



### The Big Headline ?

As we may remember back to Dec. 26th, 2022. As we may remember all we have shared, we may be amazed at how the stories gathered, how we did overcome hardships and especially with the efforts of all the members and all those that encouraged and came out to get on the air, to just dig in and enjoy. A great and hearty thank you for sure goes out to each and every reader of this 75th Anniversary Feedline. Wishing all a Happy New Year!

Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, Radio Amateur Canada (RAC) Community Officer, on the right, receives the 75TH Anniversary Grand Logo from Ken Gansel, VA3WG, President of NPARC Inc. at the 75th Anniversary Dinner held on November 25th 2023 at the

Dalhousie Yacht Club in St. Catharines.



# *Dear Members of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club,*

*I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for inviting me to your 75th-anniversary celebration. It was an absolute pleasure to be a part of such a passionate and knowledgeable group of amateur radio enthusiasts. I was truly impressed by the level of dedication and expertise demonstrated by the club activities over the years, and I learned a lot from the presentations and discussions.*

*As a Community Services Officer, I believe it is important to reach out to groups like the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club. The Field Organization in Canada recently underwent a restructuring process to better serve the needs of the provinces. One of these significant changes is acknowledging the evolving role of clubs in shaping the future of the hobby. RAC is committed to working closely with its clubs to drive positive change and growth through Community Engagement Coordinators at the section and national levels. By building stronger relationships with clubs and engaging directly with them, RAC can leverage knowledge and insights to help design national programs and initiatives that will benefit a wider audience.*



*Encouraging the next generation of Amateur Radio operators is a popular topic among the amateur community. To address this, RAC has taken several steps to promote youth initiatives through its Field Organization and Youth Education Program. Al Penny, VO1NO, the Atlantic Director for RAC, has been instrumental in advancing these efforts by introducing amateur radio to Nova Scotia educational institutions, enabling high school-aged youth to earn ½ credits for the basic and advanced Amateur Radio certificate program.*

*RAC has chosen Ontario to pilot the Auxiliary Communications Service, a significant endeavor with a major stakeholder. Although there have been many requests for training and documentation, RAC is asking the right questions while developing a solid foundation for the Auxiliary Communications Service. This will increase the success rate with other Emergency Management Organizations. Recently, RAC participated in a comprehensive exercise in collaboration with Niagara Region Emergency Management. During this exercise, we tested and assessed a temporary communication plan. NPARC is setting a precedent with the first stakeholder-driven Auxiliary Communications program in Ontario.*

*Thank you once again for including me in this special event. I look forward to staying in touch and continuing to explore the world of amateur radio with all of you.*

*Best regards,*

*Jason Tremblay*

*Community Services Officer,*

*Radio Amateurs of Canada*

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## A VERY Special Harp Performance

David Miller, VE3DYD (harpist)

At this time we would like to acknowledge all those who have gone before, and especially our Silent Keys. From them we have inherited such a beautiful land and enjoyable times. It is through patience and encouragement we learned how to manage technical skills, skills for building comradarie and keeping a light hearted frame of mind.

Some folks may remember Robert 'Bob' James Gill Miller. I recollect a kind and sincere welcome to the NPARC Radio Club way back when he was especially helpful with The GOTA Station. He brought out every useful piece of equipment handy including introducing the many new modes of operation available by hooking up a computer. That was when Ham Radio Deluxe was free. We needed the new CI-V cables and matching connectors . Between the wires, we enjoyed the laughter and profound enthusiasm for all that new technology. In his retirement, Bob, VE3HNN.. even guided children safely across roadways to get to school early in the morning.. David, who will be playing for us is his talented son. Lindsay and David both received their licences together and are married now for quite a few years with their anniversary in October.

Geddie, VE3CJX, welcomed: Lindsay,3XKY and David, VE3DYD.



# President's Remarks – 75th Anniversary of NPARC Inc.

## THE PAST 75 YEARS

There was a group formed on June 11, 1948 to study establishing a club. The club's first meeting was held on November 12, 1948 and Emile Hicks with president (VE3AFI). Later in the club history I see some mention of women filling various executive roles such as Margaret Sewell as VP., along with our Kevin Lemon as President in 1993. There was a women President BTW.

Most of the club's history was compiled by Jim Thompson, VE3BCA, who passed away at age 99 in 2022 if I recall. The PDF history document is on the web site.

In July 1951 the club received a letter for DOT informing them that radio signals carry for long distances, and we (as Canadian's) do not want to help the enemy in the Korean war.

It gets better in 1951 the Fall Party was held at Club Esquire on the #8 hwy east of the homer bridge – the site of old Private Eyes.

The club had a history or relationship with Civil Defence and some members of the club went o the Civil Defense College and a few were instructors. Civil Defence was different but not that far form Auxiliary Communication Service that the club participates in. Some members of the club also volunteer to provide radio communication services for the Region of Niagara's CERT program, again on a volunteer basis.

1959 the club's newsletter is called FEEDLINE.

Sometime in 1961 NPARC conducted its first Licensing Course at the St. Catharines Collegiate. Sept 1967 there was a Centennial Banquet for Canada's 100th Birthday.

March 1972 Call Sign License Plates are available, club membership fee was \$5 for the year.

IARU held its international convention in Niagara Falls at the Brock Hotel in 1995, but there is an undated photo and reference to a convention before 1995.

Club experimented with it's first repeater in 1995 as permitted by the DOC, on the VE3NRS repeater, as well in 1974 the AARL band plan was adopted. Some notable mention goes out to Tom Vince VE3CKU and the establishment of the VE3RAF repeater and ARES for NPARC, still used everyday by the club.

Feb 1970 a talk on FAX machines, and the increase of licensing fees by DOC.

In Oct 2000 first mention of young people not interested in Ham Radio and an overall decline in the hobby.

There is reference in 2007 to the "big event" or the NPARC Flea Market, which may have been held in June or July, included a dinner dance as well, it was an all-day affair from what I can tell.

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW - 2023

The club is still active some 75 years later, with about 42 members. All are engaged in the hobby of amateur radio with considerable investment in equipment and their time to assist others in the hobby and the Niagara community.

In January we participated in Winter Field Day at the Black Creek Site, that the club uses for meetings and amateur radio events. In late May well held an indoor/outside flea Market called the big event, which was well attended.

In June the club participated in Summer Field Day, using the 75th Anniversary Call sign VC3N75 which was confusing to some US amateur radio operators and may be some Canadian's as well.

The special event call VC3N75 was valid for June and July and the club made contacts all over North American and some overseas locations as well. The club has also participated in other flea markets in the Golden Horseshoe by having a club table to see surplus equipment to benefit the club's treasury.



## WHAT IS NEXT ?

Got to increase our membership and encourage a younger group to be interested in amateur radio. We will need to leverage our relationship with RAC to get the word out that "radio is fun and interesting", it will be a difficult task.

## CLOSER TO HOME

The club's web site will get revamped with some long overdue additions such as:

History page for the club & Page for all our QSL cards, and Moving the ARES content to a new ACS page on the main site.

THANK YOU/ I have said a lot this evening, but I want to thank several people who make this work. First all the spouses that put up with us working out of dark rooms with funny sounds and a lot of equipment, most of which is not needed, according to the spouse.

My executive of the Club, David, John, Geddie, Steve (past pres), Jack who heads up ACS. Mark who heads up the QSL Bureau.

All the members that attend meetings and participate in the club and/or support some of our community outreach activities such as Santa Clauses parades or Canada Day parade etc.

A special thank you to Lindsay & David Miller (harpist) for providing music for tonight, it set a new standard for NPARC.

A thank you to Radio World and other club members for supplying door prizes. And last to Glen and Geddie for making all the arrangements here at the Dalhousie Yacht Club.

A round of applause to the staff and the chef of the Yacht Club for serving an excellent meal as always.

Thank you and have a Merry Christmas and good health in the New Year.

73's , Ken Gansel, VA3KWG



Roy, VE3OQP and Penny



Kathryn and Jack, Ve3ZPW



Bridget & Denis, VA3ONO & A Very Special Thanks for taking all our photos for the 75th Anniversary Dinner.



Mark, VE3BGL and Sandy

Paul, VE3WRP and Lise, VE3WLI



Don, VE3BZE and Jane



Andree and Henry, VA3OV



Lindsay, VE3XKY and David, VE3DYD

Karen and Ken, VA3KWG



Ann and John, VA3WM



Geddie, VE3CJX and Glenn, VE3NDW



David, VE3DVK and Laura





## You are all invited to the Last NPARC event for 2023!

### Everyone Welcome!

According to the latest news we have access to the Black Ccreek Community Center on Friday December 29 and Saturday December 30.

We can operate from 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC December 30. **Translated to December 29 at 1900 to December 30 to 1859.**

There will be a complete operating station available at the Center. You can bring your transceiver if you are interested.

The number of operating stations will depend on the number of operators available on Friday and Saturday.

On Friday, starting at 1600 we will need a minimum of 4 volunteers to setup and operate. Need to do a partial tear down to secure the coaxes in the parking lot. They will need to be stored in the Center overnight.

On Saturday morning we will be back at 0800. Again a setup crew will be needed to get the stations operational.

To keep the station on the air we will need a minimum of 4 operators available at all time per radio station. Feel free to come in for a couple hours to operate the radio stations. The more operators the merrier. The RAC contest is a Gentleman contest. Hopefully snow or freezing rain will not be at the party.

This will be the good way to say good by to 2023 and have fun in good company. Bring snacks and food if you like.

Please confirm if you will participate in the RAC Winter Contest no later than December 26, 2023.

You will be ready for the **Winter Field Day 2024 on January 27 and 28 2024.**

**Henry Jarzyna**

[va3ov@bell.net](mailto:va3ov@bell.net)



## Registration for Winter 2024 RAC Basic Course is underway!

<https://www.rac.ca/basic-radio-course-winter-2024/>

Radio Amateurs of Canada is once again offering an *online* Amateur Radio course so that individuals from all across Canada can obtain their Amateur Radio Operator Certificate with Basic Qualification.

The course will again be conducted with the assistance of the [Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club](#) (AVARC) of Nova Scotia. This course prepares students for the Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) Basic Qualification Level Operator Certificate exam to operate on allocated Amateur Radio frequencies.

**Schedule and Cost:** The course will be held on **Thursdays and Sundays** commencing on **Sunday, January 21** and ending on **Thursday, March 28.**

## RAC Canada Day Contest 2023 Results Updated: December 20

*RAC Contest Managers:  
Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU and Sam Ferris,  
VE5SF*

The RAC Contest Management Team is pleased to present an updated version of the RAC Canada Day Contest 2023 Results.

We would like to acknowledge a couple of errors in the results.

- In the listing for Multi-Operator Multi Transmitter Any Authorized Power Level the call sign for VE6TL was incorrectly listed as VE6RL as was the same error in the operators list.
- We were advised by Rob Noakes, VE3PCP, that there was an issue with the original scoring of his CJ3YLR entry. After reviewing we noted some formatting issues that were not identified which caused the incorrect scoring. We have corrected his result in the Multi Operator Single Transmitter High Power (MOSTHP) updating his score to 17,366.

It was certainly nice to see the solar cycle continue on its upswing, leading to better conditions on 10 and 15 metres for the

RAC Canada Day Contest 2023. With improved solar conditions and a weekend Canada Day event there was a record 835 logs submitted – a 12% increase over last year's record performance.

With a total of 108,225 QSOs logged, it was not only the best entry turnout but the highest number of logged QSOs we have ever recorded! Three new records were established this year with all of them in the new assisted categories. Please see inside for all of the details.

Thank you for participating in the contest! We would also like to thank all of our great sponsors for continuing to support the contest and Amateur Radio in Canada and internationally!

Don't forget the [RAC Canada Winter Contest](#) is on **December 30**. See you on the bands!

As always, you can find all the contest rules and entry forms at:

<http://wp.rac.ca/contesting-results/>

– 73, Bart, VE5CPU and Sam, VE5SF



## Niagara Region's Community Emergency Response Team

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a group of trained, certified volunteers who help their community in a time of disaster or crisis. Having an emergency response team in place helps increase Niagara's safety and resiliency.



Glenn, VE3NDW and Jack, VE3ZPW presenting Grant Durfey with a going away present from the CERT AUX COMM members.



Jack, VE3ZPW and Ken, VA3KWG getting a certificate from Grant Durfey for their extended involvement in installing and setting up the radios in the CERT vehicle.



CERT Aux Comm is not part of ACS or NPARC, but many members belong to all three organizations.



## RAC—Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Program

As part of the transition to the new Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) program, RAC Community Officer (CSO), Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, has been following a [video series](#) presented by the [Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee \(RATPAC\)](#).

This series of weekly disaster communications presentations provided via the Zoom videoconferencing platform is called “**Emergency Management’s Expectations of Amateur Radio**” and focuses on government, non-government agencies and organizations served by Amateur Radio in one way or another during a disaster. Although the presentations are currently based in America, they cover many similar issues and concerns found here in Canada.

The role of the Auxiliary Communications Service in Canada will also be to supplement, or augment communications for local, provincial or national emergency management groups and non-government organizations when required.

