

NORTH SHORE ARC



Box 171, Oshawa, ON, Canada, L1H 7L1
<http://www.ve3osh.com/>



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The Hands Free Law: What it says:

From Larry VA3FHG

Here is the Government Website link to the "Hands Free Law":

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2009/elaws_src_regs_r09366_e.htm

The length of the URL should make us feel good about the value for tax-dollars we're getting.

The official title is:

"Ontario Regulation 366/09 made under the **HIGHWAY TRAFFIC ACT**"

You should probably read the whole article, but the part that is most interesting to us would be section 13. Here is the excerpt from the document: "Section 13 (1) &(2)"

Time-limited exemption for amateur radio operators

13. (1) Until January 1, 2013, drivers who hold a valid radio operator certificate issued under the *Radiocommunication Act* (Canada) may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while holding or using a two-way radio.

(2) This section is revoked on January 1, 2013.

The wording is clear and so is the end date. Time to start working on Bluetooth conversion units or other remote microphones and PTT switches.

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From the Chair in the Shack

It seems like just yesterday that we got together at Bob's for burgers. Now we are looking at the events to unfold for the spring, summer and fall.

We, in the executive, have had a bit of a scare lately as we prepared for the annual insurance renewal. As part of that renewal process we have to report the paid-up members in order to have our fee calculated. As well, as you recall, we need the RAC membership number for each member in order to qualify for discounts. In this busy world we are easily caught forgetting things and dues are but one of those things that can escape our attention.

We enjoy a fabulous rate for insurance, less than \$200 where any broker charging the club as an entity would ask in the order of \$1500. Several questions have arisen.

- 1. Would non-members be covered at events by our policy?
2., Would individuals covered by RAC insurance be eligible for our events because of their individual coverage?
3. How can we ensure that our membership lists are up to date by renewal time?

Insurance covers Hamfest, Camp X, Field Day our repeaters sites and any other events we engage in with the club as hams. You can see that it is very important for us. The executive will be considering ways of meeting the new deadline which appears to be the first of the year. One way might be to shift our dues to September rather than Christmas. If we did that, we would likely have to charge a half year in order to get into step. Think about this, we'll no doubt be asking your opinion.

As I write this Pat has begun a very slow recovery in Intensive Care at Scarborough General. She is one of the most up to date ICUs around and has had the benefit of a special respirator designed for SARS patients as well as ongoing dialysis. Her last totally conscious moments were over two weeks ago although she will be gradually brought out of that in a little while. Optimism is the order of the day. It will be a long recovery but it will happen. Thanks for all your expressions of sympathy and concern.

73 de Pete

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It's CANWARN time again

From Tom VA3TVK

Toronto - Saturday, May 1st 9 AM - Environment Canada Headquarters 4905 Dufferin St (Dufferin south of Steeles Avenue)

For those of you who have not taken the training take a look at this section of the news release:

"CANWARN volunteer storm spotters continue to play an integral role in Environment Canada's severe weather watch/warning program".

You could play a really big role in your community. It is well worth the time spent.

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We all should take a moment to stop and contemplate our collective good fortune. We can complain about our levels of government and their appearance of competence. We can complain about taxes or health care. But compared to other parts of the world we're doing quite well. For any number of reasons we should be properly thankful. Take a moment to count your blessings. We have a strong club, with a visible presence in the community we serve. All in all it's not too bad is it.

Your humble scribe,

Ken
VE3RMK

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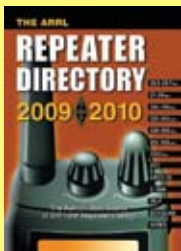


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