ADJ. Thanks, Dusty. Next month, according to the volunteer sheet, Sheldon VA2SH will be providing the treats.

6. **After the Break:** Our feature presentation this evening was Mark Morin VA2MM giving us a history lesson, and a geography lesson, on some early WIARC DXpeditions. Mark gave us a comprehensive slide presentation starting with the 1990 trip to Chisasibi, QC located on the east shore of James Bay. Mark, then VE2PTT, Benoit, then VE2JBF, and Al VE2DAV, drove 1500 kms only to experience poor radio conditions as well as bad weather. Mark said they made 'dozens' of contacts and fought millions of mosquitos. He then discussed the 1991 first trip to St. Paul North Island.

This time the same 3 fellows invited Fred, then VE2SEI, and son Andrew VE2WHO. Then in 1992, the now team of 5 made a return trip to James Bay, this time to Charlton Island using call sign VE8CWI. On this one, they added a 6th member, Hank VE2HN. Mark completed his history lesson with the DXpedition back to St. Paul Island, but this time to the much larger

South Island. This time there was a larger group. It included the original 3, plus Andrew VE2WHO and Fred VE2SEI, Reg VE2AYU, and Lowell VY2OX from one of the maritime clubs.

The slide show highlighted some of the physical difficulties, the rugged terrain, and conditions that they had to endure.



Above a pic of Mark VA2MM pointing out the North Island of St. Paul Is. WIARC 1991 DXpedition.

Thanks Mark, for all the work you put into your presentation. We recognize that the Pics you displayed had to be digitized from your collection of old 35 mm slides and prints. Well done.

7. **50/50 Draw:** Marc-André VE2EVN won the 50/50 draw this evening. Congratulations!

8. **Door Prizes:** This month, Ken VE2KLF provided some magazines as door prizes. Besides these, Ken donated 3 recent years of TCA magazines which were sold to Sam VE2LJV. The proceeds were donated to the club. Thanks Ken and Sam.

9. **A Pun My Word:** Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

The meeting adjourned at 21:56. See you June 17th, 2013.

73, & good DX

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Keith VE2MTL

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.

RADIOTALK 2013

Saturday, September 21, 2013
[St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish in NDG](#)
More information as it becomes available at:
www.radiotalk.ca

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

Mailing Address - P.O. Box 884 Pointe-Claire, Quebec H9R 4Z6

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Vice-president : Charles Robitaille, VE2RFI

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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 VE2RWI Repeater

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