

The Feedline

Niagara Amateur Radio Club Inc. May 2009

While the year is slowly coming to an end and I have enjoyed it for the most part aside of a few health problems, I have been pleased with all the club functions that we have been involved in and the people that put them together. There were a few changes and they seemed to work out OK. I most enjoyed the Christmas Dinner, I think it went very well and there were very few complaints. I think it would be a good thing to keep it going



We still have the Elections to get done so get your nominations in to Peter, VE3HM or Brian, VE3BMX as it is a lot better to get people that want to run for positions rather than edge people in to the positions. I am sure we will have a good Executive next year.

We have the Russell Air Show coming up on June 5, 6, & 7 2009. We are still in need of help, so talk to Peter, VE3HM or Bob, VE3HNNH. Also if you are bored and have nothing to do they can use some help at the airport getting things ready for the show – painting, building, putting up fencing, cutting grass, running the roller, also working in the hanger cleaning the planes and other odd jobs. I can tell you how or you can just go down any day Monday to Friday after 8:00 am and tell them you are a member of the club.

Also we have field day on the last weekend in June. Operators are still needed so check in with Dale, VE3LVW. As of now it looks like we will have a good number of bands covered.

Peter, VE3WET is still looking for people for the 2009 Canada Day Radio-thon for Charity. This is a new event that Peter started last year and he is getting it going again this year and hopefully on a larger scale. Jump in and help out.

And last we have the summer BBQ to look forward to. I'm not sure of the date yet. Maybe we should check with the weather office and see when the rain days are due ;-)

John, VA3BOZ
President NPARC

Minutes of the April 2009 NPARC Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio club was held at the Legion in Fonthill on Thursday April 09, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 19:30 with 29 members and 2 guests in attendance.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read out by Peter Vince, VE3HM as they were not published in the Feedline. Jim, VE3BCA moved that the minutes be adopted as read and he was seconded by Wazi, VE3NAZ. They were adopted as read with all in favor. The treasurer's report was read by Kevin, VA3KGS. It was moved by Jim, VE3BCA and seconded by Frank, VE3SQ that the treasurer's report be adopted as read. The members voted in favour.

New Business

Peter, VA3WET made a motion that we place an ad in the leisure guide advertising the Radio Club. Sue, KG3SUE seconded the motion, and after much discussion it was voted on and was defeated by 1 (one) vote. Denis, VE3KVE then made a motion that a committee be formed to research advertising for the club which was then seconded by Peter, VA3WET. The committee was tasked with finding ways to promote the club and to suggest methods of advertising the club together with an advertising budget. Following this, the committee was tasked to bring the suggestions to the club executive as they have final decision on all monetary matters. The committee is to have three members with the following club members volunteering their services. Peter, VA3WET, David, VE3BBN and Denis, VE3KVE.

Peter, VA3WET then spoke on the Canada Day Telethon. Dale, VE3LVW then spoke about the need for volunteers to help set up and break camp at the Field day site. He also spoke of the need to have band captains and helpers to make this another successful field day. The 50/50 draw was won by Gary, VE3GEB who then returned the winnings to the club for operating expenses. There was a 10 minute break at 20:30. The meeting was called to order and Kevin, VA3KGS gave a very informative talk accompanied by pictures of the upgrade work done on the Welland Canal. This talk was well received by the members with much discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 21:30.

Jim VE3JXD

Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. 20036 Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines, Ontario L2M 7W7

**Minutes of the March 2009 NPARC Meeting
(for historical reference only).**

The regular monthly meeting of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio club was held at the Legion in Fonthill on Thursday March 12, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 19:30 with 29 members and 2 guests in attendance.

The meeting commenced with Leon Evan's (guest speaker) presentation.

The Business aspects of the meeting started at 20:50. John, VA3BOZ asked about Feedline delivery: Jim, VE3BCA.

Minutes of the February meeting were accepted by a motion by Andrew, VE3NDF seconded by Alex, VE3ALS, Discussion – None, all in favour; carried.

Treasurer's Report

Kevin gave those attending his report on the club's bank account and more details about the financial results of the Big Event in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 21:30.

Peter, VE3HM

Updates on the 2009 Field Day

Hello everyone

Good news to report as the club has received confirmation for the use of Fireman's Park !!!
Some of the operators have indicated that they're not sure how long they'll be available which means there will be an opportunity for more people to get involved "on air".

Remember, everyone is welcome to come out and participate! Just because you may not have "officially" put your name on the operator list doesn't mean you can't come out and participate. I'm sure the band captains won't mind if you stop by a station and make a few qso's.

For those people that don't want to operate it is still a great opportunity to observe. You'll see various station setups, operators in action, computerized logging etc. Perhaps you know a new ham that hasn't had much exposure to HF and VHF operating - ask them to stop by.

Come out and support your club and it's members ! ! ! !

Your band captains are:

6 and 2 mtr VE3ERQ
440 packet VE3DVE (just added)
20 mtr PSK31 VE3JDF
20 mtr SSB VE3HNNH
40 mtr SSB VA3UL
75 mtr SSB VE3ROC
GOTA VE3HM

Confirmed volunteers to date:

6 and 2 mtr
VE3ERQ (band captain)
VA3WET
20 mtr PSK31
VE3JDF (band captain)
VE3EBN
20 mtr SSB
VE3HNNH (band captain)
VE3GTB
VA3PCK
VE3FOI
40 mtr SSB
VA3UL (band captain)
VA3KGS
VA3WU
75 mtr SSB
VE3FOI
VE3AUE
VE3ROC (band captain)
GOTA
VE3HM (band captain)
VE3CJX
General help
VE3BBN
VE3LVW
VA3PCK
VA3BOZ
Generators
VE3NDF / VE3LVW

There will be SSB and 2 types of digital - perhaps someone will operate a bit of CW as well?
There has been a lot of response from club members and I'm pleased with everyone's involvement and the amount of stations that will be operating.

See you at the May 14th meeting for another update....

Send me an email ve3lvw@yahoo.ca if you need more information.

Dale, VE3LVW

2009 Canada Day Radio-thon for charity

On July the 1st, 2009, amateur radio operators from across Canada and the Niagara Region will get together to celebrate Canada's birthday by participating in the Radio Amateurs of Canada, Canada Day Contest. Radio amateurs from all over the world will contact Canadian amateurs to obtain points in the 24 hour contest. In conjunction with the Canada Day Contest, members from the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio or NPARC will be holding their second annual Canada Day Radio-thon for Charity.

Last year, \$680.00 was raised for charity. To raise funds NPARC members will contact amateur radio operators during the Canada Day Contest. The more contacts they make, the more they will raise for charity unless a pledge is for a flat donation. NPARC Members will be canvassing the public for pledges in June 2009, so please be generous.

This year the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Amateur Radio Program and the St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation will be participating. The CNIB Amateur Radio Program has equipment available for lease, sale or loan to Canadians living with vision loss, and provides a support network for 'ham' enthusiasts. The St. Catharines General Hospital Foundation (SCGHF) is a non-profit, fund-raising organization that supports the St. Catharines General Hospital site of the Niagara Health System in securing innovative health care equipment and state-of-the-art technology in modern facilities.

Other charities are invited to participate. This event is a great opportunity to promote amateur radio in a fun and challenging way and in the process raise funds for worthwhile community projects and charities. Please support your neighbourhood amateur radio operator or Ham when he or she comes knocking on your door. If you are an amateur or a registered charity and wish to get involved with this worth while community event for 2009 or have your club get involved, you can contact Peter at va3wet@rac.ca or radiothon@nparc.on.ca for more info.

Peter, VA3WET

Update on ARES GWEN

Start me with ten who are stout-hearted men, and I'll soon find you ten thousand more.

So goes the words to that famous song of strength, determination and stout-heartedness.

Well I also am looking for 10 High Frequency operators to perform when and where they are needed if an emergency arrives in this or any other area where we may be called on to serve.

The requirements are not too stringent but to be totally effective we would have to be self sufficient in power and possess both VHF and HF capabilities.

This fall when ARES Niagara has its annual SET I would like to see all the hospitals operate their radios on simplex, at least for a portion of the SET. Say one hour at the end thereof. Since their range will now be restricted those hospital VHF stations would be required by net control to re-route their message handling through the HF portion of the network. These local HF stations would pass received traffic to stations in the Hamilton/Toronto areas. So to get to the point, we would require a number of dedicated stout-hearted HF/VHF members of ARES Niagara to participate in this SET event.

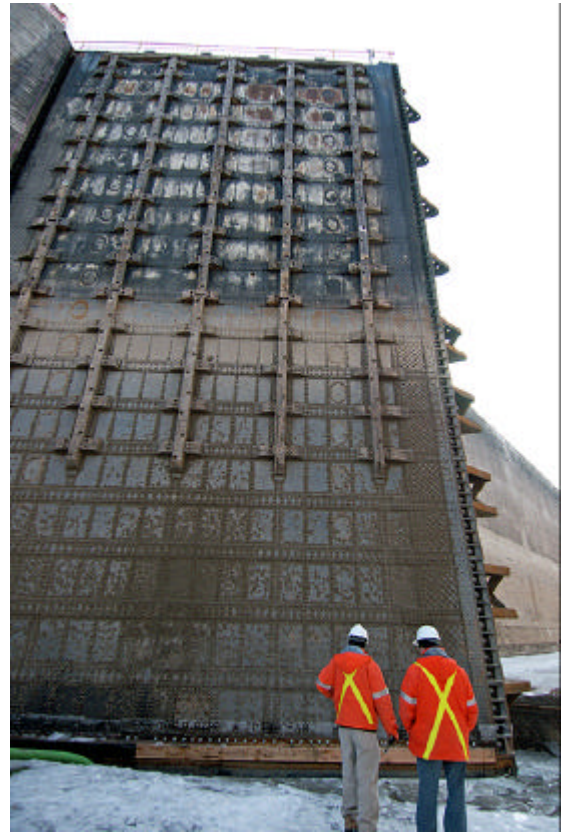
Are you up to it? Are you willing to put in a little time for training, testing and message handling to give to your service area the expertise it needs? If so contact David, VE3BBN, at ve3bbn@yahoo.ca



David's proposed GWEN logo.

Kevin Smith's presentation on the Welland Canal upgrades.

At the April meeting, Kevin gave a fascinating presentation on the recent upgrades to the Welland Canal and the locks. We cannot do full justice to his presentation here, but Kevin has supplied me with some images that he used.



Editorial comment

Hello again!

There are several important events this month to be aware of, so please look at the specific items that interest you the most; Field Day is rapidly approaching and Dale has new information about it. He'll be presenting more up-to-date information at the meeting on May 14th.

The 2009 Canada Day Radio-thon for Charity is also highlighted with Peter's information. He'll also have more to add at the May meeting. Then there is the Russell air show coming up, and (within the club), elections. We look forward to seeing you on May 14th at the Legion in Fonthill!

73, Denis, VE3KVE and Geddie, VE3CJX.

PS—We're always ready to receive information from members, about your shack; your antennas; your experiences on the air. Just email them to: feedline@nparc.on.ca

NPARC 2008 – 2009 Executive

President:	John Boswell	VA3BOZ	president@nparc.on.ca	
Past President:	Wes Sawchuk	VE3ADU	past-president@nparc.on.ca	
Vice-President:	Dave Hodson	VA3UL	vice-president@nparc.on.ca	
Treasurer:	Kevin Smith	VA3KGS	treasurer@nparc.on.ca	
Secretary:	Jim Demo:	VE3JXD	secretary@nparc.on.ca	
Public Relations:	David Wilson	VE3BBN	public-relations@nparc.on.ca	
Special Events:	Peter Vince	VE3HM	events@nparc.on.ca	
	and	Jim Servos	VE3VLS	events@nparc.on.ca
Repeater Committee				
Chairman:	Bob Miller	VE3HNN	repeaters@nparc.on.ca	
Bulletin Editor(s)	Denis Grantham	VE3KVE	feedline@nparc.on.ca	
	and	Geddie Pawlowski	VE3CJX	feedline@nparc.on.ca
Web Site:	Peter Vince	VE3HM	website@nparc.on.ca	
Forum:	Kevin Smith	VA3KGS	forums@nparc.on.ca	
SATERN Liaison:	Dave Digweed	VE3FOI	satern@nparc.on.ca	
Repeater Tech:	Jake Voogt	VE3NCL	repeatertech@nparc.on.ca	
Ham Class Instructor:	David Wilson	VE3BBN	instructor@nparc.on.ca	
	Examiners	David Wilson	VE3BBN	examiner@nparc.on.ca
		Ron Kramer	VE3MX	examiner@nparc.on.ca

NPARC Repeaters

VE3NRS	147.240 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3RNR	443.175 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3WCR	147.300 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VA3NRS	224.580 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz

NPARC Meeting Schedule for 2008 - 2009

Meetings are held monthly, September to June, 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm
 Royal Canadian Legion hall, Branch 613, 141 Hwy 20 East, Fonthill, Ontario. All are invited to attend.

Thursday September 11 th 2008	Guest speaker Kevin, VA3KGS. Presentation of his diving trip to North Carolina.
Thursday October 9 th 2008	Guest speaker Postponed until November meeting.
Thursday November 13 th 2008	Guest speaker Bob Cook, VE3BDB, Vice- President, Field Services. He will be doing a new ARES presentation.
Thursday December 11 th 2008	Guest speaker Guenther Schweigl. Using Lead-free solder plus he is bringing a VNA (Vector Network Analyzer) to check antennas.
Thursday January 8 th 2009	Guest speaker David Wilson, VE3BBN.
Thursday February 12 th 2009	Guest speakers Peter, VA3WET
Thursday March 12 th 2009	Guest speaker Leon Evans
Thursday April 9 th 2009	Guest speaker Kevin Smith, VA3KGS Topic—working of the canal locks.
Thursday May 14 th 2009	Guest speaker Denis Grantham, VE3KVE. Avionics, the fun part of Aviation!.
Thursday June 11 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA