



Your



Feedline

## Big Event Draws Big Crowd



### President's Report - February 2019 - Stephen Riddle, VA3FLF

Another successful Big Event is in the books! The hall was crowded and almost all the vendor tables were sold. I have not seen the final numbers yet, but it appears we had a very good event. I want to thank everyone who volunteered to assist in the event and also recognize Clayton VE3AUO, for all his hard work. Putting together and executing the Big Event is not an easy task by any means. Clayton did an outstanding job and deserves a giant thank you from the Executive and from NPARC.

We are looking for input and comments for improvement on the Big Event. There are some things we are stuck with, due to circumstances, however if you have any comments that you think would improve the Big Event please sent them to [executive@nparc.on.ca](mailto:executive@nparc.on.ca). I am requesting that all comments come via email to preclude us from having a long drawn out meeting and taking time away from the guest speaker or presentation.

We had a fun time at Black Creek Centre for the Ham Fun Day Event that was held on January 12<sup>th</sup>. The hall was scheduled for the new ham academy but had to be cancelled. Mike VE3MPA decided to go ahead and put together a fun day instead. We had a great turnout with both club and non-club members. We had several projects ongoing that day to include putting up a new Alpha Delta antenna for the centre, some cable soldering, and a Flex Radio Demo to just name a few. We had some burgers and hot dogs to round out the day. Thank you Mike for putting that together and we are hoping to build on the relationship with Black Creek Centre and NPARC. Hopefully we can plan more of these drop by events in Stevensville during the year.

We have some very good presentations coming up for the rest of the year at the General Meetings. This month Rick VE3MM, will make a presentation on Contesting. The speaker schedule is in the Feedline and on the NPARC website.

It is also time we start looking at the spring and summer event schedule. As always, we need some volunteers for event coordinators. We have Field Day, Canal Days, and Fort George to name a few. We will still be conducting our regular ARES / NPARC events such as Ride for Roswell, Canada Day Parade, and Terry Fox. There are other non-club events this year with a particular notice to the Canadian National Parks on the Air (CNPOTA). We will be starting sign-up sheets at the March General Meeting.

We are still conducting some preliminary planning for another Basic Class and possibility of an Advanced / Code Class. Hopefully we will have some details worked out by the March meeting. If you are interested in classes, please send me an email.

That wraps it up for me this month. By the way, Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow so spring is coming soon.....yeah right! 73.

## MONTHLY MEETING SPEAKER'S LIST

<b>Feb. 14</b>	<b>Contesting &amp; DXing.</b>	Rick Stasiak	VE3MM
<b>March 14</b>	<b>World Radiosport Team Championship competition.</b>	John Sluymer	VE3EJ
<b>April 11</b>	<b>Yaesu Radios.</b>	Andy Mills	KD2WA
<b>May 9</b>	<b>Planning for NPARC's Future.</b>	Stephen Riddle	VA3FLF
<b>June 13</b>	<b>Field Day &amp; Summer Events</b>	Henry Jarzyna	VA3OV

## Online NPARC Group Forum

Do you want to know the latest ham radio news? Would you like to know what other club members are doing or what is the latest ONTARS news? If you do and are missing the news, we have a [groups.io](http://groups.io) club forum. This is where you can get all the latest updates. Some of the items posted this week were the ONTARS newsletter with Big Event Photos, list of SDR software programs, ISS SSTV pictures this weekend and a ham radio news story from CBC News.

All you have to do to join is google [groups.io](http://groups.io). Click on registration and create an account with an email and password. Then search NPARC and request to join. You will be added to the group and will be able to receive and post topics. We need more members to join us for the fun.

# Niagara Region Sites Canadian National Parks on the Air 2019

CNPOTA - visit <https://cnpota.ca/> to register.

In general, Amateur Radio operators are welcome to day use these Parks Canada sites. Some suggestions include parking in designated areas, operate from your vehicle, bring your own table and chair where there may not be a picnic table, use battery power, bring your own antenna which may be on a tripod or strung in the trees, proudly wear your NPARC member id, be safety conscious and use safety traffic cones to demarcate your operating area and mark your feedlines with caution flags. Note that popup sun shades are considered to be tents and as such are **not permitted** unless a permit, if at all, in the order of \$2,000 per day is obtained.

John,VA3WM has agreed to keep his Parks Canada contact informed of any NPARC member planning to activate at one or more of the Niagara Region Parks Canada sites. As such, please send me an email, [repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca](mailto:repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca) / [va3wm@outlook.com](mailto:va3wm@outlook.com) with the dates and sites on which you are planning to activate.

Unit ID	Site	GPS Co-ordinates and Google Map	Notes
ON35	<a href="#">Navy Island National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Navy Island Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 02.645 W 79 01.053 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.044083%2C-79.01755">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.044083%2C-79.01755</a>	<b>NO PUBLIC ACCESS to island</b> - In a parking area on the east side of the Niagara Parkway 4.0 km south of the bridge over the Welland River in Chippawa
ON40	<a href="#">Ridgeway Battlefield National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Ridgeway Battlefield Historical Plaque</a>	N 42 54.245 W 79 02.497 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.904083%2C-79.041617">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.904083%2C-79.041617</a>	on the north side of Garrison Road (Highway 3) 1.3 km east of Gorham Road (Road 116)
ON23	<a href="#">Fort Mississauga National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Fort Mississauga Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 15.704 W 79 04.598 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.26173%2C-79.07663">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.26173%2C-79.07663</a>	access is through the golf course at the intersection of Front and Simcoe streets
ON32	<a href="#">Mississauga Point Lighthouse National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Point Mississauga Lighthouse Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 15.701 W 79 04.602 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.26168%2C-79.0767">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.26168%2C-79.0767</a>	access is through the golf course at the intersection of Front and Simcoe streets
ON18	<a href="#">Butler's Barracks National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Butler's Barracks Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 14.887 W 79 04.455 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.248117%2C-79.07425">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.248117%2C-79.07425</a>	parking available at John and Charlotte streets
ON38	<a href="#">Queenston Heights National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Sir Isaac Brock Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 09.607 W 79 03.183 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.160117%2C-79.05305">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.160117%2C-79.05305</a>	land around Brock Monument is Niagara Parks jurisdiction, web site indicates picnic facilities and washrooms
ON20	<a href="#">Fort George National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Fort George Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 15.116 W 79 03.787 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.2519%2C-79.063028">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.2519%2C-79.063028</a>	ample parking available, washrooms across from visitors centre, Fort entry requires fee
ON13	<a href="#">Battlefield of Fort George National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">The Battle of Fort George Historical Plaque</a>	N 43 15.722 W 79 05.071 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.2620%2C-79.084517">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=43.2620%2C-79.084517</a>	This is not at the Fort George site, but at far end of NOTL on Queen Street - parking is available - cairn is chain link fenced giving opportunity to lash a mast - Google mistakenly tags this as Battlefield of Fort Mississauga
ON11	<a href="#">Battle of Cook's Mills National Historic Site of Canada</a> <a href="#">Battle of Cook's Mills Historical Plaque</a>	N 42 59.875 W 79 10.494 <a href="http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.99792%2C-79.1749">http://maps.google.com/maps?q=42.99792%2C-79.1749</a>	A few parking spaces

## 2019 ACTIVITY LIST

Saturday	April 20	ONTARIO QSO PARTY	
Saturday	June 22	RIDE FOR ROSELL	(Niagara Parkway)
Saturday	June 22	ANNUAL ARRL FIELD DAY	( T. B. A. )
Sunday	June 23	ANNUAL ARRL FIELD DAY	( T. B. A. )
Monday	July 1	CANADA DAY PARADE	(Niagara Falls)
Monday	July 1	RAC CANADA DAY HF CONTEST	
Friday to Sunday	Aug. 2, 3, 4	CANAL DAYS CELEBRATION	(Pt. Colborne)
Saturday, Sunday	Aug. 24, 25	FORT GEORGE	(Niagara-on-the-Lake)
Sunday	Sept. 15	TERRY FOX RUN	(Niagara Falls)
Sunday	Sept 29	CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE	
Thursday	Oct. 10	RUN FOR A MILE	(Niagara Parkway)
Sunday	Nov. 17	SANTA CLAUS PARADE	(Niagara Falls)

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Enjoying a night out sponsored by the City of Niagara Falls, parade volunteers, are Garth, VE3HO, David, VE3RNF, Roy, VE3OQP, Geddie VE3CJX, Glenn, VE3NDW and Ken, VE3KWG. Photo by Denis, VE3KVE

**GENERAL MEETING - Niagara Regional HQ - Dennis Surek, VE3XC, Secretary**

The meeting was called to order by President Steve, VA3FLF, who said that the focus of this meeting was the "Big Event".

There was a round of self-introductions of those in attendance (about 22 + 1 guest )

\*Moved by Dennis VE3XC / Seconded by Henry VA3OV :To accept the minutes of the last general meeting as printed in the Bulletin. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Clayton VE3AUO included General Account balance plus the GIC and value of radio equipment. Clayton had copies of the budget, but was unable to discuss as no video projector was available.

\*Moved by John VE3HWE / Seconded by Jim VE3BCA :To accept the Treasurer's report. Carried.

\*Moved by Rick VE3MM / Seconded by Steve VE3SDI:To delay the Budget report until next meeting. Carried.

Correspondence: A letter was received from City of Fort Erie thanking us for our December food bank donation.

Repeaters: John VA3WM: Nothing new to report.

ARES: Henry VA3OV: Next meeting next Wednesday at Regional Police HQ.

Field Day Report: Henry VA3OV: No planning started yet except that Henry knows he will need 3 helpers and someone to be the Safety Coordinator.

RAC Insurance: Lloyd VE3ERQ was curious as to when our Premium is paid and what are the effective dates. Clayton said that we normally send in our fees in January. Lloyd then suggested that maybe we are uninsured for some period of time because the payment may be late. Dennis, VE3XC will contact RAC to clarify.

New Ham Academy: We have not received a lot of interest and have cancelled our Club involvement. Mike Amadio, VA3MPA will run the event at the Black Creek Community Centre over the next two Saturdays. Our members are invited to attend and participate as they wish. In the future Mr. Amadio intends to set up a tower and station.

Advanced Class: We have been advised that Phil, VE3ACK will run a Class for Advanced Amateurs and also that Glenn, VE3NDW would run a code class.

Membership: Steve reported that we now have 58 members including 8 Life Members. This leaves us with 5 or 6 fewer members from last year.

Big Event: Clayton VE3AUO: 31 tables are sold and there are 16 free tables, so about \$ 600 in so far. Sales are not as good as last year. Eric VE3ERQ noted that the ONTARS luncheon tends to take people away sooner.

Steve, VA3FLF said the Lightbulb QSO party is on March 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. See Steve if you would like to participate.

National Parks on the Air: Henry, VA3OV pointed out the website CNPOTA.CA has all the information. He will have some pamphlets printed up for our events.

\* Adjournment.: Moved by Lloyd VE3ERQ / Seconded by Jim VE3BCA: Carried

On Saturday January 12th a group of south Niagara hams organized a social gathering at the **Black Creek Community Association** clubhouse in Stevensville. Mike, VE3MPA opened the doors and a large group of hams strolled in. At noon hot dogs, hamburgers and drinks were provided. Several demonstrations were staged including building and hoisting a wire dipole into the air.



From left, Terry, VE3TOB, David, VE3DVK, Kevin, VA3KGS, Mike, VA3MPA, Jim, VA3JBX and Mark, VA3RVF.



# BIG EVENT 41 IN PHOTOS .....











## From Our Repeater - Chair John VA3WM

A reminder to everyone that the **NPARC 2 m 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. It is not that hard.

There are a few good 70 cm repeaters in the Niagara region that are open and under-utilized.

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.

## NIAGARA ARES

Ken, VA3KWG and John VA3WM, have been working on a new and modern looking web site for Niagara ARES. Have a look and let us know what you think. <https://aresniagara.ca>

**GET READY FOR THE LIGHT BULB QSO PARTY MARCH 8th and 9th.**



## From The Editors Desk!

Oh No. Wasn't it just Christmas! Now it's the middle of February. In a few months we will be swatting mosquitos and raising antennas at field day again. Despite my aching ankle I found my way to Big Event #41. Our convenor, Clayton, VE3AUO, did a marvellous job. I managed to navigate the hordes of shoppers and snap photos for FEEDLINE. I also shared images with Barry, VE3ISX. They can be viewed at [www.ontars.org](http://www.ontars.org). It was wonderful to see so many members pitching in to help. We may be a small club but have lots of muscle and drive when we pull together. Remember, the more hands, the lighter the load. And did you know President Stephen placed several newspaper ads in Niagara promoting the Big Event. Because of this the St. Catharines Standard sent a reporter and a story and photograph appeared in Monday's edition. This positive coverage promotes our club and the hobby.

John, VA3WM, has supplied information about the Canadian National Parks On The Air 2019 event. I can't wait to get my portable station setup at one of the many local Parks Canada locations and get on the air. John has offered to be the go-between with Parks Canada. If you plan to activate a local historic site contact John at [repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca](mailto:repeaterchair@nparc.on.ca). Go to [www.cnpota.ca](http://www.cnpota.ca) to read the rules. And remember you must upload your logs to their web site shortly after contacts. I believe it was a group of Hams from the east coast who worked with the authorities to make this happen.

As Feedline editor I witness how hard the executive works to create a vibrant atmosphere for our monthly meetings and club events. Most of the current members I see at meetings have taken their turn on the club's executive. If you haven't, please offer your name up at the next general election. You'll be glad you did.

As always, I'm happy to receive news tips, club gossip or short stories. Please send to [feedline@nparc.on.ca](mailto:feedline@nparc.on.ca) or [va3ono@icloud.com](mailto:va3ono@icloud.com) Denis VA3ONO

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