

# NORTH SHORE ARC



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[www.osha.igs.net/~lsolomon/nsarc](http://www.osha.igs.net/~lsolomon/nsarc)



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## The Handi-Talkie (Pigtail) Counterpoise.

**From: Steve Hellyer VA3SPH**

(Note from Ken: I saw Steve's HT at Paul's Dirty Enduro. This is well worth the read)

My HT uses the SMA connector so I used a circular terminal connector and then crimped on a 19.5" length plastic coated wire. With the SMA connectors I simply slipped on the pigtail counterpoise over the SMA connector on the HT and then screwed on the rubber duck antenna on top of that.

Results... At home with my 2M base station I tuned both the base station and HT to an available simplex freq. 146.545Mhz. I placed the HT in low power (1 watt) upright, standing on my desk and without the pigtail attached I keyed up the radio. I reduced the RF gain on the base station as to record 5 s-units. Then I un-keyed the HT and placed the pigtail counterpoise on it. Making sure the HT had the same location on the desk and with the pigtail counterpoise dangling down. Special attention to making sure the only difference in test being the addition of the pigtail counterpoise. Upon keying up the HT now with the pigtail counterpoise attached I recorded 40 s-unit signal on my base station!

In sort it seems to work like a champ at increasing effective radiated power and I suspect (although not tested) it improves reception as well.

It's important to note that I also tested 70cm under the same conditions, that is, with the 2M (19.5") counterpoise and it did not perform as well. Hence you would have to build two counterpoises, one for each band if you want to make the most of this enhancement.

Should also note proximity to body has an effect as well, so results can vary depending on situation. This makes it very difficult to to perform identical tests as your body moves around in a portable situation. However I will say the wild swings in s-unit performance were far less with the counterpoise attached than without.

This antenna enhancement works very well and while is not as good as an external mobile antenna attached to your HT it is better when you in a truly walking around in a portable situation over standard HT rubber duck antenna alone.

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# Your Club in Action

From: Alex Parker VA3AMP

## Paul's Dirty Enduro



## CIBC Run for the Cure



## Newcastle Dog Walk-a-thon



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## Clubwear.

From: Brian Hopkins VA3BAH

Some of you may remember that we have clothing with the CLUB logo for sale.

Send Brian a quick email, he'll give you all the details. If we can get enough for a big order that would be great.

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## Items for Sale.

From: VE3NTS sjsclv@earthlink.net

As promised here is the list of items for sale.

1. Icom HF all band transceiver..model IC-730. Unit used approx. 10 hrs. complete with instruction manual. see attached for pic.
2. Yaesu dual band FM transceiver. 2 M and 70 cm. Model FT-470. see pic attached
3. Icom power supply..model IC PS 15. + complete 12V wiring for mobile mounting.
4. MFJ Deluxe Versa Tuner II.
5. Dual band ,mag. mount antenna for the 2m/70cm unit

Please have the interested person contact me in Florida at 386-774-9859

All items for sale are located in Courtice Ont. I have not specified prices herein because I have not checked the current market for these items. I am willing to consider all reasonable offers and will consider a trade for a light weight camper, class B van or fully equipped pop-up.

Stan

Regards to all

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## Remember the weekly Net.

**From: Wil Skuta VA3WEW**

Wednesday Evenings tune in to VE3OSH for the Club net. As we roll forward on our

project, the Club net is going to be really important for the signal check process.

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## Time to renew your membership.

**From: Les Burgess VA3LTB**

It's that time of year again to think about renewing your membership. The Club works best when the members are involved. Let's make our membership secretary's task easier, renew early...

[http://www.osha.igs.net/~Isolomon/nsarc/N\\_SARC\\_Membership\\_Application.pdf](http://www.osha.igs.net/~Isolomon/nsarc/N_SARC_Membership_Application.pdf)

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## From the Chair in the Shack.

Hello One and all,

I have never been so proud to be a member of NSARC as I am today. We began the season of public service with four events which all went well and for which we had almost too many volunteers. You, Ladies and Gentlemen, set a super example of a very large percentage of members actively involved in club service. Check with most service clubs and volunteer organizations and you will find that our percentage turnout is wonderful.

On another issue, I am proud to announce the arrival of the cheque from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. This is for the support of the Club's project to provide a better site for our repeaters. This is for the benefit of the community at large, our Club, and all local amateur radio operators. The Durham Region will have an excellent platform for ARES communications when this work is complete. As far as we know, we are the first amateur radio group to receive funding from a source like this. Now it's crunch time. We have a plan in place, we have goals in sight, the Ontario Trillium Foundation has placed its faith in us and some of its money in our hands. Now all we have to do is execute the plan in a safe and professional manner. As a Club we have demonstrated our technical

capabilities and our high standards in community support. We will work on this project to those same high standards.

The outcome will be secure repeater facility capable of running right through a power outage. The power supply will be able to switch automatically to its generator and run for as long as two weeks with no fueling needed. Refueling when needed can be done by truck even with a power outage since the delivery truck can fill up at the terminal under its own power.

Do we want to test this? You bet we do AND we will. Do we want to have to use it for a real emergency, urgent situation, or a time of need? Heck no! But should the unthinkable happen it will be nice to be able to support the folks with whom we share this community. Our reasoning is that in such an event we will need all our radio operators working radios. Having a repeater that can keep on the air with little or no attention on site will be a huge advantage.

How can you help? Well, we need as many able bodied volunteers for the tasks as we can find. In order to make the project run as smoothly as possible, Ken has planned in great detail and to great effect, the timing of each of the steps. As we staff up for the various tasks, your skills and abilities will be put to good use. Be ready at the meeting to sign up for one or more of the jobs that will be open. Better yet let your executive know how you can help. Drop us an email.

de Pete

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What a great time of year this is. Pleasant weather and NO bugs! The month of September saw your Club providing communications support at Paul's Dirty Enduro. Over and over again I was told how they couldn't run the race without us. That's the chief race marshal talking. This should make you feel really proud to be part of NSARC. Even better this year, Peter brought his HF setup in the van and got to talk to a Yorkshire-man living in Malmo Sweden on 20M. Race results worldwide, thanks to Amateur Radio. In October, your Club also provided communications support

for the CIBC "Run for the Cure" and the Newcastle Lion's Club Dog Walk-a-thon, both very worthwhile causes. "Run for the Cure" had 4832 participants and 332 volunteers. The Dog Walk-a-thon had about 200 participants, we're waiting for the final tally

Take note of the work your fellow club members are putting into improving the performance of their gear. Don't be shy submit your ideas.

At this time of year when things can change very quickly weather-wise, be extra vigilant. Practice Safe Radio.

Your humble scribe  
Ken  
VE3RMK