



# West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

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**May 2010 Edition**

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**Upcoming Meeting - May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010**  
**This month's topic**  
**“Show and Tell”**  
**Given by You as a true WIARC-Member**

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

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by Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

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**WI ~ ARCS:**

**From the QTH:**

Tradition has it that I must travel to the Smith Falls hamfest each year and this year was no exception. My brother-in-law, Tom, VE3TWD and I made the trek once again for this religious experience on May 08. The event was held in the old arena and it was cold and wet. Cold inside too, as the rink ice was removed a few days prior to the hamfest. The tables appeared to be down from last year, but there were more vendors and the junk (oops) treasures were of a reasonable quality although I was not tempted. I have too many such treasures in my over filled basement. There is a new arena that has been erected nearby as the current ones days are numbered. Quite a few ops were up from our area, VEH, SHW and VO1NO, Al were at tables and we ran into VE, SH, MBS and Dad, NGH, XL, GDX and a number of fellows from the Brockville club. On the way down and back on the 401 I usually get to talk to VA3NC, Don and Jim, VE3MCO on the Iroquois repeater, 145.29- MHz. Well I actually eye-balled Don at the hamfest! Jim could not make it to the hamfest as he was having problems with a “plugged” (hairballs) cat and had to go to the vet. As usual with breakfast at the local Country Kitchen, the hamfest trek was well worth it despite the weather.

**April 2010 meeting:**

Gilles, VE2TZT kept us entertained with his description his group's dxpedition to FO land or French Polynesia (specifically Tahiti) using the call TX4T. What was most interesting was the site planning with the assistance of available software. The vertical antenna set ups along with the “Spider” beam and beverages were well covered. Of course there were ample frames showing the operators in their positions. Bravo Gilles, I am sure you enjoyed the event in February as a means of getting away from the white stuff here. :)

**May 2010 meeting:**

This is your chance to display your pet amateur radio project as it is our annual Show & Tell. Serious and useful designs are great, but those with a touch of humor are most welcome. After all this is an enjoyable “hobby”. Go for it.

**Reminders:**

The annual Lester B Pearson School Board Science and Technology Days are scheduled for May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> at the St Lazare Airfield as last year. Setup will probably be on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May and we shall be looking for volunteers to help out and meet the primary school children on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. 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 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. More later ...

**C U on May 17<sup>th</sup> ... de .ken. VE2KLF**

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## What Happened Minutes of the March 2010 WIARC meeting

by Keith Glashan, VE2MTL via Malcolm Harper VE2DDZ

The meeting began at 19:47. Ken VE2KLF presides and welcomes the 23 attendees. There was the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the Monday April 19, 2010 meeting are as follows.

1. **VE2MTL Absent:** I should note that my wife and I were away on a Caribbean cruise celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and therefore I could not attend the meeting. Malcolm VE2DDZ was kind enough to take the minutes on my behalf. Thanks, Malcolm. I hope my interpretation of his notes accurately reflects what occurred.

2. **Visitors:** There was a visitor who signed in. His name is Geoffrey, but I have no other details. I hope he returns next month so he can be properly introduced.

3. **VE2ALD SK:** Reg VE2AYU conducted the silent key ceremony for Randy West VE2ALD. Randy was a long time member of the club. He was almost 91 at the time of his passing.

4. **BG Repeater:** George VE2NGH gave a report on the status of the VE2BG repeater. It was out of commission recently and George explained how he had returned the helical filter and replaced the GaAsFET preamp. Thanks George.

5. **Space Day:** I know we should not use the phrase 'Space Day', but old habits are hard to break. To many of us, we remember it as such, but know that we should use the title of 'LBPSB Science & Tech Days'. This year the event takes place on May 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> with the 25<sup>th</sup> set aside for set-up. For any newcomers, it is held at Cooper's airfield in St. Lazare. Participants are asked to be on the site by 9AM each day. Last year there were about 10 of us who

helped out. Some were only there for one day. Everyone enjoyed it thoroughly. Join us. You'll not be disappointed. Bring a CW key and oscillator if you have one. See Pic of happy campers at last year's Space Day.



6. **Web Site:** Wayne VE2WRH asked that we visit WWW.WIARC.CA. There have been some big changes to the site. He welcomes all comments and suggestions. There was much discussion whether the bulletin should be available on the web site. Also questions about whether it would be available to anyone or just members. What about membership lists? What about advertising? Reciprocal Links? Lots of food for thought. Stay tuned. A great start, Wayne. Thanks for your effort so far.

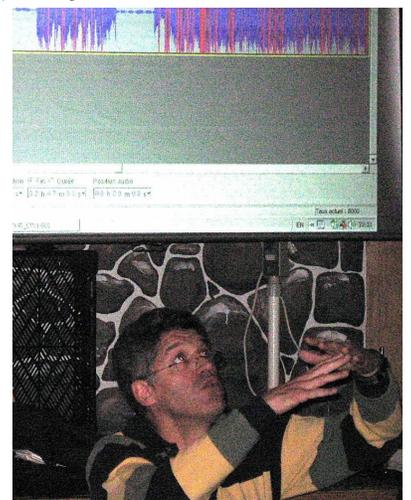
7. **Field Day 2010:** There was a discussion about Field Day 2010. The main issue was concerning a QTH for this year's event. There are pros and cons associated with any venue. We are still looking for the idyllic one. Looking beyond the place is the issue of participants and equipment. By the next meeting, we will have to resolve ALL these issues. Remember, it's your club and your field day. Be prepared to stand up and be counted. The dates are June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

8. **Echo Link:** There was a question whether we might add Echo Link to our 146.910 repeater. The short answer was

'probably not'. We would need a high speed internet connection and we don't even have a phone line at present.

9. **EDITOR:** Bram VE2XCS has offered to give the job of editor a try. Last month he visited Keith VE2MTL's QTH to transfer some computer files. At the same time, he got filled in on the details of how the bulletin gets put together. Bram actually made some of the last minute editorial corrections for the April issue and sent the finished product to Bob VE2AXO for distribution. Thanks, Bram.

After the break, Gilles VE2TZT having returned recently from his Dx'pedition to FO land, French Polynesia, gave details of his experiences. They operated as TX4T from Feb 7<sup>th</sup> until Feb 27<sup>th</sup>. The members of the team were team leader Jacques F6BEE, Nigel G3TXF known as the globetrotter, Phil FO8RZ, and our own Gilles VE2TZT. They made over 34,000 QSO's.



All this was accomplished between hurricane Oli and a tsunami alert. Gilles gave all the reasons for choosing Tahiti. A lot of time was spent at the beginning of the presentation explaining the software and the process used to



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choose the site. You can imagine how important this can be when you consider all the effort and expense in undertaking such a trip. He said that they had 3 Elecraft K3 transceivers, all made from Kits. He gave details about the equipment and antennas. He pointed out that of the 34,014 QSO's, 21,996 were with North America, 6,578 were with Asia, and 5,144 with Europe. The average QSO distance was 10,500

kilometres. He noted that they were able to participate in the ARRL DX CW contest. He gave remarks about the traffic they experienced and concluded with some of the lessons they learned. Great presentation. Great Dx'pedition. Welcome back!

This month the winner of the 50/50 draw was Vlad VA2AN. Congratulations.

This month, there were magazines for the taking, compliments of Reg VE2AYU. Thanks again Reg!

Something Punny - A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.

The meeting adjourned at 22:06. See you May 17<sup>th</sup> 2010.

73, and good DX de Keith VE2MTL

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## Swap Shop

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If any member would like to buy or sell radio related items,  
I will include them in future bulletins.  
Just E-mail the details to the editor's attention.  
Make sure you include your contact information.

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## Footnotes About Us

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### 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 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 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.