

N.S.A.R.C. Inc.

P.O. Box 171
Oshawa, Ont.,
L1H 7L1



March 1985
~~Feb 1985~~

VE3CRK 85
Ralph Day
454 Holcan Ave.
Oshawa Ont.
L1G 5X6

**NORTH SHORE
AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB**

SPARKS



**North Shore
Amateur Radio Club**

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NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB inc. Newsletter

P.O. BOX 171
 Oshawa, Ontario, Canada.
 February, 1985

1985 EXECUTIVE AND OFFICERS.

President	Neil McAlister	VE3KSP	668-4161
Vice President	Joe White	VE3IHS	623-4069
Secretary	Charlie Bissett	VE3IBO	668-7481
Treasurer	Colin Bell	VE3CEU	723-7842
Program Co-ordinator	Roy Norton	VE3OHN	623-7125
Community Relations	Mark Johnson	VE3OBJ	623-1325
Registrar	Keith Wyard-Scott	VE3GDF	723-5758
Get Well Cards	Ted Brant	VE3ADD	668-3561
2 Meter Net	Roy Miller	VE3AAF	
Editor	Bill Fortune	VE3NTI	1-986-4513

- N.B. a) the Executive meets the third Tuesday of the month.
 b) information and articles for publication should be passed directly to the Editor at meetings, sent over the net, or mailed to: Bill Fortune, P.O. BOX 113, Blackstock, (LOB 1B0)
 c) Clubs may reproduce articles. Credit please to North Shore Amateur Radio Club .

CLUB STATION.....VE3NSR

CLUB REPEATER.....VE3OSH 147.72 MHz. in
 147.12 MHz. out

CLUB NETS 2 meters Net each Thursday via VE3OSH
 at 1930 hrs. - local time.
 Net Control: Roy VE3AAF

Monthly Club Meetings are held at 2000 hrs. on the second Tuesday of every month (except July and August) in the cafeteria of O'Neil Collegiate, Simcoe Street North, Oshawa.

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY, 12th. March, 1985.

Tour of the Lantic Sugar Refinery, Oshawa, organized by Joe IHS. Take the Harmony Road exit from the 401 and go south on Farewell Ave., almost to the harbour - time 7.45 p.m. There will be groups of 25 (no one under 16).

FROM THE EXECUTIVE...

On Feb. 20/85 a meeting was held at the C.N.I.B. for VE3CNE. The meeting was chaired by Evan VE3IND.

The chairman's opening remarks were that VE3CNE would be handling:

1. Opening Day Parade.
2. Warrior's Day Parade.
3. The Air Show commentary is a possibility and will have to be worked out.
4. Manning the C.N.E. Booth in the Hobby Craft Building.

After a few minutes of discussion on plans for this year the chairman called for a construction supervisor for the assembly of VE3CNE. This person would oversee all phases of the station assembly and disassembly after the close down of the Ex.. The operations schedule for VE3CNE is to be the same as last year. Since N.S.A.R.C. was not mentioned in last year's schedule, there are two dates that are open: Aug. 31st. and Labour Day, Sept. 2nd. (we have now committed the Club to Aug. 31st. - Ed.)

As mentioned in the chairman's opening remarks, item 3 is the Air Show commentary to the general attendance. In past years the commentary has been handled by the C.N.E. public address system. It is thought that this system could be improved upon through the use of the low end of the commercial band e.g., 88MHz., to the personal portable FM receivers in use by the general public. A Technical College is to be approached for the use of their FM broadcasting facilities for the Air Show. It will be a neat trick if we can pull it off!

Getting back to VE3CNE, in the Hobby and Crafts Building, the "ham" booth provides a marvellous window to the general public and is an excellent way of spreading the word to newcomers, young and old alike, to join with us in participating in this great hobby. The committee's feeling on this was unanimous.

I raised the question as to what will happen to the Dominion Store Tapes now that a portion of the company has been sold to A&P. The answer was most encouraging. Libby of the Trilliums who is looking after the tapes for the Jocelyn Lovell Mobile Chair Campaign on hearing the news of the sale went down to Dominion Stores and obtained a credit for the tapes she had on hand and a verbal assurance that others up to a certain date would be honored.

Joe VE3IHS

"Say, whatever happened to that brother of yours who was trying to get himself elected to Parliament? What's he doing now?"

"Nothing."

"Oh- he got elected eh?"

I am sorry to admit that due to business trips, end of month reports and just plain procrastination, I have nothing written about NSARC's OTs. Therefore I threw together the following adventure starring me! I hope you get a chuckle out of it.

As many of you know, I am an avid listener to the Very Low Frequencies. I'm commonly referred to as a "Lowfer", in more senses than one, especially from my XYL Barbara. I have spent many enjoyable evenings searching the long waves in quest of the denizens that inhabit these "Dark Bands" of our spectrum. Bagging DX down there holds a certain euphoria comparable to that of a VHFer working for his WAS. Some cold winter evenings the whole world comes pounding in. Wondrous as this seems, one must remember that our forefathers used the "Dark Bands" for daily xmissions to the British Isles and the Continent. I hold the long waves in reverence as they are the birth place of our hobby, the former hunting grounds of King Spark, the Alternator and the once proud Ark. On quiet nights, you can perceivably hear their ghosts growling, whining and hissing in the darkness.

When one tires of copying wx and other data being sent to the ships at sea via morse xmissions, it is the normal thing to migrate further down through the myriad of beacons. The bulk of the beacons inhabit the region from 400kc to 160kc. If you're careful and listen patiently you may hear them from most parts of the globe. Below 160 you may hear some of the American QRP Amateurs across the lake on 1750 meters. These guys are having a great time! Sliding on down you will undoubtedly come to rest on 15kc, Rugby England. The Grand Daddy of them all! Giving out time signals and other reports, it still is the standard to mariners everywhere.

With homebrew gear we can dive a bit deeper, down through the Omega and sundries other signals of a secretive nature. Submarine communication frequencies, Geophysical sounders, missile guidance transmissions, etc. Signals with pulses that only a computer can decipher. Around 5kc we can detect "Whistlers" and the elusive "Morning Chorus". ULF phenomenon still under study. (see "The Whistler" SARC, April 1967, VE3FRM).

To go to the very bottom depths of RF has always been my ambition. Doesn't it make one wonder just what lurks on this dark sea bed at say...zero plus one cycle??? Well my friendly that very quest brought me very near to meeting my maker. Let me tell you how this man's unquenchable thirst for knowledge of the unknown almost destroyed my family, my cat and made me an outcast among my neighbours. Therefore Ladies and Gents I give to you

"How Low Can You Go"???? or. . . .

"When The Lights Went Out In Manchester"!!!!

How low can I go? This question burned in my skull as I trundled up the barn stairs with my 100 lb load of iron laminates. With a grunt I pushed open the ham shack door and gently laid down my burden in the middle of the floor. It was a hot August afternoon in Manchester and the humidity was near the top of the scale. Perspiration was rolling down my face as I began carefully winding turn after turn of #22 onto the giant laminated core. The core and its windings were soon to become part of a Hi Q tuned circuit for my TRF Ultra Low Frequency receiver. After every few hundred turns, I clipped it into the TRF detector circuit along with my 160 meter Marconi antenna and checked for signals. My last check told me I was very near my mark for I could hear the 120 cycle harmonic of the Power Company's 60 cycle transmission. With trembling hands I carefully tucked the last few turns into place, this was it I thought. Little did I know what disaster destiny had in store for me. The seconds on this self made time bomb were quickly ticking away. Cat lay sprawled lazily atop my HQ-180 uninterested in the experiment taking place. Perhaps dreaming of the young missy cat that moved in next door. I stood back to look at what I had created, like an artist in awe of his own master piece. What lay out there waiting for me could only be imagined and believe me I imagined plenty!

Now, as to the folly I was about to commit. We all know how well a TRF 5 circuit pulls in a signal when using a Hi Q tuned circuit. You got it like flies to a privvy seat in mid summer! No sooner had I clipped the antenna to my haywire lash-up, when a deafening roar made the head-phones leap from the bench! I tried to disconnect but the antenna lead seemed to be welded to the circuit!!! The core laminates were doing a 60 cycle Irish jig and smoke began to rise from it's now reddening form! Panic seized my body and I yanked incessantly at the antenna wire which now took on the appearance of a miniature neon lamp! The whole scene looked like something right off the screen from "The Son of Frankenstein"! Large blue flashes were emitting from the coil and detector. Lightning bolts from heaven knows where, were shooting back and forth across the room. In a ball of flame, Cat leaped out the door-way with a shrill, blood curdling yowl. Pain seared my body and some unknown force like a giant hand slammed me up against the wall knocking all my apparatus from the bench. My whole life swam before my eyes. Master Charge, Chargex, Consumers Gas, Hydro and Royal Trust!!! My funeral pyre would leave many a damp eyed creditor, I reckoned. For a moment I could feel my soul leave my convulsing body and swirl around the room looking down upon my tormented form and the holocaust taking place. None to soon, an angel of mercy covered my eyes with darkness and unconsciousness eased my tortured brain.

Somewhere, above a cool green meadow angelical harps doth play,
Birds are singing, children's voices ringing,
and all is at peace below.

Ah! But not so in the tiny Hamlet of Manchester! People gathered on the street questioning the power failure that engulfed their once happy homes. Parting the hedges and pointing fingers in awe at the black inky smoke curling skyward from the broken windows of my barn. Consciousness painfully returned to my prostrate body and I could faintly hear the approach of sirens from far-away. My laminated core was a molten mass in the middle of the floor with a tiny green flame still flickering from its center. I managed to pull myself to my feet and staggered down the stair-way. I remember looking out the barn door, half delirious and watching the approach of Barbara, drying her hands in her apron as she ran along. "Oh Eddy", she cried, "What have you done now"!!! "Won't you ever stop your silly experiments"! She bolstered me by my elbow helping me towards the house still scolding. "You've turned the lights out in the whole village, broken all the windows on the block and darn near killed yourself"! I didn't say a word, its best that way. My youngest daughter Charlotte came running and broke in between us. Her eyes were wide and full of tears. She looked up sobbing, "Mommy, Mommy"! "Cat....he's under the porch an' won't come out,.....an', an' he's bald"!!! I turned and looked at the commotion taking place on the street. A lady was hysterically explaining to an officer, how a large lightning bolt leapt from the hydro line to my antenna which was now just a smoldering stub. They all looked at me with a stare that I haven't seen since I was 12 and broke old man Baldwin's Drug Store window with my ball. I turned to Barbara in a low voice "Admit nothing", "We don't know what happened"! I made for the porch door, Charlotte let out another sobbing tirade over Cat. "Oh how could you Eddie, the Cat too!!", Barbara scolded. Helping me up the steps and patting out a still smoldering patch of cloth on my shoulder, she finished with "How low can you go"??? "That's what I was trying to do" I said and received a puzzled look.

Well it's been a year since the lights went out in Manchester but the Town Folk still remember that fateful day. Whenever I walk the streets, barking dogs cross to the other side and worried mothers snatch up their playing children to hide and stare from behind parted curtains. Barbara's words still sting my brain, "How Low Can You Go"???

----- VE3FRM.

Did you know, in the spring of '24 Canadian amateurs were able to pass a message by relay from England to British Columbia in less than an hour!

Did you know that Howard Hughes was once a Ham radio operator?

28th CANADIAN WINTER RALLY FEBRUARY 16/17, 1985

Amateur radio operators have provided communications for this event for many years and at one time it was all handled on 75 meter fone, but for a long time VE3RPT and VE3TBF have been used exclusively with excellent results.

The rally is always held in February and cold wx and snow are pretty well guaranteed. For myself, the trip up Highways 12, 48 and 35 was no picnic. Visibility was almost non-existent at times and finding the centre of the road was a challenge. It was estimated that about 6 inches of snow fell during the event but it made the rally more interesting. At one check point there was a car on its roof but it was not a competitor. Apparently it was owned by one of the residents nearby.

Sometimes the rally cars don't go where they are pointed and end up in a snowbank. I remember one year when one of them turned turtle and ended on its roof on the ice surface of a lake. With this type of rally it is necessary to be able to call upon the CPP or tow truck and this is where the hams come in. Status of all rally cars and drivers is immediately available these days because we have the data entered into the computer.

Phil, VE3DQK feeds a steady stream of information into it while the rally is in progress and can instantly supply the checkers and any other officials with a progress report.

Each car has a crew of 2, one being the driver and the other the navigator. They are issued a route book with the necessary info such as road numbers, stops, turns and measured points in miles and kilometers. A good navigator will generally not leave the course but anything can happen and a little backtracking may occur. They always manage to find the next stop for coffee and route checks and this year the Brown Owl in Minden was chosen for this purpose. Since the rally does not start until early evening on Saturday, it's a long night for the competitors, checkers and communicators and all personnel involved.

Brent, VE3EJW was the Rally Master, Course openers were VE3PQ, ID and BDJ, Course closing were VE3LNU and EJW. Paul, VE3PQ is the organizer for communicators and dispatched them to the most convenient check location. This is always behind the checker's car and the ham relays such info as status of car and crew, danger points and time of car entering the check point if this is requested.

Check points were manned as follows: 1-DAP, 2-DYE, 3-ADJ, 6-NCF, 7&11-ATI 9-QG, 10-NTX, 13-DYI, 14-LIZ, 15-HMG/FIV, 16-GMM. Other check points were unmanned. From a communications point of view, this was a very good and successful operation. We welcome anyone else to join us next year.

Bernie VE3ATI.

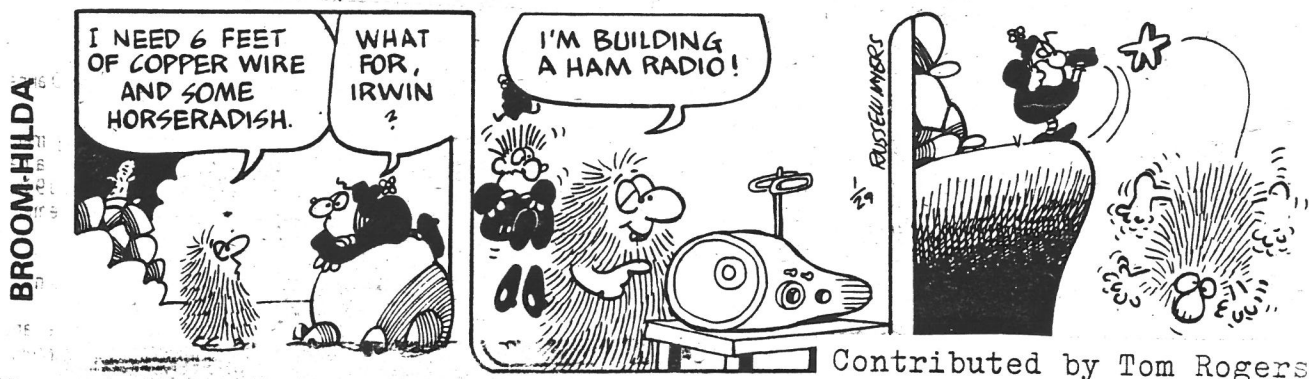
FLEA MARKET - PICKERING HIGH SCHOOL - APRIL 13TH, 1985.

Ralph CRK; Co-chairman; Bernie ATI; Neil KSP; Joe IHS; Bob LLZ; Gord NZS and Bill NTI, met with the reps of the South Pickering Club on Tuesday 25th. at the Pickering H.S. to iron out details of the forthcoming Flea Market (see flyer). The club is responsible for: talk in; parking; security; door prizes and the P.A. system and must share in the setting-up on Friday evening and the clean-up afterwards, Saturday afternoon. Club members have been asked to double-up their tables so that they can lend a hand. The response from the club is better than last year but we would welcome a few more members. We really need your co-operation!

W.A.S. on 220MHz! - see article in the February issue of "THE ONTARIO AMATEUR".

CLUB REPEATER

There has been a substantial increase in our rental fee for the repeater location (up over 70%). Contributions for its up-keep would be appreciated!



SSB (Sell, Swap and Buy).

Yaesu FT207R hand held portable, manual charger, speaker mike and carrying case
 See: Gary Helferty VE3CNO 1-416-576-1654
 Price negotiable.

Ham Station in good working order.
 Drake 2B receiver and Apache transmitter with SB10 sideband adapter
 See: Dave Green VE3FYB 683-3395
 Complete \$250.00

Citizen's S.S.B. 11 metre Mk5 Transceiver with mobile bracket, mobile whip and owner's manual.
 See: Dave Swiderski VE3LEW 985-3553 \$75.00

Thinking of changing jobs? It must be great working for Seagram's. I hear they get time and a fifth for overtime.

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FIELD DAY 1985

Tentative date is June 22nd. and 23rd.. From the last general meeting it was agreed that the club would like to participate in Field Day. You should note that there has been a change in the date owing to the fact that the last week-end in June falls on the 29th. and 30th. This would interfere with our Canada day week-end, hence the word "tentative" above. Field Day will be held at Heber Downs our field day site. At present, we have a 20 metre phone, 40 meter C.W., 75 meter phone and others for those who want to participate.

We will require a good work crew on Friday evening, June 21st. to erect the antennae, towers and assembly of the 20 meter beam. We will also need a crew to take down the towers after Field Day. We need tents for operating quarters. Has anyone a tent that we could borrow for Field Day.

We need tent managers and operators to spell those who have volunteered and a complete operating position for White Caners.

We will ask SWL Tom Rogers to supply us with power for Field Day.

What about a supervised scout tent with a two-metre rig set-up for phone and CW?

The above are some thoughts for Field Day. Please bring your thoughts or suggestions to our April meeting

Joe VE3IHS

COMMENT

The CNE Admin. has apparently been very pleased with the contribution from the various clubs. We were very well represented by the following members: Charlie IBO; Evan IND; Joe IHS and SWL Tom Rogers.

Joe IHS is the co-ordinator for the Field Day this year and all contributions should be directed to him.

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This is really something!" the University of Toronto student was bragging as he pointed to the David Dunlap Observatory. "We have a telescope that is so strong you can see a sexy woman over twenty-five thousand miles away." "Yeah?" the visitor replied. "What good is a sexy woman over twenty-five thousand miles away."

FOURTH ANNUAL
DURHAM REGION
AMATEUR RADIO
FLEA MARKET

ORGANIZED BY: SOUTH PICKERING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. VE3SPC
& NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. VE3NSR

SATURDAY APRIL 13, 1985
8:00 am to 1:00 Pm

Pickering High School
Pickering Village

ADMISSION ONLY \$3.00 ea. - includes ticket on Super
Prize FT 209R HT
(12 & under free)

DOOR PRIZES & COMMERCIAL DISPLAYS
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

VENDORS:

doors open vendors only

6 am to 8 am

Tables \$5.00 ea. PLUS ADMISSION

Information & Table Reservations payable

to : PHIL WASHBURN VE3HAA

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