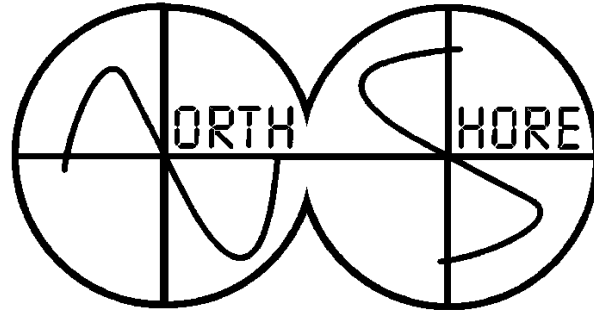




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January 2018



**AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB INC.**

Happy New Year everyone and welcome to 2018. I hope everyone had a great Christmas and holiday season.

We had our annual Christmas Pot luck dinner on December 19 and we had a great turn out and I am sure we almost maxed out the room we use. As per the normal with NSARC we had a lot of food and goodies. It was great to see so many of our members and guests.

I would like to thank all of our members who helped setup the dinner and everyone who brought all of the great food.







[Saturday Morning Breakfast](#) – Just a reminder that there is a small group of North Shore members and some other hams from the area that meet Saturday mornings for breakfast. They have a new location at Johnny's Original Eatery at 850 King St West, northwest corner of King St and Thornton Rd N in the small strip plaza behind the Scotia Bank. They usually arrive around 8:30am and order around 8:50Am, so if you are up early and out and about, drop by and say hello to everyone and check out the new Restaurant!

Winter Field Day is Just Ahead (from ARRL Bulletin)

Field Day is not just for summertime anymore. Winter Field Day, sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association ([WFDA](#)), will take place over the January 27-28 weekend, and it can be a terrific time to prep for ARRL Field Day in June. The annual event's stated purpose is to encourage emergency operating preparedness in the winter, but it's also an excuse to get out of the house and enjoy the great outdoors. According to the WFDA, getting ready for emergency communication in a winter environment is just as important as the preparations and practice that take place each June during ARRL Field Day, and -- let's face it -- it's not cold and snowy everywhere during the winter months. Your local climate could be quite the opposite.



"Don't let those winter doldrums keep you locked up in the house," the WFDA says. "Get out and play some radio!" The WFDA said it believes that maintaining operating skills should not be limited to fair-weather scenarios.

The event, which got its start in 2007, is not restricted to North America. All Amateur Radio operators around the world are invited to participate, and there are three entry categories -- indoor, outdoor, and home. The [rules](#) are similar to those for ARRL Field



Day. Operation will take place on all HF bands except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters, as well as on VHF, UHF, and satellite. The event runs 24 hours. US and Canadian stations exchange call sign, operating category, and ARRL or RAC section.

The WFDA encourages both group and solo operation, and if you're not up for an outdoor winter adventure involving Amateur Radio, you can operate from the comfort of your shack. As the WFDA says on its [Facebook page](#), "The object is winter fun!"

UpComing Dates:

January 16,2018 at 7Pm - Monthly meeting and Club Elections

February 20, 2018 at 7:00pm – Monthly Meeting TBA

March 20, 2018 at 7:00Pm - Monthly Meeting TBA

April 17, 2018 aat 7:00pm - Monthly Meeting - Hamfest Preparations

Saturday April 28, 2018 - Durham Hamfest - Volunteers needed!





2018 42nd Durham Hamfest

The Durham Hamfest is on April 28, 2018 again at the Pickering Rec Centre on Valley Farm Rd. We already have some volunteers from our Club but if you haven't spoken to Laird VE3LKS yet and would like to help out, drop him a line and let him know. And don't forget to pass on this date to any and all the hams you might be talking with!



Announcing: The ARRL International Grid Chase!

A new and exciting operating event will kick off on January 1, 2018, at 0000 UTC (New Year's Eve in US time zones), when the [ARRL International Grid Chase](#) gets under way. The year-long event hopes to build on the success of the highly successful 2016 National Parks on the Air (NPOTA).

The objective is to work stations on *any* band (*except* 60 meters) in as many different Maidenhead grid squares as possible, and then upload your log data to ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW). [Registration](#) is free, and it costs nothing to use LoTW. Many hams are familiar with grid squares from the VHF/UHF and satellite realms, and everyone lives in one. ARRL's VUCC is based on grid squares, and some contests on HF, as well as on VHF and UHF, also use them as a scoring factor. The system divvies up the entire globe into 324 fields, each containing 100 grid squares 1° latitude by 2° longitude in size. With 32,400 potential grid squares, it's not likely that anyone will run out of challenges, even though some grid squares are surrounded entirely by water, are in areas that are uninhabited, or are difficult to access.

Once you get active in the chase and start uploading your log data, each new grid square contact confirmed through LoTW will count toward your [monthly total](#). Getting started is simple: Turn on the radio and call CQ or "CQ Grid Chase," or listen for others doing the same. Make the contact, exchange grid squares, log it, and move on to another. At the end of each month, your totals on the Grid Chase Leader Board will reset to zero, although the system retains all monthly data to determine top finishers in various categories at the end of the year.



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Any contact you make in 2018 can count for your Chase score; it doesn't have to involve an exchange of grid squares. As long as the other operators participate in LoTW, you'll get credit automatically when they upload their logs. This means that contest contacts will also count, as will contacts with special event stations, or other on-air activity that uses LoTW to confirm contacts.

Don't forget at our meeting this coming Tuesday is our club elections and we are looking for a few good individuals who can help us run our club and keep going in the right direction.

That is all for now and I hope to see everyone at our meeting on Tuesday.

73 de Steve
VA3TPS