



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

May 2016 Edition

Upcoming Meeting – May 16th 2016
This month's topic
“ Show & Tell ”

Come and show us what you've been up to

President's Message and Report

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

Hi all,

Welcome to new club member Gerald Yasvinski VA2WAY. I hope to meet you soon at club events or club meetings.

Bob VE2AXO commented at the recent executive meeting about the contradiction of having the bike rack on my car but, at the same time, still having my winter tires on. That's spring in Quebec I guess.

Thank-you Bob for your presentation on BRAQ at the April meeting. Keith, VE2MTL was mentioning how interesting he found the BRAQ website (<http://raqi.ca/braq/>) and there is certainly a lot there, particularly if you want to know about upcoming flights. Also on their site you can find a page where you can join BRAQ or make a donation to support the balloon flights and BRAQ's amateur radio outreach.

Keith tracked down a used tent at an excellent price. He and I went to see it and bought it on the spot. It is a 15' x 12' Copper Canyon made by Eureka. We don't know yet whether we will be able to get three HF stations in it or only two, but either way we have addressed some of the shelter needs for FD. The rest of the Field Day planning is also going very well. Antennas, power, public relations, and other topics are well on their way to being sorted out. Don't forget to line up operators for the GOTA station and put them in touch with the FD organizers so they can get training and scheduling ahead of Field Day.

We are having a group SOTA activation of Mont-St-Grégoire on Saturday, May 21st. So far we have at least six confirmed attendees and it promises to be a great time. Drop me an email if you'd like to join us.

Wayne, VE2WHH notes that any ham with a VE2 plate who wants to transfer it to a new vehicle must go to the SAAQ themselves. Car dealers can't do the transfer. At the SAAQ office they will ask to see a copy of your radio certificate.

Nigel, VA2NM let me know that the Small Wonder Labs new SW30+ kit should be available this month from the Chat With The Designers podcast website. Keep your eye on cwtd.org for details and updates.

Mark, VA2MM wrote an excellent article on the ARRL School Club Roundup and the participation by his students at Dawson College. It is published in the current issue of TCA. Congratulations Mark.

Finally there is a new net on RWI. Dave, VE2MPD is celebrating his return to the microphone by starting the Montreal Weekly Wireless Net. It will run in a discussion format on Tuesday evenings starting at 8 pm on the 2m repeater (146.91- T88.5). The discussion topic will change every week and will be announced during the

preceeding Sunday's Information Net. Good luck with the net, Dave.

May 16, 2016 Meeting Agenda

- Tips
- SIGs
 - SOTA
 - DMR
 - Field Day
- Reports
- Other Business

- Break (coffee, ragchew, cookies)

- Show and Tell - Club members

See you on the 16th.

73,
Malcolm VE2DDZ

What happened **Minutes of the April 2016 WIARC meeting**

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

Minutes of the WIARC Meeting April 18, 2016 By Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:37. Malcolm VE2DDZ welcomed the 18 attendees and started the meeting with usual roll call with call signs. The details of the meeting follow.

1. Owen Dowd VE2CS/SK:

We held a silent key ceremony for Owen Dowd VE2CS. Owen passed away recently in Ottawa. He served on our executive as vice president around 1990. Even after he moved to Ottawa in the early 1990's, he would return each June with his tent trailer to participate in our field day.

2. Tip Time Tips:

Keith VE2XL suggested using Google as a resource to assist in building all sorts of electronic devices. Andy VE2DNN wanted to know how to produce a filter

response curve on an oscilloscope using analog equipment. If you have information on the subject, please contact him.

3. Field Day News:

After examining the Beaconsfield field day site, it was decided to move back across the road to the field that we used 2 years ago. There are good trees and lots of space for towers. There will be no BBQs used any longer at any Beaconsfield park.

4. SOTA News:

Malcolm announced plans are back on for a SOTA event perhaps to Mont St-Grégoire. We decided that May 21 would be the best day. The final decision concerning the QTH will be made shortly. Stay tuned.

5. MOEB Musée Auction:

Le Musée des ondes Emile Berliner is holding a major auction of old radio equipment. Please refer to their website MOEB.CA.

6. Fessenden Day:

Fessenden Day will be celebrated on July 30 this year. It will be his 150th birthday. Celebrations take place in Knowlton, Quebec.

7. World Amateur Radio Day:

Malcolm mentioned that today, April 18, is World Amateur Radio Day as described by the ARRL. To celebrate, 18 of our members showed up for the monthly meeting tonight.

8. Emergency Communications:

It was announced that Pincourt has suggested that our club participate in emergency communications. There was some discussion about the topic including concerns over insurance.

9. Repeater News:

Another discussion was held concerning the addition of Echolink on the 146.910 club repeater. It would require a 2m radio, a computer, an antenna, and internet connection, all running 24/7.

Anybody interested in supplying some equipment and space?

10. After the Break:

After the break, Bob VE2AXO gave a talk on the BRAQ balloon group. He gave it on behalf of Michel Graveline VE2WMG, who could not give it in person. His presentation covered the entire subject from launch to recovery.



Bob VE2AXO on BRAQ Balloons

Back in March 1999, the group began their project using APRS for mapping. Bob discussed the use of solar balloons, while economical, have a max 2 lb. payload. They usually have a maximum ceiling of about 60,000 ft. He described SONDE balloons which are of the stratospheric weather balloon type. These can support a payload of 5.25 lbs. and can go as high as 125,000 feet. They are up to 115 ft.³ in volume and are filled with helium or hydrogen. BRAQ was founded in 2006. Its mission is to promote amateur radio and amateur projects. So far, they have launched over 60 balloons. There is a lot of information available on the web. Just Google BRAQ, Solar balloons, or SONDE balloons, and you'll find plenty of interesting reading. Thank you, Bob for your presentation this evening. A lot of good fun stuff and an interesting subject. Well done, Bob.

11. Break Time Cookies:

This evening, the break time treats were provided by Vlad VA2TTA. Thanks

Vlad. René VE2RI surprised us with some as well. Thanks René. According to the volunteer sheet, Ken VE2KLF will be providing treats for next month's meeting. By the way, no one has yet volunteered for the June meeting. Any volunteers? Also, September, October, and November are available as well.

12. 50/50 Draw:

There was no 50-50 draw this evening.

13. Door Prizes:

This evening, Bob VE2AXO and Stan VE2QXP provided magazines to be distributed as door prizes.

14. A Pun my Word:

What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?

The meeting adjourned at 22:03. See you May 16th, 2016.

73, & good DX de Keith VE2MTL

Monthly Meeting tips

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.

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

+++ 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.

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@WIARC.CA

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

Executives:

President : Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president : Charles Robitaille, VE2RFI

Treasurer : Bram Paterson, VA2XE

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QSL Manager : Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Webmaster : Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH

Immediate Past : Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

President

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 (+)
(88.5 Hz CTCSS tone both transmitted and received on the VHF repeater
and a 141.3 Hz CTCSS tone only transmitted on the UHF repeater).

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.