

The Feedline

Niagara Amateur Radio Club Inc. March 2009

It's me again trying to think of things I want to say. Let's start with the Flea Market; what more can I say other than way-to-go people! Another very successful flea market showing an excellent financial return and very few complaints. Hats off to Peter (VE3HM) & David (VE3BBN) for putting it together and a big thank you to all of the volunteers including the non-members.



The hall has been booked for next year Feb 06/2010. Let's do a little more to help out as it is to our benefit to have another successful flea market.

I would like to see the Canada Day project that Peter VA3WET is working on to be a success. This is something new that he started last year and it is already growing and looking more organized. It is a good way to help raise some money for your favorite charity and good public relations for the club. Contact Peter (VA3WET) for more information.

As of now no one has come forward to head-up Field Day. We have to book the park and book the generators. There are only three months left and the park is in demand at that time of year.

Elections are almost here and we have a committee to run the elections. If you have any nominations or you want to run for a position yourself you can get in touch with either Peter (VE3HM) or Brian (VE3BMX).

Just a word on my comment about the repeaters: I think we all know that our repeaters do not please everyone and it has been put on the floor at executive meetings and also mentioned at regular club meetings, but my problem was hearing members running down our repeaters on the air and some times with non club members. This is not good club Public Relations and turns prospective non-members from joining the club. We should talk about the good not the faults. We only have one technician who fully understands our repeaters and his paycheck is hard to replace so give him some credit for the work that he gives up his time to do for us. Jake and Dave have been waiting for the snow to melt (4 or 5 ft) in

front of the gate to get in to the site but I know that they will do their best when they are able to get in.

We are still working to get the 220 repeater located at the Shaver hospital site. This is going through a series of meetings now and hopefully will be resolved soon.

Our Guest Speaker this month is Mr. Leon Evans. He is a retired Air Canada pilot and is now flying vintage aircraft. Some of our members have known Leon for many years. I only met him while working the Russell air shows. Should be a very interesting talk.

John (VA3BOZ)
President NPARC

Minutes of the February 2009 NPARC Meeting

The meeting was held at the Royal Canadian Legion on Hwy#20 Fonthill, On. with 32 members present and one guest. The meeting was called to order at 19:40 and began with the usual introduction of members and guests.

It was moved by Jim Thompson (VE3BCA) and seconded by Frank Endenburg (VE3SQ) that the minutes of the previous meeting be adopted but with one minor change in wording that was pointed out by Ron Kramer (VE3MX).

Kevin Smith (VA3KGS) gave the treasurer's report and a brief synopsis in regards to the Flea Market held on February 7th 2009. It was moved by Frank Endenburg (VE3SQ) and seconded by Wazi (VA3NAZ) that the treasurer's report be accepted. Motion was voted on and passed.

Old Business

Jim Thompson (VE3BCA) spoke on the club history book which is now for sale. David Wilson (VE3BBN) congratulated Jim on an excellent Job doing this book.

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

Minutes /Contd.

Peter Vince (VE3HM) spoke on this years Big Event and reminded folks of the need for volunteers to come forth so we can turn a profit on this venture.

The hall rental for next year was discussed and it was mentioned that we should look into renting the lower hall as well for overflow vendors etc. It was decided that we should leave the arrangement as is and put a down payment on the hall to guarantee the rates in case of a rental increase. Motioned by Jim Thompson (VE3BCA) and seconded by Frank Endenburg (VE3SQ) that we give the Lion's club a down payment for next year's hall rental. It was also requested that we send thank you cards and club pins to the three helpers that volunteered their time to help out.

It was also mentioned that some members were criticizing the repeaters, (voice quality etc.) The president requested that this practice stop.

John Boswell (VA3BOZ, President) mentioned the need to form an election committee as there are only four more meetings left. Peter Vince (VE3HM) and Brian Kent (VE3BMX) volunteered to form an election committee. A short break was taken and the usual coffee and Tim Bits were served. The meeting was called back to order and the 50/50 draw was won by Dale (VE3LVW). The meeting was then turned over to Peter Tyminski (VA3WET) who gave a power point presentation on the Canada Day Marathon Charity Fund Raiser. There was an animated discussion on various points that could be used to improve the overall presentation.

Meeting adjournment was moved by Wasi (VA3NAZ).

Jim Demo (VE3JXD)

Editorial comment

As spring approaches (!) and we look forward to warmer days ahead, it's time to plan replacement antennas and mobile rigs. If you don't plan on doing this type of work, you could spend fun time reading the book "**Hogwash for Hamsters**" that Geddie has reviewed on page 3 of this Feedline. Written by Jerry Spring (VE6CNU) it is one of very few books written around Amateur Radio.

Otherwise, we'll listen for you on one of our club's repeaters.

73, Denis (VE3KVE) and Geddie (VE3CJX).

Update on SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network) NIAGARA:

Many of you have asked about how the SATERN Niagara group is operating. Here is a little update. Slow but Sure as the saying goes. The Salvation Army has their "Hot-Line" phone up and running (24 hours, 7 days a week, 365 days a year) with an actual person taking the calls. This was at the request of Regional Niagara. If we are required, the Salvation Army personnel will get in touch with me and others if I am not available. I am still working on this part.

The Niagara area is divided up into the North area, (area north of Hwy #20) South Area, (area south of Hwy #20), and Niagara Falls which is an area on its own. Each of these areas is coordinated by different Salvation Army staff, with the "chief" coordinator for all of the Niagara area located in St.Catharines. Her name is Bev Moore, located at the Niagara Street office. We have a dual band antenna ready to go up at this location plus an HF Vertical antenna coming on board later in the year. I will need help in getting personnel in the above mentioned areas lined up to be able to go to these locations if required. In the future I hope to have dual band antennas with coax cable available for use in these areas. If anyone wishes to donate a new antenna, charitable receipts will be provided. Also I might try a weekly net on VE3WCR to keep everyone updated, so stay tuned for an announcement. Tnx, 73. If any questions email me at: <ve3foi@yahoo.ca>.

Dave (VE3FOI)

Book Review:

Hogwash For Hamsters: A light-hearted look at the hobby of Amateur Radio by Jerry Spring (VE6CNU)

Anyone knows this is the time of year for getting everything ready for the inevitable break in the weather, namely spring. We still have about 5 weeks left according to the "groundhog". So here, just to whet your appetite for some home-grown Canadian humour are a few tantalizing selections.

From his Ham Radio Abbreviations in Simple English....

CQ - Talk to me..

DC- Battery Power

CW - does not stand for "clock-wise"...

PWR - the button that corrupts absolutely

UHF - the frequency range where the antennas are so small they get bent or lost...

Further details can be found in the listing of the **“Ten Good Things That Have Happened as a Result of My Tower Application”**.

The visuals showing details of Stealth Antennas, the limericks and even songs are what make this book a keeper! And don't forget to be patient and read from the first page chronologically to avoid getting ahead of yourself for unlike reading your tech manuals there is a reward!

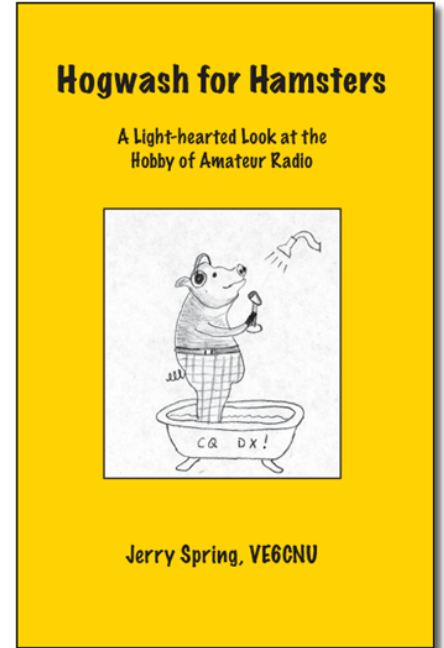
Be the first in your neighbourhood to get your own copy of this delightful book. They will come to appreciate your investment!

Order this book online at www.trafford.com/08-1259 or email <orders@trafford.com> or call toll free: 1:888-232-4444.

Excerpts are copywrite 2008 Jerome L. Spring: 111 pages; quality trade paperback (soft cover); catalogue #08-1259; ISBN 1-4251-8761-7;

US\$15.95, C\$15.95, EUR10.90, £8.23

Geddie (VE3CJX)



Request from Dave (VE3DVE):

WANTED: ARES – Red Cross need some old-style TV masts for an antenna they are constructing.

2 – 1 ½ in or 1 ¼ in steel, 10 feet long,
swaged (they fit together).

Call Dave, (VE3DVE) (905) 562-3956 Or email Dave at <dave.flarity@gmail.com>

NPARC 2008 – 2009 Executive

President:	John Boswell	VA3BOZ	president@nparc.on.ca	
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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 David Wilson VE3BBN.
Thursday February 12 th 2009	Guest speakers Peter VA3WET and Kevin VA3KGS
Thursday March 12 th 2009	Guest speaker Leon Evans
Thursday April 9 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday May 14 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA
Thursday June 11 th 2009	Guest speaker TBA