

Monthly Update

February 2024

www.ve3osh.com

Club Executive

President – **Derek VE3TKE**
Vice President: **Peter VA3PKM**
Secretary: **Neil VA3NH**
Treasurer: **Bob VE3HIX**
Membership Secretary: **Thomas VE3PDK**

Committee's

Repeater & Technical -Trustee: **Daren VE3NMD**
Website: **Laird VE3LKS**
Club Examiner: **Aldo VA3AG**
Newsletter: **Steve VA3TPS**
Net Manager: **Steve VA3TPS**
Presentation Coordinator: **John VE3KZT**
RAC Representative: **Ken VE3RMK**

Repeaters

Our club repeaters have been through a lot and we're proud to have put the second repeater in all of Ontario (VE3OSH) on the air all those years ago. We currently have a number of repeaters all hosted on the corner of the Purple Woods Conservation Area.

AllStar Note: We are currently working on restoring our AllStar node. The repeater committee has rebuilt the software and is currently testing the setup. When it is connected to VE3OSH we will advise everyone.

2m VHF FM Repeater – VE3OSH

Frequency: 147.120 MHz
Input Tone: 156.7 Hz
Input Offset: +600 kHz
AllStar Node: Pending

70cm UHF Fusion/FM Repeater – VE3NAA

Frequency: 443.000 MHz
Input Tone: 136.5
Input Offset: +5 MHz

70cm UHF DMR Repeater – VE3LBN

Frequency: 443.9875 MHz
Colour Code: 3
Input Offset: +5 MHz
DMR ID: 302340

APRS iGate – VE3OSH

Frequency: 144.390 MHz

January Meeting

Our January monthly meeting on Zoom was our Annual General Meeting and most of our Executive stood for another term. But our Treasurer **Bob VE3HIX** is stepping down and we now need someone to step up and help our club as the treasurer. Bob is staying on till we find someone and will help the new Treasurer getting things going so how about it everyone WE NEED A VOLUNTEER! Bob is not going anywhere he still has several other responsibilities in our Club and wants to spend a little more time on the Radio.

We also had a great presentation on the ALLSTAR network by **Laird VE3LKS**, on how to setup it all up and use it. Our repeater Team is working on getting our ALLSTAR node on VE3OSH up and running again soon.

February Meeting

Our February meeting will be on Wednesday February 21, 2024 at 7:00 pm on zoom. We will have a presentation on CW training and getting your speed up by **Tony Pattinson VE2KM**.

Tuesday Night Rag Chew

Were Back!!

The club's weekly Tuesday Night Rag Chew starts at 7:00 pm. Our current net controllers are: **Aldo VA3AG, Grant VA3KJ, Derek VE3TKE, Peter VA3PKM, Quinton VA3NLM** and **Neil VA3NH**. Also **Nick VA3NPW** has offered to be a spare and fill in once in a while.



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 2000 hrs on Tuesday's pop onto VE3OSH and join the conversation.

A big thank you to all our Net control operators for stepping up!!

If anyone would like to give Net control a try one week, let me know and we will fit you in as a guest net control.

Wednesday Night Virtual Parking Lot

The club has a weekly Virtual Parking Lot (VPL) meeting on zoom starting at 7:00 pm for members and guests. Everyone is welcome to attend. On the third Wednesday night the club has it's member meeting on zoom first and after the meeting is finished we have our virtual parking lot for those who are still on-line.

If you would like to attend our weekly VPL send an email to **Derek VE3TKE** at VE3TKE@gmail.com. Our club Secretary **Neil VA3NH** will be sending out the zoom link prior to the Wednesday meeting time. It has actually has been quite a success as more people can show up, due to distance or schedules, and yet we can still do show & tells by simply sharing our screens. It is not uncommon to have 20 to 25

participants but we can easily handle more. So, quit complaining about being bored and hop on the Virtual Parking Lot.

At our zoom meetings we have Amateurs from around the globe.

So, try to remember Wednesday nights and drop by our Zoom VPL and say hello and see who is visiting from around the globe. It starts around 7:00 pm and lasts until the last die-hard leaves but you can pop in anytime and say hello and stay as long or short as you want.

White Feather Fun!

Some of the club members meet up on Saturday morning at **White Feather Country Store**. 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 8:30 am, and join the gang in the south east corner of the parking lot. Make sure



to bring a lawn chair as we sit outside in the parking lot even when it's cold or raining. 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. **White Feather Country Store** is located at the corner of Simcoe St and Raglan Rd in Raglan, just south of our repeater site.

Guess who forgot his chair at White Feather Country Store! Can anyone identify this person?



Coffee Time Alternative

Now that the colder, nastier weather is upon us, some of the members (fair weather hams) also meet up at the Coffee Time in Courtice at the same time on Saturday morning. Most arrive at 8:00 am.



It is that time of year again, your Durham Hamfest organizing committee had it's first meeting and things are under way. Our Hamfest will be on Saturday April 20, 2024 from 9:00 am to around 12:00 pm. The website for our Hamfest is: www.durhamhamfest.com. We are looking for members who would like to help out at this event, nothing too strenuous and it would be great to have enough volunteers to spell each other so we can also shop and look around. Who knows you might even find some piece of Amateur radio equipment that you have looking for. You can always tell the XYL that you are just working at the Hamfest...

So, if you can help out for a few hours even if it is for only for a short time at the beginning or end of the event send **Laird VE3LKS** a quick email and let him know at: ve3lks@yahoo.ca.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

According to Thomas VE3PDK, our membership secretary, and Bob VE3HIX, our treasurer, this is the most wonderful time of the year! We are making your membership renewal even easier this year. Step 1: go to the membership section of our club web page and submit the online form. This step is required each and every year as the club updates the membership information provided on this form into the club records. This also allows the club to send out a correct and updated membership list.

We now have a new process for payments. The club has setup a direct e-transfer process that will transfer your money directly into the club bank account. So send your membership payments to treasurer@ve3osh.com. The club Treasurer will notify Thomas when your e-transfer shows up in the club bank account and Thomas will email out to you a receipt stating that your payment has been received.

If you want to mail a cheque you can send it to the club President at 45 Allard Avenue, Ajax Ontario L1Z 1B6. He will forward it to the club Treasurer.

If you wish to pay in CASH. Feel free to hand the cash to one of the club's executive at WFF or Coffee Time or when you meet up for coffee.

NOTE – if you are claiming that you are a RAC member make sure you check you claim sign on the www.rac.ca website to make sure your membership is paid up. We have to double check this for our RAC insurance policy so please do not try to claim this if you are not a current RAC. The dues are staying the same for 2024 at \$30.00 for a RAC member and \$40.00 for Non-RAC member.

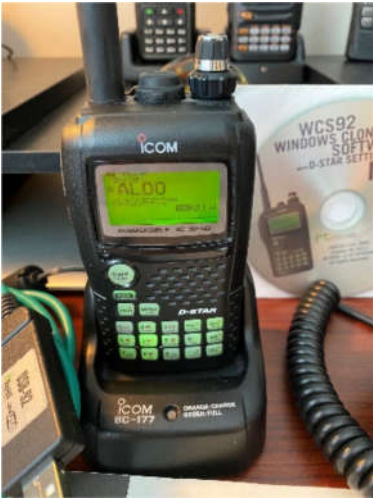
Swap Shop

Going forward we will list any club members equipment for sale for a period of three (3) months. If the equipment is not sold within the three month period we will remove the listing for two months where the listing can be added again for one month. If the item cannot be sold it should not be listed each and every month to make this an effective Swap Shop.

For Sale

1. Icom IC-92AD Dual Band D-Star Transceiver.
2. Icom HM-175 GPS Speaker Microphone
3. Icom BC-177 Charging dock with Icom BC-123 SA Charger
4. Icom IC_92 AD Instruction Manual
5. RT Systems Windows Cloning Software with RT Systems USB-92 USB cable

All are in good working order. **\$350**



Ken Fitzgerald, VA3KJF at webhog@me.com...905-435-6311

For Sale

(from Larry VA3FHG SK Estate)

Alinco DJ-G5T/E dual band hand held. Includes manual, drop-in charger, cigarette power adapter, spare battery, mic and antenna. Was tested and working on VE3OSH. **\$150**



Diamond SG-7200 dual band VHF/UHF mag mount antenna. **\$50.**

Kenwood TM-D700A dual band, APRS ready. Includes mic, display separation kit and display mounting bracket. No manual but it can be downloaded for free from the Kenwood site. Tested and working on VE3OSH. NOTE – does not have a GPS so one will need to be connected if you want to use it for sending out beacons while mobile. **\$350.**



Garmin GPSMAP 60CSx gps. Includes manual, Trip and Waypoint CD, City Navigator North America CD, cigarette power adapter and USB cable for updating. Tested and working. **\$150.**

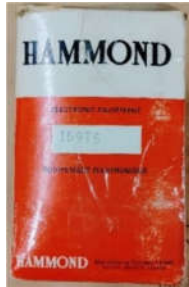


TigerTrak TM-1+ Trackin Module. APRS trailer. Untested and no GPS or cables but from what I have read you would need to make/buy one based on your radio. **\$15.**



Contact **Laird VE3LKS** at VE3LKS@yahoo.ca for info on these items

For Sale:



Hammond 169TS Transformer – never used. \$80 new at Hammond. Asking \$25. Proceeds go to the club. Contact **Laird VE3LKS** at VE3LKS@yahoo.ca

For Sale

- 1) Yaesu FT5D hand held, VHF/UHF/C4FM/Wires-X in new condition comes with Original box, all accessories that came with it and as extras:
CD-41 Rapid charger
MH-34 Speaker/Mic
SDD-13, 12 volts adapter to use ht in the car or charge battery in the car.
SCU-39 Kit, with the cables to run PDN mode
SCU-19 programming cable.
All for \$ 550.00 Or best offer.
- 2) Anytone AT-D878UV Plus (GPS/Bluetooth/APRS) Hand held.
Extra Battery, Charger and bluetooth earpiece for hands free Operation.
Asking \$ 350.00 or best offer.

Contact Aldo: va3ag@sympatico.ca

73 Aldo VA3AG

Station of the Month

Don't forget I need some more pictures of your Radio Shacks so send the picture and info to Steve VA3TPS at va3tps@outlook.com

Editor's Note

Don't forget I am looking pictures of your Radio setups, home or mobile and also some articles or ham radio related stories, just send them along to me at va3tps@outlook.com .

At this time, I would like to take a moment and Thank **Bob VE3HIX, Bob** has been our Treasurer for a few years now and done a great job. He also is on our Repeater committee, looks after our Generator and also the Treasurer for our Hamfest, **Bob** is also a wealth of knowledge about Amateur Radio and is always willing to answer and questions and to help other hams. **Thank You Bob!**

Upcoming Events

ARRL International DX Contest SSB in on March 2 0000hrs to 2359 hrs March 3, 2024 <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx> more information at this link.

CQ WW WPX Conest SSB is on March 0000z March 30 to 2359z March 31,2024.This is a really big contest so there will be lots of stations and DX Stations so fire up the radios and grab a few more countries for your DXCC.More information at <https://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>

From the President:

Last year on Saturday June 17th the following people; Thomas VE3PDK, Grant VE3KJI, Daren VE3NMD, Brian VE3IK and myself went on a training session to learn about Amateur Radio Direction Finding which is also called Fox Hunting at the Long-Sault Conservation Area with Roger Egan VE3EGY and Rob Haddow VE3RXH who came from Ottawa for this training. Roger was the person who hosted a presentation on “Fox Hunting... ARDF – Having Fun with Amateur Radio in the Woods” for our club at our April 12th, 2023 member meeting. Be sure to check out Rogers web site www.ardfottawa.ca for more information on what their group does.

The day was spent learning what equipment is required and how to host a Fox Hunt Event. The goal was to learn how we can setup a Fox Hunt for our club members. They even hid three transmitters and gave us instruction on how to use their equipment for find the hidden transmitters. We split up into a few groups of two people and went off into the Long-Sault trails to try and find the hidden transmitters. Long story made short is most of us did find the hidden transmitters. It was not as easy as I thought. We worked up a sweat as we did a lot of walking. Eveyone had a great time looking for these transmitters. We were told by Rob who hid the transmitters that he went easy on us as the transmitters were just off the trail.

We ended the day with a BBQ at Brian's VE3IK QTH. We discussed the day over a few cold one's while eating some steaks that Brian BBQ'd. Over-all it was a great day. I mentioned that would be great if we could do this as a club event. The only thing we would need to do is get some Fox Hunt equipment.

Well if you remember last year, I had a session on “What does this club want to do in 2023”. Well Brian VE3IK signed up for one of his tasks on getting the club some Fox Hunt equipment.

Brian provided me details and pricing of the equipment that the club should purchase. After approving the purchase, Brian purchased the equipment and even offered to allow us to use his

US shipping address that he has to save some money on shipping of the equipment. Well all of the equipment has arrived. Thanks Brian for completing this task.

What was purchased was 4 – Antenna Attenuators, in kit form for basic fox hunting, 2 fox transmitters with rechargeable batteries, 2 more advanced Sniffer receivers and 1 – Fox transmitter Controller for a higher power fox transmitter. Brian has also committed to build the higher power fox transmitter in a metal Ammo box.

Recently Brian VE3IK and Laird VE3LKS organized a building session at Stan's VE3ILU's QTH to build the 4 antenna attenuator kits. Well Brian VE3IK, Grant VA3KJI, Joe VE3VGJ and Doug VE3GVW went to Stan's QTH on Saturday February 10th and built and even tested all four kits. Laird and Stan supervised the build from what I heard. A big thanks to all involved in this build.

The only thing that we did not purchase was any 2m hand-held Yagi antennas that are used in fox hunting. I felt that the members can make these themselves. I made a 2M 3 element wood Yagi for fox hunting and showed it up at WFF in the summer last year. I also made a technical drawing on how to build this antenna. This drawing was emailed out to a number of club members. John VE3KZT was one of the members that I sent the drawing to.

John was going to purchase the required metal rod used for the antenna elements and offered to pick up the required rod for some other members. John purchased the metal rod and provided the required rod to the members who placed their order. This is great. I love seeing members helping out other members. Now we just need to build these antennas.

Well last week I sent out an email to those members who ordered and received the metal rod to see if they had built their antenna. I received a few responses back and most informed me that they have not built their antenna as of yet. Some had purchased commercial hand-held antennas and others had antennas that were purchased many years ago.

What that now tells me we now need to have an antenna build session. If you are interested in building a hand-held 3 element wood yagi antenna for fox hunting send me an email stating that you are interested. For those attending the February members meeting, I will be asking for any people interested in building an antenna.

The next step will be to get a few people together to learn how our fox hunt equipment works so that we can train others how to Fox Hunt. My goal here is after a few of us learn, one of us can then do a presentation at one of our upcoming member meetings on Fox Hunting. After that I will schedule one or more brief field sessions to put our combined knowledge together to have a Fox Hunt.

Then when that is complete, we will schedule a club Fox Hunt event this summer for all to attend. We might even make into a BBQ event after the hunt.

If you are interested in a club Fox Hunt send me an email stating that you are interested. I would like to know how many people are interested.

Well I think that's all for now.

Derek Christian – VE3TKE

Club President