

“SPARKS” NEWSLETTER -  
FEBRUARY, 2009

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**Special points of interest:**

- See the picture of “The Intermods” - 2008
- Read about the letter from the RAC President re support for Manitoba Hams
- See notices of upcoming activities at the Club, and more!



The “Sparks” Newsletter is available free to all members of the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club VE4WSC Inc. It is also available on the Club’s web page.

**NEW BOARD & EXECUTIVE ELECTED FOR 2009!**

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in November, 2008, members elected the new Board of Directors for the club year 2009, We are pleased to welcome the following:—

**President—**

**Pat Giesbrecht, VE4PLG**

**Vice-President—**

**Roger Froebe, VE4RLF**

**Secretary/Treasurer—**

**Ed Henderson, VE4YU**

**Past President** (automatic)-

**Al Woodrow, VE4AEW**

**Committee Members:**

**Membership:** Bill Jacobs, VE4RJC

**Health & Welfare:** Pat Giesbrecht, VE4PLG

**Education:** Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN

**Outreach & Public Relations:** Co-chairs—  
Adam, VE4SN & Harry Tapper, VE4HST

**Security:** Bert Andrews, VE4AND

**Technical:** Rolf Bandlow, VE4VZ

**Duty Officer Coordinator:** Alf Keber, VE4ALF

**Phone Committee:** Alf Keber, VE4ALF

**Satellite & BBS:** Al Thoren, VE4YZ

**Computers:** Al Thoren, VE4YZ

**Inventory & Archives:** Ed Henderson, VE4YU

**Social: Breakfast—** Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN & Ed Henderson, VE4YU

**TDOTA/JOTA/CFARS:** Ed Henderson, VE4YU

**“Sparks” Editor:** Gil Frederick, VE4AG



Clubrooms at the Old Fire Hall, 598 St. Mary’s Rd., Winnipeg, Manitoba R2M 3L5  
Telephone 233-3122 E-mail: ve4wsc@mts.net Webpage: www.mts.net/~ve4wsc

**And these Board members:**

**Alf Keber, VE4ALF;**

**Rolf Bandlow, VE4VZ;**

**Ed Oakes, VE4OAK;**

**Gil Frederick, VE4AG;**

**Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN;**

**Bruce Massey, VE4GR;**

**Henry Hessner, VE4AUT;**

**Bert Andrews, VE4AND;**

**Bill Shipley, VE4BYL;**

**Paul Champagne, VE4OPC;**

**Willard Elliott, VE4WJE;**

**Bob Jacobs, VE4RCJ;**

**Harry Tapper, VE4HST.**

**Margaret Sheridan, VE4MAK**

↑ This space is intentionally blank – members’ contributions are always welcome to fill these pages.  
Do you have an article, Ham news from home or abroad, that would be of interest to others? Please let us hear from you.  
↓

**2008 CHRISTMAS PARTY A GREAT SUCCESS!**

This year, we were back at the Assiniboia Christian Centre, 3900 Portage Ave. at Rouge Rd., where we enjoyed a very enjoyable Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings, catered again by Roman Catering.

Entertainment was by the **Intermods**, under the direc-

tion of Ed Henderson, VE4YU

We held two successful raffles, which helped us get funds that will partially offset next year’s venue cost.

Attendance was down due to Silent Keys, illnesses, etc., but we still had a good turnout for friendly visitations amongst members and

friends. We were privileged to have Councillor Gordon Steeves as a guest of honour.

It was the consensus of those attending that this is the place that we should hold the 2009 Christmas Party; to be determined by the Board, considering all costs, at an upcoming meeting.

## Girl Guides on the Air

On February 21 & 22, 2009, Thinking Day on the Air (G.O.T.A. – Guides on the Air) will take place, and club members are asked to contact groups for participation here at the Club. Both Guides and Brownies are welcome to come to the Club, get on the air, talk to other Guides and Brownies, and learn a bit about Ham Radio.

The Club is licensed as **VE4GGC** for this annual activity.

Please check the schedule on the bulletin board as to groups attending, and times arranged for. If you would like to volunteer to help out, please leave your name on the volunteer sheet, or phone 233-3122 and leave your name and times you are available with the Duty Officer.

Your help is appreciated to fulfill our mandate to serve the community.

Hams wishing to talk to the National Coordinator of this event can do so on the C.L.A.R.A. Net (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association). Contact person is Helen Archibald, VA1YL. The Net is held each Tuesday at 1700 Z on 14.120 MHz.

## BERMUDA CELEBRATES 400! ISSUES SPECIAL CALLSIGN PREFIX

2009 is the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Bermuda by Sir George Somers. Most local organisations are having an event of some kind during the year.



The Radio Society of Bermuda has been issued with a special call sign that can be used all year, it is **VP9400/xx**.

The xx suffix is the operator's call sign, i.e. VP9400/LP. There are a few novice licence holders who have a 3 digit suffix, i.e. VP9400/NMT.

+Special pictorial post-cards will be used to QSL.

We would be grateful if you would kindly pass this information on to your members through your usual

channels.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

73's

Rose Spershott, VP9LP  
Secretary  
Radio Society of Bermuda.

### URL for information:

[http://www.bermuda2009.bm/index.php/event\\_information/](http://www.bermuda2009.bm/index.php/event_information/)

## OUR FIRST LADY PRESIDENT!

WELCOME TO PAT GIESBRECHT, VE4PLG



January 21, 2009, was a big day at the Club, when we held our first Board meeting of the new year, and welcomed our FIRST lady President, in the person of Pat, VE4PLG, well-known in the Ham community as a great supporter and hard

worker.

Pat conducted the meeting with grace and aplomb, and much work was accomplished.

(Minutes of this meeting are available for reading at the club).

## IN MEMORIAM:

ALAN HALDANE-WILSONE (S.K.)



A substantial donation was made, in memory of Alan, by his xyl Gladys, now VE7GHW, And the Club is honoured to have had Alan as a very supportive member in all its endeavours. Alan looked after the 10-10 Net and CFARS activities, was on the Board, and available in whatever areas he was called to perform in. He has been missed!

### COMMITTEE HEADS NEEDED....

At this time, our President Pat is looking for club volunteers to take on the position of Chairperson of two committees, also members that will help out, so she can devote her time to the presidency of the Club..

Please consider being the custodian of the Club's keys, and also taking on responsibilities of Health & Welfare duties.

# CHRISTMAS PARTY HIGHLIGHTS! PICTURES WORTH A 1000 WORDS....



Above Pictures supplied by Roger Froebe, VE4RLF

We have a few pictures above that show many of our hard-working volunteers, and guests, at the Party at the Assiniboia Christian Centre, on December 2, 2008.

From left to right, top, we have Irene Henderson, xyl of Ed, VE4YU (centre), with Pat Cosgrove, xyl of Irv, VE4UG (left), and a guest; Adam Romanchuk, VE4SN, our Master of Ceremonies and “The Highwayman”; the stalwart group of Ed, VE4YU (leader of the “Intermods” singing group) and club’s Secretary-Treasurer, Adam, VE4SN, the M.C. at the party, and Ed Oakes, VE4OAK, who is our housekeeping and room-setup co-chairman, together with (in the background) our special City guest, Councillor Gordon Steeves, with his assistant Colleen.

And bottom row of pictures, left to right, shows— our 2008 President, Al Woodrow presenting the Honour Roll certificate to Irv Cosgrove, VE4UG,, and also to Willard Elliott, VE4WJE. Next we have Beryl Frederick, xyl of Gil, VE4AG, in charge of prizes, at the Raffle Table #2. The 4th picture is that of the Raffle #1 prize winners Irv & Pat Cosgrove, of the beautiful plastic canvas doll furniture, donated by Nel, a friend of Alf Keber, VE4ALF, (shown) who was in charge,

We also had door prizes galore, dozens in fact, (no picture available), and many of our attendees left happy with their draw prize winnings.

(Ed. Note: If anyone has pictures of this party, please send them to Gil [gilfred@mts.net] for publication in next issue).

**Bill Shipley, VE4BYL**, receiving his Honour Roll Award at the club Boardroom during the January meeting... being presented by Al Woodrow, VE4AEW, our outgoing President (2008).



Another member receiving the Honour Roll Award was **Al Thoren, VE4YZ**, at the December, 2008 Board meeting. (no pic).

Al T. supplied the picture above.

Bill was our Membership Chairman for years, but has now resigned. Our new Membership Chairman is **Bob Jacobs, VE4RCJ**.

## RAC PRESIDENT SUPPORTS MB HAMS

SENDS MESSAGE TO MANITOBA MINISTER

From RAC News Service:  
2008-01-14

**to Ron Lemieux**, Minister for Infrastructure and Highways on behalf of Manitoba Amateurs in reference to Bill 5, which will regulate use of cellphones while in the car.

Dave has requested that Amateurs have an explicit exemption from this proposed amendment as in other provinces that have such a ban on handheld personal devices such as cell phones and PCS devices while mobile.

RAC president Dave Goodwin has sent a letter.....

### HELP WANTED:

The Club is in need of **Duty Officers** to keep our daily opening schedule of 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday thru Friday. Please contact Alf Keber, VE4ALF if you are willing to serve 1/2 day or 1 full day weekly.

Winnipeg Senior Citizens  
Radio Club VE4WSC Inc.

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We're On The Web  
[www.mts.net/~ve4wsc](http://www.mts.net/~ve4wsc)

*Sparks Newsletter-*  
*February, 2009*

Notice of  
NEXT GENERAL MEETING



MARCH 18, 2009

Notice of  
FLEA MARKET AT THE CLUB  
On Saturday, Feb. 7, 2009  
Beginning at 10 a.m.

CREATIVE RETIREMENT will be making a tour of the Club on Monday, February 23, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Members who would like to support this visit, please contact Ed, VE4YU.

Nelson McIntyre Collegiate is hosting a musical stage program for Seniors, to take place early March, with deadline for applications for this free performance in late Feb. Refreshments and snacks will be served following the performance. Call the Club now at 233-3122 to reserve a seat (very limited).

**OUR NEW BOARD FOR 2009:** (not shown are Al Woodrow, VE4AEW, Alf Keber, VE4ALF and Henry Hessner, VE4AUT. See front cover for all names of Board members. Pics courtesy of Al Thoren, VE4YZ



And a picture of "The Intermods", the Club's singing group, led by Ed Henderson, VE4YU.



**The WSCRC "Intermods" December 2, 2008**

*Back:* Adam Romanchuk Gil Frederick Roger Froebe Ed Oakes Ed Henderson  
*Front:* Neil Laird Sylvia Romanchuk Ruth Mills Jean Arsenault Beryl Frederick Alf Keber



This is what our "piggy bank" looks like at the beginning of the year. We are again soliciting your annual donation to the club treasury. Our Club exists on the funds we collect from the Members—we have no other source of operating funds, other than some sales of not-required or redundant equipment from time to time, and the possibility each year

of an acquired grant from the city or federal sources. You have likely taken advantage of your membership in the social events you attend, using the facilities of the Club, receiving newsletters, or relying on the help of the Club when you require assistance in the hobby—would you please help to keep it in existence by contributing some money, however small, as every little bit helps. Then, you will make our piggy bank

look like this.



Your cheque elicits a Charity Tax Receipt . Send to the Club at 598 St. Mary's Rd.  
THANK YOU for your previous donations—they are really appreciated.