

Feedline

Voice of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Fall is on it's way

Welcome — Kaitlynn, VE3AU0

Once again, here I am on the front page writing the article that would typically be the President's message.

This may be changing very soon as there are rustlings in those beautiful fall leaves that there may actually be a brave soul stepping up to take on the Presidency of the club.

Did we have to "convince" them? Of course we did! We offered "free coffee and donuts at the meetings" and that sealed it. After-all we all know that "coffee and donuts" are the weak spot of many radio operators.

Anyways, enough with that. I hope everyone is ready for the fall weather. All the photographers in the club should be. Those great fall colours and scenes that are coming to life are just waiting to be part of your next great composition. I mention the art of photography because I was fortunate enough to come across a couple great deal on two DSLR cameras recently. I figured why not get back into the "hobby" when I was going through my storage and came across all my old darkroom supplies and equipment. You talk about memories coming back, and good ones at that. Took me back pretty much 35+ years. It's been a long time and boy how things have changed since then. With all these changes I've seen though, I'm wondering if the art and skill of photography, and capturing the "perfect" shot with the "camera" has now turned into who can manipulate any pictures better in editing software using a "computer". Has the hobby changed that much now? I know this could turn into a big discussion with many pro's and con's for both sides of the equation. Maybe this question would be a good starting point for a SIG for the members who enjoy "photography" or is it called "digital media" now.

On to the events we still have coming up for this year:

- October General Meeting—Auction Night
- NF Santa Claus Parade discussions, Nov. 18th
- Holiday Dinner in December?
- Tech Night and Food Drive for December
- Big Event #40
- Field Day
- Canal Days

Inside this issue:

Previous Minutes	2
Treasurers Report	5
ARES Report	6
Satellite	9
Club Info	10
Back Page	11

Previous Meetings Minutes — Steve, VA3FLF

20170914 General Meeting

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 613, Fonthill, ON

19:10 Meeting was called to order by the Treasurer, Kaitlynn VE3AUO.

The Executive conducted member sign up and renewal of club dues as first order of business.

Second call to order was at 19:44 was made by the Treasurer.

Roll Call: 33 Members and 2 Guests present.

Minutes of the June Meeting were ready by Secretary, Steve VA3FLF. Motion was made to accept the minutes by Dennis VE3XC. The motion was seconded and adopted.

Treasurer Report, Kaitlynn VE3AUO.

The current financial statement was read by Kaitlynn. Motion was made by Henry, VA3OV to accept the statement. Motion was seconded and adopted.

Treasurer presented the 2017-2018 proposed budget to members. Dennis VE3XC made the motion to accept the new year budget. Motion was seconded and adopted.

Secretary Steve, VA3FLF

Steve read the thank you letter from the EL Crossley student Evan McCrory. He was the student who was awarded the NPARC Scholarship. It was noted in his letter that he is pursuing a career in Mechanical Engineering.

David, VE3RNF noted that the purpose of the scholarship is for students interested in electronics or electrical engineering.

The executive agreed and noted David's concern. This will be discussed at the next Executive meeting. Specifically, the Executive will discuss and coordinate with EL Crossley on how the funds will be awarded.

Peter, VA3WET made the motion to double the award to \$ 200.00 from this point forward. The motion was seconded by John, VA3BOZ and was adopted.

John, VE3HWE presented the event trailer report to the club.

Kaitlynn, VE3AUO presented the Big Event Report. Members are encouraged to sign up to help with the event. Several points of discussion were brought up by members:

Henry, VA3OV stated that Radio World had received requests from other clubs to try to have a vendor representative brought in when Radio World is participating in an event. He suggested we do the same, and send a request to radio world for a vendor at the Big Event.

Previous Meetings Minutes cont... — Steve, VA3FLF

Lloyd suggested a later closing time for the event. It was decided that for the Grand Prize drawing the winner needs to be present. The drawing will be held at 1230 in an effort to keep participants and buyers at the event longer.

RAC Report, Dennis VE3XC.

Invited NPARC members to join RAC.

CANWARN Report Brian, VE3BMX

Reminded members that VA3RAF is the CANWARM repeater.

SATURN Report, Dave, VE3FOI email read by Kaitlynn

SATURN has been very busy with BC fires and floods in TX and FL.

ARES Report Henry

Next Meeting is at the NRP HQ in Niagara Falls on Thursday September 21.

John, VE3HWE passed out Event Participation Certificates to members that assisted in this year's special events.

New Business. The Executive informed members we are still without Club President, Vice President and Repeater Coordinator. The floor was opened for nominations or volunteers. There were none made.

The club was informed that Jim Thompson's (VE3BCA) wife had a serious fall. No other information was available,

New Ham Classes, Phil, VE3ACK

Phil presented his plan for upcoming new ham classes.

Phil asked for members to sign up and help in the month of October for demonstration stations that will be set up at schools or library.

Kaitlynn informed members that on September 18th, there will be a Cogeco Channel TV interview about NPARC and amateur radio.

GWEN, Peter, VA3WET gave an update on the GWEN

Meeting was wrapped up due to the time constraints. John, VE3HWE made motion to dismiss. Motion was seconded and meeting was adjourned at 21:35.

Minutes by Steve Riddle, VA3FLF, Secretary.

Welcome Message cont... — Kaitlynn, VE3AUO

We have a busy time ahead of us and many of those events require volunteers. Yes that means you, our loyal club members. Without you volunteering to help, we would have to turn down many of these events. Let's not see that happen.

If you would like to help at any of these events, please contact our Events Coordinator, John, VE3HWE, or someone on the executive as soon as possible.

Another month has passed and I am hoping many of you have thought about the proposed Holiday Dinner. If you are interested in this proceeding, please let me or anyone else on the executive know as time is becoming very short to get something pulled together. If we will need to reserve space we should be looking at doing that now. If you have a suggestion for a location, please let someone on the executive know. The holidays are creeping up on us faster than ever. If you have any doubts, feel free to visit your local Dollarama store. They already have the Christmas holiday decorations out for sale. Continuing from last month, the magic number for this month is... 75. Yes only 75 days till that day.

Enjoy the next couple days before the meeting and I am looking forward to seeing everyone October 12th at 7:00pm EST at the Legion.

Kaitlynn, VE3AUO

73

Member Submission — Dave, VE3FOI

One of our ex members Dr. Charles Powell NK8O (VE3OCF), is going to TANZANIA. The callsign to be used will be 5H3DX. Charles also has VE3ISD as a callsign because Eric was his teacher on CW when living in St. Catharines.

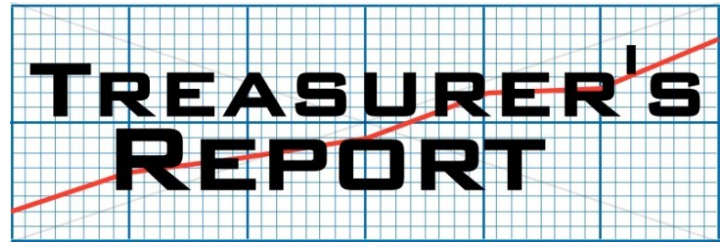
Operation: Nov 7th to Dec 6th, 100 watts, CW, SSB, PSK63, FT8. Will be mostly CW and digital, if you want to arrange a sked his email is: NK8O@arrl.net.

QSL info: check with QRZ.com about 5H3DX, also his home callsign NK8O

He is one of many volunteer medical staff for the hospital there. Charles has been there prior to this visit. He will have more time to operate on HF this time.

Dave VE3FOI

Treasurer's Report — Kaitlynn,



October is upon us and now is your second chance to renew your memberships in person. I will be accepting membership at the start of this Thursday's meeting in an attempt to get that finished and the meeting done early so that we can get to this month's event.

As I wrote about last issue, here are a few points to remember about what your membership does for the club and you:

- Receipt of liability insurance for NPARC, Inc. related activities through the Radio Amateurs of/du Canada, Inc.
- Your monthly "**Feedline**" that brings you the latest news from your club;
- Repair and maintenance of currently two (2) of the best repeaters in the area. VE3NRS and VE3WCD;
- Promotion of our amateur radio classes each year. And this year we have a third instructor and accredited examiner taking part in the club;
- Support of our monthly meetings with **complimentary** refreshments for your enjoyment along with guest speakers;
- The Internet Radio Linking Project or IRLP on our VE3WCD repeater;
- Support for Field Day, a twenty-four-hour outdoor event which simulates an emergency and tests your skills as an amateur radio operator on the fourth full weekend each June;
- The continued upkeep and development of our new website, <http://www.nparc.on.ca>, and our CRM being developed and maintained behind the scenes;
- Support for the creation of the club's first digital archive of our past, and present through the scanning of the club QSL cards, photos and many important club documents;
- And support for so much more.

Please remember that your memberships are due at the September meeting. Until they are paid, you will unfortunately have no further voting privileges. You will however continue to receive the "**Feedline**" until the November issue.

Auction Night

As we have done in the past, October is the club's auction night. It is a night of fun and deals. To help the club out, we collect a surcharge of 10% of what your item sold for. Don't worry though, the maximum we will charge is \$10.00 per item sold.

Most of you know that David, VE3BBN, has been our faithful auctioneer for the last while. Unfortunately for us, the current word is that David will not be able to help us out this year. If there is anyone out there that would like to step up as auctioneer for this year, please let me know at the meeting as early as possible.

Treasurer's Report cont...— Kaitlynn, VA3AU0

Summary

In closing, I would like to thank all those that have again, become members of NPARC, Inc.. For a club that has been around since 1948, we should **ALL** be very proud that this club is still going and will continue to survive. Let's push this club and promote it at least once everyday as well as promote the hobby of Amateur Radio. Do not let the internet take over. Remember that "*When all else fails, there's always amateur radio.*"

Kaitlynn
2017-2018 Treasurer

ARES Report — Henry, VA3OV

**NIAGARA ARES NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2017**

**“ How will we fare in a state of emergency”
CAN WE REMAIN SELF SUFFICIENT FOR 7 DAYS ?
We need to prepare for such a disaster.**

We only need to watch the news to see what the population in the Caribbean have to endure for a long time after the hurricane devastation.

In Houston they had 1000mm of rain in a 48 hours period. How do you translate this into centimeter of snow?

Due to various engagement on October 11 and 14 we will not participate in the provincial SET.

On Friday September 29 we conducted some packet exercise from the Hotel Dieu Shaver hospital using the radio emergency station. With the assistance of Doug VE3EQV a digipeater was installed and connected to the hospital antenna. The following members participated in the exercise VE3OQP, VE3RNF, VE3NDW, from their respective QTH and VE3EQV and VA3OV from the hospital. Messages were exchanged using Packet Winlink and P2P using the digipeater. Throughout the exercise low power was

ARES Report — Henry, VA3OV

used at every location demonstrating the strategic location for emergency communication.

More exercise is needed to improve our proficiency in digital communication. At our next monthly meeting, members interested in packet or have a running packet station should bring their operating station to the meeting. Your laptop should have the latest update available on the Outpost and Winlink web site:

-www.winlink.org

-www.outpostpm.org

This way we can all use the same features.

The operating system needs to be windows 7 or greater.

We will review configuration, setup, various type of messages available.

Come early to setup your equipment.

Packet is not dead, the 50 top radio operator ARRL sent to assist the Red Cross in Puerto Rico needed to be proficient in handling message traffic using Winlink and Outpost.

As previously stated we will run the Niagara Peninsula SET on October 28, from 0900 to 1200. Volunteer participating in the event will receive instructions no later than October 27 at 2000 by phone or email. Mobile radio operation maybe required (including Winlink & Outpost).

We will continue to send voice messages using IMS-213R forms during our weekly Niagara ARES Monday night net.

The local PBBS is open from 1400 to 2200 weekly on 145.060 MHz VA3OV-1

Meeting October 18 at 1900H

Room TBA

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way Thorold, ON

Thanks 73

Henry VA3OV

GC, CEC Niagara ARES

va3ov@bell.net

Amateur Classes Report— Phil, VE3ACK

The basic radio course is about to begin shortly.

Through a contact that Paul Julian has, we have been able to get a meeting location for the basic course at the Black Creek Community Centre in Stevensville.

The start date is Thursday, November 2. Time is 7:30 p.m. We had hoped to have a location in St. Catharines as a central venue for the course, but that did not work out. Nevertheless, we will continue to pursue options in St. Catharines and possibly offer a second course there later in the winter.

Kaitlynn arranged for us to do an interview on Cogeco Cable TV to promote amateur radio and the course.

We are continuing to pursue high schools to offer a live demonstration of amateur radio. I spoke with the administrators of a group named "IHUB". The group is associated with the District School Board of Niagara. The group works with businesses to offer innovative programs for high school students. It seems like a good fit for amateur radio.

If you know anyone who is interested in getting their basic radio license, please have them contact the club or me (radio_meteor@yahoo.ca).

RAC Report— Dennis, VE3XC

RAC would like to congratulate Phil McBride, VA3QR/VA3KP, on his re-election as RAC Director for the Ontario South Region. Phil was elected by the members of the region and will take office immediately to complete the two-year term ending December 31, 2019. Asst. Director Dennis VE3XC, will attend the Ancaster Fleamarket on October 14th on behalf of RAC.

Dennis, VE3XC



Satellite Update — Dennis, VE3XC

Dennis, VE3XC has completed the installation of his Satellite antennas using the rotators and tracking program that was demonstrated at an NPARC meeting several months ago. The installation was not without problems as the tower had to be lowered to replace N connectors provided and installed by the cable manufacturer. They tested fine on the ground but became intermittent later. My personal opinion: Never trust crimp-on N connectors. All is well now with excellent contacts using the SSB linear transponder satellites XW-2A, 2B, 2C, 2F, AO-7, AO-73, and FO-29. I have had some success with the FM birds SO-50 and AO-85 but find them more difficult to use because everyone is competing for the use of one frequency. There is nothing more exciting than to hear your own voice coming back at you on the downlink.



Dennis, VE3XC



Club Executive 2016-2017

Position	Name	Callsign	Email
President			president@nparc.on.ca
Vice-President			vice-president@nparc.on.ca
Secretary	Steve Riddle	VA3FLF	secretary@nparc.on.ca
Treasurer	Kaitlynn Mattatall	VE3AUO	treasurer@nparc.on.ca
Bulletin Editor	Rachel Barnsdale	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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Amateur Radio - When all else fails!

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 October 12th, 2017—
Next General Meeting**