

THE IHF STORY



DAVE SNYDAL - VE4XN

THE IHF STORY

BY DAVE SNYDAL VE4XN

This is the history of The International Ham Fest which has been held at the International Peace Garden, Annually since 1964.

Sometime in 1963 several Amateurs in Manitoba and North Dakota who communicated by International Morse code (cw) on the 80 meter band on a regular basis for a rag chew and those who participated were **Bob Withey WA0HUD** of Willow City, ND, **Barry Riley VE4BE** of Brandon, MB, **Harold Helten WA0IOB** of Devils Lake, ND, **Bruce Christie VE4DO** of Glenboro, MB, **Roy Willoughby WA0CHR** of Ruso, ND.

During one of these frequent ragchews someone in the group thought it would be a nice idea to have a eyeball with one another and match the face to the fist. It was decided by all concerned that they all gather at the International Peace Garden, as it was the most central location for all to travel to. They all decided on having a picnic and setting a date for this event was discussed and they all agreed on a **Sunday in August at the Good Neighbor picnic area on the U.S side of the International Peace Garden.**

Those attending this picnic were all of those Amateurs mentioned in the first paragraph and their families (a photo of this picnic is on record).except **Bruce Christie VE4DO** who could not attend as he was hospitalized at that time.

A good time was had by all at this picnic so they decided to do it again the following year again in August so **Bob Withey WA0HUD** mustered about twenty Hams and their families for this **Second picnic** and low and behold a trend was set at this picnic in **August of 1965** to have this picnic annually



*Aug 1964
four founders of the International Hamfest
Back Row L to R
Roy Willoughby WA0CHR & xyl
Marge & Harold Helten WA0IOB
Bob Withey WA0HUD
Barry & Lorna Riley VE4BE
Liggy Withey xyl WA0HUD took this pic*

Second Annual Picnic, August 1965

Approximately 20 Hams and their families attended this second event, so the groundwork was set so it was built on this shown enthusiasm that this might work into an annual event, little did they know at that time that 36 years later it is still thriving as one of the main Amateur Radio Activities in this area.

Third Annual Picnic, July 16, 17, 1966, US Lodge

They all decided that they would hold this event the **third weekend in July** and they would put together a Brochure (one on file in the archives) and have a 75 meter hunt and charge a registration fee of \$1 for Hams and offer prizes and rent the US Lodge, so on. One person who was instrumental and very helpful to those who were endeavoring to organize this annual event in the International Peace Garden, was none other than **DR Merton Utgaard W0IZA of Bottineau, ND** as he was instrumental in getting the music camp started and has been held there for years and knew the lay of the land, so to speak.

A committee consisting of **Sid Bisson VE4EG of Margaret, MB, Chairman, Bob Withey WA0HUD of Willow City, ND, Co-Chairman and Merton Utgaard W0IZA of Bottineau, ND and Bob Bryan VE4RO of Killarney, MB Directors And Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury, ND Secretary-Treasurer** were responsible for organizing **The Fourth Annual International Ham Fest, which, for the first time will be held on the Canadian side of The International Peace Garden in the new Canadian Centennial building on July 15, 16, 1967, to commemorate Canada's one hundredth birthday.**

In charge of arranging entertainment was **Mrs. Jim Bean xyl of K0LRO** and she did a fine job having harmonica players and the music camp choir entertain those present. Also a musical drama was put on by **Merton Utgaard W0IZA.**

A party for Saturday night went well with **Roy Willoughby WA0CHR of Ruso, ND** one of the fests Founders doing a bang up job.

The Boy Scout Troop 73 from Belcourt, ND under the supervision of **Jim K0LRO** did a very good job of guiding and assisting those in attendance and who require their assistance.

A technical talk was given by **Murray Ronald VE4RE of Brandon, Manitoba** who was a teacher at the time and is an electrical engineer. Another tech talk was also given by **Vern klepper W0ACQ.**

A 75M mobile transmitter hunt was conducted for the first time as part of the program this year.

A no of Amateurs from Brandon journeyed down to join in the festivities at the Peace Garden and a few of got sidetracked via a Rugby bar on the way there, as we started out early, we wont mention who they were, but the calls I do remember, **VE4XN, RW, OD.** When we got there, low and behold several others had arrived, all from Brandon, **Doug Bowles VE4QZ, Lyn and Joe Farion VE4JF, Fran, Les Haddon VE4KN,** all this can be verified, if necessary by photo's in my possession, hi.

Fourth Annual July 15, 16, 1967, Erric Willis Pavilion

The organizers decided that the Fest should be held on the **Canadian side of the Peace Garden** in the Erric Willis Pavilion and the registration fee would be \$2 for Hams and they appointed **Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury ND as permanent Secretary to the Committee.**

I believe that they also decided to alternate from side to side, having this event on the Canadian and American

side of the Peace Garden each year to give a sense of international flavor to the Ham Fest
This Fourth Annual Fest was held in the Erric Willis Centennial Pavilion, named after Erric Willis Former Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba and former Chairman of The Board of The Peace Garden and is on the Canadian side of the Peace Garden, along with another nice Brochure which contains the program for this event.

Again there was a musical drama performed by the International Music Camp under the direction of **Merton Utgaard W0IZA**.

All the arrangements for the Saturday night party were the responsibility of **The Brandon Amateur Radio Club**. This is the clubs first involvement in this Ham Fest.

The two organizers of this years Fest were **Bob Withey WA0HUD of Willow City ND** and **Sid Bisson VE4EG of Margaret, MB**, **Merton Utgaard W0IZA**, **Bob Bryan VE4RO**, **Milo Shelton W0FNZ**

Again, anyone attending, were well looked after and guided around by The Boy Scouts, in this case the Troop 1 from Killarney, MB under the Direction of Scoutmaster **W.T McBride**.

In each Brochure the reader is reminded to apply for proper authority to operate Amateur Radio outside the jurisdiction of your country and to apply for this authority in lots of time to receive it back in time for the Ham Fest. this was the norm in those days, that you must have Authority to operate in a foreign country by application to the government were you wish to operate , and in this case of the USA, would be Secretary FCC, Washington, DC 20554 , US Hams must apply to Telecommunications Division, Department of Transport, Ottawa, Ontario. and be issued with that authority in the form of a small card.

Tom Stacey VE4JT of Brandon, Manitoba and Prof Sheets W0DM led a forum on Amateur Radio Traffic Handling.

Everyone attending brought their own food and enjoyed a dinner picnic.

A few swap tables were evident and everyone was encourage to participate in this endeavor and Suppliers were invited also.

Fifth Annual July 20, 21, 1968 US Lodge

By the time of the Fifth Annual International Ham Fest was organized there was a dance with live music provided and Hams were charged a registration fee of \$2 and non hams \$1 ea.

This is the year when the **PEACE GARDEN AWARD** was **initiated** for any Amateur outside of the Peace Garden making a contact with any Amateur within the Peace Garden during this Ham Fest would receive a certificate after having submitted proof of this contact.

Again, **The Brandon Amateur Radio Club** were responsible for the Saturday night dance and party. The Killarney Scout Troop 1 under the direction of Scoutmaster **W.T McBride** were again on the job of assisting and guiding visitors around the grounds.

For this Fifth Ham Fest, the Committee chairmen were, **Brandon's Reg Edworthy VE4RW** and **Roger Beck WA0KRI of Munich, ND**, **Pius Klien W0HJU**, **Minot**, **Bob Bryan VE4RO**, **Milo Shelton W0FNZ**. The talk-in station operating on 3810kc were the responsibility of the Minot AR Club and in charge of that responsibility was **K0AJW**.

I believe this was the **first year** they included **mobile judging** in the program and again Minot looked after this.

One of the things that was the usual occurrence at the Ham Fest was the **Ham Bingo**, an exercise to get people to meet and mingle when they first arrive. It worked like this: Everyone registering for the ham Fest would be given a 8 1/2 x 11 piece of white paper squared off like a bingo card with the free square in the center with the object being to get every square filled with a signature and call of those in attendance.

It was an ingenious way of getting people to mix as when you asked them to sign yours, they in turn would ask you to sign theirs, hence you introduced yourselves and lo and behold you have just made another ham your friend.

A prize was offered to anyone that was registered that was the oldest ham present, youngest, and the ham who traveled the furthest to attend the ham Fest.

The airstrip at the Peace Garden has just been paved, so if you plan to fly in to attend you will be on good new blacktop.

Sixth Annual July 12, 13, 1969 Erric Willis Pavilion

Was held on the **second weekend in July** with **Burghardts Amateur Center of Watertown, SD** donating prizes and the Governor of North Dakota proclaiming Amateur Radio Week in conjunction with holding this Ham Fest. In addition to 75 meter mobile hunts there was 2 meter mobile hunt added for those with two meter capability.

The arrangements for the sixth annual ham Fest were made by a committee consisting of **Reg Edworthy VE4RW and Dunc Emerson VE4OD, both of Brandon, Manitoba and WA0KRI, Dennis Coulter, Grand Forks K0RSA and Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury,ND.**

This years brochure carried a proclamation from the Governor of ND proclaiming the week of July 12 - 18 as "Amateur Radio Week"

Another item of interest that was being promoted primarily through the Ham Fest was **The Wheat City Award**. Our good friend **Doug Bowles VE4QZ of Brandon** is the custodian of this award which was initiated January 1, 1967.

Of course the Peace Garden Award is being promoted also to advertise the fest and to create interest in the Peace Garden itself, a very beautiful place indeed, and was instituted to promote forever peace between our two great countries. Custodian of this award is **Roger Beck WA0KRI of Munich, ND.**

Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury, ND had a antique display in the Pavilion, as Milo had a very good antique collection, particularly of railroad artifacts, as Milo was a Great Northern station agent for years at Carbury, where he lived and had many articles of his collection stored in what used to be the customs office at that location.

Seventh Annual , July 11, 12, 1970 Centennial Pavilion

On the Canadian side of the Garden this year under the guidance of **Amateur Radio League Of Manitoba** and **Dennis Coulter K0RSA, Milo Shelton W0FNZ, Dan Johnson VE4HJ, Winnipeg**
A short history of ARLM by **John Bell VE4OL** is carried in this years brochure.

The talkin station for the Ham Fest was Brandon's fm repeater, **VE4QD on 146.34/94 FM** and simplex frequency of 146.33. Fees are \$2 Amateur, \$1 non Amateur. Saturday night party featured live music by the **Rebels**.

Also include this year for the first time is a two meter transmitter hunt, as two meters has become very popular amongst the ham population, using mostly converted gear from commercial firms and surplus military gear. .

This years contacts for information on this years Fest is **Dan Johnson VE4HJ, Winnipeg** and **Dennis Coulter K0RSA Grand Forks**. A complete set of rules governing transmitter hunts is carried in this years brochure. Also carried in this brochure is the rules for obtaining the **Manitoba Centennial Award, 1870 - 1970** offered and sponsored by the Amateur Radio League of Manitoba with **Joe Knowles VE4JK of Carman, Manitoba**, the Custodian of this Award.

After having six successful International Ham Fests there was a three man committee set up to organize the seventh event and they were **VE4HJ, K0RSA** and of course, the permanent Secretary, **Milo Shelton W0FNZ**. The usual sat night dance and mobile hunts and flea market.

Eighth Annual July 10, 11, 1971 Lodge

Committee: **Ron Samchuk VE4SR, Brandon, Bob Bryan VE4RO, Killarney, W.T Bosley WB0ATJ of Rugby, ND, Ed Dyke WA0UKD of the Minot Airforce Base, Mel McKnight WA0SJB of Bottineau, ARLM.**

The HAM OF THE YEAR AWARD was started with **Ron Samchuk VE4SR of Brandon, Manitoba** doing the necessary hard work in making this award possible and perpetuate it each year of this Fest. The award was to recognize a worthy hard working Ham from Manitoba and North Dakota who has dedicated his time and efforts in promoting Amateur Radio in the previous year. This award is twinned so that each year the award is presented to one U.S and Canadian recipient, with their names and call signs added to one main plaque. Futronics Ltd. of Selkirk, Manitoba donated the two plaques for this award, and unfortunately went into receivership very shortly thereafter.

1971, The first two recipients of The Ham of The Year Award were;

RON SAMCHUK VE4SR, Brandon, MB
FAY S "MAC" McCALLEY K0SPH, Fargo, ND.

Also added this year is a Proclamation proclaiming July 10 to 16 Th. as "Amateur Radio Week" from the Premier of Manitoba, as **Dave Snyder VE4XN, of Brandon, Manitoba**, Secretary-Treasurer, of The Brandon Amateur Radio Club, a great promoter of this Ham Fest, offered to help the committee prepare for the Fest by obtaining this document and advertising the Ham Fest. in general.

Another part offered in the program on the Sunday morning at ten AM of the Ham Fest, is an all faiths church service in the Peace Garden Chapel with **Reverend E.D. McGinnis W0BHT** presiding.

If you are not aware, **Dave W0BHT** is a very stalwart supporter of this Ham Fest, serving in many capacities on the committee over the years. Dave was the Presbyterian Minister at Rolla, ND for many years.

Dave W0BHT became a silent key on October 20, 1997 at the age of seventy, he will be missed.

The International Ham Fest purchased his HF rig, a Yaesu FT-107E for use in the VE4IHF shack from his estate.

Some other bits of this years Fest is in this years brochure is the rules for the North Dakota QSO Party and for the first time a **Proclamation from the Premier of Manitoba declaring July 10 to 16 as "Amateur Radio Week"**

Those attending the Saturday night party BYOB and danced to the music of the Esquires. Registration fee's \$2, \$1

Ninth Annual Ham Fest on July 8 - 9, 1972 Errick Willis Pavilion

Committee: **Ron Samchuk VE4SR, Bob Bryan VE4RO, Mel Mcknight WA0SJB, Dave McGinnis W0BHT, Rolla, Milo Shelton W0FNZ**

1972 Ham Of The Year Robert H Bryan VE4RO, Killarney, MB Lyle D Kruckenberg WA0SUF, Hazen, ND

On the Canadian side of The Peace Garden where we find the registration fee's are \$3 for hams and still \$1 for non Hams. The orchestra is **Orville Town** and his **Fugitives from Baldur, Manitoba** and it is their first year playing for the Ham Fest. \$1 was charged for the dance. The orchestra fee for the dance was \$75

Also include in this years program is a CW contest, Mobile judging with two classes, two meters and others. **Stan Burghardt W0IT of Burghardt's Amateur Center, Watertown, SD** donated prizes for this years Fest. They have donated prizes to every International Ham Fest ever since.

Money was not plentiful in the fest kitty, a hundred dollars was all there was to put on a Ham Fest and the committee was stymied as to how to finance next years fest and purchase the necessary prizes for the event. Pre-registration for the fest was mentioned as one possibility of gathering enough funds before the event to purchase the prizes etc., however the committee did not want to proceed with that idea at this time. The members of the committee offered their personal financial backing to put the fest on.

They offered a Ten-tec three watt, three band solid state transceiver as a main prize, cost them a whole \$75. For the XYL's they purchased a 30 cup coffee maker at a cost of \$15

Both proclamations, one from Governor of North Dakota and one from the Premier of Manitoba were carried in this years Brochure.

The Ninth Annual Ham Fest committee was **Ron Samchuk VE4SR** of Brandon, **Bob Bryan VE4RO**, Killarney, **Milo Shelton W0FNZ**, Carbury, **Dave McGinnis W0BHT**, Rolla, **Mel McKnight WA0SJB**, Bottineau, **W.T Bosley WA0ATJ**, Rugby.

Tenth July 7, 8, 1973 US Lodge

Time is marching on as here we are at the Tenth anniversary of The International Ham Fest, at the US Lodge, July 7, 8, 1973.

Committee: **Ron VE4SR, Bob VE4RO, Mel WA0SJB, Ken Larson K0PVG, Devils Lake, ND, Tom Jorgensen WA0RWL, Abercrombie, ND, Milo W0FNZ, W.T Bosley WB0ATJ, Rugby, Ed Dyke WA0UKD, Minot.**

1973 Ham Of The Year Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB "Prof" H.L Sheets W0DM, Grand Forks, ND

The Committee hired a live orchestra again for \$75.00 and charged \$1 for the dance.

There were two ARRL films shown at this Fest, "Hams Wide World" and "Fine Business" all related to Amateur Radio and were very well done and enjoyed by all there.

A live orchestra played again for the Sat night dance and the charge for the dance was \$1.50 per person.

The Brandon Amateur Radio Club again looked after the two meter hunt. Bingo was held again.

The two main draw prizes were: a Bird Wattmeter and a 7 speed blender for non hams. \$105.00 in the bank account at this time.

Eleventh Annual Ham Fest, July 13, 14, 1974 Errick Willis Pavilion

On the Canadian side.

Committee: **Ken K0PVG, Ron VE4SR, Bob VE4RO, Milo W0FNZ, Bill Metelski VE4BM, Brandon, W0BTT.**

1974 Ham Of The Year Bill Metelski VE4BM. Brandon, MB Leona E Kjelstrom WB0BMG

Registration Fees \$3, \$1, dance \$1.

There is talk that there should be a PA system used for announcements, program etc.

Yours truly has photo's of **Dave McGinnis W0BHT, Ted Lagerway VE4UN, Sonny Gray VE4QI, Bob Bryan VE4RO, Kevin Munson VE4MR** on file all in attendance at this years Fest.

Twelfth Annual July 12, 13, 1975 Lodge.

A committee of **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, John McCann WB0FUO, Minot, Ted Kjelstrom WB0BMH, Rugby, Sonny Gray VE4QI, Shilo, Milo Shelton W0FNZ.**

1975 Ham of The Year Doug Bowles VE4QZ, Brandon, MB John D McCANN WB0FUO, Minot, ND

The lodge was rented again for \$60.00 and a free pancake breakfast was included in your registration fee. 153 Registered.

Thirteenth Annual, July 10, 11, 1976 Errick Willis Pavilion

Committee: **Bill Graham VE4QG, Brandon, Dunc Emerson VE4OD, Brandon, Craig Schmidt WB0GFZ, Dean Summers WB0AUM, Bismarck, ND, Milo W0FNZ.**

1976 Ham Of The Year Charles Bailey VE4LB, Boissevain, MB Lois Jorgenson WA0RWM

Included in your registration fee of \$3, \$1 this year, is a free breakfast Sun am, bingo, BC hunt for the kids for the first time and a chance at some nice prizes.

A rental fee of \$40.00 was paid for the pavilion. 104 Hams, 108 non hams registered and 144 paid for the dance.

A birthday cake for our American friends for their BI-Centennial year, 1776 - 1976 and was donated by Safeway store in Brandon and enjoyed by all.

Fourteenth Annual July 9, 10, 1977 Lodge

Committee: **CO Chair Leon Hauk VE4HA, Virden, MB, Tom Kutz WA0LRE, Grafton, ND, Al Dawkins K0FRP, Mert Nelson VE4MN, Milo Shelton W0FNZ**

1977 Ham Of The Year Tony Caruk VE4QC, Winnipeg, MB Ken Larson K0PVG, Devils Lake, ND

Registration fee's \$4, \$1, Dance \$2, and tickets were sold for a dollar each, on a Icom IC22S two meter transceiver. Cost of this rig was \$205.00 from Dollard Electronics of Vancouver, BC. The orchestra \$200.00. The main prize winner of a Ham M11 rotor from Conley Radio Supply of Billings Montana was **Bill Stunden VE4BJ of Winnipeg** and I understand it lost its way in the mail, however he did eventually receive it. Reg fee \$4, \$1 dance \$2. Total Registration for this Fest was 193.

Mobile judging was won by **VE4GC**. Youngest ham **Dan Dufault WB0URY, Moorehead, MN**, the Ham traveling the farthest away was **Dean Summers WB0AUM, Rapid City, SD**. Winner of the QLF contest was **Malley Dunn VE4ND, Winnipeg, MB**

1977, According to the records, this is the First year each recipient of the Ham of the Year Award was presented with a Personal engraved plaque.

Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury, ND, the permanent Secretary opened a bank account in The State Bank of Bottineau on August 19, 1977 (acct 3091) on behalf of The International Ham Fest.

All registrations were entered on a computer and were mailed to **Leon VE4HA** from **Tom WA0LRE** as both were CO- hosting the ham Fest.

All the tickets forms were all different colors that you received when you registered, Ham of The Year ballot pink, registration Blue, door prize light blue, draw prize stub yellow.

Fifteenth Annual July 8, 9, 1978 Errick Willis Pavilion

On Canadian side. Committee: **Lynn Nelson WA0WBU, Devils Lake, ND, Harold Helten WA0IOB, Devils Lake** (one of the founders) **Bob VE4RO, Milo W0FNZ, Reg Edworthy VE4RW, Brandon**

1978 Ham Of The Year Dunc Emerson VE4OD, Brandon, MB Al Dawkins K0FRP, Park River, ND

Hams \$5, non \$2 with the dance included in the registration fee this year for the first time. Also included is the Sun am pancake breakfast. Cash on hand \$82.55
QLF contest was held again .Registration: Hams 161, Non 118 total 279

Sixteenth July 14, 15, 1979 LODGE

Committee: **Bob Arndt AE0Y, Linc Thorner WB0CLD, Ron & Cathy Moore VE4NM, Portage, MB, Alton Breault VE4BD, Deloraine, MB, Milo W0FNZ**

1979 Ham Of The Year Bert Anderson VE4AP, Winnipeg, MB Lynn Nelson WA0WBU, Devils Lake, ND

Hams \$6, non \$2 free dance and pancake breakfast, QLF contest. \$ 386.00 in the kitty.
2meter hunts won by **Bill WB0BMG and Ed VE4CG. 75 meter hunt won by Tony W0RHY.**
Registrations US 88, Can 83 total 171
A Canadian Bank Account for the Ham Fest was opened at The Toronto Dominion Bank in Deloraine, Manitoba on July 29, 1979 (acct no 404 amt \$417.43) by **Alton Breault VE4BD**, of Deloraine, a staunch supporter of The International Ham Fest.

Seventeenth July 12, 13, 1980 Centennial Pavilion.

Committee: **Charles Bailey VE4LB, Brandon, MB, Malley Dunn, Winnipeg, MB, Paul Slusar KA0CAF, John Engel WA0LPV, Milo W0FNZ**

1980 Ham Of The Year Charles Bailey VE4LB, Boissevain, MB John R Engel WA0LPV, Grand Forks, ND

Hams \$6, Non \$2 tickets were sold separately on a scanner and a softball game was held.

Mary Carlson WA0CSL, Helten, ND with the help of her OM **Don WA0CSK** took over the responsibility of putting on the Sunday AM breakfast. A propane gas grill was rented from the BPO Elks Hall in Deloraine for \$25.

A softball game was played at this years Fest and quite a group of those in attendance played a little ball. A bearcat scanner was one of the main prizes offered this year.

Early in 1980, before this years Ham Fest, **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, Manitoba** was approached by a group of Hams interested in keeping the International Ham Fest alive, to see if he would assume the position of

Permanent Secretary. They noted that Dave was an organizer and a very Staunch supporter of the Ham Fest and had shown his ability in these fields as Secretary-Treasurer of The Brandon Amateur Radio Club for past no of years, and if this fest was to survive, they required someone truly interested in keeping this Ham Fest Alive.

Dave Snyder VE4XN name was presented to the Ham Fest at the Sunday morning assembly to be approved and /or nominations were asked for from the floor. His name was overwhelmingly approved by everyone present for the position of **Permanent Secretary of The International Ham Fest**, unopposed.

As a result of the appointment of VE4XN, **Milo Shelton W0FNZ** retired after filling this position for the past 13 years, as Milo wanted to be relieved of his responsibilities to the Ham Fest for quite some time.

Eighteenth July 11, 12, 1981 Lodge

Committee: **Duane Rieger WD0CPY**, xyl **Carol and Harold Hanson W0BQR** both of Devils Lake, ND, **Al Hanson VE4AAA**, Winnipeg, MB, **Jim Sloane VE4AGS**, Clearwater, MB, **Dave Snyder VE4XN**, Brandon, MB.

1981 Ham of The Year Dick Maguire VE4HK, Winnipeg, MB Michael Mankey WB0TEE, Bismarck, ND

The registration form is contained in the Brochure, perforated for removal of your portion to be placed in the draw drum for the draw for prizes.

Fees hams \$10, non \$5 with money for registration accepted at par. There was a donated auction. the main prize is a IC2AT handheld, won by **Keith Lindstrom VE4AKL** of Winnipeg. **David Blatch**, Winnipeg won the non ham prize, a 12" B&W TV. 2M hunt winner was **Ken Larson K0PVG** of Devils Lake.

Oldest Canadian Ham **Mac English VE4TE**, Neepawa, Licensed in 1927 and **Merton Utgaard W0IZA**, Bottineau, Licensed in 1932.

The two who traveled the farthest to attend are **John Polmark VE3FLG** from Agincourt, Ontario and **Jack Smithson** from Beaverton, Oregon.

Bill and Bob Bowman, Harmonics of Bill VE4AFO and Bev Bowman of Selkirk Manitoba won the BC hunt.

1981 was the first year the Donated Auction took place, with the proceeds going to the Ham Fest.

The Fest committee met at the QTH of **Jim Sloane VE4AGS**, Clearwater, MB.

A microwave display Saturday afternoon by the Manitoba Hydro home economist **Val Lindenberg** of Brandon.

Nineteenth July 10, 11, 1982 Centennial Pavilion

Committee: **Gil Frederick VE4AG**, Winnipeg, MB, **Dave Snyder VE4XN**, Brandon, MB, **Birnie Arcand WD0GMD**, Epping, ND, **Bill Shryock Jr. WD0GRC**, Williston, ND.

1982 Ham Of The Year Bill Bowman VE4AFO, Selkirk, MB William M Shryock JR WD0GRC, Williston, ND

The Fugitives again played for the Saturday night dance and party, free with your registration fee.

The Killarney Amateur Radio Club convened the Sunday morning breakfast and **added sausages** to the menu

with the pancakes. Those helping out were **Bob Bryan VE4RO, Jim Sloane VE4AGS, Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Terry Johnson VE4AIE, Charlie Bailey VE4LB, Mert Nelson VE4MN, VE4AJN and others.** This years committee met at the home of **Karl K0EMO, Rugby, ND.**

Again The Manitoba Hydro Home economist **Val Lindenberg of Brandon, MB** gave a demonstration on "Using energy Wisely"

Whenever we were on the Canadian side of the Peace Garden we had to obtain a liquor permit to serve alcohol at our Saturday night party. Before we could apply for this liquor permit we had to present a letter from the Superintendent allowing us to apply for this permit to serve liquor in the Errick Willis Pavilion, an exhausting exercise if there ever was one, this is it.

We received a letter from the **Superintendent Dean Morteson** that we could use the Lissaman building to store our stuff over the winter.

1982 is the Fiftieth anniversary of The International Peace Garden and Canada's one Hundredth birthday.

Pre-registration was offered this year with a prize drawn amongst those that had taken advantage of this, approximately one hundred did. The winner of the pre-registration prize was **Dan Connors VE4CA of Brandon, Manitoba.** 231 registered this year.

Alton Breault VE4BD made a homemade clock for a draw prize. IC2AT was won by **K0DEH**

The May/June issue of The Manitoba Amateur, produced by The Amateur Radio League Of Manitoba included the Fests Pre-Registration form.

The Donated Auction earned \$88.00 and the Chinese auction \$41.00, both these events provide funds for a better Ham Fest.

Leon Hauk VE4HA, Virden, MB provided the PA system, and The Talk-in Station. and Dave VE4XN built a Carrying case for the Ham of The Year Main Plaques. **Gil Frederick VE4AG, Winnipeg Mb** had the brochure printed. On September 22, 1982 , the Secretary purchased a Bingo set and 100 cards for

\$284.95, so we would not have to rely on someone to remember to borrow one and show up at the Fest with it, as this did not happen a few times.

Liability Insurance was purchased for this years Ham Fest for the protection of all concerned. Also a permit for the Saturday night party bar had to be purchased at a Cost of \$15.00, as this is not required on the US side of the Garden.

Twentieth July 9, 10, 1983 US Lodge

Committee: **Mike Mankey WB0TEE, Bismarck, ND, Vince Gangelhoff WB0FDT, Bob Tracy N0BXT, Bismarck, Gil Frederick VE4AG, Jim Roik VE4AQ, both of Winnipeg, Dave Snydal VE4XN, Brandon Ladies Co-Conveners: Emily Indegaard, xyl of WB0JMK, Jane Summers, xyl of Dean KQ0C.**

**1983 Ham of The Year Keith Lindstrom VE4AKL, Winnipeg, MB
Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Rock Lake, ND**

Registration fees accepted at par, \$10, \$5, free breakfast and a charge of \$2 for non registered person to have

breakfast. Hi speed code contest, BC hunt for the kids **Peter VE4AEZ** looked after this event.

Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Rock Lake, ND convened the Sunday Am breakfast.

Leon Hauk VE4HA Virden, MB provided the PA system, fixed and mobile and handled the talk-in station. The Secretary purchased a two wheel closed in trailer (4x4x8) on May 24, 1983 for \$250.00 to house our assets in, for storage and to transport the assets to and from the Fest site each year. It was stored in the Garden equipment compound each year.

The Fugitives from Baldur played again for the Saturday night social, everyone liked the music this band puts out, as I have not heard any adverse comments on their performance thus far.

This year the band had help from twins, **Keith Lindstrom VE4AKL**, Winnipeg and his twin brother **Ken VE4ALK** of Beausejour.

The US national Weather Service gave a presentation on "Skywarn"

We had a total registration this year of 232, with a total of 65 registered in advance.

My XYL, Dorothy Snyder and I, Dave Snyder VE4XN spent a lot of the winter trying to devise a compact, simple registration form that would serve as one complete, "all in one form", for all of our major events held each year at the Ham Fest including registration.

We finally hit upon, what we think was an ideal form. The top part is what you fill out and deposit in the drum for draw prizes, next part is your receipt, followed by your breakfast ticket, then the dance ticket and finally a ballot for Ham of the Year. They are all perforated for easy separation. So when you arrive at the registration desk you pay the registration fee and are handed this one form for you to fill out and deposit in the draw drum, this way you are responsible to see that your stub is in the drum, not someone else. We still use this form every Ham Fest.

twenty-first July 13, 14, 15, 1984 Centennial Pavilion.

Last year on the Canadian Side of International Peace Garden.

Committee: **WARC, John Gowron VE4ADS, Winnipeg, Gil Frederick VE4AG, Wpg, Terry Green VE4AJA, Wpg, Dave Snyder VE4XN, BDN, Glenn Dodd VE4DB, Wpg, Bill Bosch WD0EMY, Dickinson, ND, Stan, Betty Kittelson WD0DAJ, Dickinson.**

Ladies co-conveners: **Judy Gowron XYL John VE4ADS, Beryl XYL Gil VE4AG, Lorraine XYL VE4AJA, Betty XYL Stan WD0DAJ, Irene Bosch WD0DAW XYL Bill WD0EMY.**

**1984 Ham Of The Year Mac English VE4TE, Neepawa, MB
Mark Tollefson W0ZCM, Dickinson, ND**

Registration at par \$10, \$5, Free breakfast of pancakes and sausages. **This is the first year we had a Chinese Auction** at the Sunday morning assembly, with proceeds going to the Fest coffers.

The orchestra for the Saturday night party was the **Ramblin. Bob Bryan VE4RO** of Killarney got the liquor permit and tended the bar. **Dave and Betty Praska** called bingo.

ARLM made a \$25.00 donation to the Ham Fest. **Frank Lay VE4ZN, Selkirk** won the mobile judging contest. The donated auction earned \$96.00.

This may never happen again, but it did happen in 1984, our 21 St. Ham Fest. A ham and his xyl both won the two main draw prizes. **John S Zyla VE5SZ and his XYL Emily** were the lucky couple.

The Secretary, **Dave Snyder VE4XN** and the chairman of the breakfast crew, **Bill Kurtti N0AFP** decided it was time to have our own propane griddle as in the past we had to rely on someone to rent same and haul it to and from wherever. We purchased one for \$350.00 us / \$439.65 can.

Harry McLean VE3GRO vice-president and Secretary of The Canadian Radio Relay League attended this Ham Fest.

1984 was the First year Burghardt Amateur Center from Watertown S.D attended the International Ham Fest, **Jim Smith WB0MJY and his Brother Dave** set up a display and sold their goods to those attending. Although this is their first appearance here, they have been very generous in donating prizes almost since this Ham Fest began.

They have attended every Fest since and are still donating many prizes every year and they do carry a advertisement in their flyer with our Fest dates each year, a very good promotional deal for us both.

A short resume of why we ceased to rotate from each side of the Peace Garden each year may be in order at this time.

In the spring of 1984 I either received a phone call from the office of the Peace Garden or I had called there, I cannot recollect which, informing me that we could not use the Canadian side anymore as there was to be no more camping etc. on that side for whatever reason(found out later years it was apparently Parks Canada insisting they live up to the agreement by which the land was donated to the Peace Garden, whereby that it was to be as wilderness only???) well I protested, because we had all our plans, program information out to all the clubs etc., but the office insisted it could do nothing as the Board had made its decision.

I immediately asked for the list of the executive and board members and found out, that one of the executive members lived in Brandon, **Morris Magregor**. I contacted him and explained our dilemma and he made arrangements for him and I to journey to the Garden and meet with the President of the Board, **Oscar Solberg**, which we did and after hearing our story, decided that we could use the Canadian side once more, hence **1984 was the last Ham Fest on Canadian side of The International Peace Garden.**

On May 5, 1984 a letter was written to me by **Stan Kittelson WD0DAJ, Dickinson, ND**, which I received on May 15, informing me that the Canadian side of the Peace Garden was very wet and not looking very good for camping and our usual festivities and that I should check it out, which unknown to Stan, we were checking it out at the time. Stan and Betty were in the area at the time, as Betty, Stans XYL had relatives in this area. In any regard Stan was on the job indeed, tnx Stan..

On September 22, 1984, we mailed off a letter of thanks to **Morris Magregor** for all his assistance in getting this problem of using the Canadian side for one more year to a happy conclusion and from now on we would like the Lodge reserved for our event every second weekend in July.

A carbon copy went to the Chairman of the International Peace Garden Board of Directors and the Superintendent Bruce Christianson.

This is the year the committee decided to have their photo taken with the **Governor of North Dakota** and likewise, with the **Premier of Manitoba** signing the **Proclamation** that we get every year from them and carry in our brochure. These photo's would then be carried in this years brochure. So the Canadian and American committee members traveled to each capital and met with the Governor/Premier and witnessed them signing the Proclamation while at the same time having their picture taken, this is all part of giving some credence to the Proclamation besides just being a piece of paper.

In Winnipeg, in Premier Howard Pauleys office for this photo were Dave Snyder VE4XN, Terry Green VE4AJA, Gil Frederick VE4AG, John Gowron VE4ADS.

In Bismarck, in Governor Allen Olsons office for this photo were Stanley Kittleson WD0DAJ, Mike Mankey WB0TEE, Dean Summers K0OC, Mark Tollefson W0ZCM.

twenty-second July 12, 13, 14, 1985 Lodge

Committee: Bill Feist WB8BZH, Minot, Glenn Johnson N0DYY, Dave Miller K0RJL, Kelly Taylor VE4ALO, Winnipeg, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, Gil Frederick VE4AG, Winnipeg.

Bob Bryan VE4RO

**1985 Ham of The Year Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB
David C Miller K0RJL, Minot, ND**

The committee decided to add a new dimension to the activities, adding computers to our Fest. We also started registration Friday night 8 to 9 PM in a motorhome with both Can / US/ CRRL flags flying on same. The group from Rugby had a 2m Fm repeater on site this year using 146.07 / 146.67.

Glenn Dodd VE4DB of Winnipeg did a fantastic job of acquiring a host of prizes for this Ham Fest, which he has done many times in the past and future.

The Fugitives from Baldur played for the Saturday night social again this year. Lots of flea market, all out in the overflow(inner field) camping area as each vendor displays his goods from their campsite. We added two 2m FM rabbit hunts this year, one on foot using HHelds, the other using mobiles.

Good old Rock Lake Bill N0AFP and his ever faithful breakfast crew had a lot of good help this year, as he **does every year**. Those helping out this year were: **Mark WB0OAL & Xyl Sharon, John NA0O, Walt K0CLD, Bernie WD0GMD, Les K0OSL, Erling KA0QFP, Irene WD0DAW, Eunice KA0SOM, Warren KA0FIN, Jan KA0SOL, Bill WD0EMY, Stan WD0DAJ, Cathy VE4NM, John KA0SLI, Karin KA0QFO**, and of course, we must not forget **Merti, Bills N0AFP's Xyl**. **Thanks for a heavenly breakfast, gang. You did real good.**

Bill Feist WB8BZH of Minot, ND, one of this years Ham Fest committee recorded all the registrations on his computer. On Sunday morning of this Fest weekend Bill admitted to me, that he did not know what happened, but he lost all the recording he had entered on the computer. Was he ever apologetic, we got through it OK Bill,

twenty-third July 11, 12, 13, 1986 Lodge

Committee **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Sec-Treas, Brandon, Dave Miller K0RJL, Minot, Glenn Johnson N0DYY, Kelly Taylor VE4ALO, Winnipeg, Gil Frederick VE4AG, Terry Ryshak VE4ANR, Portage, Bill Feist WB8BZH, Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Bob Bryan VE4RO.**

1986 Ham of The Year George Giesbrecht VE4DT, Roland, MB - No ND Nominee

Registration Fee's, \$12, \$6 at par, free breakfast, dance. Early registration at the lodge Friday Night 6 to 9 PM. Book Trader from Minot in attendance also Burghardt's. Two main prizes offered this year, both hand held transceivers, one from Burghardt, one from Com-West Radio Systems, Vancouver, BC.

Ron Moore VE4NM of Portage conducted the children's activities, scavenger hunt and BC hunt.

For years, your **Sec-Treas, Dave Snyder VE4XN** has been endeavoring to get the Ham Fest committee to **serve a term of two years**, so that we do not have a completely new and inexperienced committee each year. Each year I would ask the committee if they would like to be the first to serve a term of two years and each time they would respond with, "do it next year Dave". Well this went on and on until this year when I asked **Dave Miller K0RJL from Minot** once again at our committee meeting in the fall and

I asked him how about it Dave, you guys start it, again just before the Fest when asked the same question again, he responded by saying, well Dave, I guess we will do it, and from then on, its two year terms, which is sure easier on me, Hi, Hi. and really better for all concerned.

Well this is a lesson in Public Relations or whatever: The committee of the day thought we could cut costs by hiring a Music man instead of a live Orchestra, as a live band is costly for sure. Soooo we did hire a Music man for this years Fest and it went over like a big lead balloon. Not many enjoyed it the same as a live band. In fact, a delegation of about 10 to 15 people appeared at my trailer door Sunday Am to protest this part of cutting the cost of operating the Ham Fest. The said they would gladly pay more to have a live band as it was a very great part and parcel of why they all attended the Ham Fest. In Their words "it made the Ham Fest enjoyable and worth attending". So there you have the scoop on a venture that went sour.

We lost a good past committee member in a tragic June 1986 field day accident near Bismarck, ND, this year when **Mike Mankey WB0TEE of Bismarck** was electrocuted when the field day antennae he was handling came in contact with a high tension wire. Mike will be remembered as he was, "Ham of The Year" in 1981 and served on the Ham Fest Committee in 1984. At the Sunday morning assembly we observed a minute of silence for our lost friend and colleague.

It rained during most of this years Ham Fest, however, everyone had fun, in wet tents and damp(doused) camp fires.

It was a disappointment that there was no nominee for Ham Of The Year from North Dakota this year. A letter was received from the Rugby ND Amateur Radio Club **President Edwin Kjelstrom WB0BMH** saying that they were down to only four active members and could not take on the hosting of the Ham Fest this year.

This years main prize winners were **KA0VOJ** of Grand Forks a IC2OT and **N0CYT** of Bismarck a FT209. 254 registered and 200 had breakfast.

twenty-fourth July 10, 11, 12, 1987 Lodge

Committee: **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Terry Ryshak VE4ANR, Bob Bryan VE4RO, Charlie Bailey VE4LB, Jack Adams VE4AJE, Leon Hauk VE4HA, Bill Feist WB8BZH, Dave Miller K0RJL, Joel Erickson KA0WWP, John Strickier N0HPY, Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Don Dyer.**

**1987 Ham Of The Year Bill Williams VE4IW, Manitou, MB
Bill Bosch WD0EMY, Dickinson, ND**

VEC testing for US Hams will be conducted by the Ramsey County A R Club under the direction of NA00 and the Central Dakota AR Club will assist. Sessions both evenings at 6:30 PM.

This year, 1987, Burghardt is celebrating Fifty years of serving the Amateur Radio community. **Stan Burghardt W0IT** started his business in **Watertown SD in 1937. Burghardt's Amateur Center** regularly attend The International Ham Fest and donated a lot of valuable prizes each year.

Another regular who attends each year is **The Book Trader of Minot** and owner **Bill Feist WB8BZH** and his **Xyl Shirley KA0SPH** would not miss a Fest if at all possible, Bill has been a good contributor of prizes to the Fest over the years also.

This years committee met in Boissevain, Manitoba and decided, if possible, a tent would be erected near the front of the lodge. It was done and the Minot crew provided the tent.

An ARRL forum took place on Saturday with **Dakota Division Director Howard Mark W0OZC** of Burnsville, Minn and **Dakota section Manager Bill Kurtti N0AFP** both in attendance. Also taking place on Saturday an organizational meeting for an area Packet association.

The Secretary-Treasurer Dave Snyder VE4XN applied on October 10, 1987 along with the License fee of \$14.00 to The Canadian Department of Transport for a permanent Amateur Radio Call and License for The International Ham Fest. He thought the best choice for this call should be **VE4IHF, VE4 International Ham Fest**. This permanent call VE4IHF was issued to The International Ham Fest on **November 3, 1987**. He also had a **Logo** made for the Fest, incorporating the US and Canadian flags with the Peace Dove in a circle between the flags and with "Established 1964" between the flag staffs. It is Multi colored and looks very impressive to say the least. The art work on the logo was the work of **Cynthia Peech, xyl of Bob VE4ADZ, Brandon**. Dave wanted all this accomplished and ready for our 25TH Anniversary next year, and it was.

Two HandHeld Transceivers were offered a main prizes for Hams and a Sanyo Cassette player for non ham main prize. **Jack Adams VE4AJE, Dauphin** won the 440 HH and **Arland Nelson W0TUP** Icom ICO2AT, donated by Com-West Radio Systems of Vancouver, BC.

The Non Ham prize was won by **Louise Massey Xyl of Bruce, VE4AGR, Winnipeg.**

Gary Schelske WD0BIA was the Chinese auction winner and the Ham who traveled the furthest to get here was **Bill SchryockWB0GRC** from Little Rock, Arkansas.

The Donated auction took place just inside the Lodge front door, Saturday night at 6 PM as it started to rain,

however **Bill Bosch WD0EMY** our faithful auctioneer manage to bring in \$77.80, good show Willy. We paid \$50.00 per day for the Lodge and 220 had breakfast Sunday morning. 256 registered, 85 US hams, 75 Can Hams for a total of 160 and non Hams were US 36, Can 60, total 96 and a grand total of 256. The Orchestra was \$425.00 and we had the usual bottle draw during the dance.

Just for laughs, here's a couple of examples of what you must gather at a scavenger hunt at the IH Fest: Ladies must gather all of the following: A mans neck tie - a strawberry jam sandwich - a live green bug - a black bird feather - a piece of junk belonging to your husband or boyfriend, weighing over 6 oz. one for each participant - a bottle of after shave - a salad fork, not a dinner fork - a bobby pin - the signature and call sign of the oldest Amateur attending the Ham fest - a tube of crest toothpaste.

Children must gather the following: a piece of wire - a canceled American stamp - a live green bug - a bird feather - a stick of chewing gum - a label from a can of pork and beans - a toothpick - a sugar cube - a piece of ladies jewelry - a diet coke can.

These should not be hard to gather up?? Well the winners of the Ladies hunt were **Wendy Perrier, Daughter of Paul VE4AEY, Teulon, MB.** and **Eva Bourbonnier, xyl of Noel VE4NB, St. Rose, MB**

The ladies at their Saturday afternoon party had two unscheduled guests attend which created a bit of amusement to all that were there, **Ken Lindstrom VE4AKL** and **Al Hanson VE4AAA** were dressed up as ladies for the occasion and were showing quite a bit of leg throughout the afternoon.

twenty-fifth July 8, 9, 10, 1988 Lodge

Committee: **Bill Bosch WD0EMY, Dickinson, Tom Williams WD0ATI, Evie Williams WD0EUV, Bismarck, Dee Tracy KB0CGK and Bob Tracy WD0H, Bismarck, Paul Arsenault VE4AEY, Teulon, Leon Hauk VE4HA, Virden, Dave Snydal VE4XN, Brandon, MB, Jim Nagel KA0WWQ, Minot, Joel Erickson KA0WWP, George Caussyn KA0TKH, John Swanke KA0SLI, Bob Bryan VE4RO, Bill Kurtti N0AFP, Jack Adams VE4JA**

1988 Ham Of The Year Jack Adams VE4JA, Dauphin, MB John Swanke KA0SLI, Lakota, ND

This is our 25 TH. Annual Ham Fest, so we added a few extra's to celebrate this Anniversary.

Every person that registered this year received two momento's to take home to commemorate this occasion, a white key ring with the Fest dates on same, courtesy of **Burghardt Amateur Center, Watertown SD.** and the Ham Fest committee, also each received a colorful button with the Fest dates and this is from **Com-West Radio Systems of Vancouver, BC.**

We also now offer a few souvenirs of our own to whoever would like a keepsake to verify their attendance at this Ham Fest, like a IHF Cap, Lapel Pin or Decal

A new colored brochure was printed this year, 5m copies with ads solicited from our two commercial vendors that attend every year, **Burghardt's** and **The Booktrader**. Another will not be printed for at least five years. The reason behind doing this is partly the cost and also our program does not vary that much year to year. If it necessitates a slight change or addition it would be well known before hand or an announcement would be made at the Fest.

This year **Bill WCOM** and **Keith NJOB** mailed 1400 brochures to ND Hams.



July 10, 1988
Pic taken by Dore Snyder VE4XN at the
site of the 29 International Hamfest held in Aug
1964 at the "Good Neighbor Picnic area" on
the U.S. side of the Red Rock Garden.
The three founders & x'yls
L to R
Marge & Harold Helten WAØ10B
Peggy & Bob Wither WAØHUD
Barry & Lorna Rully
missing founder is Ray Willoughby WAØCHR & x'yl

This is the first time that our own Ham Fest call VE4IHF will be used in our radio shack behind the US lodge. This permanent call was obtained by the Sec-Treas on November 3, 1987.

Doug Bowles VE4QZ of Strathclair, MB made us four new directional signs to be used to direct the route in the Peace Garden to the site of the Ham Fest.

As usual "**The Fugitives**" orchestra from Baldur, MB played for the Saturday night party, and this year the Orchestra had a lot of good help from those attending this years twenty-fifth Ham Fest.

They had **Cal Shermerhorn VE4XQ** on the Banjo, **Keith Lindstrom VE4FR** on the Fiddle, **Ralph Lavalley VE4RY** on Guitar, that's a lot of music, wow!!

This one of those rare occasions that Dorothy, my XYL attends the Ham Fest where (as she claims that I am too busy and she feels left out, true) I did manage to get a dance or two with her that Sat night as I do have a photo of the occasion and in that pic is **Ron VE4YQ and XYL Ethel, Kevin VE4MR and XYL Florence and their daughter Rayann, Leon VE4HA and XYL Grace.**

Looking at this photo reminded me of an incident or prank, we played on **Grace Hauk**, XYL of **Leon VE4HA** that night.

We had **John KA0SLI**, whom Grace did not know at the time, go up to their table in the lodge during the dance and sit down beside her and proceed to help himself to a drink out of their bottle of booze that was sitting there on the table. Well, what a look John (beard and all) got from Grace when he helped himself to a drink without even asking. If looks could kill John had it. After this incident, and when they did get acquainted Grace said that she said to herself, when John was helping himself, " who's that old bugger helping himself to our booze", we sure had a laugh or two about that for a number of years.

John Swanke KA0SLI of Lakota, ND had 300 new QSL cards made for QSLing anyone who requested a confirmation of contact with VE4IHF this year on our Anniversary and any other year thereafter. These QSL cards are very unique in that they show a colored picture of the Peace Arch in the Peace Garden right on the border of our two great nations with our flags flying. A card attached to this QSL card has the following inscription on it. On July 14, 1932, 50,000 people gathered around a cairn to dedicate the International Peace Garden. The stone tablet on a cairn of native stone bears this inscription: " **To God In His Glory...We Two Nations Dedicate This Garden and Pledge Ourselves That as Long As Man Shall Live We Will Not Take Up Arms Against One Another** ".

The Peace Garden is built on the border of North Dakota and Manitoba with 2,339 acres of land spanning the international boundary. The International Peace Garden has become a living monument symbolizing that two nations can live in harmony along the longest un-fortified boundary in the world.

This 25 TH. Anniversary we Honored the Founders of The International Ham Fest with a Engraved plaque for each, which had their names and calls and the date of this years Fest on same. Also they attended as our guests. Attending were: **Bob Withey WA0HUD and XYL Izzy, Willow City, ND, Barry Reilly VE4BE and XYL Lorna, Harold Helten WA0IOB and XYL Marge from Devils Lake, ND**

We went to the original site of the first picnic(August 1964 at the Good Neighbors picnic area) and took photographs of the Founders who attended and their XYL's. Out of the four Founders, all attended except **Roy Willoughby WA0CHR of Ruso. ND and Friend of the Founders, DR Merton Utgaard W0IZA of Bottineau, ND.**

We also had a unplanned prize for the **300 TH.** person that registered for the Ham Fest and the prize of a Fest Cap and Pin was won by **Bob La-Rocque VE4AOJ of Lorette, MB.**

Main prize winners were: **Jim Roik VE4AQ**, Winnipeg a TH-215A HH, **Alton Breault VE4BD**, Deloraine, a IC2GAT HH, non ham prize TV COMB **Laurel Buckholtz N0JAN**, Bowman ND.

Ron Bullock VE4YQ of Oak River won the 2m HH rabbit hunt.

The breakfast crew fed a record no of people this year, 325 had a hearty meal of bacon, eggs, pancakes and toast, Sunday AM. **The total registration, a record to-date of 340**, Hams 103 Can, 123 US = 226, Non Can

65, US 49 =114. We were an approved ARRL Ham Fest.

Ron Moore VE4NM of Portage was the winner of the mobile judging and the Chinese auction winner was **Mike Heiler KA0ZLG** of Fargo.

Grace Hauk and Bonnie Haines won the scavenger hunt for the ladies and **Nicole/Ron Hasland, Mike/Sarah Schelske** won the kids scavenger hunt.

On October 6, 1989 I wrote a letter to the then **Superintendent Steve Gorder** for permission to erect a tower not exceeding 65 Ft in height above ground behind the Lodge and near IHF shack.

Here is what else was accomplished this year: At this years assembly we took a collection for the purchase of folding tables for our use in the lodge and of course they would use them for any event as long as we had use of them during the Fest, as in the past there was always a shortage of tables in the lodge. We collected \$337.29 and the rest came from the general fund so at a cost of \$873.60 which we donated they purchased 12, 30" x 8' folding tables which we attached a plate to each showing that we were the donors.

January 31, 1989 we received a letter from the Peace Garden acknowledging the donation of the twelve folding tables for use in the Lodge.

We purchased a four drawer file cabinet **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon and Bob Bryan VE4RO of Killarney** wired the VE4IHF shack in October with the material coming from the Fests account and all the labor donated by us, sure made a tremendous improvement to this building. This building was cleared out on May 10, 1988 so we could use it.

The Sec-Treas took out liability insurance on behalf of the committee as it deemed wise for our protection.

The committee met in the Hub Cafe at Rugby, ND on Nov. 14, 1987 to plan for this 25 Th. Annual Ham Fest. The Nuts and Volts magazine carried a notice of our Ham Fest in its publication. **Dave Snyder VE4XN as Sec-Treas of the Brandon Amateur Radio Club** has been corresponding on behalf of the International Ham Fest since before 1970.

Thursday July 6, 1988 it rained all night **John Swanke KA0SLI, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Bob Withey WA0HUD, Tom Childress N0LJR, Floyd WA0HTY** worked all the next morning erecting Johns 40 ft tower and antennae' for the operation of VE4IHF for the Ham Fest. About 12 Amateurs had already arrived and camped ready for this years festivities.

I believe **Stan Kittleson WD0DAJ of Dickinson, ND** has a Video of this years activities.

twenty-sixth July 13, 14, 15, 1989 Lodge

Committee: **Mark Schields WB0OAJ, Ed Schaper KA0SXP, Jean, Paul Arsenault VE4AEY, Betty, Stan Kittleson WD0DAJ, Irene Bosch WD0DAW, Bill Bosch WD0EMY, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Leon Hauk VE4HA, Evie Williams WD0EUV, Tom Williams WD0ATI, Dee Tracy KB0CGK, Bob Tracy WD0H**

**1989 Ham Of The Year Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB
Stan Kittleson WD0DAJ, Dickinson, ND**

On July 12, 1989 we requested permission by a formal letter to the **Acting Superintendent Dave Bird** to have exclusive use of the 12' x 24' building behind the lodge, as it was not being used for anything particular that we

could see.

This is the year I had visions of a permanent Amateur Radio Station near our building behind the lodge with the installation of a tower and beam antennae and rotator along with two flag poles to carry our two great flags which would compliment the whole installation. Along with this vision I could see the possibility of future **International Field days** and many other Amateur activities.

With all this in mind we had an opportunity to acquire all the necessary gear at a reasonable price and did so. Even had the two flag poles delivered right to our location by our good friend **Leon Hauk VE4HA of Virden**. After all this arranging and acquiring I approached the Superintendent for permission to do all this and was met with a complete cold shoulder to the whole idea, so, so much for those visions, sold all the gear and we still do have the flag poles there, maybe someday !!

We sold the two wheeled trailer we purchased to house our gear in over the last no of years as we did not require it any longer as we now have a permanent building behind the lodge, herein called the IHF bldg.

Our total registration for this year was 260. (93 US Hams, 47 non and 78 Can, 42 non) fees \$13, \$7 We are a ARRL approved Ham Fest this year. **Leon Hauk VE4HA of Virden, MB** a staunch supporter and past committee chairman, had a stroke on March 1, 1989 leaving Leon partially paralyzed on one side, but did not impair his drive and enthusiasm, that is for sure.

Alton Breault VE4BD of Deloraine, MB, another good Fest supporter and woodworker personified, framed al our 25 Th. anniversary posters and a frame for the anniversary display.

We purchased 100 self canceling bingo cards in January and when **John Teton VE4IT of Fork River, MB** heard that we required more cards he quickly responded with a donation of 330 self canceling cards, thanks John.

Martin Innes VE4AAM of Brandon, MB built and donated a Broadcast transmitter for the kids BC hunt each year. Thank You Martin.

Harold Helten WA0IOB of Devils Lake, ND, one of the Founders of this Ham Fest had a Quadruple heart by-pass, and is doing fine.

Bob Bryan VE4RO, Killarney, MB and Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB wired the IHF shack as it only had one inside overhead light in the whole building. We put in a new electrical panel with seven separate circuits, which included inside and outside lights and separate receptacles for our operating positions and our own separate grounding system for our radio gear throughout the whole building. The Fest funds paid for the material and we had the Peace Garden Supers blessings on these improvements.

A new permanent brochure, for at least five years was printed this year, five thousand copies as it was becoming very costly to print one each year as our program does not vary that much year to year.

The new brochure is very colorful and small enough to fit in a shirt pocket. We also had some large posters made of our logo for sale as a souvenir.

Some of this years prize winners are: two main prizes of HHelds, IC2YAT, **N0DIR**. TH25AT., **N1ENF**. **Bonnie Schaper KB0NVU** took home the cordless phone as the non ham prize.

The youngest Ham registered was **Dave Williams** Call?, son of **Tom and EVIE Williams WB0ATI** of Bismarck, ND. Kids BC hunt winner **Jim Allen KA0NAE**. Ladies scavenger hunt winners were **Peenie**

Kachena KB0DQV and Debbie Nelson KA0LAY, who are sisters.

The committee for next years Ham Fest (The 27TH) met in Minot, ND on **December 9, 1989** at the International Inn Room 306. This site was chosen by mutual agreement by all of the committee.

We all decided at this meeting it would be better for all concerned and less hassle for prizes etc., that we have **one registration fee for all.**

It was also decided that there be no raffles or collections for donations held in the lodge during the Ham Fest unless there were approved by the Ham Fest Committee.

Com-West Communications of Vancouver BC is donating an Icom Micro Hand Held worth \$400.00 for next years Fest.

We now have on file, an official letter of permission, for our exclusive use of the IHF building from the Executive Committee meeting held July 13/89, Board Of Directors of The International Peace Garden. letter to us Dated December 8, 1989.

The Fugitives orchestra cannot play for us next year, because they are playing for a family wedding, so I have booked the **Ramblin**, who play similar music.

The Committee also agreed to my suggestion that we offer two free registrations as draw prizes.

We had a WX watch warning this year and **Stan WD0DAJ and Bill WD0EMY** took up their watch position near the bell tower. the severe wx missed us and all was well.

This the year **John Swanke KA0SLI** with the help of others there for the Ham Fest helped him erect his homemade tower, made from swimming pool cover aluminum rollers approximately 6-8" in diameter and in 20' sections, he used 3 of these sections to hold a 3 element beam and 2 meter ground plane ant on top with 40, 80 dipoles attached, all this was guyed and John provided all this gear and looked after the VE4IHF station as well for the weekend.

One of the Fests, **John Swanke KA0SLI** and I (**Dave Snyder VE4XN**) had worked all day and halfway into the night putting all this together, eating all our meals together, John doing the cooking of course and camping close to each other, we looked like the bopsey twins. The next day just as we were having our meal near the IHF shack we spotted Rev John from near Devils Lake (Cannot think of his call) and his XYL coming towards us, I said to John, Lets shock him by asking him to marry us, as we had been together a lot recently, well that didn't shock him at all he said, anything goes these days, hi.

twenty-seventh July 13, 14, 15, 1990 Lodge

Committee: **Dick Holder VE4QK and XYL Bonnie, Beausejour, MB, Ken Lindstrom VE4LK and XYL Lyn, Beausejour, Bonnie and Edgar Shaper KA0SXP, Dickinson, ND, Jean, Paul Arsenault VE4AEY, Teulon, John, Audrey Swanke KA0SLI, Lakota, ND, Bill, Irene Bosch WD0EMY, Dickinson, ND, Bill Kurtti WC0M, Rock Lake, ND, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB, Scott Rand WB0ZLX**

**1990 Ham Of The Year Ed Henderson VE4YU, Winnipeg, MB
Bill Feist WB8BZH, Minot, ND**

The Sec-Treas started proceedings to have the International Ham Fest Incorporated on January 3, 1990 I received a letter from Revenue Canada on June 29, 1990 denying our application for charitable organization status.

I have a photo taken in VE4IHF shack in 1990 of **Warren, WA0FIN, John KA0SLI, Joe VE4JK, Bruce VE5ND**, the first year our own call was used.

On March 9, 1990 The International Ham Fest became Incorporated, No 2533929, Principal officers of the incorporation being, **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Bill Kurtti WC0M, Bob Bryan VE4RO**.

It was felt advisable to incorporate for the following reasons, to identify ourselves, and for the legality, stability and credibility of our Ham Fest.

This was a big year of progress for us in the Peace Garden as we now have a written agreement from the Executive on our exclusive use of our radio shack behind the lodge and is now recognized as IHF shack.

This same year the Peace Garden hired another Superintendent, and we quickly petitioned him for permission to erect a tower and beam and two flag poles, all near IHF shack.

This years Chinese auction brought in \$108.00 and the three choice draw \$145.00, Sat night bottle draw \$134.00, donated auction \$91.80.

Ryan and his sister Rayann Munson, harmonics of **Florence and Kevin VE4MR** of Brandon won the kids scavenger hunt.

twenty-eighth July 12, 13, 14, 1991 Lodge

Committee: **Dorothy, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Dick Holder VE4QK, Bonnie Holder VE4BON, Lyn, Ken Lindstrom VE4LK, Audrey, John Swanke KA0SLI, Bill Kurtti WC0M, Scott Rand WB0ZLX**

**1991 Ham Of The Year Paul Arsenault VE4AEY, Teulon, MB
Mark Schields WB0OAJ, Dickinson, ND**

At our Sunday morning assembly the Sec-treas proposed to the assembled that we should as an organization that is regularly using the International Peace Garden, should become a Life member as it would add sincerity and voting rights to our advantage.

He suggested a collection be taken for this Life membership as it is \$500.00 for organizations, such as ours. A collection was taken yielding \$224.28 with the balance of \$275.72 coming from the Fests bank account.

On December 13, 1991 The International Ham Fest became a Life Member of the International Peace Garden as a "Business and Professional Life Member".

Your Sec-treas, **Dave Snyder VE4XN** also took out a personal Life membership as I am the one dealing with the Garden on the personal business end of things for the Ham Fest, which I felt would lend a little more credibility to our business dealings with them.

This years committee met in Fargo, ND on September 30, 1990, as most of the committee planned to attend the Fargo Ham Fest.

We had a food concession in the lodge this year for those who just attended for the day. This was provided by the people that have the contract for the American food concession near the garden entrance.

This years main prize winners were **Louisa Shermerhorn XYL Cal VE4XQ** a FT-26 HHeld and **Rick Allan VE4RA** won a IC2SAT HHeld, both are from Winnipeg, MB.

December 18, 1991 our Ham Fest will be will be carried in every issue of Travel Manitoba, a publication for those who might want to or are planning a visit to our Province.

Cal Shermerhorn VE4XQ, Winnipeg on the Banjo and **Ken Lindstrom VE4LK**, Beausejour on the n guitar, assisted the orchestra and which gave another dimension to the Saturday night party.

twenty-ninth July 10, 11, 12, 1992 Lodge

Committee: **Dave Snyder VE4XN**, **Peggy VE4RNE**, **Dale VE4AED**, **Scott Rand WB0ZLX**, **John KA0SLI**, **N7KBH**, **Bill VE4KX**, **N0DIF**, **Bill WC0M**, **WD0FQR**, **Sam VE4SAM**, **Allan VE4AKM**

1992 Ham Of The Year Marvin Konzelman VE4KE, Ashern, MB Mark Malm N0FAZ, Bismarck, ND

This years committee met in Brandon, MB, at the Golden Perogie restaurant on princess Ave, on February 2, 1992 for next years Ham Fest.

The Sec-Treas purchased a TH3 3 element beam, TR44 rotator and a 35' Delhi tower for use during the Ham Fest all for \$75.00 on November 19, 1992.

We also purchased another 36" propane gas griddle March 25, 1992 for \$656.74 US/\$702.74 Can, also two cash drawers for \$100.00.

The committee has started giving a yearly donation of \$20.00 to the **Turtle Mountain Amateur Radio Club** for the use of their repeater, 146.25/85, each year during the Ham Fest. They are a very small club and gladly welcome the donation.

282 people had Sunday morning breakfast and a total of 292 registered.

The youngest Ham registered was **N0TAA**, oldest **Mac VE4TE**, farthest away **VE1KWJ** from Halifax, NS and **K6MLU** from Lancaster CA.

This years main prize winners were **Ed Robbins VE4YE**, Winnipeg, a ICP2AT and **Peenie Kachena KB0DQV** a IC229H and **Chris Greg**, Harmonic of **VE4TEG**, a Camcorder.

This year Canadian Examiners offered testing for any potential Hams, or upgrading.

Thirtieth July 9, 10, 11, 1993 Lodge

Committee: **Dave Snyder VE4XN**, **Vern WD0FQR**, **Allan VE4AKM**, **Steve N7KBH**, **Sam, VE4SAM**, **Gary VE4GMS**, **Dale VE4AED**, **Peggy VE4RNE**, **Bill WC0M**, **John KA0SLI**, **Scott WB0ZLX**, **Wayne N0OI**, **Aldon VE4CD**, **Rick N0MBE**, **Paula VE4MHZ**, **Wayne VE4WTS**

Bruce VE4BWA, Gina VE4NSU, Lorne N0CYK

**1993 Ham Of The Year Stewart Martin VE4STU, Dauphin, MB
John Swanke KA0SLI, Lakota, ND**

This year another collection was taken at the Sunday gathering for the Installation of hydro to the Inner field camp ground, a total of \$ 483.52 was collected.

Our first Permanent Secretary, Milo Shelton W0FNZ of Carbury, ND became a Silent Key on December 5, 1993 at the age of 87.

We, meaning anyone that is interested in taking part in organizing and participating in the Fests program as a committee member, have mulled over and over what sort of system that we could arrive at to suit all, in manning each years responsibilities on the committee.

At one of our discussions it was agreed that we try and get every participating club to enter into a rotating system. the clubs involved are, **Brandon, Winnipeg, Beausejour, Pinawa, Interlake, Dauphin. Minot, Williston, Dickinson, Bismarck, Grand Forks, Devils Lake.**

The Secretary-Treasurer was to draw up a rotating list of participating clubs starting in 1994 and distribute this list to all the clubs for their approval, which was done and all agreed that we would rotate according to this now established list. Bismarck - Dickinson - Beausejour - Interlake starting out.

This committee met in the Boissevain Motor Hotel in Boissevain, Manitoba on October 23, 1993 to organize the 1994 Ham Fest. attending were, **Dick and Bonnie Holder VE4QK, VE4BON, Wendy VE4WND, Bill, Irene Bosch WD0EMY, WD0DAW, Stan, Betty Kittleson WD0DAJ, Hank, Nel Mackenbach VE4YV, Bob, Dee Tracy WD0H, KB0CGK, Lorne Campbell N0CYK, Reid Pratt VE4RSP, Carol, Terry Bates VE4UZ, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Jean, Paul Arsenault VE4AEY**

The Sec-treas installed a ceiling fan in IHF Shack. **Bruce VE5ND** attended this years Fest. every person registering for this our thirtieth received a yellow handled slot screwdriver courtesy of Burghardt and your committee. on same was printed, 30th Annual International Ham Fest 1993.

This year we had a record attendance of 385, the largest attendance at this Ham Fest to-date.

Everyone received a 2 1/4 inch button with the ham Fest logo and dates on same and a place to mark in your name and call with a marker. This is the first year we used these buttons and **Fred Joynt VE4DG, of Brandon, MB,** donated all of these, 370 buttons, Tnx Fred.

This is the first year for our Home-brew contest with **Doug Bowles VE4QZ** winning first place with his beautifully built equipment, including schematics and manuals for all. A well deserved win Doug. **Allan VE4AKM** was second and **WB0OBS** third.

Main prize winners this thirtieth Ham Fest were **Pat VE5FMW** , a IC-728, **VE5APW**, TH-28A, **Dean Simmons N0RDD**, Alinco DJ-180.

We purchased a 48" propane griddle on June 18, 1993, \$927.50 US, 1094.45 Can all to make cooking breakfast a little smoother.

Had two thousand VE4IHF QSL cards printed April 26, 1993 and **Bill Williams VE4IW, Manitou, MB** making a hinged tower base for our newly acquired tower, so it can be assembled on the ground and then hauled up into position by the ham power assembled.

On September 30, 1993 the following friends of **John Swanke KA0SLI** who became a SK on July 27, 1993 at the age of 66 years and was a true Amateur Radio buddy to all who knew him and was a Founding Member of The Manitoba Amateur Radio Museum at Austin, Manitoba and a great supporter and committee member of the International Ham Fest, all contributed to a fund for a "In Memory Of" plate to be affixed to the membership plaque at the Museum and also to have another individual plaque made in honor of his support of the International Ham Fest.

Those contributing were, **Dave VE4XN, Dick VE4QK, Ron VE4YQ, Bill VE4IW, Bob VE4RO, Terry VE4UZ, Bill VE4KX, John VE4HL, Tom VE4SE, Hank VE4HGM, Leon VE4HA, Norm VE4CS, Dunc VE4OD, Kevin VE4MR, VE4IHF.**

Thirty-first July 8, 9, 10, 1994 Lodge

Committee: **Bismarck - Dickinson - Beausejour - Interlake . Birnie Arcand WD0GMD, Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, George Meisel KB0KEC, Madge Meisel KB0NAX, Jim Aho KB0CIR, Irene, Bill Bosch WD0DAW, EMY, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Dick, Bonnie VE4QK, BON, Wendy VE4WND, Lorne N0CYK, Bob, Dee Tracy WD0H, KB0CGK, Stan, Betty Kittleson WD0DAJ, Hank, Nel VE4YV, Terry, Carol Bates VE4UZ, Reid VE4RSP**

1994 Ham Of The Year Marvin Konzelman VE4KE, Ashern, MB Arlon Nelson W0TUP, Parshall, ND

The committee met on October 22, 1994 at the Hub Cafe in Rugby, ND to plan next years Fest.

373 registered this year with 331 having breakfast. we had a home-brew contest again this year, with three categories, (a) Antenna's, (b) Receivers, Transmitters, Power Supplies, (c) Miscellaneous.

We printed a new brochure, 5m copies, with the Booktrader and Burghardts ads included, had Buttons for each registrant

Prize winners were, **Dave Woods VE4KU, C188A, Roy Maguire VE4EN, TH79A and Martin W0VQL, Alinco DC-162TD.**

Kids Scavenger hunt, **Heather Wiesma, Brandie Arsenault.** Ladies scavenger hunt, **Susan Blatch VE4HO, Karen Williams N0MBE.** BC hunt **Mike/Ryan Callahan, Harmonics of Joe N0QAU, Dickinson.**

A lot of activity going on in the Peace Garden grounds this year, they are constructing **new wide paved roads** including two way traffic to and from the lodge via the short route. Before this change one had to travel all the way around one way to get to the lodge, this is much nicer system, for sure.

Bruce Donovan VE5ND from White Fox, Sask and his XYL Betty VE5LE agreed to operate and look after

VE4IHF during the Ham Fest.

The "**FUGITIVES**" Orchestra have been playing for our Saturday night dances since our Ninth Annual Ham Fest in 1972, we feel that they are part and parcel of The International Ham Fest family.

Henry, Edith Martens, plays lead guitar and is the leader of the band, **Elsie, Rene Harcault** plays the guitar and mandolin, **Diane Lodge** is the soloist, with husband **Ken** on the drums. They hail from the Baldur, Manitoba area.

thirty-second July 7, 8, 9, 1995 Lodge

Committee: **Williston, Stanley - Dickinson - Dauphin - Beausejour Steve KF0ON, Jim KB0CIR, Brian Ward VE4RBL, Keith Beach VE4KK, Hank, Nel VE4YV, Bill WD0EMY, Irene WD0DAW, Stan WD0DAJ, Betty Kittleson, Dave Snyder VE4XN**

**1995 Ham Of The Year Dick Holder VE4QK, Beausejour, MB
Joe Callahan N0QAU, Dickinson, ND**

The Committee met in Rugby, ND in November.

A new 6' aluminum ladder was purchased for use at our site, particularly putting up the tower.

The oldest ham this year was non other than itchy Willie, **Bill Williams VE4IW of Manitou, MB**
A total of 334 registered this year.

Youngest Ham registered was **VE5FLS. Wendy, VE4WND** won the gassy tube.

Prize winners were **Dean Simmons N0RDD** a TH22AT, **George Grassel KB0RXI** a TH79A and **Rolf Nestinger KG0KM** a Kantronics KPC-3.

334 registered : 178 Can, 156 US.

Dean Simmons N0RDD from Ryder, ND is now providing the PA system for the Ham Fest, he took over from **Leon Hauk VE4HA from Virden, MB** who provide this service for many years. A big thank you to both of you gentlemen from all of us who enjoy the Ham Fest.

A food concession has now been acquired for the Saturday of the Fest primarily for those who attend only for the day. **Margaret Strong, of Dunseith, ND**, who runs the US contract concession in the Peace Garden provided this service at our request.

Bob Bryan VE4RO of Killarney, one of the three directors of the International Ham Fest Inc., resigned on April 27, 1995 account of poor health. Bob was a great asset to this Ham Fest for many, many years and should not be forgotten easily, I miss him as he was a Ham that you could definitely count on.

Bill Kurtti WC0M, Rock Lake, ND and Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB, chose **Ron Bullock VE4YQ** to fill Bob Bryan's vacancy in the Incorporation.

On Friday July 7, 1995 Peenie Praska KB0DQV and Scott Rand WB0ZLX exchanged wedding vows during this Ham Fest and had their reception and cutting of the cake in the Lodge. All the wedding party were Licensed Amateur Radio operators including the Minister.

At the Saturday night party and dance(July 9, 1994) **Kim Callahan N0QAV of Dickinson, ND** with her Guitar, entertained all present with her song about Amateur Radio with the very able help of **Bill Bosch WD0EMY** also from Dickinson and also, on Guitar, **Ken Lindstrom VE4LK** from Beausejour, MB

thirty-third July 12, 13, 14, 1996 Lodge

Committee: **Williston-Stanley - Grand Forks - Dauphin - Brandon Charlie Bailey VE4LB Elliot Armstrong VE4WEA, Keith Beach VE4KK, Brian Ward VE4RBL, Jim Aho KB0CIR, Earl Gross WD0APE, Henry Marxen WD0EYA, Dave Snyder VE4XN**

1996 Ham Of The Year Bruce Arsenault VE4BWA, Brandon, MB Irene Bosch WD0DAW, Dickinson, ND

We, The International Ham Fest donated four ceiling fans and speed controls for use and installation in the Lodge, Value of \$160.00.

The donated auction raised \$100.50 and 283 had breakfast, with a total registration of 302.

Winners of the main prizes were **Jan Schippers VE4JS**, Winnipeg a Yaesu FT-51R and **Richard Green VE4GG**, Winnipeg a Kenwood TH-79, with the Antenna analyzer going to **VE4GLS**.

311 registered: 159 Can, 152 US . We used the registration buttons this year.

On September 22, 1996, the Sec-Treas wrote a two page letter to the President of the Board of Directors of the International Peace Garden, **Gerald Sveen**, outlining our concerns we have had regarding improvement of the facilities and our concerns in general, associated with our affiliation with the Peace Garden we have had in the last number of years.

The response to this letter was very favorable with a no of our concerns dealt with immediately and in general we have a better relationship for future progress on a number of our concerns.

We had another ??? crash the ladies Saturday afternoon tea, what a sight to behold, it was non other than **Walt Gibbons VE4OO** all decked out as a female. If you could have looked in on this it would surely hurt your eyes. Anyone not knowing Walter, he is a white caner and a hugh man, so you can use your imagination on that one, hi,. Oh it was all in good fun, and by the way Walt, is also a man of the cloth.

thirty-fourth July 11, 12, 13, 1997 Lodge

Committee: **Brandon - Winnipeg - Grand Forks - Minot Ruth Mills VE4XYL, Tom Mills VE4SE, Winnipeg, MB, Dave Snyder VE4XN, Lynn Nelson W0CQ, Minot, ND, Xyl Debbie N0VLB Duane Hagen K0VF, Xyl Mary, Centre, ND, Lorne Campbell N0CYK, Bismarck, Harlan Broathen KB0INN, Xyl Florence KB0GVH, Dick Maguire VE4HK**

1997 Ham Of The Year Mike Mudray VE4OM, Brandon, MB Rolf Nestinger KG0KM, Minot, ND

Well, here we are again, about to celebrate the 34 Th. Annual International Ham Fest at the US lodge on the American side of the International Peace Garden, where we have gathered every year since 1984 when they disallowed camping on the Canadian side of the Peace Garden.

I arrived on the Thursday prior to the Ham Fest Weekend to get things in motion for this event. The group, which included **Bill Kurtti WC0M from Rock Lake, ND** who has a key to the IHF shack and is a Director of the IHF Incorporation, had already been in the shack and had things sort of ready and had made plans with the others gathered there to put up the tower, beam and dipoles so they could get VE4IHF activated for the Ham Fest.

One of the gung ho group and is always an early regular at this Ham Fest is **John Stiles W0OSP from Arvila, ND** who in the past has spearheaded the group in putting up of the antennae's and helping out in operating the Fests Amateur Radio station during the event.

So here we are, the early group at the Peace Garden when it is noticed a Eire stillness in the air around 4 PM Friday July 11, 1997, something is brewing in the wx, that was for sure. Well a brewing it did a short time later as it just poured raining and thunder and lightning like you never imagined.

At this time **Bill Feist WB8BZH from Minot** came over to the shack of our station VE4IHF to get in contact with the weather watch net at Minot and as they were issuing Tornado warnings for our area on their 2m fm repeater frequency, so in turn Bill would keep us updated locally on 146.52/52. This went on for several exchanges and several people were responding with questions on 52 and also the new exc.-director of peace garden **Rob Shultz** came over to our station to advise all that their was a building that was fairly tornado proof over in the legion athletic camp and that anyone who felt threatened, could take advantage of this offer and take refuge in this secure building.

At the same time as this was all taking place two hams, **Stan Kittelson WD0DAJ and Bill Bosch W0EMY, both of Dickinson** and both trained in Tornado watching, drove out to the peace tower, which is on high ground and an ideal place to locate for a tornado watch.

It was evident that **Bill WB8BZH** was having difficulty communicating alone on both Emergency frequencies, so **Tom Mills VE4SE of Winnipeg** suggested that he assume the task of setting up a controlled emergency net with him as net control station, which he did, and it was the right thing to do in this kind of a situation, and the way the Amateur radio community responded to this emergency really impressed the Executive-Director Of The International Peace Garden.

In the meantime the **Executive-Director, Rob Shultz** received word via telephone that a tornado was heading right towards our location and advised everyone to seek shelter in the building that was the most structurally strong, to wait out this event.

Many of those who were camping at the Garden this night, did take advantage of this offer and proceeded over to the building at the legion athletic camp in pouring rain, thunder and lightning. I would guess there were approximately 75 of our people there that night. The weather abated about 9 PM and we proceeded back to our individual campsites, thankful that the storm had bypassed us.

I had occasion to phone **Bill Feist WB8BZH**, early in October 1997, and he informed me that he no longer has his business, "The Booktrader" in Minot. We do hope you and Shirley will attend the Ham Fest in the future,

and good luck in any future endeavor, to both of you.

On October 15, 1997 yours truly drove down to IHF building and built and installed a new operating table all across one end of the shack to make it a little more like a traditional Ham shack and for our 35 Th. Annual bash.

I might mention here, that **Dick Maguire VE4HK** of Winnipeg, a regular at the Ham Fest and who I believe is the annoying Sunday morning cow beller of bygone Ham Fests, did a fantastic job of soliciting prizes for this years Fest.

The end result of this endeavor is the savings we derived at not having to purchase as many prizes. Dick was on this years committee, a big bouquet to you Dick, for a job well done.

SOME INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDEN DATA OF INTEREST

DR Henry Moore, a horticulturist originated the idea of a International Peace Garden in 1928.

The International Peace Garden consists of 888 acres in ND, 1451 acres in Manitoba. 2339 acres..

The Official dedication ceremony took place at the garden on **July 14, 1932**.

The US Lodge was the first building to be built in the Peace Garden. **Built in 1932** by The Civil Conservation Corps and sponsored by the National Homemakers. They used logs from the Riding Mountains.

In 1956 the Music camp was started by DR Merton Utgaard of Bottineau, ND, who was a Eagle Scout at the Official opening of the Peace Garden.

The Erric Willis Pavilion was built and opened in 1967. It was named after Erric Willis who was the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, and who was Chairman of the Board and to commemorate Canada's 100 Th. Birthday (1867-1967)

The Peace Chapel was erected in 1976 and the Carillon Bell Tower in 1976.

The Athletic camp started in 1963.

The Board of Directors of the Peace Garden consists of 20 Directors, 10 from US, 10 From Canada.

Here are the Superintendents who have served since The International Ham Fest was founded in 1964.

Mr. R.J Mckenzie - 1964

Fred Rice - Acting Superintendent - 1964/65

*John Howard - Superintendent - 1976 - 1978

Bruce Christenson - Superintendent - 1985 - 1989

Robert L. Schultz - Executive Director - 1997 - 1999

Ken Sebelius, Assistant Superintendent - 1964/65

*Bert Howard, Superintendent - 1965 - 1976

Dean Mortensen - Superintendent - 1978 - 1985

Steve Gorder - Superintendent - 1989 - 1996

*Canadians

thirty-fifth July 10, 11, 12, 1998 Lodge

Committee: Winnipeg - Minot - Bismarck **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB, Ruth VE4XYL, Tom MILLS VE4SE, Winnipeg, Lynn W0CQ, Debbie N0VLB Nelson, Minot, Lorne Campbell N0CYK, Bismarck, Duane Hagen KE0VF & XYL Mary, Centre, ND, Harlan Broathen KB0INN, xyl Florence KB0GVH, Bill Kurtti WC0M, Mertie N0OJS, Rock Lake, ND.**

1998 Ham Of The Year: Adam Romanchuk VE4SN, Winnipeg, MB Dean Simmons N0RDD, Ryder, ND

On May 26, 1998 **Wes Johnson VE4DC and Dave Snyder VE4XN, Both of Brandon, MB** journeyed down to the Peace Garden to do some repairs to the IHF building. We cemented around the inside perimeter of the foundation to keep the rodents etc. out. On my arrival I noticed some wood shingles on the ground nearby and discovered that they came from our building roof as, I suspect, a raccoon had sought entry to operate VE4IHF, hi hi. Wes climbed up and put a piece of tin over the hole. We do require this building to be shingled and this has been negotiated with the Peace Garden to carry this out very soon, we hope.

Everything seem to be ready for the thirty-fifth, a double ended engraved yellow handled screwdriver for all who register, compliments of The International Peace Garden, Burghardt's Amateur Center and you Ham Fest Committee.

This committee sure provided lots of donated prizes this year, do to the efforts of WARC member, **Dick Maguire VE4HK**, this means that we do not have to dig too deep into the Fests bank account.

This year the Peace Garden area had more than their share of precipitation, June saw only few days without rain. Because of this very wet month the electrification of the inner field was delayed and they finally installed eight working electrical posts during the Fest for this years Ham Fest.

The committee honored the Founders again on this thirty-fifth anniversary and presented them with a coffee mug that was engrave with their name, call and the Ham Fest dates on same. Of the Four founders and Friend only **Bob Withey WA0HUD from Willow City, ND** and **Merton Utgaard W0IZA, Bottineau, ND** attended. (W0IZA SK Dec 19/98, 84 years old)

We had a wire cutting ceremony at the Sunday am general assembly celebrating the long awaited installation of hydro to the camping spots on the inner field.

At this ceremony, a 18" piece of #10 wire held at each end by **Lynn Nelson W0CQ of Minot, ND**, This years Committee chairman and MC and **Dave Snyder VE4XN, Sec-Treas, Brandon, MB**, with The International Peace Garden Executive-Director **Rob Shultz** doing the honor of cutting this wire.

During this Ham Fest, **David Rosner VE4DAR of Winnipeg, MB** a professional clown entertained the young folk, by painting faces etc., they enjoyed his antics.

This years committee revived an old event of bygone Ham Fests, a left foot cw contest, whereby a contestant must send a prepared text using his left foot to activate the Morse key with the contestant having the least mistakes being the winner. There were approximately twelve contestants with **Charles Bailey VE4LB of Brandon, MB** declared the winner, he had no mistakes.

Also to celebrate our thirty-fifth anniversary, our major main draw prize a Yaesu FT-840 HF transceiver purchased by the committee at Burghardts. The lucky winner of this rig was **Norm Haagenstad KB0MWX, Maddock, ND**. The winners of the two handhelds were **Ruth Aughenbough, SWL, Kurt Carufel KB0KOG, Bismarck, ND**. The winner of the Digit Multimeter donated by WARC was **Gerry Nios N0NGW, Grand**

Forks, ND . The Chinese Auction (gassy Tube) winner was **Chuck Johnk WA0CYW, Burlington, ND.**
Mike Olson KI0E, Fargo, ND, won the mobile judging contest.

A total of **\$214.98** was taken in on a collection asked for by the Sec-Treas at the Sunday morning assembly, to assist in the cost of the hydro installation to the inner field.

The **Donated Auction yielded \$146.75** for the Ham Fest coffers, which all helps and this event does well every year, thanks to all who donated items.

A total registration for the thirty-fifth was **257**, down from last year, which had total registration of 311.

A breakdown of this years registration is as follows US , ND 110 - Mont 5 - SD 4 - Minn 4 - Okla 2 - Arizona 1 - Iowa 2. **Can, Mb 131 - Sask 24 - Alt 1 - BC 1.**

A bouquet goes out to **Warren Westensee KA0FIN , Lakota, ND and his Xyl Lorraine** for organizing and handling the Saturday morning Bingo, Thanks again Lorraine, Warren.

DR Merton Utgaard W0IZA, Bottineau, ND became a silent key December 19, 1998 age of 84.

DR Utgaard and his XYL Noella attended, and was honored at the 35TH International Ham Fest as our guests.

DR Utgaard founded the International Music Camp at the Peace Garden in 1956. He was very helpful to the Founders in getting the International Ham Fest established in the International Peace Garden..

Thirty-sixth Annual July 9, 10, 11, 1999 Lodge

Committee: Bismarck - Williston - Interlake, **Paul Arsenault VE4AEY, Petersfield, MB - Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND - Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, Williston, ND - Earl Gross WD0APE, Williston, ND - Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB.**

1999 Ham of The Year: Rick Allan VE4RA, Winnipeg, Manitoba
Ray DeBoer KOHDA, Bismarck, ND

This years Fest was held on July 9, 10, 11, 1999 at the US lodge, wx was very hot and sunny.

We had **269 register** and the registration consists of 117 MB, 20 Sask, 3 BC total of **140.**

109 from ND, 3 Mont, 3 SD, 10 Minn, 3 Wisc, Iowa 1 total **129.**

Bill Kurtti WC0M breakfast crew fed **232** at Sunday AM breakfast, **John Stiles W0OSP** did a bang up job of VE4IHF operation and **Dean Simmons N0RDD** FB job of the PA. **Warren Westensee WB0FIN** and his XYL Lorraine from Lakota handled the bingo again this year.

Al Hanson VE4AAA, Winnipeg and his XYL Lourdes both won a Handy Talkie on the draw prizes, this is the second time a ham and his XYL took home both main draw prizes. **At the 21st, July 13, 14,**

15, 1984, the last year the Fest was held on the Canadian side, **John Zyla VE5SZ and xyl Emily** from Minton, Sask took both prizes home. **There were 19 Canadian prize winners and 14 US prize winners this year.**

Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND constructed a carrier on wheels for the large gas griddle, which sure makes it a lot easier to transport it each year to lodge from the IHF shack, it was a real back breaker to say the least, thanks Duane.

We finally got our **newly shingled roof on VE4IHF Shack** just before this years Fest after a year of coaxing

and worrying and offering to foot the cost of the shingles and about our contents becoming wet. We paid for the cost of the shingles, \$350.00.

A collection was taken at general assembly Sunday for improvements to the Lodge dance floor, this collection yielded **\$50.37**.

A load of firewood was dumped near my trailer at the suggestion of the exc.-director so as to have only our people use this wood for their campfires as the Garden has been losing wood to people outside the park.

There was loads of fun in the campground this year, **Harold Hoffman WA0TOF from Bismarck, ND** had made a dummy electrical camp and water spigot he would place in a vacant spot in the campground and wait and watch for someone to approach with the idea of plugging and hooking up their camping unit to the water spigot and electrical outlet, which on many occasions throughout Saturday would occur, then Harold would yell at them hey you cannot use these outlets, and they would say "why not"?, and Harold would say " because they are mine" and proceed, to their amazement, remove and take them.

On other occasions Harold would wait until a motorhome would back into a camping spot and then he would place the dummies behind it on a slant as to appear that the driver had backed over them and he would then knock on the motorhome and inform the driver of his actions and the driver would exclaim that they were not there when he backed up, then Harold would the remove them and all would have a good laugh. The committee presented Harold with a prize for providing enjoyable entertainment for all.

I approached **Jim Smith WB0MJY of Burghardt Amateur Center** to donate a two meter transceiver and power supply for use in our station VE4IHF, Jim thought he could manage to fulfill this request.

On October 24, 1999 a plate with Name, Call , QTH and Date was affixed to equipment used at the Annual International Ham Fest In recognition of their individual efforts in fulfilling a request for their talents and expertise in making this event run more easily and efficiently. On the base plate on the IHF tower base "**Hinged Base Plate Made by Bill Williams VE4IW, Manitou, MB, April 26, 1993**".

Likewise a similar plate was affixed to the griddle carrier reading, "**Griddle Carrier made by Duane Hagen KE0VF Center, ND, July 8, 1999**".

We thank both these Amateurs for their participation and efforts for the betterment of the Ham Fest.

October 23, 1999 The Committee met at Hub Cafe, Rugby ND **Total Assets \$6181.47**

October 25, 1999 Robert Shultz Executive-Director of The International Peace Garden has resigned for whatever reasons, now we must train yet another Director, Hi

On this 14 day December 1999 The International Ham Fest lost one of its strongest supporters by the name of Bob Bryan VE4RO, Killarney, MB.

Bob Bryan VE4RO became a silent key after a lengthily illness that had him hospitalized the last few years, he was 76 years old.

Bob was always a very willing helper in any regard pertaining to the Fest. He served on the Ham Fest Committee for many years and was always there to help out at even though he was not on the committee officially, that's what was special about **Bob Bryan VE4RO**. He will be missed by all who knew him and our condolences go out to his XYL Shirley, Daughter Carol, Son Geoff.

Bob was Ham of The Year in 1972.

Some significant dates to remember:

- 1964 August**, a picnic at the good neighbors picnic area on the US side.
- 1967** First time International Ham Fest held on the Canadian side
- 1969** Peace Garden award started
- 1971** Ham of the Year Award initiated
- 1973 10 TH. Annual International Ham Fest**
- 1976** A free breakfast included in registration fee
- 1978 15 TH. Annual International Ham Fest**
- 1980 Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB, elected permanent Sec-Treas**
- 1982** Individual Ham of the Year plaques to recipients - Leon VE4HA provides PA system
- 1983 20Th Annual International Ham Fest - Bill N0AFP, Breakfast chairman**
- 1984 The last year International Ham Fest held on the Canadian side**
- 1984** First year Burghardt Amateur Center attended The International Ham Fest
- 1986** Committee serves a two year term
- 1987** VE4IHF call - IHF shack used - Founders Honored - IHF shack wired - 12 tables donated
- 1988 25 TH. Annual International Ham Fest**
- 1990** The International Ham Fest Incorporated - one registration fee for all
- 1991** International Ham Fest becomes a Life Member of The International Peace Garden
- 1993 30 TH. Annual International Ham Fest**
- 1993 Record attendance 385** - Beam/Rotor - gift for all - W0FNZ, KA0SLI, SK
- 1995** Ham Wedding during The International Ham Fest
- 1996** Ceiling fans for Lodge donated - Website/Email
- 1997** Infield hydro donated - tornado watch - new operating table in IHF shack
- 1998 35 TH. Annual International Ham Fest - Founders Honored - Gift for all**
- 1999** New shingles on VE4IHF shack roof , we paid for the shingles. Exc-Director resigns - VE4RO SK

Listed below are some of the Amateurs who are now **Silent Keys** and who had some significant involvement with The International Ham Fest, "**Lest We Forget**"

Mike Mankey WB0TEE, Bismarck, ND - June 1986 - Ham of The Year 1981 - Committee 1983

"Prof" H.L Sheets W0DM, Grand Forks, ND - 1973 - Ham of The Year 1973 - Forum Speaker 1967

John Swanke KA0SLI, Lakota, ND - July 27, 1993 - Ham of The Year 1988 & 1993 - Committee 1988 - 1990

Milo Shelton W0FNZ, Carbury, ND - Dec 5, 1993 - First permanent Sec-treas 1967 - 1980

Mac English VE4TE, Neepawa, MB - Dec 16, 1993 - Ham of The Year 1984

Bruce Christie VE4DO, Glenboro, MB - Feb 1, 1994 - one of the originators of this Fest

Bill Panting VE4KX, Winnipeg, MB - Dec 11, 1995 - Committee 1992

Hank Makenbach VE4HGM, Beausejour, MB - May 18, 1996 - Committee 1993

Tom Stacey VE4JT, Brandon, MB - Feb 16, 1997 - Forum speaker 1967

Dale Johnson VE4AED, Pinawa, MB - June 24, 1997 - 1992/93 Committee

Dave McGinnis W0BHT, Rolla, ND - Oct 20, 1997 - Committee 1972

Merton Utgaard W0IZA, Bottineau, ND - Dec 19, 1998 - Friend of the Founders - Committee 1967

Dunc Emerson VE4OD, Brandon, MB - April 16, 1999 - Ham of The Year 1978 - Committee 1976

George Giesbretch VE4DT, Roland, MB - Oct 6, 1999 - Ham of The year 1986

Brian Ward VE4RBL, Stony Mountain, MB - Nov 20, 1999 - Committee 1995/96

Dan Johnson VE4HJ, Winnipeg, MB - Dec 4, 1999 - Committee 1970

Bob Bryan VE4RO, Killarney, MB - Dec 14, 1999 - Committee 1967/68/71/72/73/74/78/86/87 - Ham of the Year 1972

37 TH July 7, 8, 9, 2000

Lodge

Committee - Interlake - Williston/Stanley - Dickinson = Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB - Paul/Jean Arsenault VE4AEY/BEL, Komarno, MB - Bill/Irene Bosch Woub/WD0DAW, Dickinson, ND - Stan/Betty Kittleson WD0DAJ/KB0NVT, Dickinson, ND - Virgil/Joyce Jiles WA5TLP/xyl, Williston, ND - Bill/Mertie Kurtti WC0M/N0OJS, Rock Lake, ND

2000 Ham of the Year - Jeff Dovyak VE4MBQ, Winnipeg, MB
Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND

Button back ground colour for 2000 was grey.

Volume 1, 1964 - 1999 of the "**IHF STORY**" by **Dave Snyder VE4XN** went on sale at this years Ham Fest for the price of \$10.00 per copy. Had 25 copies printed and they all sold during the Fest. The International Ham Fest paid for the printing with all the marginal profit returned to the Ham Fest coffers.

Sandy Letzring KB0OFI of Center, ND had her food concession in the lodge kitchen area this year; she sure puts up very fine food. The last few years she had her concession out in the general camping area, this is a much better location and Sandy provides a very necessary service to all who attend the Ham Fest.

At this years Sunday morning assembly (July 9/00) the Sec-Treas put forth the suggestion of having a permanent Ham Fest Committee (a member from each of the clubs involved) to organize the Fest every year. This suggestion was fairly well received by those gathered, however this requires further thought and will be further discussed at next years Fest.

At our committee meeting in Rugby, ND on Sat Oct 28/00 this committee also thought the idea of a permanent committee had some merit and should be mentioned at next years assembly.

We had 204 register for the 2000 Ham Fest, down approximately sixty-six registrations from our last three year average, the reason for this drop is unknown to us at this time.

Wednesday January 19, 2000 it was announced in the Brandon Sun that The International Peace Garden has hired a new Executive-Director.

Mr. John McQueen of Winnipeg is the new Director, first Canadian in 25 years to hold this position and the third Canadian.

July 18, 2000 - Yours truly Dave Snyder VE4XN was inducted into The Radio Amateurs of Canada "Hall of Fame" for my dedication and devotion to Amateur Radio.

This is the highest Honour fellow Canadian Amateurs can bestow upon one of their own, I am both Honoured and humbled by this prestigious honour.

On our way to Rugby, ND for our Ham Fest committee meeting on Saturday October 28, 2000 we dropped into the Peace Garden as I had some articles to drop off at the IHF Ham Shack.

We noticed that the lodge had been re-shingled with cedar shakes. We could not peer into the lodge to see if any structural work had taken place.

At our committee meeting a concern was expressed that the exchange rate between US/Canadian dollars is eroding our income from registration in the fact that so many American Hams are using Canadian Funds to register, which is reducing our ability to purchase our prizes from Burghardts as we always do using our American bank account funds, resulting in possibly forcing us to increase the registration fee.

The committee thought we should institute a policy whereby all hams would be required to register with the currency where they hold their license/call, I.E.: US hams in US funds, Canadian hams in Can funds.

Another concern we have is that we have had to mail more and more prizes to winners that have not designated someone to claim their prize. Our policy from now on will be to mail the prize collect.

We did not receive our buttons this year, as there was a little mix up between the button makers, mostly my fault for not assuring they were supplied.

38 Th. - July 13, 14, 15, 2001 Lodge

Committee: Dickinson - Grand Forks - Winnipeg - Brandon - Bill /Irene Bosch W0UB/WD0DAW, Dickinson, ND - Stan/Betty Kittelson WD0DAJ/KB0NVL - Emil/Margaret Wiegler, Gladstone, ND - Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon,MB - Tom/Ruth Mills VE4SE/XYL Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB.

We had 221 register for The Fest this year, up 17 from the previous year. 93 Canadians and 116 Americans. 2001 Ham of the Year recipients were **Tony Mansell VE4YY**, Petersfield, MB,
John Stiles W0OSP, Arvilla, ND.

Button background colour for this year 2001 was Blue. Wx - rain then hot

July 13, 2001 – In approached **Jim Smith WB0MJY of Burghardts Amateur Center** for a two meter rig and power supply for use in the IHF building during the Ham Fest as no one seem to want to bring their own rig for all to operate, I lamented even a used one would be suitable.

He without hesitation, said “I will do this right now” so he donated a **Kenwood TM-261A S/N 30300042 2M transceiver valued at \$170.00 and a Astron SS-12A power supply Value at \$85.00, total value of \$254.95 US or \$380.00 Can. Our asset #65 + #66.**

I thanked Jim for his generosity and told him that we would have a sign made denoting this donation and it will be affixed to the inside wall of the VE4IHF shack for all to see, which we did.

Bill Bosch K0UB, Dickinson, ND donated the two bottles that we usually raffle off at the Saturday night dance/party as a fund raiser for the fest; we raised \$145.00, many thanks Bill

Another fund raiser the Dickinson crew head up each fest is the **Chinese Auction** (timed Auction) at the Sunday morning assembly. It works like this: They have a hidden timer and Hams collect a dollar from each who want to participate, and as the dollar is collected and is recognized by the MC and if the timer yells time then, this person is declared the winner and he gets takes home the gassy tube trophy for a year This years take was \$81.52

At this years Sunday morning Assembly, yours truly suggested the idea of a Permanent fest committee which would organize and run the Ham Fest each year with a compliment of ten members drawn from clubs in Manitoba and North Dakota. All present thought the idea had a lot of merit as there are a lot of clubs without a large membership and there are many clubs that have ceased to exist, making the rotation of Ham clubs responsible for the fest duties impossible.

Also at the same assembly a discussion arose regarding the vast difference in the par value of each countries currency.

October 28, 2001 is the date set for our first meeting to organize the Permanent Ham Fest Committee of ten members and it will be held in the Hub Café in Rugby, ND, as this is the most central point for all concerned.

On October 2, 2001 I mailed out meeting notices to all the clubs in North Dakota and Manitoba, namely, Dickinson, Williston, Bismarck, Minot, Grand Forks, Brandon, Winnipeg, Interlake and two members at large. Also it was stated in this letter that we would divide all the duties and responsibilities of running the ham fest amongst the ten members.

After this years Ham fest I had an opportunity to have a lengthy conversation with the Peace Garden **Executive Director John McQueen** on various aspects regarding the garden and us, the International Ham Fest. One question I put to him, would they **consider renting the whole campground out to us for the fest**, in that way we have exclusive control of the whole area, he replied that I don't see why not, which surprised me a little.

A little later in the same year I received a letter from him outlining the fee structure for the whole grounds that we would be faced with, as we would be required to collect fees from all campers for the stated period. The main problem with this idea is the man power requirements as would have to start manning the gates on at least Wednesday prior to the fest all the time until Sunday night after, so that we would come out ahead of the game dollar wise.

To enter into anything like this the committee would have to have a solid commitment from a great number of people to do this duty, in my opinion it is not very feasible.

Here the details of the document he sent to me in this regard, and as he put it "something to work on"

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|-----------------|-----------------|
| Number of campground units: | 40 | - cost per unit | - total cost |
| Electricity and water | 20 | 16.00 | 320.00 |
| Electric only | 13 | 14.00 | 182.00 |
| Not serviced | 07 | 12.00 | 84.00 |
| Overflow (ball field) | 50 | 9.00 | 180.00 |
| Total per night in IPG dollars | | | \$786.00 |

The above assumes that all the money is equal and of course it is not.

The \$ IPG 786.00 would convert to \$ CDN 995.00 or \$ US 664.00 per night for the campground. How much you charged your guests would depend on your own organization.

There is a possibility we would have guests who wish to stay the entire week. They would have to be allowed to stay and we would deduct their fees from your charges.

Not covered in the above are day passes, which are 10.00 per vehicle. If a person stayed 3 nights or more the best bet is to get a season pass for 25.00. Assuming 90 vehicles this would be \$ IPG 2250.00 or CDN 2925.00 or US 1950.00.

There are many other variations depending on what options you like best. This is something for you to think about and would give everyone a basis to start from in any discussion.

Another very important issue we must resolve is our currency problem regarding our Registration fee. I know this will be a contentious issue as the rate of exchange is extreme.

The main reason for discussing this subject of Registration fees is that each year more and more US hams are using Canadian money to register and as a result our buying power is diminishing as we purchase most of our prizes from Burghardts using US currency.

Our formation meeting for a permanent committee is to take place at the Hub Café in Rugby ND, Sunday October 28, 2001 at noon.

Attendance at this meeting is as follows: Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB – Sect-Treas
Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, Williston, Bill/Irene Bosch K0UB, WD0DAW Dickinson, Stan/Betty Kittleson
WD0DAJ, KB0NVT, Dickinson, Gerry Nies N0NGW, Grand Forks, Dick Wright KA0HDN, Grand Forks,
Rick/Judi Arsenault VE4ELF, VE4JDI, Petersfield, Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, Bill/Merti Kurtti
WC0M, N0OJS, Rock Lake, Doc Murphy K0GRM, Bismarck, Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot, Duane/Mary
Hagen KE0VF, Center

As a result of this meeting we formed our first permanent committee:

Dave Snyder VE4XN, Permanent Sec-Treas, Brandon, MB

1 - Bill Bosch W0OB, Dickinson, ND Alternate – Stan Kittleson WD0DAJ, Dickinson

2 – Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot, ND

3 – Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, Williston, ND

4 – Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND Alternate – Doc Murphy K0GRM

5 – Gerry Nies N0NGW, Grand Forks, ND Alternate – Dick Wright KA0HDN

6 – Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB

7 – Rick Arsenault VE4ELF, Petersfield, MB

8 –

9 –

10 –

As you can see we are a bit short of our required ten-member committee and a little lop sided on representation from the upper side of the border. I suppose in time we will acquire more members.

At this meeting all the duties required to run the Ham Fest were discussed and divided up amongst the committee members in attendance.

The sec-treas recorded all the duties assigned and printed it out so as to prevent confusion.

We then set upon the fees for discussion and I as sec-treas reiterated what I thought we should do about this situation on the agenda that was presented to the Permanent committee meeting at Rugby, ND on October 28, 2001. A copy of my budget is incorporated into this book for all to read. In short, it recommended we stay, as is, \$13.00 at par.

After a great deal of discussion and a lot of bantering back and forth a motion was put forth that we should use a fee of \$ **10.00 US** as the fee and whatever the rate of exchange would result in a fee for Canadians. It was put to a vote and carried and I insisted on a proviso that we only do this **for one year only**, which all present agreed with.

It appeared that this satisfied all present as there were no vocal objections heard, which I was a little surprised at our Manitoba committee member's not voicing objections, however they are a minority on the committee, which I was hoping would not occur.

We concluded our business at the Hub Café in Rugby, ND and journeyed home and then all hell broke loose, emails flying everywhere voicing objections and threatening to not attend the fest next year, even part of the committee members that attended the meeting, which I found odd, that they did not yell and scream at the meeting.

For awhile I forwarded on all the negative responses to all on the committee and then stopped as all I was doing was adding fuel to the all ready raging inferno. If that is their decision, we would then have to live with it, however I was disappointed that they did not attend and do all the objecting then and there.

As time wore on and it was apparent that the Canadian committee members and their family from Petersfield, MB were not going to take part, or attend, I immediately informed the balance of the members that they would be required to fill the gaps, which they all did. Word had spread in Winnipeg also, so I guess we would get less attendance from that area also. This is too bad and what is missing is that this International Ham Fest prides itself on, that is truly international as it held in The International Peace Garden, which is Neutral territory so to speak. However the underlying contention is the almighty dollar, as the rate of exchange is so drastically lopsided favouring the south side. Everyone forgets that to a Canadian a Canadian dollar is a Canadian dollar, earned and spent the same as an American dollar to an American is a dollar earned and spent at its value. So, when you step up to the registration desk to register you present your money and get your money value that you want to realize from your dollar.

Now the downside of this whole issue and how this all got started is that people want more for their dollar than where it was earned, human nature I guess.

This was all brought to my attention by amateurs who attended the fest and witnessed it all go on, and before this, I was concerned because our American bank account was getting lower and lower all the time and when I mentioned this to some, they told me these happenings.

It is as follows: An American ham is planning to attend the ham fest so he goes to the bank and exchanges his US dollar for the exchanged rate cheaper Canadian dollar and uses this to register with and as a result we are the loser. That's not all here is another scenario, an American ham has an end gated flea market sales place, which he pays no fee for and charges the exchange rate to anyone who presents Canadian money and the turns

around and registers for the ham fest using these ill gotten gains, we lose again, talk about working the system, wow they sure stick it to us, we who bring the crowd there in the first place. Some of these perpetrators are well known hams and some have attended this ham fest for years and have even served on past ham fest committees. As I say, money is the root of all evil.

This really hurts as we acquire most of our prizes from Burghardts using US dollars, so I suppose the only answer is to at some future time elevate the registration fees to break even.

As there were no buttons (grey background) made for the 2000 fest due to my error I had them made and posted the list of people who had registered that year(204) and if they wanted a button they took the number along side of their name and presented this no at the registration desk, where there was an additional list where your name/call could be verified and they were then given the button and the name scratched off the list, surprising enough most of the buttons were requested, likely for their collections.

39 Th. - July 12, 13, 14, 2002 Lodge

Committee – First year for the permanent committee, which consists of **Dave Snyder VE4XN**, Brandon, MB, Sec-treas – **Bill Bosch K0UB**, Dickinson, ND – **Rollie Wilkins VE4SY**, Brandon, MB
Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot, ND – **Duane Hagen KE0VF**, Center, ND – **Virgil Jiles WA5TLP**, Williston, ND – **Gerry Nies N0NGW**, Grand Forks, ND and their alternates.

We had 210 register, down 11 from last year, 64 Canadians, 146 Americans.

2002 Ham of The Year recipients were **Jim McCauley VE4ID**, Brandon, MB
Richard Veal KA0ETO, Bismarck, ND

Button background colour this year was grey.

In spite of the no show of two of our regulars and their families, we had a normal attendance and a very successful ham fest.

We had Hams register from SD 2 – Mont 1- MN 9 – WISC 3 – Texas 2 – Indiana 2 – Idaho 1 – Ca 1
VE7 land 2 – VE5 13 – VE3 1

In Mobile Judging, **Harold WA0TOF**, Bismarck, ND was the Movable station winner and **Doug N0JAN** was the mobile station winner. Homebrew winner was **Lee KB0NCV** and **KA0HDN** won the 2M HHeld Winner – **KOHDN** won the 2m mobile hunt

The breakfast crew fed 153 for breakfast, which consisted of bacon, eggs, toast, pancakes, juice, and coffee.

The Dickinson, ND Amateur Radio Club have had International Ham Fest 40 TH anniversary T-Shirts made and are taking orders for them now, They are \$10.00 US each, they gave yours truly one as a gift, TNX. I suggested that we, The Ham Fest Committee purchase 4 T- shirts for the band members and have them arrive with these shirts on, and wear them while playing, which should add a little flavour to the 40 Th evening dance/party.

The Minot crew held a left foot contest again this year and they plan this to be an annual event at the fest.

The Winners were **WB0OAJ and VE4LB**, a very close race indeed.

Another very interesting and fund raising event we have had for many years on Sat around five thirty Pm in front of the lodge is **Donated Auction**. At this event Hams donate items that they were unable to peddle at the flea market and our auctioneer auctions them off to the highest bidder, some times only pennies take the item or items. However the crowd loves this as part of the fest as some of the bidding is done to give a friend an item or items he does not want and at the same time the fest gets some support financially, this year we received \$120.00. **Bill Bosch K0UB (WD0EMY)** has been the auctioneer for years.

Another main contributor to the on going success of The International Ham Fest is non other that **Bill WC0M (N0AFP)** and his **XYL Merti Kurtti N0OJS of Rock Lake, ND** who have organized and put on our Sunday AM breakfast since 1983.

We do not want to neglect **Dean Simmons N0RDD from Ryder, ND**, Ham of the Year in 1998, another ham that has been faithful in providing us with a superb PA system for the past several years, in fact ever since **Leon Hauk VE4HA from Virden, MB** retired from the task.

Now, there is **John Stiles W0OSP from Arvilla, ND**, what does he do? I am here to tell you that he organizes the crew to put up the Fests tower and antennas for our Amateur Radio Station VE4IHF And he also organizes the gang to take it all down after the fest and store all for another year.

This contentious issue of registration fees was briefly brought up and discussed at this years Sunday morning assembly, whereby the discussion started to get ugly so we cut off the debate and all present decided to leave the matter with the committee to come up with a solution.

Are committee meeting will be held on a same Sunday each year in October, **fourth Sunday in October**, this year it was held on October 27, 2002.

During this year's fest I embarked on a recruiting sortie for additional members for the committee, I was able to add **Dick Holder VE4QK, Beausejour, MB and Rick Allan VE4RA, Winnipeg, MB**, both will be an asset to the committee for sure.

As usual I drew up an agenda to follow and added a small comment when we it came time to discuss the registration fees, **Remember this an International Ham Fest**.

We started our meeting going over the divided up duties of each committee member and passing some of these responsibilities on to our two new committee members.

Out of this meeting came a few new ideas that we may endeavour to carry out for our 40 Th celebration.

I will outline the suggestions put forth as follows:

1 - That we invite as our guests the founders of IHF.

2 - That we have a 40 Th birthday party including cake on Saturday at 2PM in the lodge with those Founders who attend cutting the cake.

3 - That every person who registers will receive a gift of a monogrammed computer mouse pad

4 - Special event station VE4IHF operates from 8AM to 8PM with each Comm. Member. supplying an operator to work a 2 hr shift.

5 - Have a hourly draw all day Sat (13), must be present to win and must be picked up by or prize will be redrawn in the regular draw Sun AM.

6 - Extra draw tickets can be purchased for the main prizes for US \$5.00 Can \$7.50 ea. **The person must be registered to purchase these extra tickets.**

7 – That **Stan Kittleson WD0DAJ** assumes the position of Emergency Coordinator for the fest.

We request all Medical Emergency Responders make themselves known at the registration desk and the where they are camped or where and how they can be reached if required

After we got all this business squared away the subject of Registration fee was now on the table.

I stated how I felt about the matter, which is to return to our usual at par position or if all do not agree then US Hams pay in US currency and Can Hams pay in Canadian currency.

After a great deal of heated debate from three view points, one is to stay with **\$10.00 US fee** and the other is to keep this an **International Ham Fest by going back to par** or to have Ham register in the currency of the **country they carry the licence in at the present fee of \$13.00.**

It seems like either side did not want to give an inch and we were not getting anywhere but losing friendships by the seconds, it was decided that we prepare a motion and only committee members vote on this motion.

So, Bill Bosch K0UB, Dickinson, ND and seconded by Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB moved that Hams registering for the Ham Fest with pay with the currency in which the country you are licensed in. Carried

A number of those present were not very happy about the vote out come; however we would hope that we have resolved this issue once and for all.

Well on the way home in the car from Rugby, **Rollie VE4SY** had reservations about whether he and **Bill K0UB** had done the right thing in putting that motion up for the Committee to vote on. As we drove on he and I discussed the thing to death and came to the conclusion that we should return to the way we were before all this controversy irrupted. He decided to phone Bill K0UB and asked him to withdraw the motion and he readily agreed to return to the par system. Rollie then phoned me back so that I could email all to what action had been decided on. I did email all and Bill WCOM mailed me back asking if it was correct and I said yes, and he said again can we pay in Canadian funds like before, I couldn't get over that so all I mailed back was **“let your conscience be your guide”** so here we are all this exercise for futility.

Now there are people out there that blame me for all this and I readily accept this part of it all, as, Sec-treas I would be derelict in my duty not to inform all that this was happening, as in time if we ran short of funds as a result of this activity they would be blaming me for not noticing this and not bringing it to there attention, you cannot win. I guess if it persists we will just have to convert some of our Canadian Funds and keep doing so until zilch time, Ugh or up the ante.

40 Th - JULY 11, 12, 13, 2003 LODGE

COMMITTEE – Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB Sec-Treas – Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB Bill Bosch K0UB, Dickinson, ND – Rick Allan VE4RA, Winnipeg, MB – Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot, ND – Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND – Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, Williston, ND – Gerry Nies N0NGW, Grand Forks, ND – Dick Holder VE4QK, Beausejour, MB – Doc Murphy K0GRM, Bismarck, ND

There were 258 Registered for the 40 Th fest

Ham of the Year recipients were DAVE SNYDAL VE4XN, BRANDON, MANITOBA
CURTIS FREEMAN KC0JVJ, DICKINSON, ND

Button background colour for the 40 Th is Gold

41 ST – JULY 9, 10, 11, 2004 LODGE

COMMITTEE – Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB Sec-Treas – Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB
Bill Bosch K0UB, Dickinson, ND – Rick Allan VE4RA, Winnipeg, MB – Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot,
ND – Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND – Virgil Jiles WA5TLP, Williston, ND - Dick Holder VE4QK,
Beausejour, MB – Dee Tracy KB0CGK

There were 178 registered for the 41 ST fest.

Button background colour for the 41 ST was green

Ham of the year recipients were GORDON STEWART VE4GS, BRANDON, MANITOBA
EMIL WIEGLEND A N0DK, GLADSTONE, ND

The fest's tower fell on Sunday morning during take down, someone of the crew undid one of the guy ropes without instructions to do so and down she went towards the IHF shack, however someone sensed what was about to happen and pulled their guy rope and it fell clear of the shack, luckily no one was injured. The 3 element beam was wrecked.

It was decided by the committee to not have an eyeball meeting in October as usual, but conduct a internet meeting to shore things up for the 42 ND fest.

Rick W0HVA of Minot, ND set up a yahoo group (ihfcommittee@yahogroup.com) whereby any member of the committee can send a blanket email to all the committee members.

It works very well and saves addressing all emails if you want all the committee to read the mail.

At the general assembly on Sunday I announced that I would be stepping down next year as Secretary-treasurer as it will be my 25 Th year.

42 ND – JULY 8, 9, 10, 2005 LODGE

COMMITTEE – Dave Snyder VE4XN, Brandon, MB Sec-Treas – Rollie Wilkins VE4SY, Brandon, MB
Bill Bosch K0UB, Dickinson, ND – Rick Allan VE4RA, Winnipeg, MB – Rick Wengel W0HVA, Minot,
ND – Duane Hagen KE0VF, Center, ND , Williston, ND - Dick Holder VE4QK, Beausejour, MB – Dee
Tracy KB0CGK

There were 137 registered for the 42 ND Fest - The button background is yellow.

The Ham of The Year Recipients are: MURRAY RONALD VE4RE, WINNIPEG, MB
DOC MURPHY K0GRM, BISMARCK, ND

This year's attendance was the lowest ever, likely due to the very hot wet humid weather, mosquitoes and the high price of gas.

It rained two inches of Thursday and another half inch on Saturday night.

This is the first year the committee never had an eyeball meeting before the fest, just reminders on the internet via email. It seems to have worked well as we did not have any glitches.

The flea market out in the camping circle was very sparse this year, numbers down, wet soggy field.

This is my 25 Th year as secretary-treasurer and my last year as such, so to my surprise and (deafness) the gathered group had a coffee party with a Hugh cake in my honour, I was very emotional at all this attention.

Then to top it all off they presented a plaque to me at the general assembly Sunday morning, there again I Became emotional all over again.

The plaque reads

**Thank You
DAVE SNYDAL VE4XN**

**For 25 Years
Of Dedicated service As
Secretary/treasurer Of The
International Peace Garden Hamfest**

The MC asked the floor for anyone to come forward to fill my position, with out any response forthcoming it was decided that the committee will convene sometime this fall to decide a course of action on this matter of my replacement.

John McQueen, Executive Director of the International Peace Garden is retiring in September after almost six years in that position.

2006 - 43rd - 159 Registered
Music man for Sat night dance

2007 - 44th - 138 Registered
Music man for Sat night dance

2008 - 45th - 121 Registered
Music man for Sat night dance

2009 - 46th - 85 Registered
Couldn't use lodge so PG put up a tent for us to use
Music man for Sat night dance
VE4IHF set up in tent on grounds
Peace Garden catered Sunday morning breakfast

2010 - 47th - 86 Registered
W0HVA and W0ND provided music for Sat Night
VE4IHF set up in the Lodge
REIMCHE family supplied food services

2011 - 48th - 84 Registered
W0HVA and W0ND provided music for Sat Night
VE4IHF set up in the Lodge
REIMCHE family supplied food services

2012 - 49th - 81 Registered
W0HVA and W0ND provided music for Sat Night
REIMCHE family supplied food services