

# Monthly Update

## February 2021

### February Club Meeting

**When:** Sunday, February 28, 7:00pm  
**Where:** your place

Once again we will be utilizing Zoom video conferencing to conduct our meeting this month. **Laird VE3LKS** will be hosting the meeting and you will receive an invite to the meeting in the next few days. At this time we are still needing some presentations so please let me know if you have any fun or interesting items that you would like to share with the group. Meetings will only be interesting if **YOU** help make them that way! **Ken VE3RMK** will be giving us a presentation on "What do you mean, what drive?... you stupid computer!" or "Stupid file!. Where did it go?" It will be on **computer data and backups**. So, for those of you that are **not** computer whiz kids, like me, you might want to catch this presentation.

### January Meeting



We had a very entertaining talk by **Grant VA3KJ** on 3D printers. He even had his printer running and was showing us a print out in live time. Thank you, Grant, for being willing to show us all the things a 3D printer can do and how beneficial they can be. We also had **Vik VA3VZ**

explain how his company uses these 3D printers in a commercial application.

Also, **Thomas VE3PDK** was elected as our new Membership Secretary. Welcome aboard **Thomas**, good luck and Thank You for stepping up to help our club.



### RAC Email Alias Accounts Issues

**Ken VE3RMK** has reported some problems not receiving email when it was sent to his RAC alias email address. After contacting **RAC Ken** received the following information back from them.

*NOTE: Due to ongoing issues communicating to Hotmail, Outlook and Sympatico based email accounts, we do not recommend setting up a RAC alias or main user account pointing to a Hotmail server based email address.*

Guess this would explain why I was having problems with my RAC email. Thanks **Ken** for this information.

### 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 interesting. 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.



Website – ve3osh.com

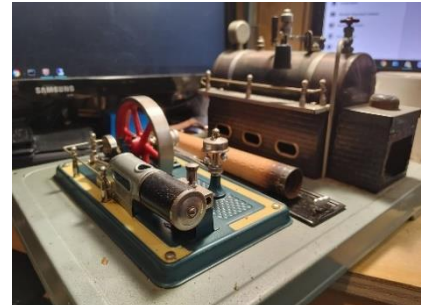
### Wednesday Night Virtual Parking Lot



As well as the Tuesday night rag chew on the repeater there is quite a crew that meets on a Zoom meeting that we have named our **Virtual Parking Lot** on Wednesday evenings. The quick history behind this is that we used to meet at Tim's on Wednesday evening for

coffee. Then COVID came along and we could no longer meet inside so we met in the parking lot of the East Mall, dragged out our lawn chairs, sat 2m apart and had a good chat with some show n tells. Then the cold set in and the days got shorter so we adapted once again. Now we have a Zoom meeting on Wednesday night from 7pm to 8:00pm...ish. They tend to go longer. It is NOT a club meeting format but just a chance to see each other, chat, ask questions, show projects or other interesting tidbits with the group, and just have fun. I think it is safe to say that those that have been attending have been having a great fun and informative time. **Laird VE3LKS** will be **sending** out an email with an invite to the Zoom meeting so if you're not on **Laird's** email list let him know so he can add you. **TAKE THAT COVID!**

In case you have not visited the Virtual Parking lot we have had some great talks and presentations and on February 3 we had several members show us and talk about steam engines and RC model airplanes and we had a great Virtual Tour of **Bob VE3HIX** museum in his basement so come out and join us on Wednesday nights on **Zoom**.



### Swap Shop

#### For Sale

Yaesu MLS-200-M10 Speaker, good condition. Moisture and dust protected, 10ft shielded cord. Handle up to 8watts .3.5mm 3conductor mini plug, 4 ohms (Note: speaker is wired to the tip (+) and ring (-) of 3 conductor mini plug and may not work with all radios) asking \$20 Steve VA3TPS - [va3tps@outlook.com](mailto:va3tps@outlook.com)

Paradan Antenna Disconnect Actuator and Radio on Sensor. Switches your antenna to ground when radio is powered off to prevent damage from lightning or static electricity. New never used. \$80.00 Steve VA3TPS - [va3tps@outlook.com](mailto:va3tps@outlook.com)

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Kenwood TM-2530A 2m mobile, 5w/25w , Microphone with Up/Down buttons Cigarette lighter plug asking \$125 or best reasonable offer. Not sure if I ever had a manual or mobile mount but will do some digging. I ran this as my Igate for several years. Check out more info at <https://www.manualslib.com/manual/86424/Kenwood-Tm-2530a.html> Contact Laird VE3LKS and [VE3LKS@yahoo.ca](mailto:VE3LKS@yahoo.ca)

**Icom IC-728 HF transceiver** - with **Icom AT-160** auto antenna tuner. Comes with stock mic and all cables needed for connecting. Just plug an HF antenna in and away you go. \$500. Contact Laird VE3LKS at [VE3LKS@yahoo.ca](mailto:VE3LKS@yahoo.ca)

**Package Deal - Yaesu FT-450D HF/50MHz transceiver** - with built-in auto antenna tuner and stock mic with up/down buttons. **Signalink USB sound card** for working digital modes such as FT8. All cables needed to connect Signalink to the FT-450D and the CAT cable to connect FT-450D to radio. \$950. Contact Laird VE3LKS at [VE3LKS@yahoo.ca](mailto:VE3LKS@yahoo.ca)

Email – info@ve3osh.com

## Saturday Breakfast

Our Saturday morning meet ups at **White Feather Country Store** has morphed a bit thanks to this COVID annoyance. They had to close their dining area but you can still get take out from the counter. So, if you need your fix of a steamy hot beverage, as well as a hot fritter, pop up to **White Feather Country Store**, which opens at 8:30am, and then join the gang in the south east corner of the parking lot. Make sure to bring a lawn chair. 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 Country Store** is located at the corner of Simcoe St and Raglan Rd. Well I don't know what to say, these hardy souls are out there in the minus 10c temperature on February 6, enjoying the maybe not so hot coffee and not so hot apple fritters! They are one determined group of dedicated people. I have included a little history on these meetings from **Joe VE3VGJ** (thx **Joe**)



Some history about the WFF meetups. I went back in my email archives to see if I could find anything in regards to when we first started meeting at WFF, and I did. Found an email from **Laird VE3LKS** that started the whole thing. It was addressed to **Doug VA3DCE** and myself **VE3VGJ**. It said the following "An idea - breakfast at White Feather Farms and then a trip to the repeater to play with iGate?" The date was Tuesday March 8, 2016, making Saturday the 12th the first meet up. At the time we were setting up APRS in our vehicles and the iGate at the repeater site needed some attention. If you do the math, the second Saturday in March of this year, the 13th, will be the 5-year anniversary, boy where does the time go?



## JP's Recipes

Most of you know **Jeanette** our amazing co-ordinator for the R4UW. Fewer of you may know that her footwear is like a weather station for those of us who frequent White Feather on the weekends. However, she is an amazing baker and below is another great recipe that she is sharing with us. **Zucchini Chocolate Cake** sounds delish and I can't wait to smell the aroma of veggies and beans baking in the oven.

### Zucchini Chocolate Cake

1 ¾ cups white sugar  
½ cup soft margarine  
½ cup oil  
2 eggs  
1 tsp. vanilla  
½ cup sour milk or sour cream (to make milk sour, put 1 tbsp. vinegar into ½ cup milk)  
2 cups shredded zucchini  
2 ½ cups all-purpose flour  
4 tbsp cocoa  
1 tsp soda  
½ tsp cinnamon  
½ tsp salt

Cream margarine, add sugar and oil. Add eggs, vanilla and sour milk. Sift dry ingredients and add to creamed mixture. Stir in zucchini. Spoon into 9 x 13 greased pan. Sprinkle with topping of ½ cup chocolate chips. Bake at 325F for 50 minutes.

## QRM from the Shack

Hey, we are finally getting winter! I have been a fun week and I have finally been able to put a few hours on my snow blower this year. My neighbors have enjoyed seeing me out there having fun blowing out their driveways too!

It is always great fun to introduce new members and you will have to forgive me as I am a bit behind and hope I don't miss anyone. **Neil VA3NH** has been an Amateur for 40 years and lives in the Port Perry area. **Neil** is a retired physician which, combined with his radio skills, could come in very handy during events like Field Day. **Ken VA3KJF** has been an Amateur for 25 years, is a locomotive engineer, and is getting close to blowing the whistle for the last time if he hasn't already. **Neil** lives just around the corner from **Aldo VA3AG** so expect a lot of QRM to be emanating out of Courteice. **VE3IK Brian** has been an Amateur for 45 years. **Brian** is an electrical/telecom engineer who was first introduced to Amateur Radio when he was a Sea Cadet. **Brian** is now paying it forward and is leading out in an Amateur Radio course for the Sea Cadets in Ajax. **Brian** also served in the Royal Canadian Navy Reserve. Unfortunately, I do not have a lot of info on **VE3HMF Harry**. This is a major downside of this COVID ordeal as we don't have the opportunity to get out and socialize in person. Admittedly, I did cheat with the other new members and borrowed info from their QRZ page. Sorry, **Harry**, but I hope we can rectify this as soon as COVID packs its bags and leaves.

The repeater committee will be making a presentation at our meeting this month and will be asking for your input and, most likely, will ask for a vote on an item to move forward on. I won't steal their thunder but it may be of interest to quite a few members.

Starting in March I will be stepping back from handling the weekly Rag Chews on Tuesday evenings. I will still do some on occasion but I do not always need to be the one leading out. This is not a hard task, and is good practice in case you are ever required to run a control situation in an emergency, so whoever is there just needs to write down call signs and rotate through the list twice. You can email me the list afterwards and I will put the names in the log that we keep. So, make sure you have a pad of paper and a pen or pencil and be prepared to have some fun.

The picture that I chose for my column this month has a nice, but funny, story behind it. As most may know, I have a Xiegu G90 HF radio in my shack and actually have a lot of fun with it. It is only has 20w output but with the magic of radio it has got me into a lot of distant lands. It is handy as it can easily be thrown in the vehicle and used as a portable too. Well, **Grant VA3KJI** took it upon himself to print me a stand for it using his 3D printer that he has. The printer stand came out amazingly well and it even has the Xiegu logo and model on it. Once completed he told me that he would be near my place dropping some meals off to his daughter and was wondering if he could stop by to drop it off. Now, who is going to say "no" to such a wonderful offer and kind gesture like this? So, I assured him that I would be home and then jokingly let him know that since he was dropping off food I would be happy with a burger. Well, **Grant** showed up with that sweet stand, that fits the G90 perfectly, as well as a burger, onion rings, and pop. Now that is going above and beyond! As you can tell by the pic the burger and fries did not make it to the photo shoot session but the stand has been proudly put into service and, in my opinion, makes the radio pop. Tnx **Grant!**

And with that it is time to wrap it up for another month. I hope I am not starting to sound like a chronic complainer but I still don't see people submitting articles about what they are doing with Amateur Radio to **Steve** for the newsletter and you should not rely on the regulars to do it. I guess no one is having any fun with it.

73 de **Laird VE3LKS**

