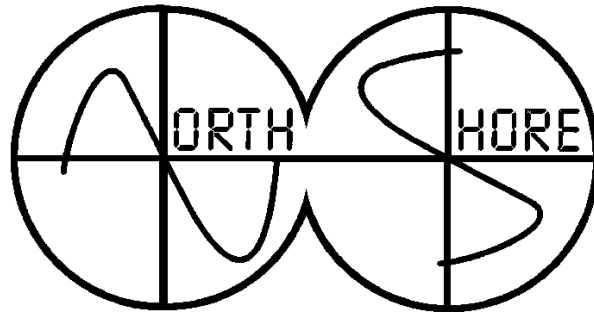




VE3OSH.COM

December 2017



AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB INC.



Hello everyone and welcome to another holiday season! As I sit writing this it is a balmy 9c up here at the lake but it would appear the deep freeze is fast approaching as they are expecting high in the minus teens and lows overnight into the minus 20's by next Wednesday so I guess old man winter is here!

At our November meeting our guest presenter came down with a bad cold and couldn't make it. We had Bob VE3HIX show us the event that they did at the Victory Day garden party. I also showed a video on HF propagation for 2017 and 2018 for Dx'ers and contesters. It was kind of boring but good for the few of us on HF. Sorry to say the band conditions are pretty bad these days and a recent solar storm made them even worse.

Don't forget that the RAC Winter Contest is coming up December 30. This is a casual and fun contest with lots of fellow Canadian hams on the air. Information can be found at: [wp.rac.ca/rac-canada-day-contest-rules-2017](http://wp.rac.ca/rac-canada-day-contest-rules-2017)

As I was sitting here working on this update the following bulletin on the Hands Free Exemption for Amateur Radio operators in Ontario was released by the provincial government. It is still not the permanent exemption we were asking for but



definitely a step in the right direction. Our thanks should go out to the Ontario RAC Directors Allan Boyd and Phil McBride and all of the Amateur Radio operators who have been working hard on this exemption.

***For immediate release: December 15, 2017***

*Distracted driving regulations continue to be an area of interest for many Canadian Radio Amateurs. These regulations are made and enforced by provincial governments and can vary considerably from province to province and over time. In Ontario, RAC Directors Allan Boyd, VE3AJB (Ontario North/East) and Phil McBride, VA3QR (Ontario South) have been working hard on this issue.*

*On December 15, 2017, the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) announced that the current two-way radio exemption for “Amateur Radio operators and specified commercial, public transit, and public function drivers will be extended for a further three-years, effective January 1, 2018 until January 1, 2021.”*

*The update to the regulation can be found at*  
<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/r17475>.

*While we were hoping for a permanent exemption, this decision by the MTO ensures our continued ability to operate Amateur Radio apparatus while mobile. RAC will continue to press for a permanent exemption going forward.*

*For more information visit our Distracted Driving webpage at:* <http://wp.rac.ca/distracted-driving/>



I received this email from Larry VA3FHG just the other day and it is great news that Larry's surgery went well and he is home for Christmas and recovering. I look forward to Larry's speedy recovery and seeing him again soon at our meetings and events.

*Hi everyone,*

*Many of you may know that I have had a damaged heart valve for a number of years, that would have to be repaired surgically. Last Friday, the 8th, I had open heart surgery at St. Michael's hospital in Toronto. I had the mitral valve repaired & 1 bypass procedure done & both were completely successful. I came home from the hospital yesterday, Wed., Dec. 13th. The recovery period is 4-6 months. I'm taking a break from all activities while I heal.*

*Please share this information with the membership of the groups that I am in, if you feel it's appropriate.*

*The doctors tell me I have done well but I am extremely tired.*

*Take care everyone & have a wonderful Christmas.*

--  
Larry G.



As you are reading this our annual Christmas Pot Luck dinner is here on Tuesday December 19, 2017. If you haven't already done so, please get in touch with Martha ([va3sbd@gmail.com](mailto:va3sbd@gmail.com)) and let her know what you can bring or find out what we need.

This event is very well attended and there is always lots of food and smiling faces and it always nice to see everyone at this special time of year. I hope to see everyone there.





**UpComing Dates:**

December 19 at 7Pm - Monthly meeting and our X-mas dinner

December 30,2017 - RAC Winter Contest( great contest, casual and friendly)

January 16,2018 at 7Pm - Monthly meeting and Club Elections

February 20, 2018 at 7:00pm – Monthly Meeting TBA

March 20, 2018 at 7:00Pm - Monthly Meeting TBA

April 17, 2018 aat 7:00pm - Monthly Meeting - Hamfest Preparations

Saturday April 28, 2018 - Durham Hamfest - Volunteers needed!



**Saturday Morning Breakfast** – Just a reminder that there is a small group of North Shore members and some other hams from the area that meet Saturday mornings for breakfast. They have a new location at Johnny's Original Eatery at 850 King St West, northwest corner of King St and Thornton Rd N in the small strip plaza behind the Scotia Bank. They usually arrive around 8:30am and order around 8:50am. So, if you are up early and out and about, drop by and say hello to everyone and check out the new Restaurant!

**AO-91 Commissioned, Declared Open for Amateur Use!**

AMSAT-NA's latest Amateur Radio CubeSat, RadFxSat (Fox-1B), now known as AO-91, has been opened for general use. AMSAT Engineering officially announced that AO-91 was ready for use at 0650 UTC on Thanksgiving Day, November 23. AMSAT VP of



Engineering, Jerry Buxton, N0JY, turned over operation to Mark Hammond, N8MH, and AMSAT Operations during a contact on the AO-91 repeater during the pass over the Eastern US, AMSAT said in a bulletin.

The latest CubeSat in the Fox series was launched on November 18 from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. Telemetry is downlinked via the DUV sub-audible telemetry stream, which can be decoded using [FoxTelem](#) software.

A 1U CubeSat, RadFxSat (Fox-1B) is a joint mission of AMSAT and the Institute for Space and Defense Electronics ([ISDE](#)) at Vanderbilt University. AMSAT constructed the rest of the satellite, including the spaceframe, on-board computer, and power system. The Amateur Radio package is similar to that currently on orbit on AO-85, with an uplink on 435.250 MHz (67.0 Hz CTCSS) and a downlink on 145.960 MHz. -- *Thanks to AMSAT News Service* (reprinted from ARRL Bulletin)



**Club Elections** are here and will be happening at our January meeting. Since I am not running again I will act as the nomination officer so if you wish to nominate someone for one of our positions or if you wish to be nominated please forward an email to me and I will present this at the January meeting to the membership.

As you all know Laird VE3LKS has been holding down several jobs, Secretary, Treasurer, and also now looking after our Club Website and The Durham Hamfest Website. I know Laird could use a break and/or some help. So if you think you can help out but not sure of how much work it is, get hold of Laird or myself, it just takes a bit of time for one of those positions.



## Thank you

I know this is a repeat but I believe it is important to thank our volunteer's .

I would like to take a moment to thank all of our Club's volunteer's that do a little and sometimes a lot of extra work to help our Club succeed. From the Repeater and Technical crew, monthly meetings, our annual Hamfest, our cooks at the BBQ's ,Field Day and all of our Club events ,there is always people doing that extra to help these events succeed and to all of you Thank You very much!

I would also like to thank our executive, Martha VA3SBD, Laird VE3LKS, Alex VE3ZSH and Lex VE3LEX for all of their hard and work and keeping me on my toes and putting up with me for the last couple of years.

At this time I would like to send my best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you and your families.

Please have a safe and fun Holiday Season with your families and friends!

***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!***

73 de Steve

VA3TPS