



Monthly Update

April 2019

April Club Meeting

When: Tuesday, Apr 16, 7:00pm
Where: White Cliffe Terrace Retirement Residence

Ken VE3RMK will be having a presentation on message handling and communication techniques for emergency or special event situations. As Amateurs are expected to be able to assist in times of need this will be a great overview for all of us. If you are not prepared to provide proper communications in an emergency then you would be more of a hindrance than a help. This will be of special value to those who help out with special events, such as Ride for the United Way, as even experienced operators need to be reminded of protocol for certain situations. This will be a great presentation with ample time for a Q & A.



Boy Scout Presentation

As you will recall, Scouter **Thomas VE3PDK** missed part of our last meeting as he was busy presenting the wonderful world of Amateur Radio to a troop of Scouts up in Port Perry. Several locals were more than happy to jump on the repeater and chat with the Scouts including **Larry VE3LWJ** who came in, via IAXRPT on his phone, from Florida. Thanks, **Thomas**, for being a great ambassador of the hobby and to all those who checked in on the repeater to help make the presentation more meaningful. **Thomas** has been asked to do a few more presentations so watch for more opportunities to chat with the Scouts.



Name Badges for New Members

If you have become a new member of the North Shore ARC, over the last year or so, and do not have a club name badge please see **Clint VA3KDK** at the upcoming meeting to make arrangements to get one. If you have multiple call signs we will need to know which one you would like on the name badge and I believe you have the option of getting the name badge in red or navy blue.

Field Day Back on Track

At our last meeting we had a good discussion about our upcoming Field Day and the hurdles we were facing in regards to a conflict with the use of the main building at Purple Woods and not having a coordinator.



After the meeting **Darren VE3NMD** approached me and we had a discussion around what was expected of the coordinator and how our Field Day operated. I am pleased to announce that **Darren** has decided to take on this role and we will be bringing him up to speed. **Darren** has past experience with organizing Field Day events as he has done it for another club that he was a member of.

We have decided that we will still have the event at Purple Woods but will use the area around our repeater building. **Tom VA3TGW** has volunteered to bring his camping trailer that we can set one or two stations up in. **Jackie VA3BTQ** has also volunteered to bring her horse trailer that we could easily set three stations up in. So, things are falling into place and along with all the regulars that bring out radios, antennas, generators, BBQs and the like it looks like we are a go for Field Day 2019.

Website – ve3osh.com

Repeater

Improvements

Once again good things are happening at the repeater shack. **Lex VE3LEX** had a faceplate created to fit the two Motorola radios that make up our DMR repeater VE3LBN. Of course that triggered the mandatory coffee/breakfast get together at White Feather Farms and then a trip up the hill to the repeater where six or seven guys watched **Lex** do his thing. Tnx, **Lex**, for making the equipment rack look even more professional!



The "management team" - Joe VE3VGJ, Laird VE3LKS and Ralph VE3CRK



Joe VE3VGJ, Laird VE3LKS, Lex VE3LEX, Doug VA3DCE, Bob VE3HIX, Alex VA3AMP and Carl SWL getting some sustenance before heading up the hill to the repeater shack.

LIFE IS SIMPLE



Email – info@ve3osh.com

43rd Annual Durham Hamfest

Our annual Hamfest, on April 27, is fast approaching and things are falling nicely into place. A core group of organizers have been meeting monthly preparing for this event and **Steve VA3TPS** reported that there are only a handful of tables left for vendors. We are right on track, compared to previous years, and we are confident that the remaining tables will be sold.



If you have volunteered for this event, but have not been coming out to the planning meetings, your team leads will be contacting you and letting you know when and where you are expected to be on the day of the event.

This is a great fundraiser for our club and we appreciate the amount of volunteers that step forward. In fact, we have had to put a few people on the backup list as we actually have a few too many. What a great position to be in!



Tuesday Night Rag Chew



This is not a formal net but rather a lively roundtable. Some can only stick around for a few minutes while others are there from start to finish. We never know what the topic de jour will be but someone always comes up with something. So, if you are available between 1900 and 2000hr on Tuesdays pop onto OSH and join the

conversation. As well, since this is a rag chew, and not a net, feel free to step in and moderate the group should one of the regulars not be there. All you have to do is jot down who is on and rotate through the list so that everyone gets a chance to participate.

Wednesday Night

Face-to-Face

As well as the Tuesday night rag chew on the repeater there is quite a crew that meet at the Tim Horton's at King and Wilson at about 7:30pm every Wednesday. This is a great time to get together to chat about radio or anything else that is on your mind. If you are in the area on Wednesday night, and have a few minutes to spare, we would definitely enjoy your company. This is open to anyone whether you are a member of the North Shore ARC or not.



Saturday Breakfast

If you are not tired of chatting or meeting up with club members during the week then you will be interested to know that there is a small group that meets on Saturday morning for breakfast at Johnny's Original Eatery. The restaurant is located in the plaza on the northwest corner of King and Thornton. Members and families usually start to arrive at about 8:30am.



As well, if there is work to be done at the repeater site on a Saturday morning, you will quite often find a large crowd at White Feather Farm, which opens at 8:30am, enjoying coffee, breakfast and maybe even one of their amazing, freshly baked, apple fritters. Just give a shout on the repeater between 8:00 and 8:20 to see if anyone is heading up that way and come and join us if we are. White Feather Farm is located at the corner of Simcoe St and Raglan Rd in Raglan.

Website – ve3osh.com

QRM from the Shack



Ahhh, spring is in the air. I hope. Mother Nature has fooled us a few times this year but it appears that the snow has stopped. Now, on to Hamfest!

Our May meeting will be our last meeting at White Cliffe Retirement Residence until October. We are looking for ideas for a presentation at our May meeting so if you have any ideas please pass them along to any of the executive. If you have something you would like to present we would be more than happy to let you take the floor.

If you are new to North Shore you will find that we like to socialize and eat. The June meeting is a BBQ at the repeater site which is located at Purple Woods Conservation Area just north of Raglan on Simcoe St. Our September meeting is a Corn Roast and BBQ held at the same location. All our monthly meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month.

As mentioned earlier in the Update the plans for Hamfest and the 2019 ARRL Field Day are progressing well. Make you mark the weekend of June 22 to 23 and plan on coming out and participating. This is a great time to make contacts worldwide on the HF bands. Since there will be licenced Amateurs who have privileges on the bands you do not even have to be licenced so we can put you behind the mic and let you make contacts. You just have to promise to let us have a turn too! ☺ Field Day is an event to demonstrate our emergency preparedness and give our equipment and setups a good test. You never know when we will be called upon to do this for real. We hope disasters never happen but it is great to know that we are ready if they do.



Gary VE3RYI making some Field Day contacts in 2018. Even a malfunctioning tent couldn't stop him!

This year's Field Day is going to be slightly different than we have grown accustomed to the last few years. With the main CLOCA building being used both Friday and Saturday nights for some of their programming we will be doing things a bit more old school this year. Some of the teams have already been up at the repeater site trying to determine how we will configure all the antenna placements. The good thing is we will be up there a few days before Field Day enjoying a great BBQ and we can put the final touches on locations at that time. We have been spoiled knowing where everything needs to be placed in the past but this is good as it makes us think outside our comfort zone.

Well, with an exciting last day at the Masters in the bag it looks like it is time to get the clubs out of the basement and start hitting the links. Are there many North Shore members that like to play? If so, maybe we should try to get a round or two in this summer.

73 de Laird VE3LKS

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