

*It's a bumpy road for many of us.*



Your



Feedline

**Club Meeting 7pm Thursday, December 13th Niagara Region HQ  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold. Use Campbell West entrance.**

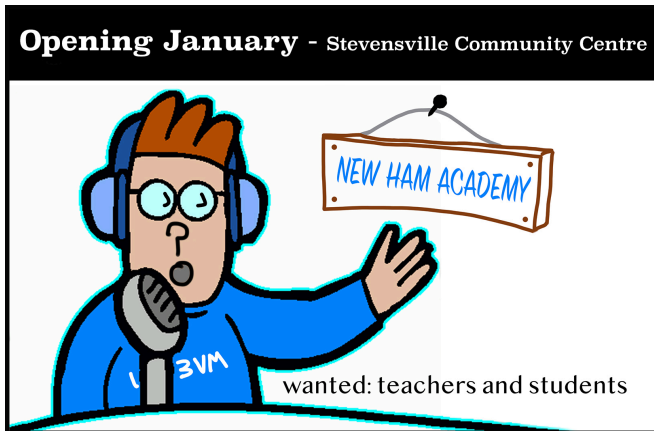
**President's Report - Stephen Riddle, VA3FLF**

Another year has almost come to an end. We accomplished many things this past year and certainly our biggest accomplishment was being able to celebrate our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We had a great turnout and it was a privilege to honour Jim Thompson, VE3BCA and adding Harry Borsato, VE3BSA as a life member.

If you don't already know, we are no longer meeting at the Fonthill Legion. The Legion had directed us to make some changes to our meeting schedule. We were unaware that NPARC would not have a meeting room for the November meeting. We obviously can't conduct club business under those circumstances. So, starting this month our meetings are back to the second Thursday night and will be held at the Niagara Region Building in Thorold. Directions and location information is on the homepage at [nparc.on.ca](http://nparc.on.ca).

The December meeting will be in the cafeteria at the Region Building. We will have Tech Night this month since we were not able to make that happen in November. Please bring out your gadgets, rigs, or anything that you find fascinating to show off for the members.

Along with Tech Night we will have the silent auction for John Faber estate, VE3CNF. The equipment will be set up to view at 6:30 pm. Bring your money if you plan on bidding. Also remember this is our food drive night. Please everyone bring a couple of canned goods or non-perishable items so that



Santa (John Eagle, VE3HWE) can deliver the goods to the food pantries in the region

The students in the New Ham Basic Class will write their test sometime this month. I am hoping for four or five new operators. Along with the testing, we are going to hold a *New Ham Academy* in January. One thing we often fail to do is help these new hams go from ticket to learning the art. We are planning on teaching them things like basic antenna design, soldering, setting up a station, etc. This class is open to last year's group and anyone who is new to the

hobby or wants to learn. I will talk about this at the December Meeting.

Our Big Event #41 is coming up on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are in need of volunteers to work the doors, security and help set up. See Clayton, VE3AUO if you would like to help out. The Big Event is the first ham fest of the year so NPARC gets to kick things off for amateur radio activities.

I am looking forward to the upcoming year. We have a lot of other events and fun things planned to include field day. If I don't get to see everyone at the Holiday Dinner or at the monthly meeting, I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

**Please support NPARC FOOD DRIVE.**

*Bring non-perishable items to Dec. 13th meeting*

Your donation will be delivered to Niagara's Food Banks

**December Meeting Auction - VE3CNF John Faber (SK) - Cash Only**

**Tested and Working Fine**

Yaesu FT-1000 Mark V Xcvt, FP-29 Power Supply and cable, MA31B Microphone (package deal)

Daiwa SS330 30A Switching Power Supply

Alinco DJ-580 vhf/uhf HT inc several Ni-Cd Packs (one was tested) and drop-in charger

**Working with some Minor Issues**

MFJ-442 Keyer Paddle with Memory including MFJ-5648B Iambic Key

Heil Communications Headset

Kenwood TR-7950 25W vhf + mic + power cord

**Not Tested at this time**

MFJ-281 Speaker

MFJ-259 Antenna Analyzer

Alpha 4510 Power Meter

Icom IC-500 Auto Tuner

Rat Pack WX0B Remote Antenna Switch

Home Brew Tuners (2 small, 1 Large)  
 Treadlite Nema Foot Switch (no connector)  
 CDE CD44 + Ham III rotator      Techtronix 454 Scope (no probes)

**NIAGARA FALLS SANTA PARADE SATURDAY, NOV. 7TH** Report by Denis VE3KVE



Once again a group of ARES/NPARC volunteers equipped with portable, dual band, VHF-UHF radios assisted parade marshals of the 1.4km, 107 unit, Niagara Falls Santa Claus parade. Lori Albanese, from the city’s recreation department kept our members informed during the months of planning the annual event. Net control was handled by Henry, VA3OV and David, VA3DPG. Happily no emergency calls were logged. Volunteers, L. to R., Ken Gansel, VA3KWG, Denis Grantham, VE3KVE, David Jarman VE3RNF, Glenn Holden, VE3NDW, John Eagle, VE3HWE, David George VA3DPG and Henry Jarzyna, VE3OV. Absent from photo, Roy Saunders, VA3NP and Garth Hamilton, VE3HO.



**ABOVE GROUND ANTENNA WORK** by John VA3WM

With few exceptions, every ham usually gets involved in a project that requires putting an antenna in the air and working at heights. In Ontario, the Ministry of Labour has enacted legislation with intent to protect workers from injury.

However having a friend or unqualified person help you put up a dipole or tower may put you in a liability position. A recent article in the Georgian Bay club’s newsletter caught my eye and prompted me to share this information with NPARC members.

Property owner may be considered constructors and viewed as an employer. A reported injury could lead to a fine by a Ministry inspector and you could be found liable in the event of an accident. Unfortunately there have been too many construction accidents injuring workers and even fatalities and hence the legislation.

So when engaging help for your antenna project at heights, be diligent and ask some questions of your helper, including:

- Have you received work at heights training and are you certified?
- Do you have WSIB insurance?
- Do you have general liability insurance?

More info and reference: <https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/topics/heights.php>

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## **General Meeting    November 14, 2018    Royal Canadian Legion, Fonthill**

As recorded by Denis VE3XC Secretary

Meeting called to order by Vice-President Henry, VA3OV. President Steve, VA3FLF was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Our meeting tonight was moved to the "Lounge" area of the Legion.

There was a round of self-introductions (approx 21)

\*Moved by Dennis VE3XC / Seconded by John VA3WM: To accept the minutes as printed in the Bulletin. Carried

Correspondence: Dennis read an email received from Bob Jones, VE7RWJ congratulating NPARC on our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and recounting his early days in Ham Radio in our area. Henry suggested that the email be published in the next Feedline.

Treasurer's Report: Clayton, VE3AUO asked that the report be deferred until next meeting. Five Club coffee mugs are available at \$12.

RAC: Dennis VE3XC, Assistant Director, Niagara South: Reported that the RAC organization is doing well enough financially but could always use more Maple Leaf Members (large donations). Dennis also reported that our Corporate Secretary, Sukwan Widajat, VA3WID has passed away.

Big Event: Clayton, VA3AUO, reported that tables are being rented. One of our big attractions, ICOM, is unable to attend this year due to other commitments. They are still contributing to the raffle prize.

Ham Class: David, VE3RNF said that the test will be held in three weeks. The "Ham Academy" will begin in January in the Stevensville Community Centre. There is a need for a few more members to be "Elmers" for these sessions.

\*Moved by David VE3RNF / Seconded by Jim VE3BCA: To make Harry Borsato, VE3BSA a life member of the Club. Carried. It was pointed out that Harry contributed greatly to the Club History Book written by Jim Thompson, VE3BCA.

Other Items:

Feedline: Denis, VA3ONO could use articles or pictures or other interesting submissions for the Feedline.

Web Site: Clayton: There have been some changes made. The Club history is available at NPARC.ON.CA:8085 . Clayton would like to have a list of Club Executive, Feedlines, Meeting Minutes from 2008 onwards. All members are encouraged to create an account on the web site and post their biographies.

\*Moved by Jim VE3BCA / Seconded by Clayton VE3AUO: To adjourn. Carried

## LIGHT BULB ANTENNA CLUB PROJECT

We have been invited to participate in a **light bulb antenna QSO party** in March 2019. Details can be found at the links below. I am looking for a couple of members who would be interested in building one of these antennas and playing in the QSO party. We have been invited by the Road Show Club in Western North Carolina. Looks like a fun project. Read up about the results of the experiments so far and designs. I would like our club to participate. Dates are Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup> 2000 Z through Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2000 Z.

<http://roadshowarc.org/>    <https://hamsignal.com/>

<https://hamsignal.com/blog/the-lightbulb-qso-party>



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## ONTARS SANTA CLAUS NET 2018



Once again this year, Santa Claus will be coming to town, thanks to ONTARS. So gather the youngsters into your ham shack and take turns listening and talking with Santa. Tune to 3.755MHz Thursday, Dec. 20th or Friday, Dec. 21st. starting at 5pm each nights for live broadcasts from the North Pole. Santa this year is Jim VA3ZW. He's replacing our very own Bob VE3HNNH (SK) who was the ONTARS Santa for many years.

### Repeater Chair - John VA3WM

A reminder to everyone that the NPARC 2m FM net is at 20:00 hours on Wednesdays on the VE3NRS repeater. 147.240+ 107.2 tone. Net participation is low, usually less than 10 check ins. And I sure could use some help with net control. At this time, I am flying solo. For times when I am not able to do net control, there may not be a net. So, if you would like to give a try at net control, send an e-mail to [repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca](mailto:repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca) and I will help you with some training.

Fonthill	VE3RAF	442.250+ 107.2 Hz tone.	Also offers C4FM Yaesu System Fusion.
Niagara Falls	VA3WAJ	442.425+ 107.2 Hz tone.	
Niagara Falls	VE3GRW	442.900+ 107.2 Hz tone.	

NPARC members are encouraged to use these repeaters being mindful and respectful of any nets. A more fulsome list of repeaters usable from the Niagara Region may be found

at <http://www.aresniagara.ca/>.

73 for now and I'll be looking for you on the weekly NPARC net.

## NIAGARA ARES

Our last public service event of 2018 was the Annual Niagara Falls Santa Claus Parade. Thanks to all who helped out. Back in October a special presentation, Who and What Is ARES, was held at a meeting of all Niagara's Community Emergency Management Coordinators. The History of Amateur Radio communications, a PowerPoint, was prepared and presented by Denis, VE3KVE.

A demonstration of cross band communications was conducted from the meeting room, to a mobile in the parking lot, to the VE3RAF repeater and contacts with VE3OQP, VE3RNF and VA3WM. Several local Fire Chiefs showed an interest and meetings will be booked for early in 2019.

Niagara ARES Net, Monday 8pm VE3RAF 145.190 +107.2, net controller, Henry, VA3OV.  
 Our Packet/Winlink Net follow the NPARC Net, (7pm) Wednesday over on VE3RAF 145.190.  
 Please check in first to receive instructions.

We will continue to train in message and traffic handling, offer our services to the community and demonstrate our hobby to the public. Happy Holidays to all.

## THE BIG EVENT NEEDS VOLUNTEERS - Clayton VE3AUO

Can you believe it? Less than 90 days left until **“NPARC’s Big Event #41”** is here. We’re chomping at the bit here and getting things ready for a great day of bargain hunting to be had by all. **“Big Event #41”** is taking place on February 2, 2019 at the Merritton Community Centre located at 7 Park Avenue in St. Catharines, Ontario. Just thought we’d send a reminder that table sales are open. Reservations have started and space will become limited before we know it. Prime spots for the event can only be guaranteed if you book now. Whether it’s 1, 2 or more tables that you need, choosing your location is much easier if you act now. Don’t forget to let us know if you need power. Tables sold fairly quickly last year and we would hate to see you miss out. The cost this year is **still** only \$13 each and \$7 for each admission.

Credit Card and Paypal are also available both with an additional processing charge. Send cheques or money orders payable to: Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

NPARC Inc. Table Co-ordinator, P.O. Box 20036, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines ON L2M 7W7

[Clayton VE3AUO is the Big Event convener. treasurer@nparc.on.ca](mailto:treasurer@nparc.on.ca)



**NPARC**  
 Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**‘41st’ BIG EVENT!**

**Hamfest & Electronics Flea Market**  
**February 2nd, 2019**

For more information Web: <a href="http://www.nparc.on.ca">http://www.nparc.on.ca</a> E-mail: <a href="mailto:bigevent@nparc.on.ca">bigevent@nparc.on.ca</a> Phone: 289.646.9222	Coordinates 43.142141 79.208879	Talk-in Frequency 147.240 MHZ+ Tone 107.2 Hz Callsign: VE3VM
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**Merritton Community Centre**  
**7 Park Avenue, St. Catharines, L2P 1P9**

Doors Open Vendors 7:00am *** Public 9:00am  General Admission \$7.00 Children 12 and under FREE  Vendor Tables \$13.00 + \$7.00 Admission  Snack Bar w/ Coffee and Soft Drinks  50/50 Draw and Door Prizes Raffle of Many Prizes	ALL tables are six (6) feet long, sold in advance and are non-refundable. Table selection not guaranteed, book early!  Make cheque or money order payable to: Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  Send to: NPARC, Inc. c/o Table Co-ordinator P.O. Box 20036, Grantham Postal Outlet, St. Catharines ON L2M 7W7
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**Radioworld**

## Letters From Bob Jones VE7RW (Previously VE3CTM)

NB: We received this email from Bob Jones during the summer. I had forgotten about it and read most of it at the November General Meeting. Those in attendance thought it would be good for everyone to see the entire letter in the Feedline.

Secretary Dennis, VE3XC

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July 28, 2018

I was just reading in TCA about your upcoming 70th anniversary which brought back many wonderful memories. My name is Robert (Bob) W. Jones. I was born and raised in St. Catharines. As a young teenager, I was in a class led by Dave Flarity VE3DVE (SK) that prepared us to take the amateur exam in the Hamilton district office of the Department of Communications. Thanks to Dave and mentoring by people such as Jim Thompson, Howard Cowling, Cy Williamson and others, I got my licence as soon as I was able to take the exam. As I recall, you had to be 15 back then. I was already practising Morse code and studying for the exam when I was attending Maywood Public School and waiting to be old enough to take the exam. Those days led to obtaining a Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Electrical Engineering at U of T thanks to a scholarship from Blenkhorn and Sawle then a career in radio communications, first designing antennas at Andrew Antenna Company in Whitby and then responsible for spectrum policy and radio regulatory matters at the Department of Communications in Ottawa and finally as Director of the ITU's Radio Communication Bureau in Geneva after which I retired to Kelowna, B.C..

After retiring here, somehow Dave Flarity tracked me down and we had a sked on Echolink until he died. My wife and I managed to visit Dave and his wife once when we were back in the Niagara Peninsula. I wonder besides Jim Thompson if there are any other NPARC members from the late 50's still around?

It would be nice to attend the 70th celebrations but it is such a long way to come. Also, I have some matters here which will require my presence in September so I don't know if I can make it or not. I wonder if there will be a webcast similar to what the RAC does for its annual meetings?

Best 73's Bob VE7RWJ (Yes, those are my initials) and ex VE3CTM

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I replied:

Hi Bob! Great to hear from you. Thanks for the interesting story on your NPARC and local history. Yes sadly Dave VE3DVE passed away last year. I will write more later. I am on the road right now in New Brunswick. Internet inconsistent.

73 Dennis VE3XC also VE3CCS a couple years after you.

continued on page 9



Hi Bob: My apologies for not replying earlier. Our trip to Nova Scotia went well. The 70th Celebration on Saturday went very well. I was sitting with Phil Pitman, VE3DQK. I will put your information into an article for our next Feedline and I will send you a copy. Besides Jim Thompson, Harry Borsato, and Fred Cross there were two other charter members that were there. Our Bulletin Editor will probably publish lots of photos but that may not be until the November issue, since he is going on vacation. I will send any issue with photos.

Dave Digweed VE3FOI is a life member of the club and was there also. I know all the names you mentioned in your emails. I also was just a young kid when I was brought to the Club by Banner Edwards, VE3SU in 1965. Being a Welland boy early hams I knew were Phil Hudson, VE3BXX (VE3BAL), Al Hutchinson, VE3DNT, Red Hendry VE3BNW, Gino DiLeo VE3AHS, Len Cutress VE3TC (VE3DWL) all SK.

Perhaps we met at one of the meetings at the old firehall, or later at the library, or at Field Day in Niagara-On-The-Lake.

So 73 for now, Dennis VE3XC, Secretary NPARC

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Bob replied:

Was just wondering if you could pass on my very best wishes to the NPARC membership on the occasion of its 70th anniversary. I owe my career to the NPARC and especially to people like Dave Flarity now sadly a SK. And a big shout out to Jim Thompson. He and his lovely wife were so welcoming to this young kid. Hello too to Dave Digweed. So many others in the club helped me in various ways who sadly are no longer with you. I only wish I could be with you but we have so many things going on here now plus a medical condition which rules out any travel for now at least.

Again, my very warmest wishes to the NPARC.

73 Bob Jones VE7RWJ ex VE3CTM

Community Centre

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## **OVER 2 ME... Feedline Editor Denis VA3ONO**

Hey Santa! When you stop at my QTH this year, please don't hit my new rooftop antenna. BTW, I'll have your cookies and milk ready, carrots for the reindeer. The old 2 meter - 440 Diamond X50 is still bolted to the side of my chimney however a 66 foot 4-band PAR end-fed is stretched across the roof and into the backyard. Just tell Rudolph to bring the sleigh down directly on the garage roof that way the runners won't get caught in the small black wire. A short climb up the TV tower will bring you to our chimney. Sorry about last year. I didn't realize yule logs were still burning in the fireplace Christmas eve. I'd be happy to pay to have the seat of your pants repaired. Please leave the Icom-7300 under the tree.

As the Jolly Ole Elf would say, Ho-Ho-Ho and a Happy Christmas to all.

[Send news tips, club gossip or short stories to feedline@nparc.on.ca](mailto:feedline@nparc.on.ca)