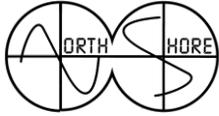


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<http://www.ve3osh.com/>



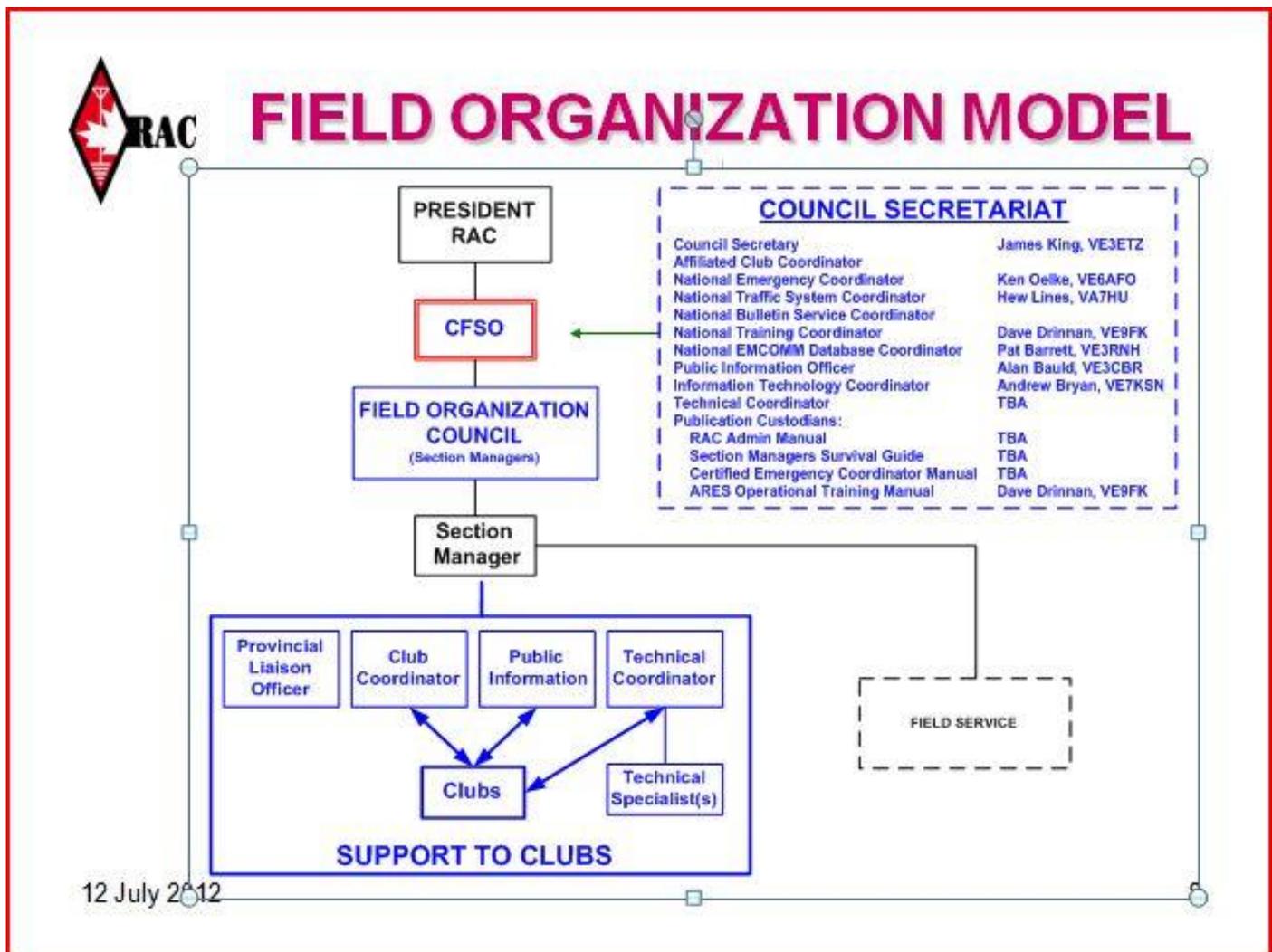
Volume 8 , Number 1

June 2012

RAC at our June Club Meeting.

From Club Executive

Jeff Stewart VA3WXM, RAC Ontario South Director, Stan Leschinsky VE3TW, Ian Snow VA3QT and Pat Barrett VA3OQ from RAC attended our Club meeting in June. There was a presentation by Jeff that outlined the Ontario renewal for RAC. Jeff also addressed the questions presented by the Club in advance to help us better understand RAC and our relationship. Ian relayed information on ARES and the changes that are in the works for RAC and how that will affect us. At times the discussions were lively, but overall it was a good evening with lots of good information.





We appreciate the Work that Jeff put into the presentations and answering our questions.

And not to be outdone, our own Bob Cowley VE3HIX had a dynamite presentation on Software Defined Radio and how it could help us improve our transmissions.



All hams want to know how they sound at the other end of a QSO. We are constantly wondering:

- Is my antenna working in the intended direction?
- Am I using the microphone properly?
- How does this microphone sound?
- Is my voice level and compression correct?
- Do I have key clicks or chirps?
- Is my keying too soft or hard?
- How would I sound at reduced power levels?

The easy way to determine how you sound at several remote locations is to listen to your transmitted signal through an online Software Defined Radio (SDR) receiver. Google "SDR online" to find a list of remote receivers. The first choice "WebSDR.org" allows you to choose from several receivers. Scroll to the bottom of the page to see a world map that displays several receiver locations. Each location contains a unique receiver and antenna setup.

When you scroll up the page, you will see a list of receivers with numbers corresponding to the map. Choose a nearby receiver. You need Java and Java script turned on, which is a normal setting, to see

the waterfall display. Each site is different, but when the receiver is displayed you need to choose a mode such as LSB and tune the remote SDR to an unused frequency. Adjust the transmitter in your shack to the same frequency and transmit a short test message. You should see your transmission within one second on the waterfall display, and hear your voice or keying through your PC speakers. You will likely need to fine tune either your local transmit frequency or remote receive frequency to make sense of your test message.

You can also use the SDRs to see if the bands are active without firing up the rig, or for code practice. The SDRs can be operated by several users at the same time.

Cheers and good luck,
Bob Cowley
VE3HIX

From the chair in the shack

From Peter VA3PWH

Summer is here! There are many things for us to consider for the upcoming year.

Field day passed with a little confusion about the logging software and the reach of the wireless access. I have tested and am preparing to install a wireless access point that will provide coverage at almost full scale across the entire site except perhaps behind the new building. Even there it provided some coverage. It will allow access to the internet as well as connecting stations to the main hard drive. It will be a permanent installation and you will be given the access codes for any visit you might wish to the site.

The repeater has, for some time, suffered from extremely high distortion. After disabling the controller it was determined that the audio level was set too high and the result was over deviation. We solved it by having me monitor Ralph VE3CRK (on direct and on the repeater) and changing the settings on the repeater itself. Clint was on the screwdriver.

As a result, we have a new service monitor to test deviation. It also has a spectrum analyser which will allow us to spot adjacent frequencies on which there may be interference causing signals. Since the cost, \$550, was beyond the limit to which the executive can commit, I took the liberty of purchasing it. If members wish they can move to reimburse me or accept it as a donation.

Next year's field day will be somewhat different. This year we had 6 stations and used 2 of my radios as part of the setup. I delivered 9 tables, 7 tents, 5 sets of masting, cable, 4 netbooks, a laptop and an internet connection. I am asking that all operators next year plan to have radios, shelters, antennas, masts and a source of power.

To that end I will supply eating shelter, cook tent, 3 tables, three "gazebos" my main radio and antenna and my generator which can power at least 3 stations. If some wish to borrow other components for their use they will have the option of picking up stuff a week in advance and returning it after the event. I'm just getting to old to move all that stuff. Besides all that, field day is meant to test the operator's skill in setting up his/her own emergency station.

Forming small groups to manage each station is also a good idea. In that way each group can arrange to organize itself and take a load off the organizers of the event. I encourage each group to

practice with the radios of choice, the antenna erection methods and any other things (logging) that might slow them down at the event.

It is my hope that a renewed commitment to field day will bolster club spirit and give every participant the feeling that they can, indeed, set up a working emergency station. That's what field day was originally meant to foster.

73 de Pete

The long awaited Club membership list.

From Ken VE3RMK

I am pleased to let you know that I have now heard from everyone on the membership list and have collected the results. This first go round did take quite a while but getting the 100% response required by the motion voted on the Club meeting earlier this year took a bit longer than anticipated.

Each member should have received a PDF copy in the format stipulated in the vote.

If you didn't, please contact the membership secretary with your updated information.

There is an update planned for the fall.

Thanks to everyone for their support and patience.

Summer is here.

We have turned in another solid performance in Field Day. The lessons learned will help make next year's Field Day even better for all. I know that we'll get a full report from Martha soon..

Summer is also the time when we ramp up our Public service activities. Keep Sunday August 26th open for the Ride 4 United Way. This is an excellent way to practice your radio skills. We also want to be ready for the events coming up in September and October. Stay tuned..

Your humble scribe

Ken



What's New at Durham Radio

July 5th, 2012

10-1380 Hopkins St.
Whitby, ON L1N2C3

Ph: 905-665-5466
Orders: 888-426-1688

This mailing contains images. If you do not see images below, your e-mail program may require that you click on a "load images" button.

To ensure delivery of future issues, please add our e-mail address whatsnew@durhamradio.com to your address book. The e-mail address above is for outgoing message only. Click [here](#) if you want to e-mail us.

Important Announcements & Reminders

Communication Breakdown PLEASE READ THIS - Over the Canada Day long weekend, Durham Radio upgraded web servers. The migration to the new server went smoothly however, in the process of the changeover there is a remote possibility that some mail may have bounced or got lost. If you have not received a reply to a recent email to us, please email us again.

Don't forget the Subscriber Specials - You'll only find them here at the bottom of our newsletter.

More Lower Prices - It has only been a few weeks since our last mailing so there aren't nearly as many price reductions as last time however Jami is still reviewing and cutting prices just about every day. To see the latest cuts, click [HERE](#).

New Products - New Products

Amateur Radio

Stubby Antenna for Wouxon



Receives and transmits on 2 Meter/440 MHz. Just under an inch tall! Fits Wouxon transceivers without using any adapters.

[More Info](#)

JTSP1 Extension Speaker

This very compact and solid speaker is small enough to mount just about anywhere so you can get sound where you need it.

[More Info](#)



ARRL Hinks & Kinks



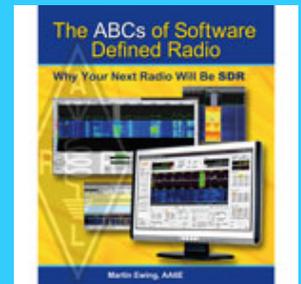
170 pages of the best projects and problem-solving tips spanning 8 years of QST from 2004 through 2011.

[More Info](#)

Software Defined Radio Book

"The ABC's of Software Defined Radio" is an introductory guide to SDR and Digital Signal Processing (DSP) technologies. Provides an understanding of the technology at the fundamental level with little math.

[More Info](#)



CB Radios

Cobra 29LXBT



Yet another breakthrough for Cobra. Now you can have Bluetooth interconnectivity with your phone in an LX-style radio. Has advanced bluetooth functions that display right on the front of the radio! Built-in weather with alert too!

[More Info](#)

Bracket for Cascadia Truck Mirrors

The MMCAS-L antenna mount uses the existing front two bolts of the left mirror so no drilling is required.



[More Info](#)

Scanners

GRE PSR410C Mobile/Desktop Scanner



Scans most common trunked radio system signaling formats, including Motorola, EDACS Standard, EDACS Narrow, and LTR trunked radio systems. This radio includes coverage of the new 700 MHz band, new 380 MHz federal band and has upgradable CPU firmware in support of future rebanding. Full dot matrix bitmap LCD display has a real-time S-Meter.

[More Info](#)

GRE PSR120C Budget Scanner



An incredibly low price for such a wide frequency range. Covers 25-54, 88-108, 108-174, 380-512, 806-823.9875, 849-868.9875, 894-960, 1240-1300 MHz. 300 memory channels + 20 FM broadcast band memories. Built-in weather with alert function.

[More Info](#)

GRE SuperAmp



Boosts weak signals by up to 20 dB. Designed for handheld radios. Installs between the antenna jack and the antenna.

[More Info](#)

GRE PSR310C Trunking Scanner



The multi-system trunking capability scans most common trunked radio system signaling formats, including Motorola, EDACS Standard, EDACS Narrow, and LTR trunked radio systems. FREE firmware upgrades.

[More Info](#)

Miscellaneous

685181 Universal AC Adapter



This classic style AC adapter has all of the most common pins permanently attached so you don't have to worry about losing plugs. Taps for common voltages between 3 and 12V and built-in polarity switch. [More Info](#)

PL-259 Crimp for RG58

Solder the tip and crimp the braid for a reliable connection with our new crimp connector for LMR195/RG58 coax.



[More Info](#)

N Crimp Connector for 9913



Just like our new PL-259 crimp connector, only the centre pin requires soldering. Makes a solid reliable connection.

[More Info](#)

FME Crimp Connector for RG8X

FME connectors allow you to switch from one connector type to another by using adapters that have an extremely low insertion loss.

Ends for TNC, PL, mini UHF and more are available.

[More Info](#)



Subscriber-Only Specials

Subscriber-Only Hidden Link Deals

Order directly from the hidden links below or mention these offers when shopping in person or when you phone in your order. **All items (including the subscriber-only specials) are subject to availability and may be limited to stock on hand.** Sale ends July 28th at midnight.

Listen to the World with a Shortwave Receiver



Listen to major shortwave broadcasts, pirate stations, utility stations, ham radio operators and more with the Kaito KA1102. AM/FM broadcast band coverage and shortwave from 3000-29990 kHz. Has SSB mode for hams and pirate broadcasts. Available in black or silver finish.

Reg: \$89.95 Subscriber Special \$68.97 [Hidden link for Black](#) [Hidden link for Silver](#)

Follow us on Social Media

Our Facebook Page - We have been focusing on twitter for some time now and have decided to give Facebook some attention. Click [here](#) to visit our Facebook page and "Like us" to get in on one day only deals.

Follow Us on Twitter! - We will be offering crazy one-day "Tweet Deals" from time to time for our Twitter followers so...**SIGN UP NOW** at www.twitter.com/durhamradio **DON'T MISS OUT!**

Do You Hate Social Media But Still Want Deals? - This list might suit you better. "Subscriber Only Specials" are great but you only get them once every month or two. What if you could get in on deals on our one-of-a-kind, overstocks, B-stock, discontinued items and more as soon as they are available. Now you can with our "Flash Deals" delivered right to your in box from the folks you trust at Durham Radio. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.