

North Shore ARC UPdate!

November 16, 2014



Upcoming Dates

- December 16
Annual Christmas Party
- January 20
Monthly meeting



Larry, VA3FHG, a member of the Limber Gunners was honoured to be part of the funeral for Corporal Nathan Cirello who was killed while on duty at the War Memorial in Ottawa. Larry is seen above left standing in the Limber Gunner vehicle and is the person to the left in the picture above. Thank you Larry for your service.

Membership Renewal

Hi everyone, it is that time of year again when membership renewals are due. Attached to the email that you received you will find a membership renewal form in pdf format. Please print it off, fill it out, and return it to us asap.

November Meeting

This month's meeting will feature a presentation by Dave VA3RLP and Glen VE3LIZ on controlling your radio remotely. As you probably know Dave travels between Oshawa and California regularly and yet you can hear him at times locally when he is not here. Dave and Glen will reveal the magic involved in making this happen. See you all Tuesday evening at 7:30 at the Whitecliffe Terrace Retirement Residence in Courtice. All are welcome so bring a friend and invite members from other clubs to come along.

Hamfest Request

As you know we lost our Hamfest co-ordinator this year as Walter moved back to the Philippines. We are now searching for a replacement. Please consider volunteering for this position and let the executive at either club know if you are interested asap. As you know the Hamfest is one of our main sources of income so it is imperative that someone step up to fill the roll. Thank you for considering this request and we hope to hear from you soon!



Ken VE3RMK and XYL at the recent Run for the Cure. Ken was our portable sweep,

If you need a note put in the UPdate please email Laird at ve3lks@yahoo.ca



Paul's Dirty Enduro 2014

0530hrs: we started at the Bowmanville 5th Wheel Truck Stop for breakfast. Packages with maps and assignments were given out and questions answered. By 0700hrs we were setting up equipment at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. The tent, table, liner clock-diarama and radios were connected to the antennas that we setup the day before. Steve VA3TPS got the repeater up and running while Laird VE3LKS and Alex VE3ZSH had control up and on air in short order.

Flash Back: Last year during the setup it started to rain and rain and rain and finally stopping at the end of the enduro. This year the day started cool, overcast and ended sunny warm and with a stiff breeze.

As the day progressed the food truck guy's Peter VE3PWJ, Ralph VE3CRK and Larry VA3FHG met with the drivers and planned their routes. Feed Zone operators Luis VA3TCL (West), Martha VA3SBD & Clint VA3KDK (Central), John VA3TEE (East) and Alex VA3AMP (South) planned their departure times. This year we had a new radio location. This was M3 (Marshal 3) and Doug VA3DCE took on this challenge. Later in the day Glen VE3LIZ took over Larry's truck as he had to leave early. As well Luis took over Ralph's truck as he also had to leave.

Last year saw two problems at the Central Feed Zone. The first was due to the layout and staffing of this zone. This situation was corrected by the organizers with a different layout and new mature staff – first problem solved. The second was our problem. This zone sees all riders, 400 plus. All of these rider numbers have to be reported to Control which takes up a lot of air time and makes it difficult and frustrating for other stations needing to transmit their information.

Before I go any further let me explain how the original radio system was setup. A cross-band repeater is positioned at Richardsons Lookout. Control transmits/receives on 446.575 while all other stations use the 2 meter side of 146.58. All radio locations are almost line of sight to the repeater. This setup was established many years ago and works great with the hills, valleys and foliage of the Ganaraska Forest.

To correct the problem of Central hogging the mic we put them on their own frequency with a second radio and operator at Control just for them. A group of us went up to the Ganny a week earlier and ran a test on the new setup. We wanted to make sure there would be no problems operating two radios in close proximity at Control - one on the repeater frequency of 446.575 and the other on 146.430 the direct link to Central. The testing of the new radio setup worked great. So now the Central Feed Zone had their own simplex frequency – second problem solved. One little glitch did happen, next year I'll make sure all the elements on the J-pole are tight this way Laird's transmissions won't sound like he's having radio problems. Sorry Laird.

One problem occurred with the organization of the South Feed Zone. Alex VA3AMP was operating this location and he found himself recording and transmitting rider numbers. Our job is only to transmit the rider numbers not record them. The volunteers manning Feed Zones are to record the numbers and hand them to the radio operator, in this case Alex. They were not doing this and we are not sure why. The event officials at Control were immediately informed of this and will make sure that next year Alex has only one job to do.

Control had one emergency call to handle that came from the Central Feed Zone. A rider had a diabetic

crash. His wife, with a special crash kit, was transported to him by one of the food trucks but not before we transmitted her instructions on how take care of him until she arrived. It wasn't long before he was back at Control being examined by the St Johns attendant. He walked away but not without help.

At the end of the day, when all the riders were back, kt & Rick along with one of the other organizers thanked us for our help as well told us how helpful we are to the enduro.

Well, that's about it. I sure enjoyed coordinating this event for the second year. Everyone helping made my job easy and I'm looking forward to next year. I'm also looking at making a small change to the morning meeting at the 5th Wheel. More details on this to come.

73 Joe VE3VGJ



Luis VA3TCL, Joe VE3VGJ and John VA3TEE



Luis VA3TCL, Martha VA3BD and Clint VA3KDK



Doug VA3DCE



Alex VA3ZSH and Laird VE3LKS