



Monthly Update

May 2019

May Club Meeting

When: Tuesday, May 21, 7:00pm
Where: White Cliffe Terrace Retirement Residence



Aldo VA3AG, with the assistance of **Jeffrey VA3RTV** and possibly a few others, will be presenting information on the Wires-X system. If all goes well, and we can get any

signal out of the basement of White Cliffe, we may even have a live demo. Wires-X is another option for performing VoIP radio communications similar to the AllStar that we have on our repeaters.

Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

A few months ago **Ralph VE3CRK** donated his collection of North Shore newsletters to the club. They have now been digitized and placed in the Newsletter section of the club website. These newsletters encompass the time period from 1968 to 2000. While I was scanning them it was interesting to see the evolution of print from the Gutenberg press, to the Gestetner machine, to the photocopier and now to just an electronic virtual copy. Staples have come a long way too. The older issues were just simply brutal to get the staples out of while the newer issues were easier probably due to using a more pliable metal. Stamps through the years also played a big part in the newsletter starting out at 5 cents back in the late 60s. If we still mailed newsletters today your membership would barely cover that cost alone. Anyway, check them out to see how some things have changed but others have stayed the same. They had a swap shop section for many years and there are some real treasures listed in there. I even found the ad for the first HF radio that I purchased, a KW Electronics KW2000B, from Peter VE3PLM.

Last Call - 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 Preparation

Now that May is coming to an end we have to put our focus on our upcoming Field Day event. **Darren VE3NMD**, our Field Day organizer, has been up to the site a few times with the crew on Saturday morning and I think we have a pretty good idea as to how we will situate the trailers and antennas. However, we have some of the smaller details to iron out so please come to the May meeting prepared to volunteer time, equipment, items, etc where needed. Ie - I am going to provide a large tarp so we can have a covered area to eat or socialize under if the elements are not co-operating. This will be placed in the clearing just west of the generator shack. We may also need one more HF radio and antenna but we will know better by meeting time. Below is a list of some other items that we will be needing:



- Portable tables - Tablecloths
- Coolers - Camp stoves - Cooking pots and utensils
- Wash basin and cloths
- Camp jugs filled with water
- Coffee maker/tea pot

In the past many people have provided a few items and everything ran smoothly. We do not anticipate anything different this year but we just want to make sure that we have it all organized. If there is anything that is not on this list please feel free to let us know.

Website - ve3osh.com

Dave Logan

VA3RLP/KA6RLP - SK

On April 18, 2019, we lost one of our dear members to his battle with cancer. Dave, aka California Dave, was always an upbeat person and only ever had encouraging and uplifting words to say. Dave will be greatly missed by many both here in Canada and the USA.



A celebration of Dave's life will be held on Sunday, June 23, from 1pm to 4pm at the Shriner's Hall on Simcoe St. north in Oshawa.

This will be a social gathering with friends dropping in, visiting and reminiscing about the good times they had with Dave and the impact he had on their lives. Please mark this on your calendar and we hope to see you all there.

Repeater News

This month the repeater crew, and the associated horde, have been pretty quiet. It has got to the point where all the major work has been accomplished and we are getting hard pressed for ~~excuses~~ reasons to go to White Feather Farm and then on to the repeater. Somehow, we have been managing to find a reason no matter how trivial.

One potential issue that is slowly making its mark is the foundation pad that the repeater shack sits on. I believe **Joe VE3VGJ** worked his magic with his calculator and level and determined that the shack is at least 3" lower on the south end than on the north end. This is due to the erosion and sinking of the gravel pad on the south end. We will monitor it over the next year and see if it continues to drop. If it does we may need to find the best solution for making, and keeping, it level. It is hard to tell with the naked eye but it came to light when **Joe VE3VGJ** installed a shelf in the shack to hold all our plaques. He even put a disclaimer sticker on the shelf informing everyone that even though the shelf appeared to be crooked it was, in fact, level and that the shack was crooked. Take a look at it at the BBQ in June!

A huge round of applause for the hard work of the repeater crew!

43rd Annual Durham Hamfest

The 43rd Durham Hamfest has come and gone. We had a good turnout, of both vendors and attendees, and the hall has been booked for next year's event on April 25. If you were a volunteer and have any suggestions on improving the event feel free to come out to one of our organizing meetings or drop **Laird VE3LKS** an email and he will pass it along. We may be needing an extra body next year as we may go with making our own coffee but we will know better closer to the date. We do not have the final tally in yet but as soon as we do we will announce it at our monthly meeting.



Email - info@ve3osh.com

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.



If you are not joining us on Wednesday nights for coffee you are missing out on some great theatre such as Jimmy VE3OI trying to pawn off a set of pink headphones to Bob VE3HIX...or anyone else he could ensnare!

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 out 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.

Help Wanted - Program Coordinator

It would be nice if someone would be willing to take on the responsibility of organizing the guest speakers for the monthly meetings. In the past this has been a regular position within the club and I think it would be a good idea to make it a regular position again. So, if this is something that you think you would like to do for the North Shore please get in contact with one of the executive. Thank you!

QRM from the Shack



At our April meeting it was great to see Aldo VA3AG out. In fact, Aldo is now our newest member as he joined the North Shore ARC that evening as well. From all the scanning of the old newsletters that I have been doing I see that Aldo has been a member in the past as well. Welcome back Aldo! Aldo has been an Amateur for many years and is an accredited examiner. Aldo will also be our guest presenter at our May meeting where he will be discussing Wires X.

Our May meeting will be our last meeting at White Cliffe Retirement Residence until October. However, that is not our last meeting until then. In June we will be meeting at the repeater site to enjoy a casual evening of socializing along with the consumption of hotdogs, burgers, salads and treats. We call this the Summer Kickoff BBQ. Then, in September, we do something very similar but this time it includes freshly picked and roasted corn. This event is called the Sermon on the Mount but don't worry, no one will be preaching. Both June and September meetings are at the repeater site and will start at around 6:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of that month. Watch out for announcements as we will be making requests for volunteers to bring salads, veggies, treats and drinks closer to those events. If you have a friend that is interested in radio then please feel free to invite them along. Ditto for any Amateurs in the area that are not already members of the North Shore ARC. Don't worry, we will not do any hard selling trying to get them to join us. We just want to invite them to come out, share some food, and have a good time. However, if anyone is so inclined, we will have membership forms available in the repeater shack.

Anybody have any radio projects on the go this summer? With the addition of some new, and new to me, equipment over the last year I have to look at making some adjustments to my operating bench so that it is less crowded. I think I will be making a few trips to Home Depot to get plywood, screws and glue so that I can make a custom stand for all the equipment to stack onto instead of being spread out over my desk. The nice thing about places like Home Depot and Lowes is that they will cut the plywood to the various lengths and widths that you need which makes the project a lot easier to complete. Anyway, take some before and after pics of your projects and send them to me so I can post them in future Updates.

Everyone needs to keep their ear to the ground to see if there are any events out there that would be good for us to participate in. Since the demise of the Paul's Dirty Enduro event we have been left with a huge hole to fill in our public service events schedule. That was one event that only Amateurs could provide communications for and we had so much fun doing it. I know the organizers of that event always appreciated our work as well. So, if you hear of any similar charity-like event that needs some communications assistance please let the executive know.

Well, even though there is a bit more space below, for a few more lines of text, I have run out of words for this month. I hope to see you all out at the meeting on Tuesday evening!

73 de Laird VE3LKS