

The Feedline

Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club Inc. December 2008

Well it has arrived (the end of another year that is) and I think that we have had a good first half. We have another class on the go thanks to David VE3BBN and the Salvation Army for the area for David's training and I believe this session should be ending soon, keep up the good work David.



We also had a successful Grape and Wine Parade that I was much satisfied with after a couple of bad organization years even though it was a last minute request from them for our help and our people came through and were much appreciated by the organizers.

Big Event 31: we are still looking for extra help so all helpers get a break to enjoy the flea market. If you can help contact Peter VE3HM

We are still trying to bring in interesting guest speakers and when they can't be found some of our members have been stepping in with some very interesting talks.

I don't like to dwell on this subject. As you know our plan for a proper sit down Christmas dinner was cancelled due to lack of interest so we made alternate plans to go to the North China Buffet. This seemed to show more success and it was.

At the dinner we had 38 people show up. We all ate well and had a few laughs. Then we presented David VE3BBN with the Amateur of the Year Award. A much deserved award for David for all his work towards amateur radio i.e. running radio courses and giving presentations to not only our club but to other clubs. He is always willing to help other's like the time he went down to the Russell airport as the Spitfire pilot was having radio problems and David went down and got him back on the air. He also has been experimenting with project GWEN for ARES and had an article in the TCA magazine and the list just keeps going—Way to go David,

After the presentation we had some door prizes that included four \$25 gift certificates from Radioworld and about 20 + other gifts. I think that everyone enjoyed the change and hope that it carries on in the future.

Remember ---We have to start thinking seriously on the Flea Market, as it will be here before we know it and there is still a lot of work to do.

Our guest speaker for the December meeting will be Guenther Schweigl doing a presentation on Lead-free solder along with bringing the VNA. We will be able to test several of the club member's antennas from HF up to 2.5GHz. So if you have an antenna that you want to have checked bring it along.

And last, my family and I would like to wish everyone a very

**Merry & Happy Holiday Season
(Merry Christmas & Happy New Year)**

John Boswell VA3BOZ

Minutes of the November 2008 NPARC Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm in the Royal Canadian Legion Fonthill. (B) branch. The usual introductions were made and this was followed by a minute of silence to honour all members of the armed forces who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

David Wilson, VE3BBN then introduced Bob Cooke, VE3BDB, Field Services Director for the R.A.C. Bob gave an informative and interesting talk on the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the future of Amateur Radio. Bob feels strongly that the future of Amateur Radio is really dependent on how the public perceives us and their need for us as a resource to be used in times of emergency.

Inactive operators should be encouraged to take an active interest. R.A.C. will assist area units and to that end new training manuals have been developed and are available on the R.A.C. website. As Bob enthusiastically stated several times, the Amateur Radio Service is represented by everyone in the room. Bob also stated that we can't rest on our laurels and have to communicate and live up to the Amateur Radio Service record or Amateur Radio may be doomed.

At present there are over 60,000 Amateurs in Canada and R.A.C. represents all whether they are members or not.

Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
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Minutes /contd.

In reality, only 15% of the 60,000 Amateurs in Canada belong to R.A.C. Finally in closing Bob went over an ARRL report that lists improvements to the system after the shortcomings brought out by Hurricane Katrina.

There was a short coffee break and a 50/50 draw was made and was won by Kevin Smith, VE3KGS.

New Business

The meeting was reopened for the business portion of the night. Frank Endenburg, VE3SQ moved, and Brian Kent, VE3BMX seconded that the noted correction of a call sign be made. The Minutes of the October meeting were then accepted with an "all in favour ?" .

Kevin, VE3KGS read the Treasurer's report and also noted that the Club financial books were in the hands of internal auditors. Jim Thompson, VE3BCA moved, seconded by Wazi, VA3NAZ that the Treasurer's report be adopted as read. All were in favour.

Old Business

On Friday, December 5th we will have a Christmas social at the New China Buffet starting at 6:00pm. Regretfully, the original Christmas dinner has been cancelled and arrangements to meet at the New China Buffet are on the same night.

Jim, VE3BCA talked about a book he is putting together. He also spoke about his visit with Ethel Williamson who is going to be 102 and still going strong and is in process of writing another book.

Peter, VE3HM spoke on the progress with the upcoming Flea Market and requested 5 more volunteers for security, which he filled. David, VE3BBN stated that flea market tables are first come first served.

Len, VE3TC gave a short talk about VE3BOE who is in a Tufford home

The guest speaker for next month will be Guenther Schweigl, VE3CVS; he will talk about and demonstrate the new Lead free solder and how to properly use it.

Peter, VE3HM moved to close meeting at 9:30pm

Pictures from the December 5th Christmas dinner. (These are just a sample — more will be displayed shortly on the Club Website <http://www.nparc.on.ca/>)



David Wilson, VE3BBN receiving the "Amateur of the year" Award from President John Boswell, VE3BOZ





Editorial comment

We have less than three weeks until next year! What with the economy tanking by the day, and our federal politicians playing silly games, seemingly unaware of what needs to be done to minimize the fallout, we certainly have a lot to think about. However, whatever our cultural and/or religious beliefs, at least this is a time of year to take time out and enjoy the company of our family and friends. As Amateurs I encourage each of us to call another Amateur, either on-the-air or by telephone. Surely Tim Horton's was a place created specifically with Amateurs in mind — I know many Amateurs who meet regularly at Timmy's!

So — whether for you its Merry Christmas, or Happy Hanukkah, or some other special religious festival, or even if it is only Happy Holidays, Denis, VE3KVE and Geddie, VE3CJX wish you all the best this festive season.

Let's make a pact with ourselves to get on the air on one of our repeaters at least once a day between now and the end of the year and talk to some fellow Amateurs.

This is our fourth edition as joint Editors of THE FEEDLINE and we (Denis, VE3KVE and Geddie, VE3CJX) will be creating each month's Bulletin. Let us know what you would like to see in THE FEEDLINE; send us (in any form), write-ups on Amateur radio related subjects that we could include in the Bulletin. You can contact us at feedline@nparc.on.ca or even just hand us a paper copy at one of the meetings.

Denis, VE3KVE and Geddie, VE3CJX.

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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 Smith (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 TBA
Thursday February 12 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday March 12 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday April 9 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday May 14 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday June 11 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA