

NORTH SHORE ARC



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<http://www.ve3osh.com/>



Volume 8 , Number 1

December 2007

Don't Forget the Wednesday Evening Net.

From Will VA3WEW.

Just a reminder that Our Club net is on 147.120 + at 7:30PM local time every Wednesday. Plan to be there.

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The 6-Volt Battery Hack.

From Bob VE3LLE

Those of you who are wondering about profit margins and marks by retailers should take a look at this.

http://www.metcalfe.com/watch/824477/6_volt_Battery_hack_youll_be_amazed/

note: I showed this to the folks at work. They opened up some 6volts lantern batteries and found 4 "D" cells.....

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From the OntarioSwapShop.

Those of you who haven't checked out www.ontarioswapshop.com may want to take a peek every now and then.....

Finally, FREE, FREE, FREE. Check it out.

The " OSS " and " hfradio.net " are pleased to offer all radio enthusiasts an absolutely free high quality on line basic license study guide. {prepared by emo ares} your kind donations have allowed us to move forward with this first ever in Canada offering. Please share this link with anyone interested in obtaining a canadian ham license, offering a course or simply use it to show others just how easy it is to become a radio ham. <http://www.emoares.org/course/>

From your friendly Federal Government

I can remember my Dad and his friends talking about "Crown Asset Disposals". They'd talk about who just bought a "Chipmunk" (plane) or a "Deuce and a half" (truck) or other goodies. My Uncle tried unsuccessfully for years to get my dad to go in with him on a number of aircraft that came up for bids. Of course back in those days it was a paper circular published monthly.

Well I found this the other day and thought it might be interesting.

<http://crownassets.pwgsc.gc.ca/>

There are some radios that look really nice.

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From the chair in the shack.

As I write this 2007 is slowly ebbing, ready to be replaced by 2008. It seems that this year will be a turning point in many ways for me and perhaps you too. The bands are slowly recovering and European signals are much clearer and louder. We are gradually entering another solar high. The next few years will be a good time to take up hf and contact places all over the globe.

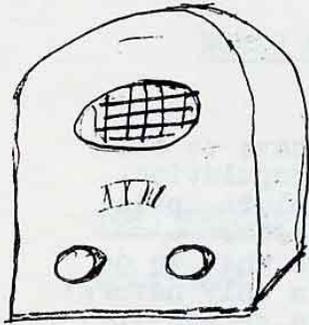
VOAprop, the program I showed at a meeting earlier this year is showing just about exactly what I'm hearing. Try it. If it says there will be poor propagation it is usually spot on. On the other hand, It can tip you off about a good time of day to try a particular country or region.

As always, I'm glad to have you all as friends this year and look forward to more fun together in the coming year. All the best for the season. May 2008 bring all you have hoped for.

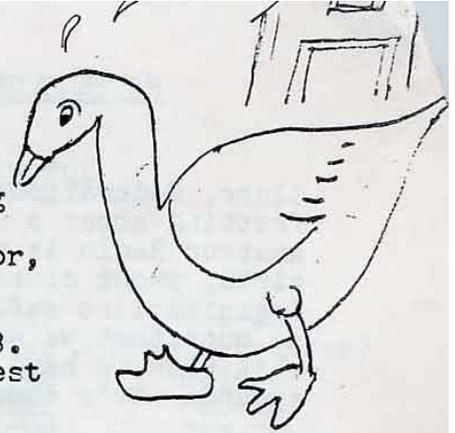
73 de Pete

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And in the spirit of Christmas here is a reprint from the December 1985 Bulletin. Reprinted with permission.



What newsletter would go without a Christmas story for December? The following award winning story was written by Barbara Ann Taylor, the bride of VE3FRM. The story was printed in the Port Perry Snooze Dec. 20/83. The theme of the essay contest was:



"THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS".

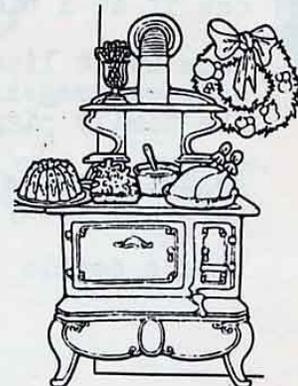
Here we are in the middle of an economic depression with the most important holiday season of the year upon us. Many parents are looking upon it with dread and the children are anticipating that magic morning when they jump out of bed and find Santa has come and gone leaving all kinds of goodies for them.

The television stations and stores started their campaign for Christmas even before Hallowe'en was over with. The Sears Christmas Wish Book has been dog-eared since it was received in September. Enough Christmas lists have been made to fill a book. The tinsel and plastic trimmings are ready to put on the artificial tree.

Parents are rushing around doing their Christmas shopping, but with very little Christmas cheer, wishing the day would either not come, or it was over and done with. They are more concerned with how they will put the latest electronic game under the tree, when they know the children have it pictured there already.

I can well remember my early Christmases, when the time was more relaxed. There wasn't the fad of electronic games and designer jeans. I was delighted to receive a few hand made clothes secretly sewn by my mother in the wee hours of the morning. I remember the freshly painted dollhouse, painstakingly crafted by my grandfather and smuggled into the house after I was asleep.

Homemade fudge, candy apples and popcorn were the culinary delights found in the Christmas stocking. Christmas cake was not bought in a store but it was baked in the crispy days of autumn and was christened with a touch of brandy, but only after a sampling by grandpa to test if all was well. The Christmas goose would pace nervously in the barn yard, almost knowing that this would be his one and only Christmas. The Yuletide tree would be chosen by me one week hence, and with a nod of approval, grandpa would fell it with a few sharp blows of his axe. It would then be dragged home across the snow covered fields. Grandpa wheezing at the fore and me running along behind picking up the pine cones that had fallen. These would later adorn the tree

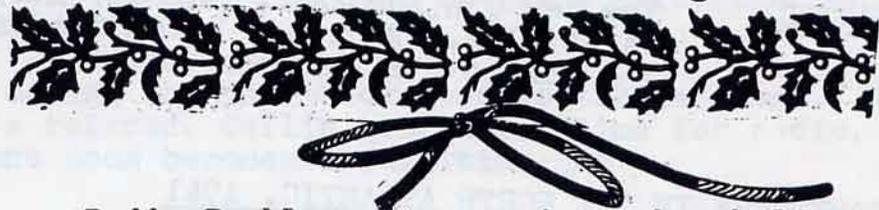


after being painted red and green. Decorations would be spun from popcorn, silver paper and beads. Mother would carefully unwrap the few coloured glass globes from their boxes stored in the attic. What lovely things they were, displaying all the colours of the rainbow and filling my young eyes with excitement. The tree would become the centre of conversation when friends and relatives came calling. Many a voice would be spent and memories tried as long forgotten carols were sung around the parlour stove. Egg-nog, cookies and Christmas cake would revive parched throats and bring on more songs.

Grandpa's radio, which to me was very sacred, held an exalted position in our family life and stood majestically in a hallowed corner of our dining room. Throughout the year it's batteries were used very sparingly and I presume their cost was a King's ransom. Grandpa would turn it on precisely when the farm news began and abruptly off at the end. However, during the Christmas season I was allowed the patronage of it's high technology. Stretching out on a blanket between it and the warm kitchen stove, like a worshipping subject I became bewitched by it's magical powers. Christmas carols sung by what sounded like a host of heavenly angels filled my ears and Santa's voice, kind and full of joviality filled my little heart with happiness and anticipation.

Those are the Christmases I remember, cherish and try to imitate today.

Christmas is what we wish it to be. To some it is a Vic-20 computer under the tree or a trip to Florida. To others, it may be a religious experience sprinkled with visitations of friends and relatives. The calm and tranquility that can be shared is almost mystical. Whatever you wish Christmas to mean, let it be just that. Don't be like our Christmas goose in the barn yard.



HOLIDAY QUEST

Dad's Problem: to convince the children he's Santa Claus while trying to convince his wife he isn't.

Merry Christmas, have a safe Holiday and a Happy New Year.

Your scribe,

Ken
VE3RMK

Season's Greetings from Durham Radio

Best Wishes to You and Your Family this Holiday Season.

PLEASE CLICK ON THE IMAGES ON THIS PAGE TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE PRODUCT PAGE ON OUR WEB SITE.

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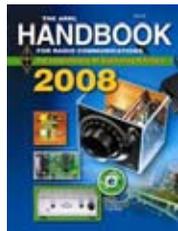
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Sale pricing in effect until December 29th, 2007. All items subject to availability.

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