

NORTH SHORE ARC



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A new time for the Wednesday Evening Net.

From Will VA3WEW.

Just a reminder that Our Club net is on 147.120 + at 7:30PM local time every Wednesday. Plan to be there. This will allow those who are able to check in to our net and our next door neighbours net in Lindsay, Ontario, 8:00pm on VE3LNZ 147.195MHz. Let's try to get to both.

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From the chair in the shack.

Unbelievably, we are past summer and well on our way to winter. If you are anything like me there have many things happening and time has simply flown.

Late fall is our last chance to work on antennas without freezing. At least leaves are off the trees and not in the way of our view for mounting. Here's a tip gained from bitter experience. Solder any wires inside and then move out. There is nothing more frustrating than soldering in a cold autumn wind.

Now what kind of antenna are we referring to? Most likely one for one or more of the HF bands. Since the vast majority of us are able to work HF, it is up to use to populate the bands. Nothing is easier than a dipole for 40m or one for 20m. Sure they aren't beams but you would be surprised how well they work and how good your reports will be even for DX. Making the dipole sag at the ends for an inverted V helps to make

your antenna pick over most of 360 degrees.

HF is really where the magic is. With enough power to light an old fashioned light bulb one can reach Europe, the US and Canada and, at the right time, even Africa and Australia from here. 1/3 of the way across North America. If that's not magic, then what is?

Let me thank all of you who generously contributed to both the fund for Howie's Diane and those who helped her move. That kind of neighborly action is one of the best things about ham radio. We form a community and it has been shown to be warm and generous one. We should all be thankful and congratulate ourselves on showing that community in action. Wouldn't it be nice if our larger communities like cities and provinces could show that kind of generosity for citizens in need?

Thanks again. We'll meet on HF soon I hope.

73 de Pete

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At a time when we are hearing and reading about "dead air" on the repeaters, it's nice to know that usually when I key up the Club repeater there is someone there. Even if I'm just checking to see that my HT is still working or if my mobile has survived the trip from the shack to the van. That voice on the speaker is a comfort.

Watching the cleanup of yet another accident on the 401 from the office windows today we were remarking on how everyone heading in the opposite direction had to slooowwww down to 'see' what was going on. I know it bugs me when people do that. It seems to bug others too. The conversation drifted to how in the days before cell phones folks would stop to see if they could help, rather than just gawking. How even though you had to drive to the next exit, or house or farm and ask to use the phone, you did it to help out. I was reminded of how having a radio in the car was helpful to me on many occasions. You'll have to forgive me, because in those days it was a CB radio. I had a devil of a time with morse code, back then. I'm still no shining star, but I am getting better. I even hope to get my first CW contacts in the log over this winter.

There are times when a cell phone isn't much good. There are still places in our province even in our region where a cell phone doesn't work. These are the places where a radio comes in handy. Think about the Club support for Paul's Dirty Enduro. Now there's a good example.

Are we keeping watch on the repeater?
How about a watch on 146.520 the calling frequency?

Your voice could be that link to safety and security, or the closest Tim's for someone.

Your scribe,

Ken
VE3RMK

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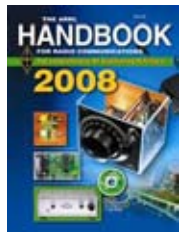
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