



ARES in Saskatoon is becoming more active. James Cloney **VE5CNB** assistant EC and John Bradley **VE5MU-EC** have been recruiting new members for ARES and encouraging people to write their ICS exams.

Well I am glad to see that Hamfest will be in Watrous this year and not in my basement. Ladies we had a good time at last years Hamfest and we will be having a ladies program again this year. Keep July 28th open on your calendar. We will keep you updated as to what will be on the ladies program. Well fellows, so that you don't feel left out, we will also keep you updated as to your program, as plans are finalized. Thank you very much to Val **VE5ACJ** for organizing this Hamfest.

The IRLP net for Saskatchewan continues to meet Monday thru Friday at 9:00 pm. Thank you to Lyle **VE5KKS** for taking Friday's. Hugh **VE5HWH** will be filling in for Lyle while he on holidays. Ken **VE5KC** fills in for me when I am not available and Hugh has indicated that he will also. Thank you also to **VA5RJA** John in Saskatoon for calling the Saskatoon Amateur Radio club 2M net every night of the year. That is dedication. Thank you very much to all the amateurs province wide for helping the nets to continue. For Eric **VE5HG** the nets are a very important part of his life and it leaves a very big hole in his daily routine if the nets are missing. Eric was the net manager for many years and takes the importance of the nets very seriously. He does call a net occasionally and loves to talk to as many people as check in. Please lets see more people check in to the nets. It is a great way to check if your equipment is able to get out farther then the end of the block and if nothing else then to see what the weather is like in another area of the country. For those Amateurs that are available on Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM try the Trans Canada IRLP net on reflector 9013 and get an up date from coast to coast. Well till next time

73's Doris **VE5DJQ**

### Regina & Area

I've been a bit busy at work, so really don't have much information this time around.

Regina is holding Ham Classes, Basic and Morse code. Classes are held on Saturdays from 10-2. So there will be extra names to draw from for the SARL New Ham Award. Please make sure you mark July 28th on your calendar for Hamfest 2012. Hope to see you there

73 Bob **VE5LTD**

### SECRETARY/TREASURERS REPORT

Hello everyone, well, as you have read, I am coordinating the 2012 Hamfest. There will be lots to do, and hopefully lots of great sales at the flea market. Tables are only \$5.00 each, so start looking in those boxes to see what you can part with, in order to bring more back home. Hi Hi Ladies, like Doris said we had a good time last year, so let's make this year even better. I have already asked Peggy Gwillim **VE5ACT** who is a Nurse Practitioner to give a Basic First Aid course for you. I know several of you live on farms, or out on acreages, and hospitals can be very far away when there is an injury. So come on out and brush up on your first aid — you never know when you might need it. This part of the program will take place in the morning. In the afternoon, this is where I get stumped. I know most of you are really not that interested in the AGM or DX presentation, and would rather have your own thing to do, so I have the room booked for an afternoon as well, but I need help from all you XYLs and YLs. What do you want. Do you want to have a tour of Danceland, bring your bathing suits and go for a swim in the pool—please let me know. Or would you rather just sit with your crafts with the group and chat.



The only thing I am really asking is that when we get together for the group photo is that you all come and get in the picture. I've been looking at some of our older photos from way back when, and the ladies were always included. So don't be shy. The group picture will be at 1:00 pm just before the rest of the afternoon activities get started.

Fellas, please if you need a table for the flea market, get hold of me as soon as possible. My email and phone number are on the last page.

There will also be a homebrew table, and I know George, **VE5UU** will have something (I think he likes getting the trophies), and I have coheres my OM into putting something on as well, so come on, you've all got a few months to get something to put on with a chance of winning either the Hammond Trophy or the Centennial Trophy. Go to the SARL webpage [www.sarl.ca](http://www.sarl.ca) to see the rules for either trophy. Let's try to get some pride in being Amateur Radio Operators once again.

Also unfortunately, this is Bj' s last AGM that he will preside as President, so time to start thinking of whom you would like to nominate for President. This position must be filled or SARL will have to fold. Also according to the Constitutional changes of 2009, the following areas are looking for nominations for directors: South-West, Regina, Saskatoon City, Battleford and Area, North East,. If you are willing to let your name stand in those areas please let me know. Speaking of nominations, please start thinking of folks who deserve the Tom Van Ness Memorial Trophy, the Northern Dancer Trophy and any other trophy you want to see at the hamfest. The SARL New Ham Award is drawn randomly. When the clubs that are holding classes send me the names of the new hams, their name is put into a pail, and I get someone who is not a ham, knows nothing about amateur radio and they pull one name think we could go as high as let's say 4. So Regina, please don't

forget to send the names of the students to me as they also receive a 1 years free membership to SARL. Only said Regina, cause they might forget, I know Saskatoon always sends me the names of new hams.

That's it for now folks, there will be more information regarding the hamfest as plans become final. I will be putting it on the HF nets and it will also be advertised on the 2M nets. And yes the IRLP nets as well. Hopefully we don't have any family reunions, marriages, or impending births for that weekend...Let's hold it open for Hamfest.

73 Val **VE5ACJ**

### MOOSE JAW & AREA

Nothing much going on in this part of the country. Our seniors club is looking forward to the end of March and the Thunder Creek Model Train Show that we do the security work for, just so no little sticky fingers try to abscond with one of the models. I do think I will stick to Amateur Radio though, it's not nearly as expensive as those model trains. The seniors still meet once a month for a lovely supper and good conversation.

The Moose Jaw Amateur Radio club will be holding it's Spring time Flea Market on April 14th, at the Western Development Museum. Doors open at 9:00am. For more information please get hold of Barry VE5TRF at

[ve5trf@sasktel.net](mailto:ve5trf@sasktel.net)

73 Harv **VE5AC**

### EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS:

Well here we are already into February, and fingers crossed, the weather will stay just like it is. I go along with Doris, that I don't miss doing the shoveling of snow. I love my winters, don't get me wrong, but a nice break like we have had this winter is nothing to sneer at.

As everyone knows postal rates have gone up again. I know we have several of our members who get this QSO by email, and the rest by snail



mail. I for one will not deny you that right. Our TCA is now being done in part by email, but I don't want mine that way. It is just that I like having something in my hand for the price we pay. Now on saying that, if you do wish to have your QSO sent by email, please let me know in time for the next issue which will be in mid April. I say mid April because the last issue before hamfest will be going out no later than June 9th. Why the rush you say, well this YL and OM have already booked their wonderful 2 weeks of camping and won't be changing plans unless life throws us a curve.

So please let me know how you want your QSO. Thanks ever so much.

### ATTENTION LADIES!!!!!!!

Ok, so hamfest plans are coming together nicely.

But....and it is a big but. I need to know what you want to do. If you want something specific, please send in your ideas and we will do our best to accommodate you. Now I don't care if you are a YL=ham or an XYL=non-ham we want you to come. Come and have an enjoyable day with the other ladies—don't stay home come on down—the water's fine.



### ESTEVAN & AREA

Well things in Estevan are pretty good. Not too much snow, temps have been decent and hopefully spring can't be too far behind. So what's been going on here well, Gary **VE5GC** has finally sold all his cattle and is getting back on to the air and also been coming out more for Saturday morning coffee. Murray **VE5XO** is also getting back on the air after many years absent Blair **VE5BAM** is retiring after 35 years of working for Sask Power and rumor is that there will be a party at the Legion with some good bubbly flowing. We all look forward to that. So that means that Blair will be back on air more as

well. We also have a new ham in the general area Jeff **VE5VVF** from the Arcola area. Joan **VE5TAW** is home a bit more says she needs to get her body back in shape, but also says at least this winter the roads have been much easier to maneuver compared to other winters. All the repeaters are working fine, except the 82 still has a bit of interference from the CKOS (Yorkton TV) but once everything goes digital then the interference will be gone..

**ALL SARL MEMBERS:  
This is your HAMFEST  
so you should be available  
and willing to help if  
someone needs help.  
Thanks ever so much**

**FROM the LATEST CQ MAGAZINE**  
Received the CQ magazine, just at the right time: Here's what it says about the **YAESU FT-60R**:

YAESU continues with the FT-60R. The 60R is a two-band handheld, professionally sized with 1000-plus memories with alphanumerics. Not many handhelds tune in to the AM aircraft band, but this Yaesu *does!* The FT-60R is also easy to hand-program, it's offsets are automatic, and the tone-code changing is done effortlessly. It then memorizes channels automatically to an open memory spot This sounds like a very nice little handheld, too bad **VE5AC** and **VE5ACJ** will not be putting their names in the drum.



## SASKATOON AREA

This one is from the Last Mountain location (Strasbourg) of **VE5UJ** and **VE5ACT**. We made a fast trip to Saskatoon before Christmas for a visit with Peggy's mom Marian **VE5MIM** who lives in a care home on the East side. The home was hosting a Christmas party. While there we met with our daughter Karen and Peggy's sister Jill. The main common area got a bit crowded with all the families arriving and so we retired to Marian's room for a short visit. While we were there, the home's activity director came along with a camera and said if we would pose together that she would have a picture to remember the visit by. After she left I realized that everyone in that picture, was a licensed radio amateur operator. If I can acquire a copy of that picture, I will have it available for the next report.

A few weeks before Christmas I had been visiting in Saskatoon and stopped for coffee and cookies with Sister Rosetta, **VE5FK** and Sister Adelaide, retired teachers who once lived and worked not too far from the Last Mountain area. In more recent years, Sister Rosetta had her radio set up at Prelate, Sask. where she did administration for St. Angela's Academy, a boarding school for girls. For a number of reasons the school closed a few years ago and Sister Rosetta has been working to sort through the remnants of many years' school activities and complete the cataloging of archival material. I think she would still like to come on the air again to chat with the 80 and 20 metre crowd. While visiting at the home I was eyeballing advantageous antenna locations close to the building. I did take her a code practice oscillator in January.

I think an "invisible dipole" will work with polyethylene ladder line coming under the window. Not many people remember the "Johnson Matchbox" but it is just the thing to make clandestine antennas work well. Working on that!

My sister-in-law once lived on the top floor of an apartment block in Saskatoon. The roof was easily accessible from her balcony so we installed a G5RV type dipole with the twin lead coming through one of the apartment windows and into a simple balanced tuner. Worked well as I recall and she experienced no complaints.

I believe I mentioned having a chat with Roli **VE5RO** in Saskatoon before Christmas. He had been telling me of his friend at Lake Havasu in the "warm country" which is his eventual destination this winter. I have been listening with interest to the "snowbirds" on 17 metres and heard Roli's friend but have yet to make contact. From my observation, Roli is correct in saying life is more relaxed on that band as compared to 20 or 15 metres. I hear almost none of the frantic calling and moving about, experienced on the "old DX" bands. People will actually stop and have a chat on 17 metres. I worked a fellow in Yellowknife just after Christmas. Bill, **VE8AP** and he told me that he works for BHP Billiton, the mineral company and would likely be moving to the Saskatoon area soon. That is the company that is preparing to sink a potash mineshaft near Jansen. We can always welcome new Hams to Saskatchewan.

Val seems to have room in this month's QSO so I will continue to ramble. I stopped this morning to see my friend Dale in Strasbourg. He is the local Television and appliance person in town (retired) and has his garage (shop) very well arranged and spare parts all neatly boxed and labeled. He laughed when I suggested he has too much time on his hands.

He brought out a very old radio set, likely from the 1920s, which according to his source was made in Saskatchewan. It has a bakelite front panel and is enclosed in what looks like a fir or mahogany varnished box. The critical components were all attached to the bakelite panel and things seemed to be in order there. The inscription on the front reads "VOICE OF THE PRAIRIE" and beneath that is another inscription "WW GRANT LTD".

My grandmother described the early radios of the time and said the ones she knew about needed headphones to listen. The loudspeaker was a pricy item and not all radios were capable of driving them properly. High impedance headphones are not common in this day so I will have to bring a pair to our

next meeting.

I will be working on this Dale fellow and maybe the time is right for him to venture into Amateur Radio.

The mornings come earlier and the evenings are stretching out. Extra daylight hours with the coming of spring mean the higher bands stay open longer and we may even see some activity on 6 metres again. Have fun and 73

Gordon **VE5UJ**

## WOMEN AND HEART ATTACKS

This has been passed on from an ER Nurse and is the best description of this event that she has ever heard. Please read it and remember it.

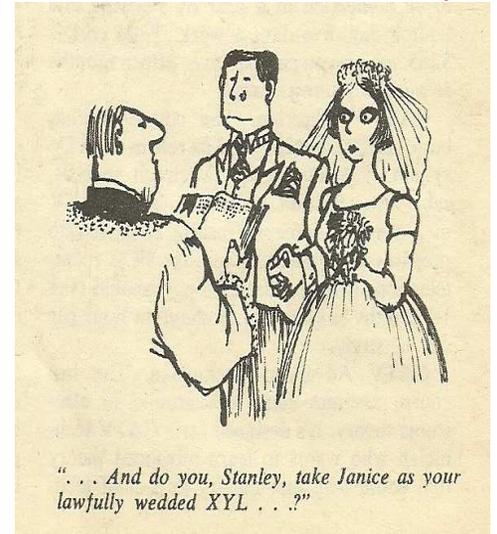
Women and heart attacks (Myocardial Infarction). Did you know that women rarely have the same dramatic symptoms that men have when experiencing heart attacks? You know, the sudden stabbing pain in the chest, the cold sweat, grabbing the chest and dropping to the floor, that we see in the movies. Here is the story of one women's experience with a heart attack.

"I had a heart attack at about 10:30 PM with NO prior exertion; NO prior emotional trauma that one would suspect might've brought it on.

I was sitting snug and warm on a cold evening, with my purring cat in my lap, reading an interesting story, thinking, "A-Ah, this is the life, all cozy and warm in my soft cushy Lazy Boy with my feet propped up." A moment later, I felt that awful sensation of indigestion, when you've been in a hurry and grabbed a bite of sandwich and washed it down with a dash of water, and that hurried bite feels like you've a golf ball going down the esophagus in slow motion and it is most uncomfortable. You realize you shouldn't have gulped it down so fast and needed to chew it more thoroughly and drink a glass of water to hasten its progress down to the stomach. This was my initial sensation—the only trouble was that I hadn't taken a bite of anything since about 5:00 PM. After it seemed to subside, the next sensation was like little squeezing motions that seemed to be racing up my SPINE (hind-sight: it was probably my aorta spasming), gaining speed as they

PROVINCIAL NETS					
Name	Date	Sessions	Check-ins	Traffic	Bulletins
IRLP 9300	Dec	21	431	115	15
	Jan	22	427	98	15
Avonlea ARG 147.0600-	Dec				
	Jan				
Sask Evening Phone/CW	Dec	31	1096	3	0
3.735	Jan	31	1059	4	0
Sask Wx Net 3.753	Dec	31	568	0	0
	Jan	31	368	0	0
Ares	Dec	5	128	0	0
	Jan	5	119	0	0
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>177</b>	<b>4196</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>30</b>

Please don't allow this to happen on Hamfest Weekend



“... And do you, Stanley, take Janice as your lawfully wedded XYL...?”

## WANTED

HEATHKIT Model AR-3 all band Receiver

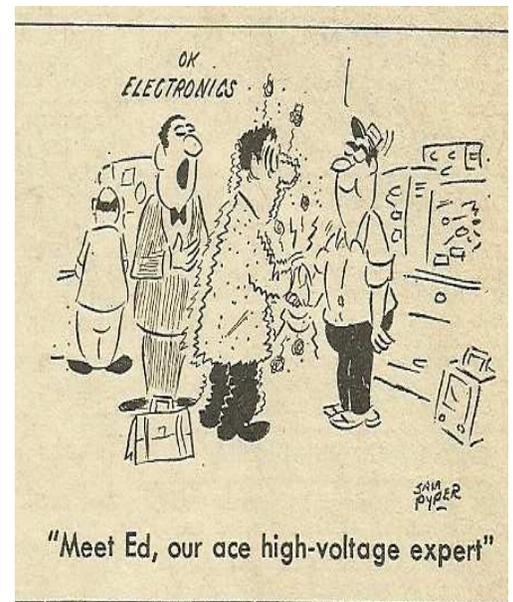
Please get hold of Brian VE5BJO  
694-1599

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Command Receivers BC-946; BC-454; BC-455. Complete or parts.

40M crystals CW Band  
Please get hold of Harv VE5AC  
693-6127

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Deadline for next issue:  
April 13th.

continued racing up and under my sternum (breast bone, where one presses rhythmically, when administering CPR). This fascinating process continued on into my throat and branched out into my jaw. “Aha!” Now I stopped puzzling about what was happening—we all have read and/or heard about pain in the jaw being one of the signals of an MI happening, haven’t we? I said aloud to myself and the cat, “Dear God, I think I’m having a heart attack!” I lowered the footrest dumping the cat from my lap, started to take a step and fell to the floor. I thought to myself, “If this is a heart attack, I shouldn’t be walking into the next room where the phone is or anywhere else...but, on the other hand, if I don’t, nobody will know that I need help.”

I pulled myself up with the arms of the chair, walked slowly to the phone and dialed 911. I told her I thought I was having a heart attack due to the pressure building under my sternum and radiating to my jaw. I didn’t feel hysterical or afraid. She said she was sending the Paramedics immediately, asked if the front door was near to me, and if so, to unbolt the door and then lie down on the floor where they could see me when they arrived. I did as she asked and then lost consciousness. I vaguely remember arriving at St Jude’s ER where the Cardiologist was ready in his surgical scrubs. He asked me several questions including “Have you taken

any medications?” before I nodded off again. I woke up later to learn the Cardiologist and partner had already threaded a teeny angiogram balloon up my femoral artery into my aorta, where they installed two side-by-side stents, to hold open my right coronary artery. I have written this in such detail because I wanted you to know what I learned firsthand. Be aware that something very different is happening in your body, not the usual men’s symptoms, but inexplicable things happening (until my sternum and jaw got into the act.) It is said that many more women than men die of their first (and last) MI because they don’t know they are having one and commonly mistake it as indigestion, take some anti-heart burn medication and go to bed hoping they’ll feel better in the morning when they wake up—which doesn’t happen. Your symptoms may not be exactly like mine, so I advise you to call the Paramedics if ANYTHING unpleasant is happening that you have not felt before. It is better to have a “false alarm” visitation to ER than risk your life guessing what it might be.

(This article was taken from the CLARION—the CLARA newsletter)



## REMEMBERING GUS VE5SPI

I still recall my first impressions of Gus. It was in the early 1990's when both of us were new to the club. I remember him as a tall, soft spoken man that carried himself with a sense of confidence and purpose. He wasn't shy to get involved with all aspects of the club. I recall him stepping forward on more than one occasion to offer his name as club president and to serve in many other positions on the club executive.

As time passed, I saw him volunteering for just about every public service event that the club had. It wasn't just to work at the events either, he was also there to lend a hand with all the pre and post event work. He not only stepped up to volunteer at the events but also to organize many of them. It was obvious that he got a great deal of pleasure from helping others.

Gus also enjoyed setting up and working on the repeaters in the area. Whether it was a simple trip to the roof top where VE5SK or driving through almost impassible pastures to sites like Lizard Lake or Rock Point, you could see a look of pride on his face when he heard it on the air after a long day's work. I accompanied him on some of those trips and noticed one thing. Once the work was one and we were heading back, the conversation always switched from ham radio back to his family. Talking about his wife, children and granddaughter was what he really enjoyed and then ham radio took a distant back seat to them.

One of the things that Gus particularly enjoyed was being able to help other hams when there was tower work to be done. When you're working 50 or

more feet above the ground, you have to trust the people you work with to be safe and to keep you safe. I trusted him absolutely and was honoured that he also trusted me. I learned a great deal from him and will always remember the good and the not so good times we had doing it.

It was during a coffee after some tower work in the fall of 2007 that Gus first brought up the idea of flying balloons. He had always loved flying and this just seemed like a natural extension of that. We floated a few crazy ideas during that coffee and decided we should give it a try. We thought "How difficult could it be?" We should have known better. After another coffee or two and more crazy ideas, we approached Bob Meldrum VE5RGM (now VE7RGM) about joining us and the SABRE balloon group was born. Leigh dubbed the three of us the "Balloon Buddies" and the name stuck. Like little children, we spent the rest of that winter dreaming and planning what we wanted to do.

Our first flight was a complete success right up to the time it lifted off. Everything except the TV transmitter failed so we had no way of knowing exactly where it went. We thought we had it pinpointed with direction finding equipment but we would find later that our search efforts were hopeless. Leigh and I and Gus and Lori sent the rest of the day driving the grid roads of South-West Saskatchewan. The next day Gus and his son went back and spent another day searching. It was only when our package was found by a farmer two days later that we realized it had gone 100 km further than we thought. Leigh and I travelled South of Regina to pick up the package. On our return, we radioed from Hanley that we had it in hand and were on our way back. By the time we got home, Gus and bob were sitting in our driveway waiting. They could hardly contain their excitement. We spent the rest of the evening pouring over the photos from the camera and dreaming of what to do next. That first

flight lead to 13 more. Each one was fraught with it's own problems but they were all incredible adventures and Gus reveled in every moment of each of them. Whether it was heading with the highway at 100km/h with the balloon racing above us at 200km/h, spending 3 hours trudging through underbrush chasing a phantom sighting or laying in the grass at the side of the road and seeing the balloon bust, Gus loved every minute of it. After the flights he would spend hours pouring over the video and still pictures we got back. More than once he remarked that the chase and recovery were when he had the most fun and the trips he enjoyed the most were those when Lori and Laihlah joined him for the adventure.

I will always cherish the time I knew Gus and the times we spent together. There are some people in the world who make it a better place for everyone and Gus was one of those people. His untimely passing will leave a huge void in the lives of all those around him.

Bruce Coates

VE5BNC



Thank you Bruce for this wonderful article on Gus. I will always remember him with a wonderful smile just like at Pike Lake Hamfest 2011 You will be missed Gus but never forgotten (Editor)



Here are 3 links for you to check out. You do not have to stay at the Manitou Springs, You can stay at one of the many B & B's or you can even stay at the campgrounds

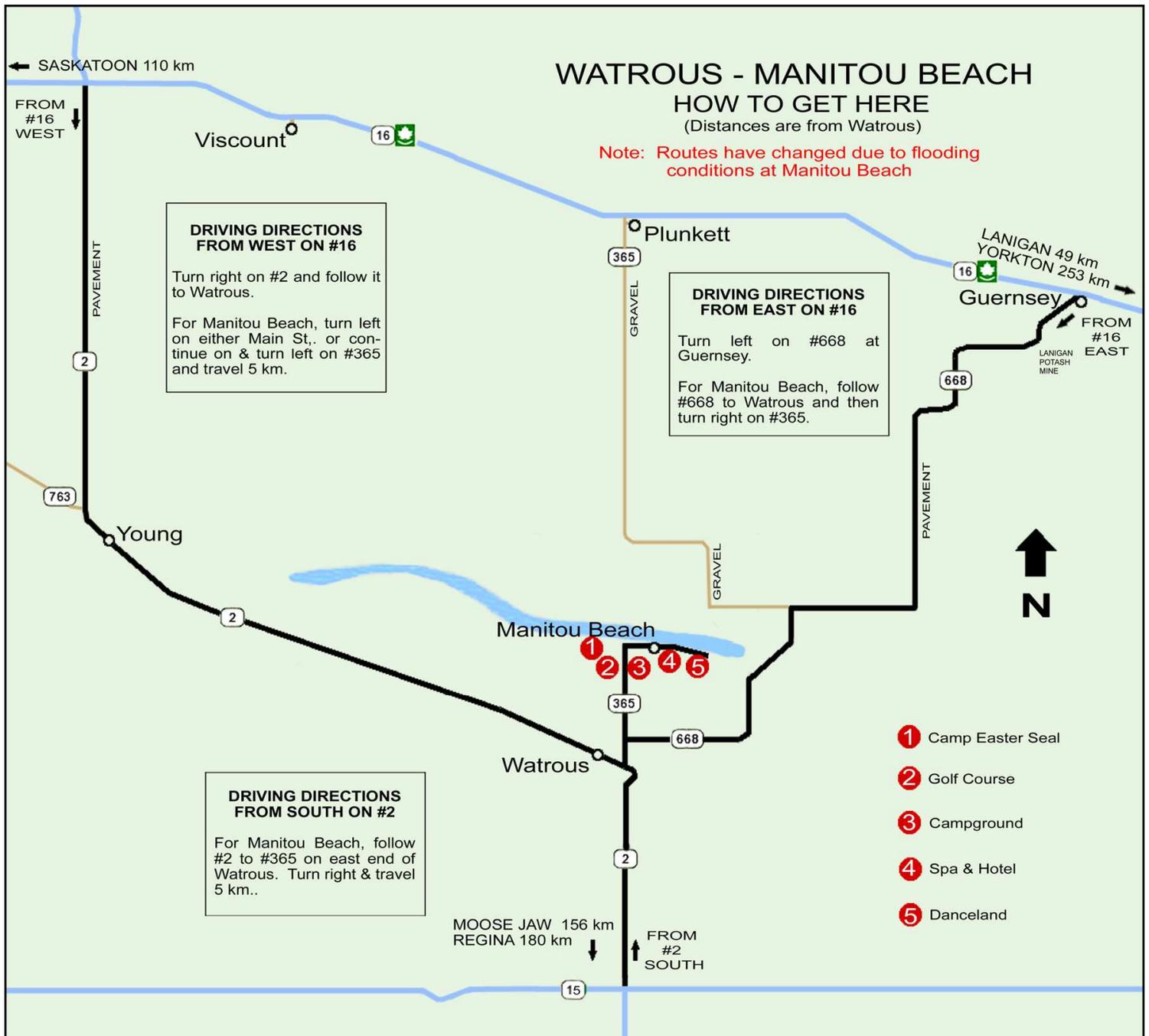
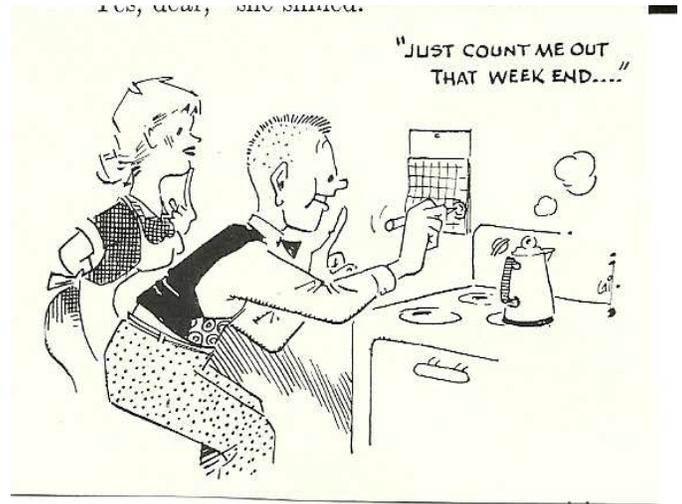
<http://manitousprings.ca/>

<http://www.watrousmanitou.com/ManitouBeachBusinessDirectory.pdf>

<http://www.watrousmanitou.com/WatrousBusinessDirectory.pdf>

And I for one can attest to the best Chinese Food Buffet in Watrous is Tom's Restaurant. Also John's Plate on Hwy #2 West has great food.

I have talked to a few folks around the Manitou Beach area, and they say highway 365 from Plunkett is not open, so you will have to go to Guernsey and take 668.



# HAMFEST 2012

When: July 28, 2012

Where: Manitou Springs Hotel & Convention Center  
Watrous, Saskatchewan

Time: 9:00 AM—5:00 PM

## What will be Happening

Flea Market:

Ladies Program—Basic First Aid—Tour of Danceland & ?  
Group Photo

AGM

Trophy Presentation

Guest Speaker—Mr. Murray Crandon **VE5MC**  
with the most recent DX pedition film

Flea Market Tables **\$5.00 Each**  
**maximum allowed per person 2**  
**Only 24 tables are available**

Lots of Door Prizes  
Men's & Ladies

Main Door Prize: **Yaesu FT-60R Dual Band**

NOTE: you must have a Valid Callsign to win this Unit

Tickets for Main Door Prize: \$5.00 each

To book tables for flea market, please get hold of Val VE5ACJ

[ve5aq@sasktel.net](mailto:ve5aq@sasktel.net)

Or

693-6127

SARL Members Free Admittance (unless you want a table)  
Everyone else **\$5.00 each**.

Must have a VALID SARL Membership to get in for Free.

Please book your Flea tables early

Join us—go for a swim in the only salt water lake and pool in Sask.  
You can't walk on the water, but you sure can float.