

# NORTH SHORE ARC



Box 171, Oshawa, ON, Canada, L1H 7L1  
<http://www.ve3osh.com/>



Volume 8 , Number 1

May 2008

## From the Chair in the Shack

Well folks, here it is, the spring in full bloom. If you didn't get any new antennas up during the winter, now is a good time since some of the HF bands will become more than just daytime bands and can be worked until after our late sunset.

All you RAC members have seen the wonderful report by Ken about our repeater project. I'm hoping that you'll show them to others and point out, at the same time, how informative TCA has become. The technical depth and variety has seen a constant improvement and is now of very high quality. Consider joining if for no other reason than to receive this super magazine.

As Camp X draws near, your pres' is getting ready to mobilize the "Command Centre" so that our team can rest in comfort. We need every person to be there at some time during the weekend so that we are active on the air for the whole time that the public is there and also during off-hours to fill our logs. I have a feeling that the attendance will figure strongly in any decision to do the event in future. I have already informed the city of Oshawa that we will be unable to attend their Canada Day event. Participation is what makes our club fun and interesting. Let's keep it going.

73 de Pete

## 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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## And now there's GOOGLE PROP

From Dave VA3DBJ

Don't know if you have already come across the new kml files available for Google Earth that would come useful for Amateur radio, specially in the HF bands.

I have added the links on my Amateur Radio page at the bottom. It provided the graphical image of the conditions of the ionosphere.

Might be a useful to provide the links to the clubs or personal web sites.

<http://www.scannerdesk.com/hamradio.html>

Dave..

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## From the NSARC Archives.

Courtesy Ralph VE3CRK.

Note: this article appeared in the January 1985 bulletin. Walter Wright VE3DYE became a silent key about 3 years ago.



### The Old Timer's Corner

By Edwin H. Taylor VE3FRM

Walter wrote for his commercial back in 1940 and with that ticket clutched firmly in his hand he did what every young man yearns to do, he took to sea. 1942 found our man weathering the storms off the Cape of Good Hope aboard an ancient rusting tramp steamer called the "S.S. Faneromeni". (nick named the Funny Rooney) The Funny was built in 1916 at Anthropt Belgium and destined to wear a groove in the oceans between Africa and India, haulin' coal. Walter singed on as wireless officer and was automatically blessed with the handle of "Sparks". A befitting name, for the gear on board was SPARK! The Funny carried a quarter KW quenched spark, with a Belgium "Suit 35-B" three tube TRF receiver, all this was hooked to a Windom double "T" radiator. Now, this was classified as old stuff even in '42 but it did the job! Before entering harbour Walter would sign in and his rig came on lie a thunder clap as many harbour Op's ringing ears would attest.



Now, the Funny Rooney was a temperamental old gal with very little "get up and go". Her top speed was 6 knots and that's not fast enough when navigatin'

waters infested with German and Jap subs. Not much use in tryin' to zig or zag as that pace! Once they cleared the safety of harbour, Walter didn't stray too far from that key!

Talk about fun, how about standin' out on desk in the Mozambique Channel, with your arms raised watch' St. Elmo's fire dance on your finger tips! DX? We moan about 160 meters bein' too long a wave for DX. Walter copied Rugby England loid 'n clear with the fones on the bench, out in the middle fo the Indian Ocean! On 16kc! By golly those were the days!

Well, Walter came out of that unscathed and did a few turns for the DOT in Ottawa. In '48, fully landlocked he wrote his amateur exam and received the call of VE3BWH. In '53 the DOT moved him to Saskatchewan with the call VE5WG. Now, comes a time in every young fella's life when he feels it's time to settle down and so Walter decided to drop anchor right here in Blackstock. We're all fortunate for his decision. Walter has been running homebrew and Command gear right up 'till recently when he acquired a Heath HW-100.. Walter is a CW man but can be reached on VE3OSH. The Club is proud to have Walter as a member and appreciate his contributions to the hobby. Thanks and a tip of the hat to you Walter.

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### Taken from the Firebird Amateur Radio Club Bulletin.

Courtesy Ralph VE3CRK.

#### 5th Grade Math Problem

This is not a trick question. This is a real math problem so don't say that a bus has no legs.

There are 7 girls in a bus, each has 7 backpacks. In each backpack, there are 7

big cats. For every big cat there are 7 little cats.

Question: How many legs are there in the bus? PS. Apparently there is no bus driver on this bus!

Good luck with this and have fun!

73,  
Ralph VE3CRK

Note: We'll post the answer in a future bulletin. Those of you who think you have the answer, let us know. More importantly let us know how you got the answer. It's just like having a good antenna set up, it's one thing to put it together, knowing how to tune it is the key.

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Spring has sprung the grass is riz, I wonder where the birdies is..... I remember this from childhood. I don't know who coined this, but I'm sure they must have been very sound sleepers. It seems this time of year the birdies are outside my window every morning at about 5:15! While this is earlier than I like to get up, especially on weekends it means I can slip downstairs and fire up the rig. I'm not sure what it is, but the soft hiss of bands and a warm cup of coffee are most comforting. Listening for calls or making a call is as almost as good as breakfast. It's surprising too that at this time of year the coffee often gets cold. One thinks of spring almost as 'down-time' to work on antennas and shack improvements. Not so this year. I've logged Missouri, Idaho, Rhode Island, Kentucky and North Carolina. The QSO with Idaho was great. We chatted for about 30 minutes before conditions changed. It is always a pleasant surprise that there is more to bind us together than pull us apart. I've missed Arkansas and Hawaii. The Hawaii station was evening time and when I heard him call, I couldn't believe my ears. Sadly my 100W and the dipole couldn't compete with the big guns who turns their beams west..... One fellow Ham in the "9" area said his amp was good to 1500W, I'm

not sure what level he was running it at. I also heard a couple of VK stations loud and clear. They were talking with a "6" area station and it was a solid copy. The QSO was winding up as the signals started to fade... I would have tried a call.

I can't afford to get into that type of 'arms race' as we're still helping the boys. But I am hoping to get a couple of antenna acquisitions set up and running. I'm also thinking about what types of antenna would go well at the cottage my in-laws have up North. I won't have the amp, but I hope to have the antennas to reach some of these areas. I've told my wife that "there won't be another eyesore..... I'll try to hide them and 'maybe' I'll be able to one of the current antennas down". That's my story and I'm stickin' to it.

Remember the Camp X activation. Stay tuned for more information. This is our history.

Your scribe,

Ken  
VE3RMK

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