



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

March 2010 Edition

Upcoming Meeting - March 15th, 2010
This month's topic
"Field Day Satellite Communications"
Given by George VE2NGH & Malcolm VE2DDZ

President's Message and Report

by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

WI ~ ARCS:

From the QTH:

We now have a "Doctor in the house"! My daughter received her "piled higher and deeper" (PhD) from Concordia on Friday, 2010-Mar -05. Mom, Dad, one son and other guests attended the dissertation which went extremely well with 5 examiners (the external examiner was from U. Sask. on video link). Her ongoing research work is in experimental psychology dealing with multi-tasking issues in young and old adults (which is why I mention it here) with ramifications to mobile operators, etc. Her research and many others is why I shall not be pushing the PTT, programming the GPS, cellphoning, texting, etc. while driving. I will become the co-pilot/navigator and let the XYL do the driving if I have the urge to communicate while mobile! I am an old fart and appreciate the research findings first hand!!!

February 2010 meeting:

Berny, VA2BP put together an excellent video presentation of his sailing trip across the Atlantic with his son. Those stopovers in the French West Indies were very inviting despite the mild winter here. As far as amateur radio communications were concerned, Berny's general comment was that they were next to impossible (local interference) while in port (marinas), but on the high seas they were excellent.

TX4T:

We should be in local contact with Gilles, VE2TZT soon as the Tahiti (FO) Dxpedition is now history. Look for a dead-dog tired and suitably tanned operator. George, VE2NGH and Bob, VE2AXO made several contacts with Gilles during the Dxpedition. Welcome back Gilles. UMS and WIARC missed you!

February 2010 meeting:

The George, VE2NGH and Malcolm, VE2DDZ team are to give a presentation on amateur radio satellite communications related to their satellite contacts at Field Day 2009.

Reminders:

Your membership fees for 2010 are now due. Please make sure you fill in the membership form and obtain a signed receipt when submitting your dues to the TREASURER. The forms should be available at the meetings and are on the club's WEB site (shell.pubnix.net/~wiarc). Online submission of the forms is not available.

The annual Lester B Pearson School Board Science and Technology Days are scheduled for May 26th and 27th at the St Lazare Airfield as last year. Setup will probably be on the 25th of May and we shall be looking for volunteers to help out and meet the primary school children on the 26th and 27th. The Morse Code practice stations were the main attraction in previous years.

The Shriner's Karnak hall has been reserved for 2010-SEP-18 for our annual hamfest.

The annual North American Field Day will occur on June 26th and 27th. More later ...

C U on Mar 15th ... de .ken. VE2KLF



What Happened Minutes of the February 2010 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:57. Ken VE2KLF presides and welcomes the 23 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday February 15, 2010 meeting are as follows.

1. **Visitors:** There were 2 visitors in the audience tonight. Lianne VE2DZY and Mike VE2MTU are familiar to many of us who hear them on the air frequently. They graced us with their presence and we hope to see more of them in the future. Don't be surprised if, in the near future, you hear a question on the trivia net asking "Who were the 2 visitors to the February WIARC monthly meeting?"

2. **"P" Beacon:** Ken VE2KLF discussed the mystery beacon that he has been tracking on 80 meters. Sheldon VE2SHW added some valuable information about single letter beacons.

3. **Ski Marathon:** When asked, nobody seemed to know any details of the 2010 version of the Ski Marathon which was held this past week-end. Is no News good News?

4. **Publisher Wanted:** The club is still in need of a new publisher for our monthly bulletin. Anyone?

5. **TX4T Dx'pedition:** Many of you are aware that Gilles VE2TZT is currently on a Dx'pedition to FO land – French Polynesia. Try <http://www.fo2010.org/> for details. George said that he contacted them last Friday, February 12th on 20 meters. Look around 14,170. It winds up February 25th, so you will miss it by the time this hits the press. We expect to get a first hand report from Gilles in the next month or so; probably

our guest speaker for April or May. Hope so!

6. **McGill News:** Ken VE2KLF filled us in on a few of the projects currently going on at McGill. Some are being developed in cooperation with Future Electronics.

7. **Field Day 2010:** There was a short mention about this year's Field Day location. Any good suggestions out there?

8. **Ralph VE2GO:** Ralph VE2GO brought his Certificate of Proficiency, which was issued to him in June 1939. It was suggested that it is probably about time that he had it framed.

9. **Solar Power:** Reg VE2AYU had an article on a Solar Powered animal. Quirks and Quarks on Jan 23rd discussed the discovery of a type of sea slug that has some plankton genes in its system that allows it to survive without food. It requires only sunlight.

10. **Concordia:** Vern VE2MBS mentioned that Concordia is in the process of getting their Amateur Radio Station back on the air. So start listening.

After the break, Bernie VA2BP gave a presentation on the Trans-Atlantic sea voyage that he made with his son. He had prepared a most informative and entertaining video presentation of the trip. It included lots of shots on the various Islands they were able to visit. Some had extremely mountainous and lush tropical landscapes. Their sailboat was only 28 feet long and Bernie described some of the more difficult events they endured. They travelled

west from the Grand Canary Island to La Palma, turning south to Cape Verde. They spent 16 days going due west all the way to Martinique in the French



West Indies. His video showed some of the extreme waves they encountered. Thanks, Bernie for the entertainment. Will you be doing that again soon?

This month the winner of the 50/50 draw was Ken VE2KLF. He donated his winnings to the club. Congratulations and thanks.

This month, there were magazines for the taking, compliments of Ken VE2KLF. Once again, Thanks!

Something Punny - A sign on the lawn at a drug rehab center said: 'Keep off the Grass.'

The meeting adjourned at 21:34. See you March 15th 2010.

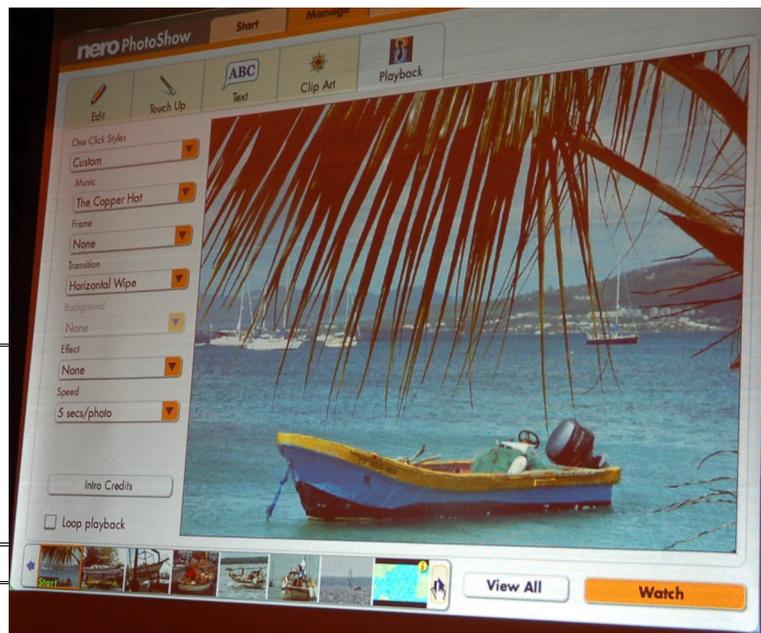
73, and good DX de Keith VE2MTL



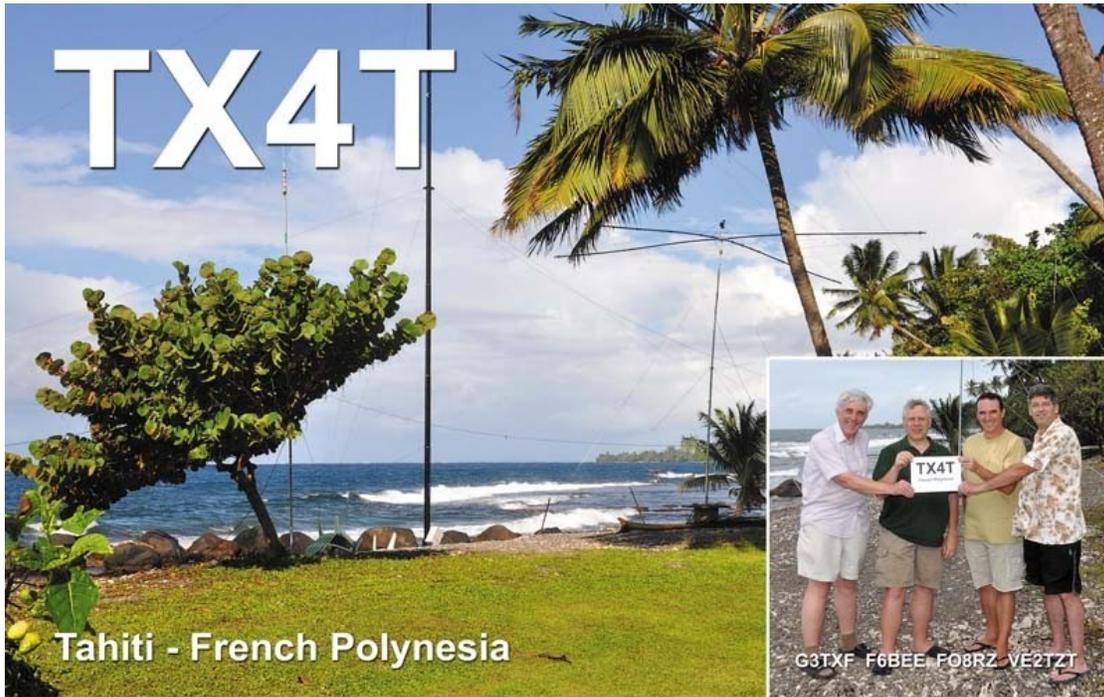
Picture Corner



A shot of Ralph's Certificate awarded June 9th, 1939.
Can you read the fine print?



This is NOT a picture of Bernie's boat that crossed the Atlantic Ocean.
However he included this as part of his talk.
His final destination in the Carribean, I suspect.



Gilles VE2TZT and friends on the final frontier.

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@RAC.CA

President: Kenneth Fraser, VE2KLF

Treasurer: Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president: Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Secretary: Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Accredited Examiners: Larry Dobby, VE2DO@RAC.CA and Stuart Truba, VE2XX@RAC.CA

Newsletter Editor

Keith Glashan, VE2MTL (for now)

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://shell.pubnix.net/~wiarc>

Webmaster: Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH@RAC.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.

Trivia Net each Tuesday evening at 7PM.

All are welcome to participate.