



The Repeater

Spring 2008

Distributed to all Current Members

Notice of Annual Meeting and Elections

Date: April 10th, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Place: VE4WSC Club Rooms
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB

The agenda will include approval of the minutes of the semiannual general meeting, business arising, a treasurer's report, a report from our auditor, a membership report, and a technical report. These reports will be followed by new business, and finally, election of officers for the 2008/2009 season.

Important Dates:

MRS: Thursday at 9:00 pm MRS Semi-Weekly Net
Sunday at 1:00 pm - MRS Semi-Weekly Net
WARC: May 12 An Introduction to Digital HF Radio, PSK,FSK, and Beyond
WSC: 2nd Thurs. of month - Breakfast Garden City Inn
ARES: April 8 WRHA briefing
April 22 Canadian Forces - Signals
Other: April 21 Hamfest meeting VE4WSC clubroom
Jul 11-13 45th International Hamfest
Aug 8-10 Winnipeg Hamfest & RAC AGM
Nets: Daily 19:00 Local MB Evening Phone net 3747 KHz
Daily 01:30 UTC Prairie traffic Net (CW) 3660 KHz
Daily 02:30 UTC Aurora #2 net 7055 KHz
Daily 08:30 Local MB Wx Net 3743 KHz
Weekdays 9:00 Seniors morning net 147.390 MHz +
Wed. 02:00 UTC MB IRLP Net 147.27 MHz +
Wed. 9:00 pm Six Meter net 50.238 MHz USB
Thursday 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 9:00pm MRS Net 147.390 MHz +
Sunday 7:30 pm VE4BDN net 146.940 MHz -
Monday 7:30 pm VE4HS net 146.880 MHz -

President's Report by Ed, VE4EAR

Hello and welcome to spring everyone! It may not feel like it yet but it is just around the corner, I promise! Please take a few moments to sit back with this edition of the MRS newsletter and catch up on the projects that are underway and some of the plans for the coming months.

It appears our network has also made it through the winter relatively unscathed. Check out Gord's technical report for all the details.

The club appears to be in a strong financial position and this is a good thing. We should have the resources again this year to tackle some of the larger projects and expansions we have been planning. See Harm's financial report for more details.

What would spring be without the MRS Annual General Meeting! Once again we will be having our meeting in the WSCRC's facilities at 598 St. Mary's Road on Thursday April 10 at 7:00 pm. The AGM is an opportunity to review the last year's technical progress, establish a budget for the upcoming year and of course elect a new executive. It's also your opportunity to bring forward new ideas and let us hear your feelings. If nothing else, please join us for a coffee and doughnut.

At the AGM a new executive will be elected. If you have an interest in joining the MRS executive, we would be glad to hear from you. Both administrative as well as technical positions are available. If you or someone you know is interested in running for an executive position, please contact Dick VE4HK as soon as possible.

On the horizon, is the possible installation of a repeater into the Steinbach area. This region has been lacking in coverage with just fringe service available from a number of distant repeaters. With the help of several local hams, we are working to secure a location and the necessary hardware.

Have you spun the dial recently off of your favorite repeater? In the VHF band, finding a frequency without a

M.R.S. Current Fee Schedule

Current & Renewal Members
\$25.00 per calendar year

New members only - Pro-rated quarterly

January to December \$25.00
April - December \$18.75
July to December \$12.50
October to December \$ 6.25

- First time members are no longer required to pay a one time only initiation fee of \$10.00 on top of the regular fee. Their membership fee is pro-rated for the first year only.

- Family membership is for each additional members residing at the same residence as the initial member. \$10.00 each

Industry Canada Amateur Centre

Voice 1-888-780-3333 (toll-free)
Fax: 1-613-991-5575
E-mail: spectrum.amateur AT ic.gc.ca
Web: <http://strategies.ic.gc.ca/spectrum>

The Repeater Advertising Rates:

All advertising is black & white and must be submitted in electronic format.
full page \$75.00
½ page \$40.00
¼ page \$20.00
bus.card \$10.00

For more information or to place an ad please contact any executive member.

Comments or if you just want to reach us :

Newscaster Editor
Manitoba Repeater Society
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5
<http://www.ve4.net/mrs/>

repeater or link is difficult. It is not inconceivable that Manitoba may have to adopt the move to 20 KHz channel spacing from the current 30 KHz plan. This also the reason that coordinating all new repeaters and links is essential. It is only because of the mutual cooperation between repeater owners that the entire band is not a chaotic wasteland of RF. See the VHF band plan elsewhere in this issue for the suggest RAC band plan and how we are currently allocated.

I know I am looking forward to an active and exciting year ahead for amateur radio and in particular, the Manitoba Repeater Society. I look forward to sharing some of these experiences with you.



Technical Committee Submitted by Gord, VE4GLS

Good to see warmer weather after a somewhat long winter season. As the snow melts all of our to-do list items that didn't get done last year and through the winter are still there to haunt us... It does look like we have some progress to report on some of the items that have been on the list for some time.

The main upgrade/repair we have been talking about for years (it seems) is the work at the Starbuck CBC site. We decided not to wait to combine our work with other projects at the CBC site and have professional tower workers do the job right away. Work is scheduled for Thursday April 3rd. Lakehead Tower Erectors were available this week and are happy to do the work for us. Hopefully all goes well and we will have better VHF coverage at VE4MAN, and links into Winnipeg and Morris working again.

M.R.S. Current Executive

President	Ed	VE4EAR	ve4ear AT rac.ca
V/President	Al	VE4AJO	ve4ajo AT rac.ca
Secretary	Dick	VE4HK	ve4hk AT rac.ca
Treasurer	Harm	VE4HAZ	ve4haz AT rac.ca
Membership	Wayne	VE4WKL	wludman AT shaw.ca
Technical	Gord	VE4GLS	ve4gls AT rac.ca
Directors	Yori	VE4ACX	453-3786
	Walter	VE4VB	284-3054
Past Pres.	Bill	VE4ALW	williamr AT mts.net
	Phil	VE4QB	fphilb AT mts.net
	Derek	VE4HAY	ve4hay AT rac.ca

We have also been talking about upgrading the link at Gimli so the path between Winnipeg and the Gimli repeater site are more stable. We have an MSR-2000 UHF 30w repeater radio (used as the link) ready to install hopefully this weekend if all goes as planned. We hope this cures the link trouble we have had for quite some time.

The MRS executive is working on replacing many of the old Motorola Micor radios we have been using for link radios. The old Micors are operating well beyond their standard life expectancy and need to be replaced. The UHF MSR-2000 radios are a great replacement and require little to modify them for amateur radio band use. We are looking for more, so if anyone knows of some that are available please advise!

We are also hoping to install the VHF antenna at the Bruxelles site for the VE4MRS repeater soon. As soon as we get Starbuck out of the way we will be arranging with the riggers so work can go ahead as soon as the site is accessible.

Here's a quick rundown of our repeater status as it is right now:

VE4EMB, 147.36+ MHz, Hadashville

Repeater is working well. Link to Falcon Lake is very noisy and intermittent however. We are looking into resolving this problem by adding a pre-amp to the link receiver at EMB.

VE4MIL, 145.21- #42 Milner Ridge

Working well. Links to Winnipeg and Falcon Lake working properly

VE4GIM, 146.85-, #44 Gimli

Repeater is working well. Link is not working properly and we hope to have this looked soon. We have the link radio ready to go. Potential install date is Sunday April 6th.

VE4VJ, 443.500+, #45 Winnipeg

VE4WRS, 145.45-, Winnipeg, Autopatch, IRLP

VE4WPG, 147.39+, #45 Winnipeg

Repeaters are working well. Construction downtown and more transmitters nearby our equipment are causing some interference and/or dead spots around the city. There is very little we can do about these problems other than re-locating the system; not an option right now, plus it would be most difficult to find a spot as good as it's current location.

VE4MAN, 146.61-, #46 Starbuck

Operating at reduced transmit power and receiver gain. There are problems with the antenna and filtering causing inconsistent operation. The new antenna should remedy much of this, and we are planning to upgrade the duplexer filter once the antenna issue is taken care of. Links 1 and 3 are not operational at this time. We hope to have this resolved very soon!

VE4CDN, 145.27-, #47 Morris

Operating fine. Link requires a radio upgrade, the Micor failed again before the link at Starbuck was available. We have crystals on order. Hope to have link working this summer.

We will also be installing a link to Winkler, possibly this winter. The Winkler (VE4TOM) repeater and Morris will be hot-linked. VE4TOM is owned and operated by Prairie Mobile Communications.

VE4PLP Link site

We replaced a power supply and repaired a link radio for this site this winter. It seems to be working well, the link to Brandon is working via link #2 at VE4MAN.

VE4MRS, 145.31- #48 Buydens Hill (Bruxelles)

Currently a link site between Brandon and Portage. We have brand new feedline ready to go and the antenna is already at the site. We need riggers to install this equipment for us, hopefully soon.

Pinetree Inter-tie (VE4FAL and east)

Working well, however the link to Kenora is not fully operational. The link does work when atmospheric conditions elevate RF propagation.

Brandon Link

VE4TED 146.73 MHz Brandon

Owned and operated by the Brandon Amateur Radio Club. This repeater is operational, but the link does not work at this time. We hope to have the links working between Brandon and Starbuck soon. See notes for PLP and MAN repeaters above.

We are in need of long runs of 7/8" Heliac or LMR-400 transmission cable. If you know of roll ends or good quality used cable available please contact anyone on the board.

Semi Annual General Meeting-August 18, 2007

Minutes taken by Dick, VE4HK

Meeting held during MARMfest at Austin MB
Meeting began 2:05 P.M. VE4ALW presiding
Each member introduced him or herself

Minutes of Annual General Meeting in April 2007 approved as printed in Newsletter,

Moved VE4GWN
Seconded VE4HAY
CARRIED

Treasurer's Report

Presented by VE4HAZ. See Newsletter for details.
Balance in bank at end of June, 2007 \$7629.50

Move acceptance of Treasurer's Report

Moved VE4HAZ
Seconded VA4GD
CARRIED

Membership Report

No report due Membership Chairman VE4WKL resigned. VE4ALW called for a volunteer to assume Membership Chairmanship. No volunteers

Technical Report

Presented by VE4AJO

- ☞ VE4AJO explained that CBC requirements are for professional tower climber at Starbuck Tower. Expensive. Also require a professional climber for Bruxelles tower. Due to bad weather last spring, all tower climbers are far behind in their work.
- ☞ The link between VE4MAN and VE4WPG is down. We do not know if the problem is the antenna or the feedline. We hope to have the tower climber check that out, and possibly make repairs, or replacement when he installs the Comprod VHF folded dipole. Hopefully, before freeze up.
- ☞ The link between VE4MAN and Brandon is working
- ☞ VE4GIM to VE4WPG is intermittent.
- ☞ Someone installed a new tower and antenna on the Richardson Building, close to ours. This shades our signal on VE4WPG to the North. Recommend using VE4VJ if members have UHF radios. VE4VJ has excellent coverage in all directions.
- ☞ VE4CDN is working well
- ☞ VE4GWN asked if the Technical Committee could add an autodial feature to the phone patch. The autodial would connect to the Weather Office, especially during Canwarn situations. VE4AJO advised that the executive will investigate and get back to VE4GWN

No other questions

Move acceptance of Technical Report

Move VE4EDE
Second VE4RA

CARRIED

New Business

No new business

Statements by RAC Representative

Bj Madsen VE5FX, RAC Midwest Regional Director spoke about the following items

- Youth Educational Program working well in other provinces. He needs a teacher in Manitoba, since there is nothing occurring here. (VE4HK gave VE4HUM's call after the meeting. He is a principal of a school in Oakbank
- The Foundation Licence is in the works. It is in the hands of the Federal Government. Industry Canada and RAC are enthused about it
- The Winnipeg Hamfest in August 2008 will be the RAC Annual General Meeting and forum
- A Public Relations person is required for RAC
- RAC is in the process of replacing Debby Norman. The new person should be appearing shortly.
- The RAC executive will be replaced this fall. President Earle Smith VE6NM will not be running for office again
- Doug Henry VE4TG requested an overview of the Youth Survey
- VE5FX stated that RAC was aiming at students who were 12 years old. That is the right age, students are enthusiastic, and able to understand information. May simply plant the seed for future. Once students become adults, and their children are growing up, may remember, "Ham Radio was great back then, and take up the hobby again. People interested in Public Service aspect of amateur radio may become interested in other areas Retired people traveling, on board ships could use amateur radio to communicate, for information, emergencies, and information. See Radio Society of Great Britain or Wireless Institute of Australia web sites for more information

VE4BAE described troubles getting into RAC website from various computers. VE5FX explained about the problem, and promised to look into it A discussion followed

No further business

Adjourn 2:35 P.M. VE4GWN

MANITOBA AND NEIGHBORING ALLOCATIONS				
Call	Location	Output	Input	Prov
VE4ARM	Austin	144.281		MB
VE4ARM-3	Austin	144.390		MB
VE4BRC-3	Beausejour	144.390		MB
VE4SMA-3	Morris	144.390		MB
VE4PTG-3	Portage	144.390		MB
VE4UB-3	Selkirk	144.390		MB
VE4VB-3	Winkler	144.390		MB
VE4GIL-3	Winnipeg	144.390		MB
W0UJ	Brainerd	145.130	144.530	MN
VE4BAS	Basswood	145.150	144.550	MB
VE4PAR	Winnipeg	145.170	144.570	MB
VE4VRG	Winkler	145.190	144.590	MB
VE4MIL	Milner Ridge	145.210	144.610	MB
VE4ARC	Winnipeg	145.230	144.630	MB
VE5RJM	Yorkton	145.250	144.650	SK
VE4CDN	Morris	145.270	144.670	MB
VE4MRS	Bruxelles	145.310	144.710	MB
VE4PAS	The Pas	145.350	144.750	MB
VE4ARS	Winnipeg	145.350	144.750	MB
W0ILO	Moorhead	145.350	144.750	MN
VE4PIN	Pinawa	145.370	144.770	MB
VE4COW	Winnipeg	145.390	144.790	MB
VE4TEU	Tteulon	145.410	144.810	MB
VE4SIX	Woodlands	145.430	144.830	MB
VE4WRS	Winnipeg	145.450	144.850	MB
KA0NWV	Karlstad	145.470	144.870	MN
VE5RJM	Yorkton	145.490	144.890	SK
W0ILO	Fargo	146.255	146.855	ND
	Beausejour	146.505	146.505	MB
VE4MAN	Starbuck	146.610	146.010	MB
VE4CTY	Brandon	146.640	146.040	MB
VE4DPN	Dauphin	146.640	146.040	MB
VE4FAL	Falcon Lake	146.640	146.040	MB
KA0NWV	Karlstad	146.655	146.055	MN
VE4JRA	Winnipeg	146.670	146.070	MB
VE4SHR	Spearhill	146.700	146.100	MB
VE4TED	Brandon	146.730	146.130	MB
VE4SLK	East Selkirk	146.730	146.130	MB
W0BJI	Bemidji	146.730	146.130	MN
VA4IRL	Brandon	146.760	146.160	MB
VE4FLN	Winnipeg	146.760	146.160	MB
KC0KAE	Fargo	146.760	146.160	ND
WD0FGR	Minot	146.760	146.160	ND
VE4INT	Birds Hill	146.820	146.220	MB
	Detroit Lakes	146.820	146.220	MN
VE4GIM	Gimli	146.850	146.250	MB
VE4IHF	St John	146.850	146.250	MB
	Grand Fforks	146.865	146.835	ND
VE4HS	Bruxelles	146.880	146.280	MB
	Devils Lake	146.880	146.280	ND
VE4MTR	Austin	146.910	146.310	MB
VE4TGN	Manigotogan	146.910	146.310	MB
VE4TWO	Portable	146.910	146.310	MB
VE3YQK	Kenora	146.910	146.310	ON
VE4BDN	Brandon	146.940	146.340	MB
VE4FFR	Flin Flon	146.940	146.340	MB
VE4SRR	Swan River	146.940	146.340	MB
VE4TPN	Thompson	146.940	146.340	MB
NOEPK	Bbismark	146.940	146.340	ND
	Grand Fforks	146.940	146.340	ND

	Mandan	146.940	146.340
VE3RSN	Sioux Narrows	146.940	146.340
VE4LDR	Lundar	146.970	146.370
	Fargo	146.970	146.370
VE5MDM	Melville	147.000	147.600
	Winnipeg	147.015	146.415
VE4BMR	Baldy Mountain	147.030	146.430
	Grand Fforks	147.030	147.630
VE4PCL	Foxwarren	147.060	147.660
VE4MBR	Selkirk	147.060	147.660
VE3FHS	Fort Frances	147.060	146.460
	Fargo	147.090	147.690
VE4AGA	Winnipeg	147.120	147.720
	Cavalier	147.150	147.750
VE4PTG	Portage	147.165	147.765
VE4INC-R	Winnipeg	147.180	147.780
W0EMZ	Detroit Lakes	147.195	147.795
W0UJ	Brainerd	147.225	147.825
VE4RAG	Elie	147.240	147.840
VE4BVR	Russell	147.240	147.840
N0KTR	Mankato	147.240	147.840
VE3DRY	Dryden	147.240	147.840
W0ILO	Fargo	147.255	147.855
VE4UMR	Winnipeg	147.270	147.870
	Minot	147.270	147.870
VE4EDU	Winnipeg	147.300	147.900
VE4TGN	Winkler	147.330	147.930
VE4EMB	Hadashville	147.360	147.960
	Minot	147.360	147.960
VE4WPG	Winnipeg	147.390	147.990
	bismark	147.390	147.990
	Grand Fforks	147.390	147.990
VE4BRC	Beausejour	147.540	

Membership Report
By Harm, VE4HAZ

As of February 25th we have 83 regular paid up members and 17 Life members bring our total membership to 100. That is it – short and sweet!

MRS - Help Wanted

The Manitoba Repeater Society Inc. is looking for technical assistance on our repeaters. Some background in radio electronics and electronic diagnosis and repair is preferred. Our Technical Committee members can train on our specific requirements, but we cannot train from scratch. Contact Dick VE4HK, Gord VE4GLS or Derek VE4HAY to volunteer.



**Winnipeg
Amateur
Radio
Club**

Hamfest

August 8 – 10, 2008

**Hilton Suites – Winnipeg Airport
1800 Wellington Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3H 1B2
voice: 204-783-1700
tollfree: 1-800-HILTONS
fax: 204-786-6588**

www.winnipegairportsuites.hilton.com

All bookings must mention [Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club](#) in order to get the negotiated group rate.

Hamfest Web site:

<http://www.mts.net/~warc/hamfest>

**In conjunction with the
Radio
Amateurs Of
Canada
Annual General
Meeting & Forum**



**Treasurers Report
By Harm, VE4HAZ**

Year End Financial Report

Opening Balance Jan 1, 2007		\$6266.38
Self Insurance - See below Note # 1	\$2000.00	
Subtotal		\$4266.38

Receipts:		
Memberships	\$3348.75	
Donations	\$1025.00	
Interest	\$ 1.76	
Total Receipts:		<u>\$4375.51</u>
Cash Available for Use		\$8641.89

Withdrawals:		
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 39.91	
Equipment Reserve	\$1353.65	
Test Equipment	\$ 0.00	
Newsletter	\$ 151.38	
Insurance	\$ 150.00	
MTS (phone patch)	\$ 581.66	
Licenses and Fees	\$ 40.00	
Misc.	<u>\$ 392.68</u>	
Total Withdrawals		<u>\$2709.28</u>
Ending Balance December 31, 2007		<u>\$5932.61</u>

Savings Account (Self Insurance) \$2000.00

Note #1 The money set aside for our self insurance has been placed in a separate savings account and will now be reflected as separate line at the bottom of the monthly statement.

**Manitoba Repeater Society 2008 Budget
To be approved at the April 2008 AGM**

Starting Budget Balance		\$5932.61
Revenue		
Estimated membership income	<u>\$2500.00</u>	
Total Estimated Funds		\$8432.61
2008 Self Insurance Deduction	<u>-\$500.00</u>	
Total Estimated Funds Available		\$7931.61

Expenses		
Equipment Maintenance	\$2700.00	
Equipment Reserve	\$1000.00	
Test Equipment	\$1200.00	
Newsletter	\$200.00	
Insurance	\$200.00	
MTS (phone patch)	\$600.00	

Licenses and Fees	\$50.00	
Misc. Expenses	\$400.00	
Web hosting & setup	\$165.00	
Total estimated Expenses		<u>\$6515.00</u>
Ending Budget Balance		<u>\$1416.61</u>

First Quarter Financial Report
By Harm, VE4HAZ

Opening Balance January 1, 2008		\$5932.61
Self Insurance	<u>(\$ 500.00)</u>	
Subtotal		\$5432.61
Receipts:		
Memberships	\$1010.00	
Donations	\$ 0.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 2.23</u>	
Total Receipts:		<u>\$1012.23</u>
Cash Available for Use		<u>\$6444.84</u>

Withdrawals:		
Equipment Maintenance	\$ 0.00	
Equipment Reserve	\$ 0.00	
Test Equipment	\$ 0.00	
Newsletter	\$ 0.00	
Insurance	\$ 0.00	

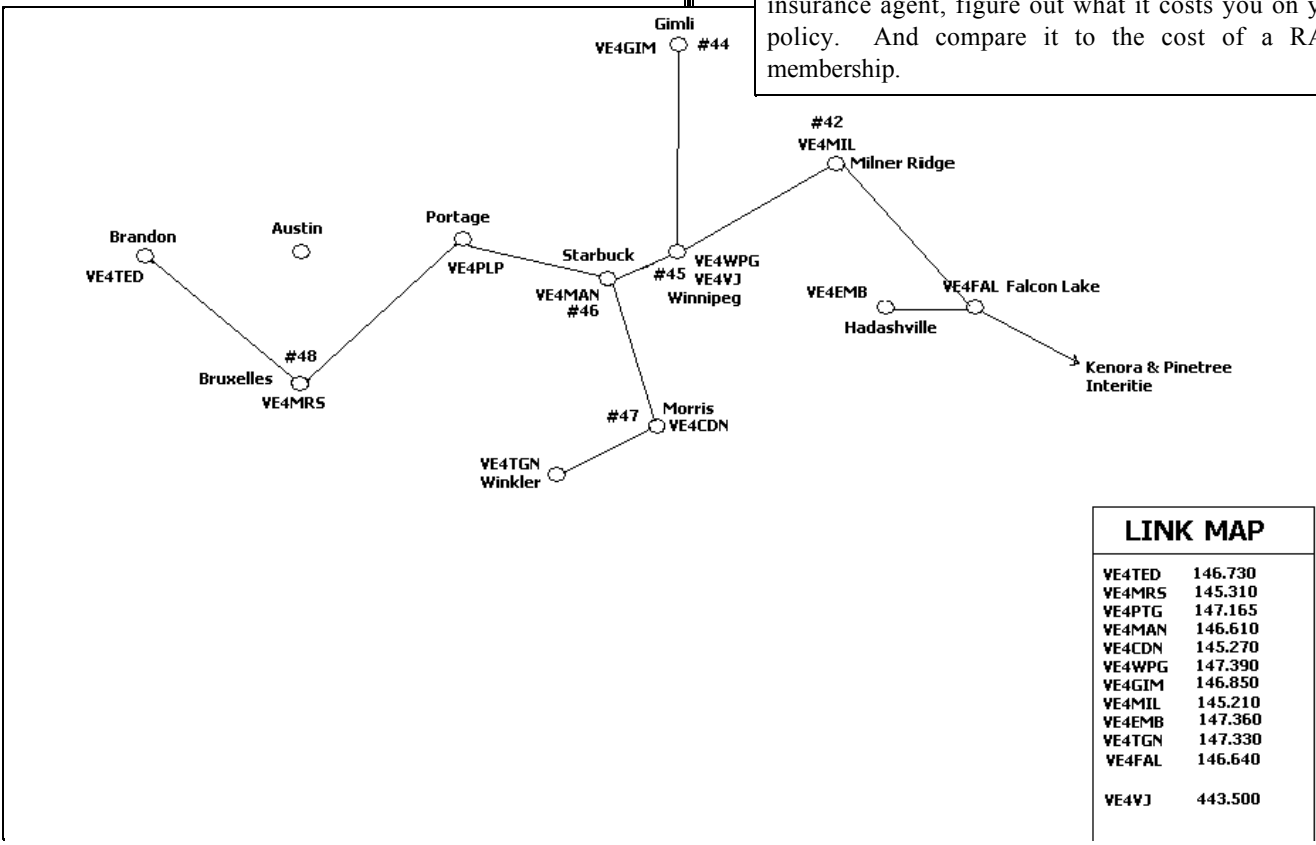
MTS (phone patch)	\$ 139.45	
Licenses and Fees	\$ 0.00	
Misc.	\$ 5.00	
Web hosting & set up	\$ 0.00	
Total Withdrawals		\$ 144.45
Transfer to Savings	<u>(\$2500.00)</u>	
Ending Balance March 31, 2008		<u>\$3800.39</u>

Savings Account		
Self Insurance	\$2000.00	
Transferred from Chequeing	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
Total Self Insurance		\$2500.00
Transferred from Chequeing	\$2500.00	
Interest	<u>\$ 2.10</u>	
Total other savings		<u>2502.10</u>
Savings Account		<u>\$5002.10</u>

Looking for a few good HAM's

Are you a member of RAC yet?

If not maybe it's time you looked once again at joining. You know you looked at joining in the past, but put it off for some reason. Maybe it was the cost of membership. But have you considered the savings alone on liability insurance for your tower. That's right as a RAC member you automatically are covered for Liability insurance on your tower. Talk to your insurance agent, figure out what it costs you on your policy. And compare it to the cost of a RAC membership.



LINK MAP	
VE4TED	146.730
VE4MRS	145.310
VE4PTG	147.165
VE4MAN	146.610
VE4CDN	145.270
VE4WPG	147.390
VE4GIM	146.850
VE4MIL	145.210
VE4EMB	147.360
VE4TGN	147.330
VE4FAL	146.640
VE4VJ	443.500



Attn.: Membership
 Manitoba Repeater Society
 C/O VE4WSC
 598 St. Mary's Road
 Winnipeg MB R2M3L5

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

(Please note: membership year is January 1st to December 31st).

<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Preferred First Name</u>
<u>Mailing Address</u>		
<u>City</u>	<u>Prov.</u>	<u>Postal Code</u>
<u>Home Phone</u>		<u>Work Phone</u>
<u>E-mail Address</u>		
<p><u>Club use only:</u></p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>\$ _____</p> <p>Cheque / Cash / Money Order</p> <p>Rcpt. _____</p> <p>Card Issued: ___ Year _____</p>		

Renewal
 New
 New Ham (FREE if licensed in current membership year)

<p><i>Pro-rated-new members only</i></p> <p>Regular January to December \$25.00</p> <p>April - December \$18.75</p> <p>July to December \$12.50</p>	<p>Class of Member: (please circle one only)</p> <p>Regular \$25 / Addn'l Family Member - \$5</p>
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How do you wish the Newsletter to be delivered:
 (please circle one only) E-mail or Snail-mail

Would you be willing to help out on work performed at the various repeater sites. Yes No

Please list your technical abilities or available equipment that would help out the Repeater Society: _____

Please indicate any other clubs you belong to:

WARC ARES WSC RAC Other: _____

Optional Information:

Current Occupation: _____

If Retired: Former Occupation: _____

Skills: _____