

Feedline

Voice of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

“Elections Issue”

President’s Message — Peter, VA3WET

Greetings NPARC Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying this nice weather. The May Two-Four weekend has come and gone to start off the summer. Our next holiday will be July 1st. Canada will turn 150 years old.

NPARC will be at the Niagara Falls Canada Day parade to provide back-up communications and to report any health and welfare issues.

This year we will be setting up a special event trailer wrapped with an NPARC banner. Members will be there to answer questions from the public and to hand out NPARC information brochures. If you are free July 1st, please give David, Ve3rnf a call and let him know you would like to help. Bring your handheld or mobile radio and spare batteries and you will be put to work. It is a fun event which occupies your time from about 9 am to about 1 pm. The group usually goes out for lunch after.

Speaking about special event trailer, John, Ve3hwe has found a very reasonably priced trailer rental shop. You may have been hearing plenty lately about this "Special Event Trailer". As a group project, amateur radio clubs have fun outfitting a communication trailer for special events and emergency communications. The trailers also advertise the local radio club to the public and protects operators and their radios from the elements. The NPARC "Special Event Trailer" committee will be renting a trailer for the Niagara Falls Canada Day Parade and for Field Day and maybe for Canal Days. Why? The Committee is testing the interest, viability, necessity and practicality of having a Special Event Trailer in the NPARC inventory. A full report including detailed costs will be given to the membership at the September 2017 General Meeting.

If members have radio projects of interest, do not be shy and please bring them up at the next meeting. Maybe you want to put together a DXpedition to Bora Bora or maybe one to Henley Island. Let us know. Maybe someone wants to put an NPARC team together for the RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1st. Let us know. The projects are a plenty. In addition, We are always looking for speakers to share their interests with the rest of the club.

The Club Elections are coming up on Thursday June 8th. All executive positions are up for grabs. I will not be running for any executive positions. As a member of the executive you will be needed at NPARC General Meetings. Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month from September to June. There are also brief executive meetings at the regional headquarters building on St. Davids Road. Executive meetings are the first Wednesday of the month or one week before the general meeting. Send me an email (va3wet @ gmail.com) if you need the dates, times and room location for the executive meetings for 2017-2018.

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Previous Meetings Minutes — David, VE3RNF

20170511 General Meeting

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 613, Fonthill, ON

19:09 Meeting was called to order by President Peter VA3WET

Roll Call 29 Members 8 Guests

Henry VA3OV Vice President sent apologies for his absence.

Presentation Tour for Kids

John VE3POJ made a presentation outlining an upcoming cycling event to be held in Niagara from 18 to 20 August 2017 www.tourforkids.com

The tour benefits Coast to Coast against Cancer, their mission & successes may be seen at <http://coasttocoastagainstcancer.org>.

The riders & crew will be billeted at Brock University.

Amateur radio operators & non radio volunteers are needed. Volunteering for any part of the program may be done at <http://www.meskes.ca/tfk> A sign up sheet was provided.

Sign up online for all or any part of the weekend.

Coffee Break

CLUB BUSINESS

Minutes of April Meeting

*Motion to accept the minutes of the April 2017 General Meeting was made by Jim VE3BCA. Motion was Seconded & Adopted.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer verbally provided details of the financial position at end of April.

Motion to accept the report was made by Dale VE3LFR. Motion was seconded & Adopted.

Copy of the report was filed with the Secretary.

Correspondence

A Bill was received for our Annual use of the Post Office Box. Passed to Treasurer for action.

Nominating Committee

Dennis VE3XC Committee Co-ordinator advised that the list published in the May Feedline was final.

Peter VA3WET advised the Committee & the members that both Henry VA3OV & David VE3RNF had withdrawn from consideration.

Later, Dennis VE3XC called for nominations from the floor to fill the positions of President; Vice President & Repeater Co-ordinator.

It had been established that The Repeater Co-ordinator need be neither a Repeater Technician nor hold an Advanced Certificate of Proficiency.

There were no nominations for any of the positions.

Previous Meetings Minutes cont... — David, VE3RNF

Field Day

Henry had provided Secretary with list of needs both personnel; equipment & logistics. This document was available for all to see on the sign-in table.

Big Event 2018 Kaitlynn VE3AUO had been previously nominated.

Club Trailer Members of the investigative committee were confirmed, all being present.

John VE3HWE; Mike VE3CKO & Henry VA3OV

Committee to investigate & report on: Equipment; insurance; parking & other costs that are deemed appropriate.

John has found a low cost weekend rental & plans a trip to Charles Daley Park on 13May2017. All are welcome. Location: QEW North Service Rd. West of 7th St exit. On site between 12:00 & 17:00 local

VE3RNR Lookout Village Building management has been advised their "offer" is unacceptable to NPARC. Peter VA3WET to acquire building contact name & arrange removal. Garth VE3HO offered to assist.

Amateur Proficiency Examiners

Kevin VA3KGS certificate expires 2018

David VE3BBN certificate expiry unknown

NEW BUSINESS

VE3WCD antenna support needs reinforcement

The IRLP node was relocated by Eric VE3EI to the Bell facility on Lookout St.

Recovery & relocation should be investigated

CANWARN Brian VE3BMX

The meeting at Niagara Region HQ on 08May2017 was attended by 70-80 persons
40 were new attendees.

CANWARN nets on VE3RAF are only activated when bad weather is imminent.

ARES Message from Henry VE3OV

This months meeting will be at the Niagara Regional Police HQ on Valley Way, Niagara Falls in the Community Room

Participants in NPARC Field Day are invited to attend an organisational meeting

June General Meeting

Kevin VA3KGS will present an antenna phase switching array that uses 260m end fed wire.

50-50 \$28.00 won by Bill VE3GWM & donated to the club

Meeting was adjourned @ 21:30 hrs

Minutes by David Jarman VE3RNF, Secretary

President's Message cont. — Peter, VA3WET

It will be another busy summer for the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Remember to sign up at the Thursday meeting for the following activities.

- Field Day 2017 will be at the Balls Falls Conservation Area in Jordan on the last full weekend in June. See Henry, Va3ov to sign up.
- Volunteers are needed for the Ride for Roswell. See Henry, Va3ov to sign up.
- The Canada Day Parade in Niagara Falls needs volunteers. See David, Ve3rnf to sign up.
- Canal Days in Port Colborne will have an NPARC Special Event Station, VE3WCD operating near the water tower. The station will also be activating the two light houses on the piers at the Lake Erie entrance to the Welland Canal. Contact David, Ve3rnf to help set-up, operate, log stations and help to clean up. The station will be operating Saturday and Sunday during the August Civic Holiday weekend.

I have just learned that the Legion will be raising the rent by \$25.00 per month plus taxes. The club can absorb this increase. There will not be an increase in membership dues this year.

Have a great summer and see you Thursday.

Peter, Va3wet

Nominating Committee — Dennis, VE3XC & Glenn VE3NDW

Another Call for Nominations: To all members

Yes, it's your nominations committee again looking for nominations or volunteers for next year's Club executive. Please don't stop reading yet! I'll keep it brief.

The Club needs you. Not every member can attend every meeting. This is a fact of life these days. This Bulletin goes out to all members. So if you could possibly help out and stand for office but are unable to attend the next two meetings, please make this known to me at dsurek@yahoo.ca and tell me what position might interest you.

I am confident that the membership will step up for the greater good of the Club. We have four capable nominees now who are looking forward to a great year. We need a President and Vice-President. Many, many excellent candidates are reading this now.

Current List of Nominees for 2017-2018 Executive

President:	Open
Vice-President:	Open
Secretary:	Steve, VA3FLF
Treasurer:	Kaitlynn, VE3AUO
Bulletin Editor:	Rachel Barnsdale (Ham ticket soon)
Public Relations:	John, VE3HWE
Repeater Chairperson:	Open

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Alberta RCMP releases documentary to recognize RCMP efforts during Fort McMurray forest fire

May 3, 2017

Edmonton, Alberta

News release

In May 2016, the Municipality of Wood Buffalo experienced one of the worst natural disasters in our country's history. Forest fires raged, displacing thousands from their homes and their city. May 3, 2017, marks the one year anniversary of this event.

To commemorate and to highlight the heroic efforts displayed by RCMP employees called to duty, the Alberta RCMP has produced a documentary titled, *Boots on the Ground: Nature of the Beast*. The video captures breathtaking never before seen images and footage of the fire's devastation and the brave men and women who remained on duty to ensure the safety of Fort McMurray citizens.

"I have so much respect for the work that our employees put in during the Wood Buffalo wildfires. They worked tirelessly to ensure the safe evacuation of the residents." said Deputy Commissioner Todd Shean, Commanding Officer of "K" Division. "This documentary showcases the tremendous efforts displayed by RCMP employees during a challenging and complex situation."

The RCMP safely evacuated 88,000 residents out of the city of Fort McMurray and surrounding communities. During the following weeks employees secured the evacuated areas, assisted with the animal rescue mission and continued to escort citizens from camps north of the city. Finally, in early June the RCMP worked with the municipality of Wood Buffalo in a phased re-entry plan. Some residents were returning to their homes, while others were simply going to see what was left.

The rebuild of Fort McMurray will take time. The RCMP is committed to working with all partners to ensure comprehensive public safety during the renewal of the city.

June Guest Speaker — Kevin, VA3KGS

What is a Steerable Switching Array?

Our guest speaker this month will be Kevin Va3KGS. He will bring in his control box he built and will have a power point presentation on this subject.

Trailer Demo — John, VE3HWE

NPARC Trailer Demo

May 13, 2017 (12:00pm until 4:00pm)

VE3HWE – VA3OV - VE3CKO

Location: Charles Daley Park, North Service Road, Jordan, ON

Objective:

- Demonstrate feasibility using a trailer as a temporary radio station as opposed to using gazebos or tents

Description:

- The trailer was 10 feet long and 6 feet wide and 6.5 feet high.
- The trailer was rented from Hitchman Trailers in Grimsby. The cost is \$39.55 (\$35.00 + \$4.55 HST) for the day.
- NOTE: This is a good deal for weekend events. You pay for Saturday and effectively get Sunday and/or Holiday Monday included as Hitchman is not open these days.
- Setup of the trailer took about 1 hour.
- Tables were set up
- Equipment was unpacked
- NPARC Banner affixed to trailer
- Antenna was setup
- VHF and HF rigs were connected

Attendance:

Throughout the day, there were 8 NPARC members who made the trek all the way to Charles Daley Park. We also had a couple of visitors appear. There was a fellow and his young son who wanted to talk to Los Angeles and another fellow who is a registered amateur in Quebec but is considering moving to the Niagara area.

Comments:

For the most part, everyone was pleased to see how easy it was to set up a radio station using the trailer as a ham shack. Most of the comments were in favour of using a trailer for events. As far as NPARC owning their own trailer as opposed to renting one, here are some observations that came up this day...

PROS:

- Ease of transporting equipment
- Ready-made shelter from the weather
- No time spent on erecting and dismantling and packing gazebos and/or tents
- Reasonable cost to rent
- NPARC advertising can be painted on the trailer
- Equipment can be stored in the trailer
- Ready for use on short notice
- Trailer can be customized to our particular needs

Trailer Demo — John, VE3HWE

Can be pulled by any vehicle with 2000 lb towing capability

CONS:

- Cost
- Initial outlay (~ \$4K)
- License plate (~ \$72 - no yearly renewal fee)
- Storage (~ \$60/month)
- Extra equipment to purchase to properly outfit the trailer
- (Generator, Batteries, Antenna Masts, etc)
- How many events will require a trailer?
- Need to reserve well in advance (cannot guarantee availability on short notice rental)
- Equipment needs to be loaded at the beginning and unloaded at the end of each event
- NPARC signage needs to be somehow affixed to the trailer or a convenient location (Aluminum construction rules out magnets)

NOTE:

Insurance for the trailer while being towed is covered by the vehicle's insurance. Insurance for equipment is already an expense



Field Day — Henry, VA3OV

Mark Your Calendars/ Check Your Gear!

June 24th

You and your ham radio friends are all invited to join in the preparations for this year's Ride for Roswell, and NPARC ARRL Field Day/ARES SET exercises.

On May 17th, our most recent Field day meeting, we were still looking for:

1 generator, 2 HF radios, 2 antenna tuners, 2 power supplies, outdoor lighting, 2 lengths of coax between 65 and 100 ft. each, one coax switch, and 3 extension cords 50 ft or longer. Also suggested were desk lamps and fans. Will need two coolers to keep beverages cool.

The plan is to run 3 stations on emergency power (classification 3A) for 24 hours. We have antennas for 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 metres.

As last year, the Field Day event will be at Ball's Falls, upper parking lot. Set up will begin on Saturday at 11:00 hrs local time with teardown on Sunday, June 25th at 14:00 hrs local time. Supper will be provided on site with personal contribution of \$10 per person. Coffee, soft drinks and water will be available. If you are intending to stay for supper on Saturday, a head count must be available by Wednesday, June 21st. So please let Henry know.

Henry Jarzyna VA3OV
VP NPARC
GC, CEC Niagara ARES
va3ov@bell.net

Club Executive 2016-2017

Position	Name	Callsign	Email
President	Peter Teminski	VA3WET	president@nparc.on.ca
Vice-President	Henry Jarzyna	VA3OV	vice-president@nparc.on.ca
Secretary	David Jarman	VE3RNF	secretary@nparc.on.ca
Treasurer	Kaitlynn Mattatall	VE3AUO	treasurer@nparc.on.ca
Bulletin Editor	Rachel Barsndale	SWL	feedline@nparc.on.ca
Public Relations Officer	John Eagle	VE3HWE	public_relations@nparc.on.ca
Repeater Committee Chairperson			repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca

Feel free to check out our website at <http://www.nparc.on.ca>. There you will find more information regarding the club and the other dedicated members that put in numerous hours of their own personal time to help make this club as great as it is.

NPARC Repeaters

VE3NRS	147.240 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3RNR	443.175 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3WCD	147.300 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz

Area Repeaters

VE3RAC	147.165 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3GRW	442.900 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz
VE3RAF	442.250 MHz +	PL Tone 107.2 Hz

This is by no means a complete listing. This is just a snippet of all that are available and ones used by club members on occasion.

Nets of Note

- ONTARS 80 M Net / 3.755 MHz LSB daily 7:00 A.M to 6:00 P.M. EDT
- CLARA 80 M Net / 3.750 MHz Mondays 7:00 P.M. EDT
- GWEN-Ground Wave Net on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month at 7:30 P.M. EDT on 3.607 MHz
- NPARC 2M Net /147.240 MHz on Mondays at 7:00 EDT
- ARES 2 M Net /145.190 MHz on Mondays at 8:00 P.M. EDT
- SATERN Net on 2 M /147.300 + MHz / IRLP on Mondays at 9:00 P.M. EDT
- NPARC 10 M Net / 28.415 MHz on Tuesdays, 8:30 EDT
- CLARA 20 M Net / 14.120 MHz on Tuesdays at 1700 UTC & 40 M Net / 7.055 MHz at 9:00 am Eastern
- PROCOM—ARES 40 M / 7.153 MHz & 80 M / 3.74 MHz on Thursdays at 8:00 P.M. EDT

Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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We're on the web
<http://www.nparc.on.ca>

The **Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club** carries the club call sign of VE3VM. Our organization serves all amateurs and local community within the region of Niagara located in Ontario, Canada.

NPARC has a strong membership ranging from youth and senior amateur radio operators. We conduct monthly meetings, and serve the community in not only educating, but providing radio communication services to assist at public functions.

We operate three, commercially built repeaters that serve the Niagara region (and beyond). This year, our infrastructure plan includes several upgrades to increase communication flexibility and experimentation in the area.

If you're interested in becoming a licensed operator in Niagara, email one of our executive. Somebody from the club would be more than glad to assist you!

General Meeting Schedule for 2017

Meetings are held monthly, September to June, on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm Royal Canadian Legion Hall, Branch 613, 141 Hwy 20 East, Fonthill, Ontario. All are invited to attend.

**Thursday June 8th, 2017—Next
General Meeting**