



Monthly Update

November 2019

November Club Meeting

When: Tuesday, Nov 19, 7:00pm
Where: White Cliffe Terrace Retirement Residence

Uncle Bobby wants you! Well, he is not the Uncle Bobby of children's TV fame, nor is he probably any club member's uncle, but **Bob VE3HIX** does actually want your HT. Our November meeting is going to be very interactive and the more radios that members bring the more entertaining it will be. So, if anyone is interested in checking their HT for frequency or deviation accuracy, **Bob** will be bringing a frequency counter and deviation meter to our November meeting at Whitecliffe. We could also check mobile rigs if the owner has a power supply and dummy load. New radios are usually accurate, but the crystal in older rigs tend to drift in frequency. We do not plan to tear apart rigs and adjust them at the meeting.



Please remember to bring a radio, or radios, *with the VE3OSH frequencies programmed*, and we will see how many we can check during the meeting and do some fun comparisons between brands, age of equipment, etc. We did a similar thing one

Wednesday night at our coffee meetup where we tested various HT antennas for SWR. It was amazing to see some name brand antennas barely work and other no name ones function surprisingly well.

This should be a fun evening as long as you help us by bringing some radios.

October Meeting – DREMO

Mary La Chapelle from the Durham Region Emergency Management department presented to us on the First 72 Hours program that the province and region have implemented.



Repeater News

At our October meeting several items were discussed and **Bob VE3HIX** had a brief presentation on the events that transpired, in the way of power, at the repeater site this past summer.

440 Fusion Repeater – the club was informed at the October meeting that the 440 repeater had been changed to be able to run Fusion and explained how it was currently configured. **Aldo VA3AG** had a spare, unused, WiresX module that is needed to connect our model of Fusion repeater to the internet that he made available to the club at a reduced price. It did not take long for the Repeater Committee to decide to take **Aldo** up on his offer. Tnx, **Aldo**, for this kind gesture! After the meeting **Laird VE3LKS** was approached by another member, who wishes to remain anonymous, who graciously gave a donation earmarked for the Repeater Committee to pay for the balance of the WiresX card. Tnx, **Anonymous**, for your generous donation and helping to advance the digital side of our repeater system.

6m Repeater – a request had arrived from an individual enquiring if we were interested in selling our 6m repeater as it is not on the air yet. After a good discussion, at our October meeting, it was decided to keep our equipment and that once the 440 Fusion repeater was up and functioning properly that the 6m project would be tackled.

The repeater shack has been winterized with the insulated plugs securely mounted in the vents. We had a premature blast of winter's fury with the temps dropping too low for mid-November but the generator kicked on with no issues during its weekly test. The only adjustment needed was to reset the timer as the time change took affect and the circuitry on the geni does not compensate for that.

Website – ve3osh.com



JOTA

The 62nd annual Jamboree On The Air event is in the books now and it sounds like it was another successful year. Scouter **Thomas VE3PDK** passed along the following letter:

Hello PARC and NSARC.

Thank you for helping make our Whitby Area JOTA/JOTA 2019 a success. We had a total of 175 participants and as you know, there were a number of youth who were very interested in your stations. I've reached out to the Scouters of the Orangeville Troop that were fascinated by CW, providing them with amateur radio resources to feed their curiosity.

Thank you for helping Scouts Canada earn the participation certificate, copied below. Please share with your clubs.

I hope we will work together again next year.

*73 de Thomas VE3PDK
13th Whitby Group Commissioner*

I am not sure who all helped **Thomas** with this event from the North Shore but I do believe **Martha VA3SBD** and **Clint VA3KDK** were there. Please forgive me if I missed anyone.

Program Coordinator(s)

Jeffrey VA3RTV agreed to take on the role of sourcing out and arranging for potential meeting presenters and immediately voluntold his good friend, **Bob VE3HIX**, that he was going to be happy having him help. A big thank you to both the willing, and the conscripted, for taking on this responsibility. However, club members need to be a part of this process too and assist these volunteers. So, if you have ideas as to who good, radio-related, presenters would be or if you would like to give a presentation yourself please do not hesitate to reach out to either **Jeffrey** or **Bob**. We are not a tough crowd and some of our best presentations have been from our own members.

Annual Membership Drive

Clint VA3KDK was quite busy at the October meeting taking in membership renewals and passing along cash and cheques to **Bob VE3HIX** our treasurer. About half of the current 2019 members have renewed along with a couple of new members. They will be hard at it again at the November meeting so make sure you print off the membership form, fill it in, and bring the dues with you to the next meeting. We like to have this wrapped up before the December meeting so **Clint** can enjoy the Christmas Potluck with the rest of us so please endeavor finalize this at the November meeting. NOTE – if you are paying by cheque please make it out to "North Shore Amateur Radio Club Inc". Anything else and the bank may not accept it. If you have proper ID we even accept cash! ☺

Christmas Party!

Yes, it is that time again to start planning for our Annual Christmas Party Potluck. Mark Tuesday, December 17 @ 7:00pm on your calendar now so you don't miss out!



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.



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.

QRM from the Shack

Well, being a pretty much voiceless Amateur Radio operator has been quite humbling the last few weeks. My voice is slowly coming back but when I am told that I am not even as loud as **Jimmy VE3SOI** I know I have reached the bottom of the audible spectrum. At least I can take solace in the fact that I am with good company. Thank goodness for FT8 as I can still fire off contacts and have not had to endure comments from fellow FT8ers such as "you can say that again!" or "this is a nice change of events – too bad it is only temporary!"

Several members were spotted at the York Region Hamfest and were seen carrying goodies out to their antenna-laden vehicles. Of note **Bob VE3HIX** secured a nice, brand new, CB radio for only \$5. He assures me he got it only for the power cord. I needed a "power cord" too so **Bob** pointed me in the right direction and mine even came with a mounting bracket! ☺ **Joe VE3VGJ** opened up his wallet as well, and once all the moths flew out, he trundled off with some bobbles and trinkets from Radio World. Somehow I got roped into carrying out the 40lb bobble! One of our members even drove all the way from the ice fields of Alberta! It was great seeing **Michel VE3/VE6HEM** and catching up on what he has been happening with him.



We have had several requests for information regarding courses for getting your Amateur Radio licence. We do not have any instructors at this time but I am going to be posting some links on our website in the next few days with good places to study online. We do have access to examiners and I always tell enquiring people that our members are always happy to help answer the questions they can and point them to the right people if they can't. So, check the website out in the next few days and I will try to get a tab up there for study courses. You can then have a place to direct people and you can still point them in my direction too.

Our Christmas Party Potluck will be coming up on Tuesday, December 17. This is in lieu of a regular meeting where I bore you to death with meaningless information. No, the Christmas Party Potluck is actually one of the highlights of our year and is usually very well attended. I am sure that **Martha VA3SBD** will be asking you to let her know what to bring to make sure we do not have too much of one item and none of another. Somehow, **Martha** always works her magic and a beautiful banquet ensues. The Christmas Party is held at our usual meeting room in Whitecliffe Terrace and starts at 7:00pm. By the way, **Martha's** Christmas Cake is not that great so **don't eat any!** Well, ok, honestly it is simply heavenly, as if baked by the Christmas angels themselves, and is the closest thing to my Grandma Laird's Christmas Cake that I have ever tasted. I just figure that the more that is left over at the end of the evening the better the chances are that I can abscond with a few more heavenly morsels! I know, this is pure selfishness on my part in the season of giving. ☺

I think it would be great to feature a station or two in our monthly Updates. So, I would encourage you to snap a few nice pics of your operating station, either base or mobile, and submit them to me along with a brief write up as to what equipment you use and what features you are using. Sort of like when we showed our emergency kits at one of our meetings but these will go down in the annals of history as they will be preserved online in our Update archives.

Speaking of archives, I just realized that I have some more pics to scan that **Ralph VE3CRK** had in his files. I will attempt to get them scanned and posted on the website along with the years of newsletter archives that we uploaded earlier this year. Never a dull moment.

Anyway, I better stop my muttering and musing and get this email out to you so that you can get your HT all charged up for Tuesday evening. I hope to see you all out at the meeting!

73 de Laird VE3LKS

**Billy has 7 ham radios.
He just bought 2 more.
What does Billy have now?**



Happiness. Billy has Happiness.