

NORTH SHORE ARC

Box 171, Oshawa, ON, Canada, L1H 7L1

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 6

JUNE, 1998

June, 1998

Upcoming Flea Markets

June 13	Central Ont.(Kitchener)
June 20	Marmora
July 11	Milton
August 15	Brantford ARC
September 5	Lindsay ARC
September 12	Kingston

Walter, VE3FJC

Executive Members

President	Peter, VA3PWH
Vice President	725-8939 Alan, VA3ALN
Secretary	Jean Paul, VE3JPT
Treasurer	Ries, VE3UEA
Program Co-ordinator	Mike, VE3VCY

Newsletter Staff

Publisher	Glen, VE3LIZ
Editor	Laird, VE3LKS

Submit articles or info to Laird buy one of the following:

e-mail: ve3lks@ve3rac.ca
solomon@osha.igs.net
packet: ve3lks@bbsbbs
direct: ve3lks-1 on ve3ush

June Meeting

NSARC meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 19:30 in the Red Cross offices. This is located on the second floor of the Oshawa Centre. Take the elevator by Sears (north end of the Oshawa Centre) to the second floor and follow the signs.

No program info as of publishing deadline.

From the Chair in the Shack

As summer approaches along with some relief from the winter weather, it is a good idea to take stock of the club, its activities and the direction we might take in the future.

Our club has seen a dip in active members but we believe that this trend is reversing. Financially, we are in good shape and ready to tackle the challenges of what lies ahead. Flea market this year yielded us marginally less than the year before, but still a reasonable amount. Congratulations to all who showed up to help with the activities of the hamfest. We have shown at all levels from executive positions to helpers that we are definitely major contributors to this event. For a club whose numbers are temporarily down, we can be very proud of the part we played.

A solid core of members are still heavily involved in the special events which our members variously head up. Naturally we would like to see others, particularly some new members out there with us but we certainly hold our own. Field day approaches and we are hoping to see many of our members out for at least part of the event. The lunch plans are picking up speed and we will be letting you know soon what we hope to do with your help and company. We have 9 members who have indicated that they will be on hand for operations during the event.

For those who missed the meeting, the executive have decided to try operating field day on more of an emergency type basis. With this in

mind, we hope to be able to transport antennas, masts, verticals, generator and other equipment by car (as would perhaps be the case in a real emergency). We feel that this is a challenge which might be more like the trials of emergencies like the ice storm of this winter. Contesting takes a less prominent role in this kind of setup, but we have not been hungry testers recently anyway. Our emphasis is therefore more on the service aspect of the exercise.

Corn roast has not been taken on by any volunteer organizer and so we will not be having one this summer. Maybe, as more people take holidays away from home, we were hoping for too much anyway.

As for the future, your executive are working on several projects which, we hope, will add to our enjoyment of the club and perhaps interest new members. One, a new meeting site is in the works and you will be asked to vote on it. Another is the possible link to South Pickering's packet site for internet mail access. As well, your executive and repeater committee will be looking at ways to allow our repeaters to better serve your needs. While this might seem simple for any particular member, there are a variety of problems which people have with our system and a variety of possible solutions.

Come on out to the June meeting and wish your fellow hams a happy summer!

Peter Henry, VA3PWH

Contest Anyone?

I told you that "I would never contest." There's no way I would shout 5/9 for 24 hours into a microphone. It is strange how those words came back to me as I was swinging my wire antenna into the trees along the lakeshore.

Surely contesters demand most of the domain of amateur radio. They are territorial hf hogs. They live in a 5 by 9. You're in the log, Good luck in the contest, world. Why don't they ever tell it like it is.....Like "4 by 3, I can hardly hear you, your radio sounds tinny - and I hope you get a rotten score."

As I drew the polyethylene rope high over the television tower over top of my cottage, I reasoned that this was different. It was after all - the Ontario QSO party.

A party where a bunch of people get together to play. A QSO party is a party where people play talk. This was non-competitive. We would all play and win and, of course, talk.

By operating the multiplier, VA3RAC, I was helping people get back on the bands - and meeting one another - as old friends. I was doing a service for radio. I liked that. A service for radio.

And since I would be operating for 24 hours, the QSO party was also a 2.4. party. A regular marathon.

And, like any marathoner, I made careful provisions for the race to come. . Three large bags of chips, would provide my much needed carbohydrates. . Protein was provided by a large container of cashews, and peak energy demands would be generously met a good supply of cola and chocolate.

No details were overlooked. Recognizing the need to ration energy demands for the arduous demands of time, I cleverly drew the recliner chair up beside the radio The kind which

elevates the feet. This is most important. Peak blood demands were needed by the lungs and not the feet.

This would be Belmont Lake's equivalent to the running of the bulls of Pamplona.

I spent the morning gently messaging and soaking my trigger thumb. This is amateur radio's equivalency of working the punching bag. Throat sprays would guarantee an ongoing flow of words. The voice must not fail.

Distractions had to be removed. The telephone was unplugged.

The old battery was replaced in the clock. Several pens were placed at arms length.

And then - at the stroke of 1800 UTC - not a second sooner - not a second later - VA3RAC, pawed the dirt and tore into the HF bands.

VE5 Silver Fox in Saskatchewan threw the first jab and I retaliated with a lightning 5x9, Peterborough. His parried with a quick, 5 x 2, Regina. Five by Two?

Five by two? When I gave a five by nine? I quickly threw my pencil down and ran furiously outside, under the length of the G5RV - giving it a rapid once over.

I returned, puzzled.

I drilled my callsign into the ionosphere, to be answered immediately by VE3ODX. I couldn't believe it....my companion 10 point multiplier. Big time contact. Amazing, within five minutes I had worked two provinces and my sister heavyweight station.

I flirted with the idea of trying to convince Bob Chandler into calling the contest off. It was in the bag! Why bother taking it any further. In no time at all I had surged a sudden lead. Top points in the largest national QSO

party! The best in the land. This was undoubtedly, the fastest rise for a contest rooky in the history of the Ontario QSO party.

Party? What nonsense is this? Suddenly the very name QSO party, seemed trivial and silly. This was no party. This was bloody warfare.

Thankfully, I maintained my mental balance. There could be no compromise for me changing my attitudinal gears. I had to remember that I was an avid contest hater. But on the other hand, surely this was not a contest. This was no place for a Vanna White. There was no big wheel to spin. This was competition not a contest. Of course not. Whats more, this was a supreme exercise in cleverness.

And who could be more clever than VA3RAC?

As one of the two multipliers, I was the hunted. The quarry. The mysterious adversary that everyone needed.

It is a mindless fox that runs in front of the hounds, waving its white tail as a challenge.

I would make them work for this elusive multiplier. Indeed!

I flirted with idea of operating QRP - that would make them worth their keep to dig me out of the noise. Or, what about a thick foreign accent. The old false nose and glasses trick. I tried my Peter Lore impersonation, to see if that would mislead the pack.

Dees is Victoria Alpha Trezzz....Roman Air Command...

Two hours later, I was convinced that my ploy was working brilliantly. No one had discovered my secret lair.

Did no one have any imagination? Were there no bright lights in hamdom?

Could it be that my coax had fallen to the ground....and I "wasn't getting out." Fate worse than death! Another run around the cottage lot - this time at twice the speed,

When I burst through the door I looked at the radio sitting there - staring mutely at me. There was nothing to be heard. This made no sense - the Boulder A index was a stunning 25. A record smashing high, surely the world should be beating its way to my doorstep.

It was obvious that my brilliant subterfuge was outwitting everyone. After an hour of switching back and forth from Peter Lore, to my thick Russian accent, I decided to quietly peek out from my hiding place in the forest.

I went up to the 80 meter band, and heard the voices of QSO partiers.. The fools. They didn't know that the secret one, was cunningly listening to them. What power!

I was invincible. I could stand in their presence, like the Shadow and laugh in the night.

I ventured out into an open frequency, and defiantly announced my call sign.. To my surprise, I found myself with a pile up on my hands. Incredible - with a blink of an eye the roles changed, and I - the fox had seized the hunter's horn.

"Who owns that thick gravelly voice? Back of the line sir!

You with the foreign accent, wait your turn.

Ah yes, Madame....5 by 9, drop by to visit sometime"

This was a mental helium trip.

There could be no shutting me up now. The world was mine. I could ladle my five by nines out with the skill of a kitchen soupy in a world of

starving radio operators. "Get back in line - you doubled".

And so it went until one by one the voices went out. The night silenced the strongest.

Come morning, VA3RAC, was at it again. The circus master supreme - in the middle of a world of dancing bears and clapping spectators. Oh, it was good for the head. At 1800 sharp, the dance ended.

Please let it be known, that there is no room for contests in amateur radio. No room for wheels of fortune, and silly quiz contests. I hate contests. But, good lively spirited competition - well that is another matter!

Winston, VE3WFS

Field Day!

Alan, VA3ALN, would like anyone who can help contribute to Field Day to give him a call and let him know how you can help. We will be needing tents, trailers, radios, helpers to set up and take down, cooks, gofers, station operators, you name it. This is going to be a fun Field Day and I believe I heard the words "picnic" mentioned as well for those who attend.

Swap Shop

Roy, (905) 983-5411

Kenwood TS 450 SAT, Mic and manual \$120.

John, VE3VGI, (705) 939-1946

Kenwood AT 200 Antenna Tuner \$130.

Gord, VE3UIB, (905) 571 7068

Stripline Filter for 2 meters \$25. Arrow 144 meg. 3 element beam, portable beam \$75. R/S HTX 202 144 meg. handie, manual and charger, battery case \$180. Kantronics KPC-3 Plus, TNC. manuals \$150. Diawa 4 pos. Ant. Switch \$85.

Josef, VE3FVH, (905) 655-3009

KLM 13 El. 2m. Ant. \$50, Balun 2K 1:1 50 ohms \$10, Kenwood Phone Patch,

model PC-1 \$90. Jaybeam MBM 88/70 cm \$60. M2 2MCP14 2m. Crossed Yagi \$150. Kenpro KR-500 elevation rotor & control \$300. Kenpro KR-400 Azimuth rotor & control \$300. Microwave Modules 432 MHZ -100 watt linear \$300. IC271 2m.all mode transceiver, P/S, mike and manual \$750. IC471 70cm all mode transceiver, P/S, mike and manual \$750. Landwehr 2m Pre-amp, mast mount \$210. TE-Systems 70cm 100 watt linear & Preamp. \$450. L.L. Grace Kansas City Tracker and Tuner. Package includes PC interface card , interface connector and software \$450.

Glen, VE3LIZ, (905) 725-1545

NC 29 desk charger for batteries used in FT23R- 33R- 73R, FT 411, 811, 911, FT 470 Price is \$80. Radio Shack Model 100 Portable Computer, VM-2 Monitor and Disk/Video interface. Inquiries Welcome.....

Fred, VE3TIG, (905) 576-4839

Apple Macintosh SE - 20 meg hard drive, Image Writer II printer, Claris Works, MicroSoft Word, Mouse, Mousepad, excellent working order, \$150. Mass 6 meter transverter, Frequency: 50 MHZ, input frequency: 28 - 30 MHZ tuned to: 50.125 MHZ, all modes, .01 to 10 watts in, 10 watts out, New \$150. TPL 2 meter linear amplifier Frequency: 136 - 175 MHZ, tuned to:147.000 MHZ, modulation:FM, 1 watt in 25 watt out, \$50.

Mike, VE3DKW, (905) 723-7674

The next list is from the estate of VE3AEQ Glen. Cushcraft 2 m. 19 element beam \$80, Cushcraft 432 mhz. 24 element yagi \$35. 2 pcs Heathkit Cantenna Dummy Load \$20 each. Large Qty. Assorted Test Equipment, call for info....100ft Andrews 7/8 Heliac with Two connectors \$150. 903 meg. loop yagi 33 element \$25. Variac 10 amp. \$20. 3480 Volt centre tapped transformer 25 cycle \$25.

Aldo, (905) 432-3923

Yaesu FT-101 Transceiver, Yaesu FV-101 External VFO, Yaesu TO-100 Monitor Scope, Landline phonepatch speaker \$650.

WANTED - Manual wanted Kenwood TR-2600 Handie-Talker

Gunter, VE3LHM, (905) 263-2180

WANTED - dopler kit for direction finding.

Send all listings to VE3FJC, Walter at (905) 263-2338, by packet at VA3BBS, or by phone at VE3OSH 2 meter repeater.

May Minutes

Meeting opened with Guest speaker VE3TIG, Fred Bengel who gave a presentation on the Governor Island DXpedition. Joining in the presentation were Lyle and John with Aldo unable to be with us to round out the team. They were peppered with questions, all of which showed the interest level of our members.

After a coffee break VE3ITG Ian Smith summarized the Hamfest finances and presented the club with a cheque for our share of the profits. VE3VGK Earl is to be thanked for his fine work as treasurer for the event which allowed us to have the finances completed quickly after the event. VA3ALN Alan gave us a run down on the field day. Expect to hear more from him in the near future.

Apologies for the somewhat informal minutes, the second hat didn't fit as well as it fits our secretary.

Peter Henry, VE3PWH

Trivia

What large scale construction project was first started in 1880. The construction project endure multiply starts and stops with final completion of the engineering marvel taking place 113 years later?

The answer is.....

The tunnel under the English Channel. Which was completed in April 1993. A French engineer named Mathieu first proposed the project in 1802, and digging began in 1880. A French Channel Company sank a shaft at Sangatte and bored a mile under the channel.

Les, VA3LTB

HamFest Security TNX

Well the Hamfest for NSARC and SPARC 1998 was a success I think and all went well. I just want to put in a list of Hams who helped out with Security and they are as follows:

NSARC

Nick, ve3vdh
Martha, va3sbd
Dave, ve3ajy
Ralph, ve3crk
Gary, ve3epy
Alan, va3aln
Les, va3ltb
Lyle, va3dxe
Howard, ve3tyq
Bob, ve3adj (Also parking).
Winston, ve3wfs (Main Stage).

SPARC

Allan, va3awn
Al, ve3dlg
Glen, va3gar
Bill, ve3wzr
John, ve3fcs
George, ve3szc
Bill, ve3kch
Keven, ve3kjf

I think I got everyone but if I missed someone sorry. I want to thank you one and all for your time and help. Hope we can do it all again next year. Have a safe and Happy summer everyone. Your HamFest Security Coordinator

Howard, VE3TYQ

From the Editor...

How to improve the clubs persona... At our last club meeting I observed something that disturbed me. At a time in our club history when our numbers are declining we totally ignore visitors to our meeting. I was standing in the foyer of the Red Cross office when a visitor came through the door. I introduced myself and welcomed him to our club meeting. Unfortunately, someone else cornered me but I was able to position myself so I could see what he did. After that initial welcome he went into the meeting room and sat down. Only a few people said "Hi" to this fellow as

they passed him on their way to be seated for the meeting. I would guess that he sat there for about five minutes without anyone else introducing themselves and then the meeting began. At the break I was able to strike up a more meaningful conversation and learned that even though he lives in Ajax it is easier for him to attend our meetings due to working in the area and the timing.

Now, if that was me and I had attended a meeting for the very first time I would not be inclined to come back. Yes, the content of the meeting was excellent....the sociability of the members stunk. With attitudes like this we will be hard pressed to keep potential new members coming back. If you got this treatment at a store you would never go back and would probably tell others of the rotten service. In business it is a proven fact that it is easier to keep a current customer then to get a new one. We had a new one..let's hope he didn't leave never to return.

What can we do to keep visitors and members coming out? Check out the following tips:

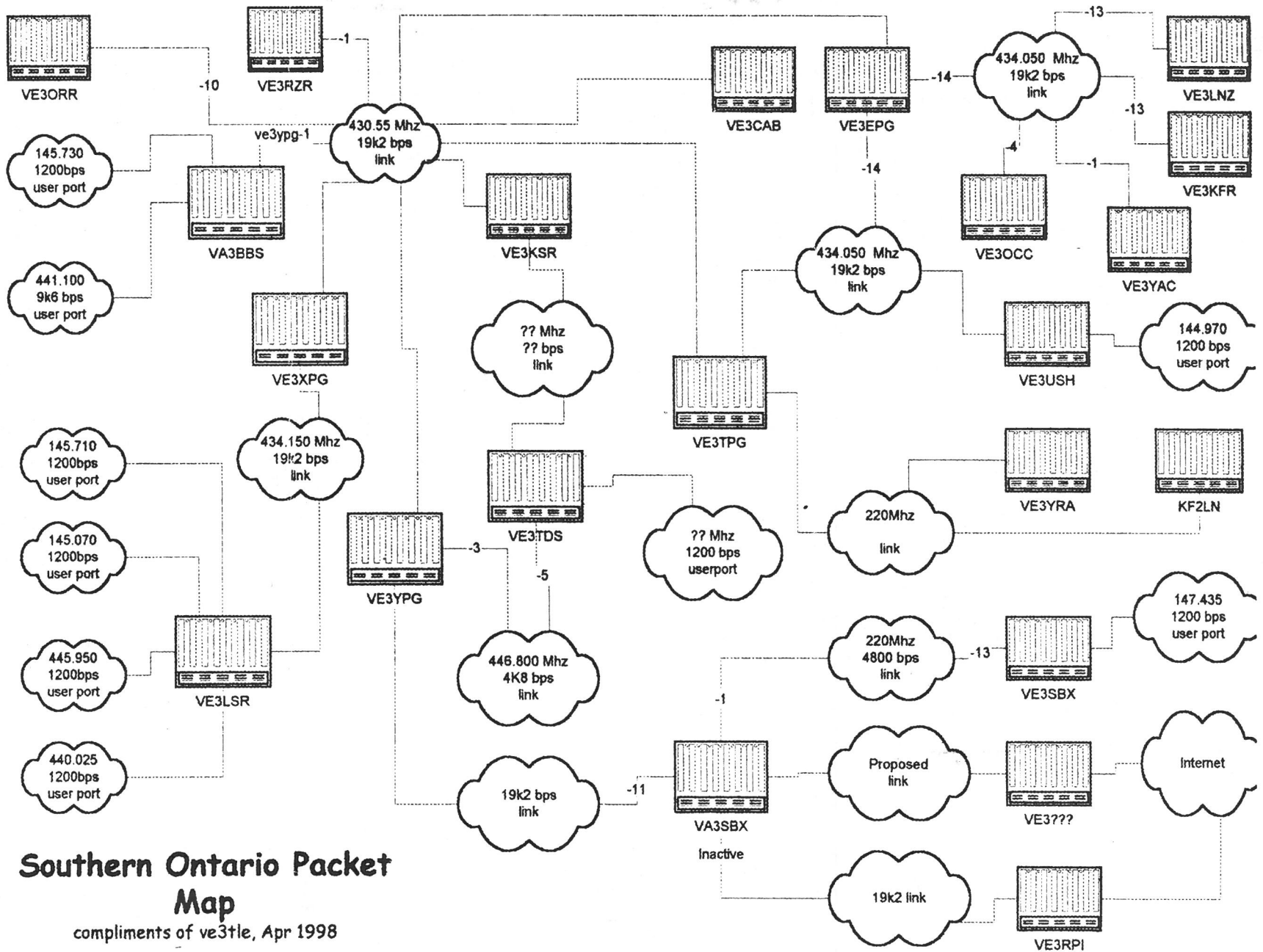
Tip #1 - EVERYONE should be observant and welcome new visitors personally, not just one or two people. Don't forget, you have something in common with this total stranger...AMATEUR RADIO!

Tip #2 - we should have a welcome package that we can give to a visitor telling them everything about NSARC, including a membership form. You can't make the sale if you don't ask for it!

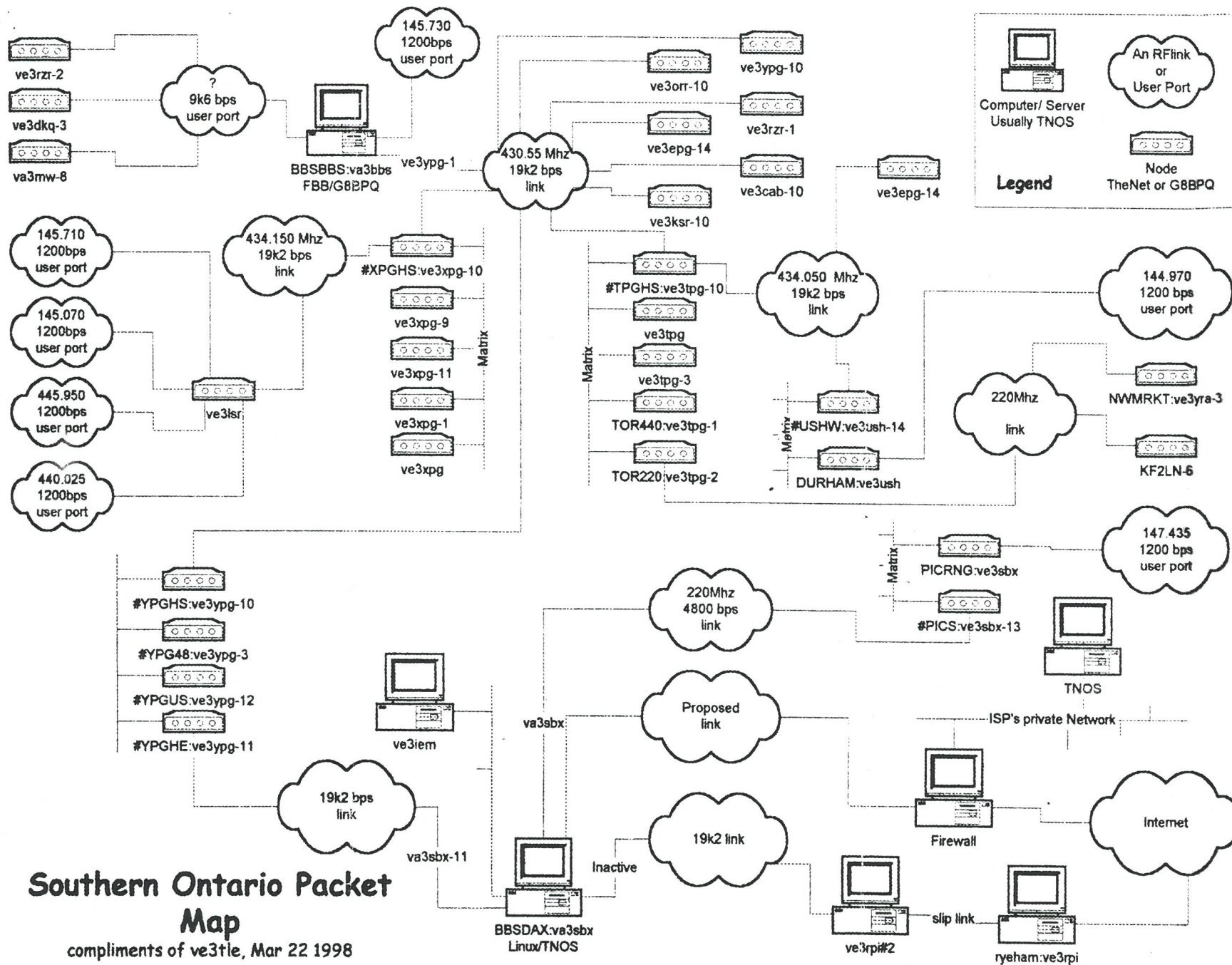
Tip #3 - We should probably welcome visitors BEFORE the main presentation starts. Visitors are very important in the long run to the club.

I'll stop here because I am running out of space but I think you get my point.

Laird, VE3LKS



Southern Ontario Packet Map
 compliments of ve3tle, Apr 1998



Southern Ontario Packet Map

compliments of ve3tle, Mar 22 1998