



West Island Amateur Radio Club Bulletin

December 2017 Edition

Upcoming Meeting – December 18th 2017

This month's topic

“ Annua General Meeting (AGM) ”

Your club, your vote : Get off the sofa and make your voice count

President's Message and Report

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

Hi all,

Wow, this is the fiftieth President's Message I have written for the newsletter and it is the last one I'll be penning for the foreseeable future. I am stepping down as president effective December 31. Turn over in a volunteer organization like ours is a healthy thing and I have no doubt that WIARC will continue to thrive whatever direction the future takes us.

We owe a big thank-you to Keith VE2MTL for his years of service as secretary. Thank-you also to Harrison for serving as treasurer this past year. Both of them are also moving on to other projects. Gilles VA2EW is running for president and Bram VA2XE is running for vice-president.

Many hands go into the regular work of WIARC, some out front, more behind the scenes. Bram VA2XE produces the newsletter monthly, Wayne VE2WRH keeps the website online and relevant, Andy VE2DNN makes us coffee every month, Bob VE2AXO answers all the club's QSL requests both on paper and online through LOTW. Harrison was the straw boss for the 2017 Field Day, our most successful ever. Charles VE2RFI keeps our repeaters in tip-top shape, the envy of a number of other clubs. We get occasional queries about how to get going in amateur radio. We refer newbies to François VE2AAY who continues to provide excellent advice to people even though he no longer runs the annual course. Thanks to all of you for all your work.

December 18, 2017 Meeting Agenda

- Radio Tips
- Reports
- Other
- Break (coffee, rag chew, cookies)
- West Island Amateur Radio Club Annual General Meeting

See you on the 18th.

73,
Malcolm VE2DDZ

What happened

Minutes of the November 2017 WIARC meeting

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

What Happened

Minutes of the WIARC Meeting November 20, 2017 By Keith Glashan VE2MTL

The meeting began at 19:39. Malcolm VE2DDZ welcomed the 24 attendees, and opened the meeting with the usual roll call with call signs. The details of the meeting follow.

1. **Tip Time Tips:**

Sorry, no tips this evening.

2. **Flash Talks:**

We had 3 flash talks this evening. First, Bram VA2XE introduced us to the new 'over the air' TV standard, ATSC 3.0, which will be coming soon. It will support UHD 4K quality. There are many new features coming besides 4K. You might expect to start seeing it in early 2019. Bram highlighted the pros and cons. He advises that you shouldn't buy a new TV for the next while. Soon, the new sets will have the additional capability built in. So, better to wait for them. He said that we would need another converter box to receive the new signals on our existing equipment. Then, John VE2YNI talked briefly on FT8 FSK or just plain FT8. It's the new HF/6m digital mode. It is normally used for quick contacts, rather than rag chewing. John suggested you have a look into it. Finally, Nigel VA2NM showed us a ``QCX``, a 5W single band kit by QRP Labs. It is a CW transceiver on a single board. All bands are available, one per kit. The kit is priced at \$67 Can. Nigel recommends QRP Labs for their fine

designs and the quality of their kits.

3. **SOTA News:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ talked briefly about the successful group SOTA event to Mont Rigaud held back in October. He showed a selection of slides taken that day. There were 10 or so participants. The weather was as good as it gets. The Willow Inn visit following was also a success.

4. **Christmas Dinner 2017:**

Keith VE2MTL passed around a sign-up sheet for our annual Christmas get together. As mentioned last month, our reservation is for 7PM at the Porte Grecque restaurant, Wed. Dec 13th. The address is 4600 Sources Blvd. DDO, H9A1X7. By the time you read this, the event will be over for this year. Hopefully we will be talking about the success of it at the December meeting.

5. **Elections 2017:**

Malcolm VE2DDZ and Keith VE2MTL will be stepping down from the executive at the end of this year. Malcolm has served for the last 8 years, 3 as treasurer and 5 as president. Keith is completing his 17th year as secretary. Since the meeting, Harrison VE2HKW has decided to step down from his position as treasurer. Time to give someone else a chance. Gilles VA2EW has agreed to stand for election as president. Bram VA2XE has agreed to stand for election as vice-president. Eamon VE2EGN has agreed to chair the Election Committee.

If you wish to nominate anyone for an executive position, please contact Eamon.

6. **After the Break –Keyers:**

Marc-Andre VA2EI gave a presentation which he titled 'Why a Computer Keyer'. He touched on several keyers,

most of which he had built over the years. Many are based on the Arduino processor. He talked about Winkeyer, a keyer capable of being controlled via a USB interface. He also showed a keyer designed by Anthony Good K3NG. Marc had many slides showing various keyers including a nanoKeyer, several of his 'home brews', and his latest, the Maple Keyer. You can Google all these names and find hours of reading material. There were a lot of questions from the audience. Thanks, Marc-Andre, well done, well researched and presented.

7. **Break Time Cookies:**

Birgit and Martin VA2HKR both surprised us with a variety of tasty treats. Thanks. Next month, Vlad VE2QA will be bringing in something right in time for Christmas. Keith VE2MTL has now started a sheet for 2018. January has already been taken. (Sorry) See him for a fine selection of months for next year.

8. **Door Prizes:**

This evening, there were no prizes. If you happen to have a few items at home, which you no longer need, why not pass them along to a member. We'll call them door prizes. You'll feel good and get a big "thank you" from us.

9. **A Pun my Word:**

War does not determine who is right, it determines who is left.

The meeting adjourned at 22:37. See you on December 18, 2017.

Notice of WIARC 2017 AGM

The West-Island Amateur Radio Club will hold it's Annual General Meeting on Monday, December 18 2017 at it's usual location at 275 Braebrook Ave. in Pointe-Claire at 7:30 PM

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

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.

++ 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.

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Production Manager

Edward Wielgus

D.C.S., B.Eng., M.Eng., VE3VMF

Montréal, Quebec, H2K1J2, Canada

Fax.: (514) 360-2956

ed_die.2@Hotmail.com

Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter

Footnotes About Us

The West Island Amateur Radio Club was founded in 1972

Mailing Address - 263 Kirkland Blvd, Kirkland Quebec H9J 1P3

E-mail: VE2CWI@WIARC.CA

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

Executives:

President : Malcolm Harper, VE2DDZ

Vice-president : Gilles Renucci, VA2EW

Treasurer : Harrison Kyle, VE2HKW

Secretary : Keith Glashan, VE2MTL

Directors:

Editor : Bram Paterson, VA2XE

QSL Manager : Bob Loranger, VE2AXO

Webmaster : Wayne Hodgins, VE2WRH

Past President: Ken Fraser, VE2KLF

Accredited Examiner:

Larry Dobby, VE2DO DOBBY@AEI.CA

Mark Morin, VA2MM mark@partout.ca

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 (+)
(A CTCSS tone of 88.5 Hz is required on the inputs of both repeaters in order to access them. The repeaters also transmit the same tone on their output frequencies)

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

There are currently no nets on VE2RWI