

# NORTH SHORE ARC

Box 171, Oshawa, ON, Canada, L1H 7L1  
www.osha.igs.net/~Isolomon/nsarc.htm

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## Happy New Year!

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Submit articles or info to Laird buy one of the following:  
e-mail: ve3lks@rac.ca or Isolomon@osha.igs.net  
packet: ve3lks@bbsbbs  
direct: ve3lks-1 on ve3ush

### Monthly Meeting

See you at the RCAF building at the Oshawa Airport.  
Meeting is on the third Monday of the Month at 1930hrs.

### VE3WFS on the Internet

Like many hams, I got my start as a listener of both the medium and short waves. I have never fully left this far behind. Since the sudden explosion of internet, world wide radio is available on your computer. Imagine, you can listen to the same local music as a group of climbers, resting in their tent on the slopes of Mount Everest, or as a Chinese rickshaw driver, who stands along the curb, having his noontime rice bowl...while listening to a station from Hong Kong.

My entrance to the world of radio on internet was through The Massachusetts Institute of Technology's website listing: "The MIT List of Radio Stations Internet."  
<http://wubr.mit.edu/stations/list.html>. The site boasts of being the entrance point to some 6 000 stations, around the globe. The stations are listed geographically by continents, subcontinents, and individual countries. You will notice that the stations with internet audio access have little lightning streaks beside them.

With a sound card and two speakers - the world can be yours in your shack. You can hear what people are listening to in their homes in Beirut.. Or what they might hear in the background, as they haggle for the price of bread at the street market.

Perhaps I should begin by mentioning that my system is a pentium r upgrade with 48 mg ram. My speakers are a pair of Pontechs. I bought them at Node 1, in Oshawa. And they are great speakers - delivering a great quality of sound. They cost about \$37 a pair.

The technology has changed pretty rapidly. The most contemporary sound is from Real Audio G3, and if you haven't got this, it costs \$29.95 US. But, it can be paid by visa or mastercard. And most of these international stations.

The good news is for the most part, the older REAL PLAYER, system - available through the REAL AUDIO web site is available for you to download - with no charge. But be prepared to watch the paint dry in your shack for a half an hour while the download takes place. And, I have found that while I can use this to hear buffered sound bites or recorded and stored, or should I say archived for your pleasure, and also live audio broadcasts.

And, if you want to wander the web sites of the earth - you will get a mixture of presentations. The majority of station websites are silent. About 40% have sound features.

Some use pre-recorded sound packages to greet you.

"Welcome to Radio Nepal"

And, there are many stations which provide for you with an exotic supply of voices, languages and music from this international smorgasbord.

I began my around the world in 80 minutes journey of international stations by checking out what was available from the Middle East. The website featured links into radio stations in Bahrain, Jordan, Israel, Kuwait, Lebanon, the United Arab Emirate, Oman and Tehran, Iran.

My springboard into the Middle East was through Radio 10, 106.5 FM in Jerusalem. I received a small recorded Hebrew language sound bite from this station.

From there I took a quick hop over into Radio Kuwait. The "Good Evening Kuwait" show burst into my shack live and in Arabic.

After a couple of minutes of listening to the sharp, punctuated sounds of an Arabic announcer, I wandered back to the website. This time to check out some Asian stations. There were a wide variety of countries listed among the Asian websites: Hong Kong (still has the English Union Jack Ensign on the corner of its flag - at least on their web site), Indonesia, India, China, Mongolia, Japan, and Kyrgyzstan (Hello?)

Curiosity took me first of all to the Kyrgyzstan station website where I found 'Radio Pryamid' Bishtek. And don't be confused about the pyramid business. The pyramid of Cheops does not have a double in the Himalayan mountains,

In fact, Radio Pyramid's website unfolds with a great pyramid finger of a Homolosine mountain rolling down the screen. (Mount Everest maybe?) Although there is no audio link here, it was interesting to see the three announcer's pictures on screen. Two Slavs, and the third is a Eur-Asian. And just in case anyone thinks he is a backward Kyrgyzstanian - there is a cellular phone pasted to his ear. (Lucky him)

It hasn't taken long for people to realize that internet is a great political media. The Kyrgyzstan site is sponsored by the United States Information Agency.....hmm - very interesting. (Is this the same old wine in a new bottle?)

Even though we may have buried the cold war, Radio Bulgaria makes a statement - just in case the Evil Empire tries to make a comeback. This website - like most is in English, but unlike most, it makes a very political statement. Blazoned across the top of it, are the words: Radio Free Europe -dash- Radio Liberty, complete with a liberty bell logo.

This web site is as plain and as dull and as political as a V.A. broadcast. It resembles the points of an essay typed on a blank 8 1/2 x 11, paper. The title points, when clicked lead to information on information of religious, economic and political freedom in Bulgaria.

Radio Albania's web page features a map of Albania with bubble like globes floating with in the map. Very colourful. It also features updates on the conflict between the Serbs and Kosovo and an up to date scorecard of Serbian murders and massacres.

HRT Radio Croatia, Zagreb - has a colourful, albeit rather simple, nicely presented web page - The Globe and HRT Web, and on the black background the routing to live video

and audio transmissions from several Croatian centres. When I checked the website out, the station featured the colour and drama of a soccer match - Zagreb vs Split.

Curiosity led me to see what Polish Listing would include a server in Toronto. The Web page announced that it was Groove's Radio Website - a Pirate Internet Station broadcasting in Polish emanating from Toronto. This is a zesty Polish language pop website, with a pumpkin with a flaming mouth pulsing orange light with the beat of the music. The language of the website was youthful..."If you are still using real player this will sound like a piece of shit" Ouch!

No success with All India Radio in New Delhi - an intermittably long download, with a web site that kept flipping in and out all the while informing me that their URL was no longer accessible.

After a succession of several other strike outs in downloading, I stumbled upon Radio Singapore International. City Sound, 95.8 FM was my entry point. I was treated to a delightful musical presentation. (Unfortunately, all of the music was in Western major key with western musical instruments and Asian language singers) Where were the exotic strings? Although it was a rare treat to tilt back in the easy chair in the shack and listen to some contemporary, urban sounds, sung in Mandarin, from downtown Singapore.

A check on African stations on the MIT website revealed stations with web sites in Ghana, Kenya, Egypt, Liberia, Morocco, Mauritius, Sierra Leona, (would the DXCC accept their qsl card on this media) the Seychelles, and in South Africa. Commercial 2 Radio, is a network which has stations in such cities as Durban, Johannesburg and Capetown. Their web site is a stunning artistic image of who they are. They have programming in both Zulu and English. They target the black and white communities, and they feature what they believe is the culturally unique south African sound and style of music. This is aimed to the black community.

The Caribbean web page for Fame FM, Radio Jamaica, (RJR) counts among the most colourful web sites for any radio station I have visited. Bright lime green bands, circle the globe. There are lots of bursts of brilliant reds. All the colours of a Caribbean flouncy skirt. Fame FM, Kingston took me beyond the web page, by what is known as Shockwave Flash. After a short burst of music I encountered a picture of their staff, posed along the Caribbean Seashore. Another click gives the quickly Jamaican intoned message: "This is Fame FM 98.1"...and a variety of click buttons to enter other features.

Alfa Radio, 91.3, offers a vibrant Mexican art motif.. Tropical moon 88.9 FM, in Panama City offers the design of a coconut tree silhouetted against a black palm tree. HCJB, the famed Voice of the Andes shortwave station in Quito

Equador has an am outlet, and an attractive, English language web page, showing the points of a compass, imposed upon the spread out Mercator globe. They give a Colorado Springs, USA address, and their web site takes you from country to country where they have small relay stations. In many cases, specially designed transmitters in a box, which enables a local HCJB follower, with necessary paper work, to put a station on the air in their homeland - and of course, to use content relayed via HCJB.

Contact: Fred Bengel (905) 576-4839  
E-MAIL: ve3tig@idirect.com

Description: 10 weeks, no morse code required, Industry Canada examination on last night of the course. Text book not included  
Cost: \$75.00 - includes one year FREE membership in the NSARC!

## NSARC E-Mail Addresses

ve3lks@rac.ca ..... Laird, VE3LKS  
ve3wfs@rac.ca ..... Winston, VE3WFS  
va3spz@rac.ca ..... Steven, VA3SPZ  
va3cah@rac.ca ..... Cal, VA3CAH  
va3cpt@rac.ca ..... Don, VA3CPT  
va3pwh@rac.ca ..... Peter, VA3PWH  
va3nbm@rac.ca ..... Neil, VA3NBM  
va3adj@rac.ca ..... David, VA3ADJ  
va3jpt@rac.ca ..... Jean Paul, VA3JPT  
ve3tig@rac.ca ..... Fred, VE3TIG  
ve3uea@rac.ca ..... Ries, VE3UEA  
sibbald@durham.igs.net ..... Lyle, VA3DXE  
ve3sz@rac.ca ..... Scott, VE3SZ  
KRMaylin@bluecir.com ..... Kevin, VA3THB  
dinsmorem@hotmail.com ..... Martha, VA3SBD  
ve3vgj@rac.ca ..... Joe, VE3VGJ  
ve3bnn@rac.ca ..... Margaret, VE3BNN  
ve3vdh@rac.ca ..... Nick, VE3VDH  
lpd@osha.igs.net ..... Paul, VE3LHZ

## Swap Shop

**Peter, VA3PWH (905) 436-9236**

For Sale Palstar 300 Watt Antenna Tuner with 48 position inductor switch \$190.

**Norm, VE3ON (905) 683-6794**

Kenwood TM 461A VHF 430-440 Rig , Brand New \$350.

**Rick, VE3ZTP (905) 404-0084**

For Sale, Motorola Commerical Two Meter Transceivers, 40 Watt output, Dash mount remotes \$50. OR TRADE for Ham radio gear.

**Roy, (905) 983-5411**

D104 Silver Eagle Desk Mic \$75.FIRM.... also Sale, A99 Antron Vertical Antenna for 10 & 11 meters \$50.

**Jack, VA3JFW (905) 571-5334**

FR 101 Yaesu Receiver, needs work, \$50. no manual. TRC-47 CB radio converted to 10 meters \$20. Heathkit rcvr works but needs work , model no. unkown. FREE.

**Rick, VE3ZTP (905)404 0084**

WANTS a HF Antenna Tuner with a SWR meter to handle 500 Watts.

ANET, on the Ross Ice Shelf of Antarctica, isn't to be forgotten When I clicked on the play feature, I was greater with Mike Dowling and Randy Sabeint singing Highway of Regret - some Country sounds from the southern Ice shelf. No problem identifying the nationality of the listeners at this location.

96FM comes to us from distant Perth. Their rather plain website, has a portable radio on it, pushing out the vibes. And, while their music bursts along, you can picture a half dozen bronzed Australian youth listening to the same station, as they lie on a local beach. A stunning Aussie voice identifies the station.

The sound you receive from your speakers, is subjected to the vagaries of the media. The inconsistencies of the means of communication, and the ever changing channels of the internet highway, can result in momentary and sudden breaks in the audio. But, it usually returns in force within seconds. Surprisingly, the quality is usually very good.

My global potpourri of radio stations left me with several impressions. Firstly, the world has become very small. The spread of western culture within the urban world, seems by the media of radio to be stretching its tentacles into the diverse heartlands of these countries, and drawing people into a world of pizza and western style music.

Be prepared to be reminded of your age. The music, by and large, tends to be contemporary rock, loud and heavy. The message of radio on Web pages, is by and large the celebration of life, and the statement that people should be proud of who they are - but yet should be able to co-exist.

And, for anyone who hasn't listened to an overseas FM station via internet - the quality is more comparable to what you would hear from a local FM station, than what you would tune into over the short waves.

My entry point was through Jerusalem's.....

## Fred's Amateur Radio Classes

Start: Wednesday Feb. 3rd at 7:00 P.m. for 10 weeks / Last class Apr.10th, 1999

Where: Library - R.S. McLaughlin Collegiate  
570 Stevenson Road North

*Howard, VE3TYQ, (905) 579-7466*

MFJ 1270C TNC - 2 meter & HF, manual, P/S, programs \$100. XT computer keyboard, monitor \$25. 386SX25 4 meg ram, VGA monitor, keyboard, mouse, 43 meg. hard drive, one speed CD rom \$200.

*Walter, VE3FJC, (905) 263-2338*

Ringo Ranger Two Meter Vertical Base Ant. \$40. Drake Low Pass Filter, model TV3300LPF rated at 1000 watts. \$30. Sale Kenwood General Coverage Receiver, Model R 1000. Its digital readout, solid state, 200KHZ to 30 MHZ. \$250. Yeasu FT 107 HF transceiver, solid state, digital readout, manual, mic, and marching FT 107-E power supply-speaker for \$550. VE3FJC also LOOKING for Heathkit knobs abt 1" dia. Green with silver skirt. FT 890 transceiver with Auto Tuner, Perfect condition, mic manual, box. \$1100. FIRM.

*Josef, VE3FVH, (905) 655-3009*

One 2 inch by 10 feet long fibreglass boom \$110. 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. 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.

*Mike, VE3DKW, (905) 723-7674*

The next list is from the estate of VE3AEQ Glen. Cushcraft 432 mhz. 24 element yagi \$35. 903 meg. loop yagi 33 element \$25. WANT Command Transmitters, models BC-458 & BC-459... ANY other COMMAND Transmitters & Receivers wanted.

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

## When the call comes in .... Will you be ready to spring to action?

When a disaster strikes, and the services of Amateur Radio are called upon – will you be ready? What will you need to bring? How long will it take to pull things together and be on your way prepared and able to get on the air, stay on the air, and handle traffic under whatever conditions?

Emergency preparedness literally “begins at home” with the individual and his/her family. It begins when parents teach their children to telephone for emergency assistance. In Durham Region, emergency assistance is one number – 911. In addition, parents or caregivers must explain the dangers associated with fire and the precautions to be taken in the

event of a fire or lightening strike. Many families also teach their children escape routes from their homes and contact points where family members can meet after the emergency situation is over.

There are several aspects of being prepared. On a personal level, to start, you must have the interest and desire to be part of the emergency response team. Who is the team? The Durham Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Organization (DRAREO). Members of your local Radio Clubs head up this organization. These volunteers are aligned with the served Regional and Municipal agencies and part of the overall regional emergency response plans.

When the call comes in, it's no time for a conscientious operator to start thinking about the equipment and supplies to take along. DRAREO has a suggested list of what should go into an Operator's emergency kit so he/she can approach as closely as possible the ideal of just loading the kit into the car and getting on the way.

Each individual will have a different idea of what he or she will need in terms of equipment and supplies. Most of the items in the following list can be conveniently packed in a small trunk or box labeled “DRAREO Emergency Kit”. Some things will have to be packed at the last minute. Be sure to have the full kit list on the lid of the container so it can be quickly reviewed just before departure time.

Content of an Emergency kit varies greatly depending on the type of emergency and the duration of the response effort. The following is a suggested checklist for a basic Personal Emergency Kit. Additional items would be required for longer-term emergencies.

1. DRAREO identification card.
2. Documents
  - a. Photocopy of Operator's and Station License
  - b. Drivers License
  - c. Your DRAREO Emergency Communications plan.
  - d. Road maps of the local area
  - e. Post-it notes
3. Radio Gear
  - a. 2m transceiver
  - b. Portable antenna (j-pole, wire, or magnetic-mount with cookie sheet)
  - c. Headphones for the radio
  - d. Radio Manual
  - e. Power Supply for the above radio
  - f. Battery pack with extra batteries and cable.
  - g. Spare fuses and microphone
  - h. Commercial band receiver – battery operated with extra batteries
  - i. Transceiver power cord with alligator clips to fit auto battery
  - i. Transceiver power cord with cigarette lighter plug.
  - j. Patch cords and adapters (BNC/PL259/RCA etc.)

- k. Antenna filter for the operating bands.
- l. SWR meter and manual.
- m. 50' Extra coax cable
- n. 50' electrical extension cord
- o. power bar or splitter cube

4. Writing Gear

- a. Pen/pencils/eraser/notepaper
- b. Clipboard
- c. Message log forms
- d. Message forms

5. Personal Gear

- a. Snacks and liquid refreshments for at least 12 hours  
Note: Food should be high-carbohydrate for energy.  
High sugar foods such as candy won't last.
- b. Candy and throat lozenges.
- c. Personal medication
- d. Extra pair of prescription glasses (if required)
- e. Money – quarters for pay phones etc.
- f. Foul weather clothes
- g. Flashlight or lantern with spare batteries.
- h. Wrist watch
- i. Compass

6. Toolbox

- a. Screwdrivers, pliers, socket wrenches, etc.
- b. Electrical tape.
- c. Duct tape
- d. 12/120 volt soldering iron, solder and solder sucker, etc.
- e. Volt/ohm/ampere meter
- f. Marrette connectors.
- g. Misc. screws, stove bolts and nails
- h. Hammer
- i. Multi-purpose pocket knife

7. Miscellaneous (Car Kit)

- a. Jumper cables
- b. Highway flares
- c. Siphon and fuel container
- d. 50' nylon rope (1/4 or better)
- e. Personal first aid kit.
- f. Fire extinguisher.

Emergency response members should develop the habit of keeping their car fuel tank more than half-full at all times. If the municipal power supply fails, it will not be possible to obtain gasoline at most service stations.

Building a Personal Emergency Kit is an on-going effort. Start with the container. It could be as simple as a cardboard box or a more elaborate weatherproof plastic toolbox. Next, start adding to it by following the list and then let your experience take over. Don't forget to maintain the list (on the lid) and check it twice.

Before responding to a call for emergency assistance, ALWAYS insure that your immediate responsibilities are

tended to first! NEVER respond to a call for service for which you are not physically or otherwise able. Do Not Put Yourself In hardship or Danger!

Stay tuned next month for the DRAREO information and activity schedule for 1999.

(Extracted from DRAREO Emergency Response Handbook , TCA Public Service October '96; Emergency Preparedness Canada Planning Handbook, and the RAC Emergency Coordinator's Handbook)

*Ries VE3UEA*

## Hamfest Update

Hello everyone and a Happy New Year! This is the first monthly update about the status of the 1999 Hamfest. To refresh your memory, the Hamfest is occurring on Saturday, April 17th from 9:00am to 2:00pm. As usual, we will require your help in making the event a success once again. Set-up will occur on Friday, April 17th starting around 4:00pm and running until about 7:00pm. Tear down occurs on Saturday from 2:00pm until about 4:30pm. These are the two times when we really need volunteers to help. There are jobs for those with good backs and jobs for those with bad backs, and believe me, I know what a bad back is. We also require help during the event. Collecting cash, acting as security and selling tickets are a few of the tasks you could do. To volunteer, please contact Kim Becker VA3KIM. Her email address is [va3kim@rac.ca](mailto:va3kim@rac.ca)

Now for the update... It is time to put one rumor to rest -- The Hamfest is a one-day event from 9:00am to 2:00pm on Saturday, April 17th, 1999. We had brought in a management company to help us out and they were talking 2-day event, 9 to 5 each day, 80,000sq ft. Communications SuperSale and Hamfest. Unfortunately, this is not going to happen this year. However for the year 2000..... (And there I go again starting another rumor)

We are currently running a little behind schedule because of this change/return in venue but it looks like we will be crossing the finish line as per usual. If you would like to help us out on the committee, please contact myself at (905) 427-4873 or via email at [ve3itg@rac.ca](mailto:ve3itg@rac.ca)

*Ian Smith VE3ITG*  
Hamfest Coordinator

# **Canada's Largest Canada's Best**

A show for:  
**Amateur Radio, Scanner,  
Shortwave, and other  
communication enthusiasts!**



**April 17, 1999  
Metro East Trade Centre**

Just north of Hwy #401 on Brock Rd.  
Pickering, Ontario

Exit 399 on Hwy #401  
15 minutes east of Toronto

## **G.O.T.A.**

I will be looking volunteers for GOTA on Saturday Feb. 20th  
Setup will begin at 0900 and takedown sometime after  
15.00.

We will have the following stations:

- ★ HF - 20 meters
- ★ HF - 40 or 80 meters
- ★ VHF / UHF
- ★ packet
- ★ morse

We need both volunteers and equipment.

Anyone interested should contact me.

Fred Bengel  
Home: (905) 576-4839  
Paket: ve3tig@va3bbs  
Internet: ve3tig@idirect.com