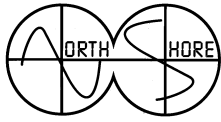


NORTH SHORE ARC



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Action in the Community:

Paul's Dirty Enduro:

Saturday September 18, 2004



I think that the pictures say it all. A good day for radio, bike racing and fun. We had it all, checkpoints, mobile units and a repeater crew. There was even a sighting of a Bear. Normally that wouldn't be a big deal but at the same time there was also a report of a cyclist "lost" on the track. The mobile crew found the cyclist before the bear did, and everything ended well. The cyclist was looked after by the St. John's Ambulance crew and turned over to his parents for care. Bob, VE3LLE came up with a stellar antenna mount for the control station that used the quansit hut for a ground plain.



GUIDE DOG WALKATON

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2004



CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2004

This year's Amateur Radio coverage from Memorial Park included seven checkpoints on the route. The simplex frequency of 146.58 megahertz was used. The control station consisted of an ICOM 3210A mobile radio and was located in the First Aid Tent. A dual band mobile magnetic antenna was mounted on the steel frame of the tent. Ray Zambonelli, VE3OUB, and Ralph Day, VE3CRK, were the two control operators.



Checkpoint one
was located at the corner of Athol and Celina Streets. Gary Heagle, VE3EPY, was the operator.

Checkpoint two
was located at the corner of Colborne and Ontario Streets. Peter Henry, VE3PWH, was the operator. Paramedics were also located at this corner.

Checkpoint three
was located at the corner of Mary and William Streets. Howard Mugford, VE3TYQ, was the operator. Paramedics were also located at this corner.



Checkpoint four
was located on Bond Street near Mary Street. Laird Solomon, VE3LKS, was the operator.

Checkpoint five
was located at the corner of Bond Street and Ritson Road. Mike Maclean, VE3VCY, was the operator. Paramedics were also located at this corner.

Checkpoint six
was located at William Street and Ritson Road. Lewis Lopez, VE3TLC, was the operator.

Checkpoint seven
was located at Athol and Celina Streets. Doug Eddy, VA3DCE, was the operator.

Roving operator
was Will Skuta, VA3WEW. His job was to report trouble spots and take pictures of the event.

Total number of Run For The Cure entries this year.
3,808 people



Coordinator, Ralph Day, VE3CRK

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From The Chair in the Shack.

As I write this, the first basic plus code class has taken place with 13 attendees and new club members. They seem a pretty enthusiastic group with a variety of reasons for wanting to join the service/hobby. This year should be as much fun as last year.

You will be offered forms soon to renew your commitment or join ARES. I'm hoping that most members will opt to be part of the solution, planning for an emergency station that can travel and spending a little time getting used to radiograms. Not much more is needed. ARES, on the other hand needs as many names of people who

might help as possible in order to present a credible presence for emergency management offices to see.

It has been great to hear more activity on VE3OSH lately. Now if we could just get the new UHF machine in place and OSH moved to a better location we could really have some fun. Speaking of fun, several hams have shown me really impressive lists of contacts made during the recent inversions. With luck they will repeat the experience since fall and spring make for some pretty good inversions. I still remember a fall weekend when Montrealers were using Toronto Repeaters for several hours on a Saturday morning.

With some planning and luck we hope to have a presentation by the Darlington folks about our Canadian CANDU reactors and their failure modes. If we are going to offer assistance during an emergency, we should hear what is possible and what just can't happen. Look for news on this for the November meeting.

Elsewhere in this issue, your editor will be talking about some of our events of late. All I can say is a huge thank you to all the hams who pitched in and helped. You make us proud to be hams and show off the virtues of amateur radio to great effect.

73 de Pete, VA3PWH

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There's something that warms your heart when someone says "thank-you". When you are doing something because you like to do it and you help someone, that's a bonus. As citizens we are supposed to help others. Talk about having a blast. Paul's Dirty Enduro was great fun. I was really looking forward to the 2nd and 3rd, just to get out and polish my skills. Sadly I couldn't make it to the festivities on the weekend of the 2nd and 3rd of this month. Family commitments are more binding than the strongest of contracts. I did however, have the time to do some more looking into getting my shack set up. I found out that the "400" coax that Peter was mentioning as a good upgrade for feeding your antennas is available at our local HAM store. I also found out that the losses at 2m and 70cm are really small compared to RG8X. Makes me wonder if it might not be worth it to upgrade what I'm planning to get for feed lines. For VHF / UHF work at least. While at our local HAM store I also found out what Anderson PowerPoles are. I've noticed that a lot of the new equipment for powering your shack is ready-made to use these things. They look like a great idea, and they're not very expensive either, you get 10 Red and 10 Black housings and 20 contacts for only \$10.95. (Parts are also available separately). Our local HAM store also has purchased a professional crimping tool for these

connectors which can be borrowed to use at the store. My problem now is how to pay for all the "little" improvements I'd like to do. I keep telling my wife that this isn't an expensive hobby... maybe if the dollar values stay low enough she'll still believe me.

I found out too that sometimes what looks like a good deal, just might not be such a bargain. I had a conversation with a gentleman who has both made purchases on e-bay and sold things on e-bay. Some of the things he's purchased don't always arrive in the condition they've been sold in. Based on what he told me, I'm not sure I could blame the shipper totally for the condition. He indicated that about 10 to 15 % of the time, things he's sold come back seriously messed up. Of course the purchaser wants either a HUGE price drop or to get their money back. When I bought my rig on e-bay I spent a lot of email with the vendor on the material condition. I also picked up the rig in person and got a demo before I handed over the money. I also got the name of the previous owner of the rig, who had bought it new. The fellow I bought the rig from went over in details what he had done to maintain / repair the rig. It sounded like all the things that were in the troubleshooting and repairs list on the Rig Vendor web-site. I'm now fighting to get a dipole up, and get a power supply that will run the rig. My old homebuilt supply just doesn't pump out enough amps.....

There's so much to do and so little time before it's going to be too slippery to go up a ladder to put up an antenna.....

It's also time to start thinking about dues for the coming year. Let's make Les' job real easy and pay our dues early.

Your humble scribe.
Ken
VE3RMK