

From the Clubs:

Beausejour Amateur Radio Club Contact Richard Holder - VE4QK

Operates an APRS Node digipeater - Net frequency is at 146.505
 Net is Tuesday evenings @ 9:00 - Club meetings on second Wednesdays at RC Legion Clubrooms at 7:30 pm.

Brandon Amateur Radio Club Contact Dave Snyder - VE4XN

Club call VE4QD. Repeaters: VE4BDN 146.34/94 VE4TED 146.13/73 VE4HS 146.28.88
 VE4CTY 146.04/64 and 443.700/448.700

Meetings held first Thursday monthly (except July & August) at Brandon Armoury at 7:30 pm.
 Website: <http://www.mts.net/~tbarrett>

Dauphin Amateur Radio Club Contact Jack Adams - VE4JA

Repeaters: VE4SRR 146.34/94 VE4BMR 147.63/03 VE4BVR 147.84/24
 VE4SHR 146.10/70 VE4LDR 146.37/97 VE4SIX 145.13/43

Meetings held third Fridays at Union Office in Dauphin (except July & August)
 IRLP NODE 1700 - EchoLink VE4BVR-R - check out <http://www.mts.net/~ve4stu> for club details.

Eastman Amateur Radio Club Contact Doug Henry - VE4TG

East Selkirk, MB. Club meetings first Wed of each month at 19:30 local at Gaffer's Restaurant in Lockport.
 Further information by e-mail to ve4tg@qsl.net

Flin Flon Repeater Club Contact: Rod Rutherford - VE5ROD

Club serves members in Flin Flon, MB, Creighton, SK and The pas, MB
 Three linked repeaters provide large radius of coverage. IRLP NODE 1750

InterLake Amateur Radio Club Contact: Paul Arsenault - VE4AEY

Repeaters: VE4TEU 145.41 VE4ARC 146.230
 Meetings each first Tuesday @ 7:30 pm - Green Acres Art Centre, Teulon, MB

International HamFest Contact: Dave Snyder - VE4XN

Repeater: VE4IHF/WØ 146.25/85
 Hamfest is held on second weekend in July, annually, at the International Peace Garden

LakeLand Amateur Radio Association Contact: Randy Canning - VE5QU

Repeater: VE5IOU 146.22/82 linked to VE5LAK 146.01/61
 Meetings are held Saturdays at 9:30 am in the Cottage Country Restaurant, Christopher Lake

Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum Contact: Dave Snyder - VE4XN

Repeater: VE4MTR 146.31/91 Station Callsign VE4ARM
 Museum is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily, from the May long weekend to October 1.

Manitoba Repeater Society Inc. Contact: Ed Richardson - VE4EAR

Check out their "Survivor Guide to 2 metres" a great resource for new hams!
 Semi-annual meeting is held at MARMfest. See: <http://ve4.net/mrs/> for hamfest details.

- Meewasin Amateur Radio Society** Contact: Devon Racicot - VE5DWR
 See their complete directory of Sask. Repeaters at <http://www.qsl.net/ve5ufo>
 The club co-sponsored Saskatchewan's Centennial Hamfest in July of 2005.
- Melfort Amateur Radio Club** Contact: Bayne Opseth - VE5BKO
 Repeater: VE5MFT 146.28/88 Coffee gathering Saturday mornings at Crossroads Restaurant - 10:00 am or so
 The Melfort (VE5MFT) and Nipawin (VE5NIP) and Tisdale (VE5FXR) repeaters are now linked together.
- Moose Jaw Amateur Radio Club** Contact: Brenda MacKenzie - VE5TRG
 Repeater: VE5CI 146.34/94 - This club publishes a very nice newsletter. See: <http://www.geocities.com/ve5ma/>
- Nipawin Amateur Radio Club** Contact: Andrew Clark - VE5VAC
 Repeater: VE5NIP 146.19/79 (linked to) Snowdon Repeater: VE5NDR 147.09/69 and Melfort (VE5MFT)
 Club WEBSITE at <http://nipawinarc.netfirms.com>
- Regina Amateur Radio Association** Contact: Bart Ritchie - VE5CPU
 Repeaters: VE5WM 146.28/88 VE5TH 147.12/72 See <http://www.gpfn.sk.ca/hobbies/rara/index.html>
 Meetings second Wednesday each month, at the Imax Board Room, Sask. Science Centre
- Sask-Alta Radio Club (Lloydminster)** Contact: Bill Till - VE5FN
 Repeaters: VE5RI 146.34/94 & VE5YLL 144.69/145.29 IRLP NODE VE6YLL - 1480 linked to VE5RI
 Club WEBSITE at <http://www.lloydminster.org/sarc>
- Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club (since 1931)** Contact: Ron Sather - VE5RMS
 Repeaters: VE5SK 146.04/64 & APRS digipeater 144.390 simplex
 Meetings second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm - Alvin Buckwold School
 The club co-sponsored Saskatchewan's Centennial Hamfest in July 2005 see: <http://www.qsl.net/ve5aa/>
- Selkirk Amateur Radio Club <> Triple S Communications Group** Contact: Bill Bowman - VE4UB
 Repeaters: VE4MBR 147.06/66 T3A & 443.000 T3A and 147.570 simplex T3A
 The VHF repeater is linked to the Pinetree Intertie & Manitoba Repeater Society
 Club Website is at <http://www.ve4sss.ca> and meetings are sporadic.
- Swift Current Amateur Radio Club** Contact: Ray Gowan - VE5XRA
 Repeaters: VE5SCC 146.28/88 VE5SCR 146.19.79 VE5TOM 146.07/67
- Weyburn Amateur Radio Club** Contact: Brian Pegg - VE5BNE
 Repeater: VE5WEY 146.10/70 - Breakfast meetings Saturdays, 8:30 am - MainTrack Restaurant
- Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club** Contact: The President
 c/o Wpg. Senior Citizens' Radio Club - 589 St. Mary's Road - 2nd Floor - Winnipeg - R2M 3L5
ve4bb@rac.ca See WEBSITE <http://www.mts.net/~warc/>
- Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club VE4WSC Inc.** Contact: Gil Frederick - VE4AG
 598 St. Mary's Rd - Winnipeg - R2M 3L5 - open Mon - Fri 9:00 - 3:00 e-mail: ve4wsc@mts.net
 Check out the WEBSITE at <http://www.mts.net/~ve4wsc>

RAC News:

Another Board of Directors' meeting at Cornwall, ON has come and gone. Larry Price - W4RA - the President of the IARU was present as was Rod Stafford - W6ROD - representing the ARRL in the absence of Joel Sanderson - W5ZN - who has replaced Jim Hainie as ARRL's president.

At the CARAB meeting, held prior to the Board meeting, representatives of Industry Canada were quite enthused about RAC's Youth Education Program and the work of the committee looking into the restructuring of Amateur Radio in Canada, particularly the Foundation Licence concept.

Be advised that IC will be taking a closer look at the callsign issue - if you hold a callsign for an area outside of your residence - for example if you live in VE4 and hold a VE5 callsign - you must also have a valid personal mailing address in VE5 or you will have to give up the call.

RAC still does not have an official treasurer. Do you have expertise in this area? Would you like to undertake this position? If so, get in touch with me.

Francois - VE2AAY - demonstrated software that he has written entitled ExHAMiner. It is a very useful program designed for the BASIC exam. It permits self-testing and remembers missed questions and a number of other functions. It appears to be MUCH more useful than that provided by Industry Canada. The question database is the one used by IC but has been cleaned up to repair some of the errors in IC's version. It seems to be a very useful study tool. And, best of all, it is FREEWARE and will shortly be available for download from RAC's WEBSITE for members of RAC.

Within the next week or two, the Committee on Restructuring of Amateur Radio in Canada will have pages on the RAC WEBSITE. One of the pages will provide you with a downloadable PowerPoint presentation which you can use with your club to generate discussion on the Foundation Licence issue. It comes with presenter's notes.

The WEBSITE will also provide a link to a questionnaire which will give you an opportunity to share your views on the issue of an entry-level Amateur Radio licence in Canada. Please invest five minutes to be sure that you are part of this important decision.

DX to Watch For:

I have recently been told that we have now reached the bottom of the current sunspot cycle. Still, there is occasionally a good opening on HF and there is still some good DX to be worked:

AMERICAN SAMOA, KH8 - look for AH8/W9EYE until May 21.

BALEARIC ISLANDS, EA6 - EA6/DF7XE will be active until May 26.

BERMUDA ISLANDS, VP9 - will be active until June 5 by VP9KF

CORSICA, TK - TK-DL4FF will be active until June 9 and in the WPX CW contest

CROATIA, 9A - listen for 9A/VE3ZIK on all bands until May 22.

INDONESIA, YB - YC0IEM from Bali Is until May 25

MADEIRA, CT3 - on 20 metres by CT3/OE3JAG until May 22.

Contesting in VE4 & VE5:

And, once again, we enter the spring contest season. Are you planning a Field Day event? Are you inviting lots of new hams and new hams-to-be to participate?

Don't forget, if you wish to use VE4RAC or VE5RAC in the Canada Day contest, contact Adam - VE4SN or me.

CQWW WPX CW - 0000z May 27 to 2400z May 28 - see <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqworldwidewpx.html>

ARRL Field Day - 1800z June 24 to 2100 June 25 - see <http://www.arri.org/contests/forms/>

Canada Day Contest - 0000z July 1 to 2400z July 1 - see <http://www.rac.ca/service/infocont.htm>

From: Bj. Madsen - VE5FX

RAC MidWest Regional Director

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Assistant Directors:

Adam Romanchuk - VE4SN

Derek Hay - VE4HAY

Richard Holder - VE4QK

Bill Till - VE5FN

Derek Bereza - VE5SD

Section Managers:

Manitoba: Robert Boux - VE4RRB

Saskatchewan: Larry Sedgwick - VE5VR