





april. 1986

First Class Première classe

VE3CRK 86 Ralph Day 454 Holcan Ave. Oshawa Ont. L1G 5X6



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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VE3CEU	Treasurer	Colin Bell	723-7842
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VE3AAF	2-meter net	Roy Miller	852-5447
VE3LHZ	Membership list & mailing labels	Paul Dale	579-2877
AE200	Financial Auditor	Harry Westwood	683-5104

CLUB STATION . . . . . VE3NSR

CLUB REPEATER . . . . . VE30SH 147.72 MHz in, 147.12 MHz out.

#### CLUB NET

The 2-meter net, hosted by Roy, VE3AAF or a stand-in, takes place every Thursday at 19:30 local time, on the Club's repeater, VE3OSH. As part of the net, code practice is provided by Bernie, VE3ATI, starting at 20:30.

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#### CONTRIBUTIONS TO "SPARKS"

Please mail your contributions to the club mailbox, or, if they are more urgent, contact the Editor directly. SPARKS goes to press on the 25th of each month. Contributions may be edited to correct spelling and grammar, for clarity, or to accommodate space constraints. Unless otherwise stated, opinions in SPARKS are those of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect those of NSARC Inc.

Editor Neil McAlister VE3KSP 668-4161
Production Manager Frank Lane VE3NIP

#### SPECIAL APRIL MEETING -- 40th ANNIVERSARY OLD TIMERS NIGHT!

In honor of NSARC's 40th anniversary, VE3SJ, Jack, has put together a special OLD TIMERS NIGHT for the April club meeting. Come and share the reminiscences of some of our founding members, and examine vintage ham radio gear. See you at Oshawa's O'Neill Collegiate on Tuesday, April 8, at 20:80 hours!

#### POSITIONS WANTED

- 1. Experienced dictator, recently deposed, available to terrorize new country. Comes fully equipped with trained secret police, slush funds in Swiss banks, real estate holdings worldwide, sundry thugs, retainers and camp followers. They know me all over the world: I even have a Canadian wine named after me! Interested parties contact "Baby Doc" Duvalier (ex-HH, now portable F).
- 2. Ditto in spades. Inquiries: Ferdinand Marcos (ex-DU, portable KH6)
- 3. Dictator's XYL, complete with million-dollar wardrobe, seeks new palace to decorate. Call Ismelda Marcos.

#### POSITION AVAILABLE

Looking for an interesting, high-profile job? Want your very own soapbox from which you can address a captive audience every month? Don't like what you're reading in this press, and want to have it your way in future? Earn the undying thanks of a grateful constituency! Glamor! Acclaim! Wealth! No, sorry Mr. Duvalier, the Philippines are not seeking a new dictator to replace Mr. Marcos -- but the prestigeous and high-paying position of "SPARKS" Editor is open, and it's all yours for the asking!

No, Mr. Marcos, you won't need armed guards (unless irate readers really hate your editorials!) but you'll have lots of capable help. VE3LHZ, Paul produces the address labels; while Frank, VE3NIP provides a lot of support by running to the printer's with the final copy and mailing out the issues. (Frank has cleverly convinced his unsuspecting kids that it is "fun" to fold and stamp 120 issues of SPARKS each month -- a tactic that may continue to succeed until they are old enough to read how Tom Sawyer conned Huckleberry Finn into whitewashing the fence!)

"Yours truly" reluctantly took over as Editor (again) on a temporary basis as a last resort when nobody else stepped forward to replace the inimitable With issue number two now gone to press, this "temporary" job is VE3FRM. in danger of evolving into a permanent one by default. However, I have a demanding travel schedule, and will probably be out of the country when two upcoming 1985 issues should be written. Therefore I must resign as your interim Editor not later than June -- sooner if possible -- making room for a new person with fresh, new ideas. So here's your big chance. takers?

-- 73s de Neil, VE3KSP

#### CENTRAL ONTARIO FLEAMARKET CANCELLED

The annual Central Ontario Flea Market, originally scheduled for Saturday, June 7 in Kitchener, has been CANCELLED, apparently the latest victim of the current insurance ripoffs that are sweeping this country.

#### MANY HAPPY RETURNS!

By interesting co-incidence, the Scarborough Amateur Radio Club is also 40 years old this year. To celebrate, they are having a gala dinner and dance at the Guildwood Inn on Saturday May 3 at 7:00 PM.

Friends and well-wishers from other clubs (including NSARC) are more than welcome at this big event. Tickets, which cost \$25 a couple, can be purchased by contacting VE3DAY of the Scarborough club. All the members of our organization join in wishing the Scarborough A.R.C. a great anniversary year, a successful birthday party and many happy returns!

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#### FOR SALE

- 1. Viewcom visual display terminal. (Screen & keyboard) Price negotiable. Contact John, VE3F6L
- 2. Model 28 Teletype printer. Negotiable. John, VE3FGL
- 3. Cheap communications for your computer! Livermore "Star" acoustic coupler, 300 Baud. Also Kenwood AT-120 antenna tuner, almost mint. Negotiable prices. Neil, VE3KSP
- 4. FT707 HF transceiver. FT221R VHF transceiver. Power supply. Bumpermount antennas. Various station accessories. Desk and 3 chairs. Make an offer on one item, or the lot. Milt, VE3QN. (Phone Mrs. Graham evenings at 668-2362 for appointment.)

#### CLUB SET FOR SUCCESSFUL FLEAMARKET

In response to our previous urgent appeal, SIXTEEN N.S.A.R.C. volunteers have put down their names for parking and security chores at the Durham Region Amateur Radio Fleamarket at the Pickering High School on Saturday, April 12. Way to go, guys, and thanks to all! There's always room for one more -- it makes the workload that much easier for everyone. If you can lend a hand, and if you might kindly lend the use of your 2-meter handy talky for the day, please contact VE3KSP or VE3FGL.

On the Friday evening, April 11, Phil VE3HAA and the Pickering A.R.C. crew need all the help they can get moving tables from the retirement home on Valley Farm Road in Pickering to the Pickering High School. Randy 'MUR has already offered to be there with his truck, and any other N.S.A.R.C. members that can assist will be most welcome.

Doors open for vendors at 07:30 hours; the public is admitted at 09:00 hours. As in previous years, everyone needs a ticket for admission, including staff, vendors and their helpers. Talk-in on repeaters VE30SH and VE3SPA, or 146.52 MHz simplex.

Cleanup starts when the doors close at 14:00 hours. Again, many hands will make the work lighter. Don't foreget your red jackets -- let visitors know who their hosts are!

#### CLARA AC/DC "MYSTERY" CONTEST

Starts 1800 Z, **Tuesday May 27.** Ends 1800 Z Wednesday May 28. Suggested frequencies Phone: 28.488 28.588 21.300 14.160 14.280 7.150 3.775 3.900 CW: 28.035 21.035 14.035 7.035 3.690. Non-CLARA members must work CLARA members only. Two points per contact with CLARA members, 3 points for CW. Multiply base score by number of Canadian provinces and territories worked, for total score. Logs must be received by July 15, 1986. Contest manager is Muriel Foisy, VE7LQH. RR#1 Pender Island, B.C. V0N 2M0.

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#### JACKETS AND HATS AVAILABLE

Club jackets are ready for pickup at the April meeting by VE3s LIZ, ASH and ASH's XYL, and for "Powerful Tom". Hats are ready for VE3s FRM and IND. If anyone else wants a jacket, cost is \$28; hats are \$5. Contact VE3KSP.

#### IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that we note another silent key among our ranks. Long-time member Jack Boynton, VE3KZM, recently passed away after a lengthy illness. A floral tribute was sent on behalf of Jack's friends in NSARC.

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#### SPECIAL APRIL MEETING -- OLD TIMERS' NIGHT

The meeting on Tuesday, April 8 should be a memorable one. It's OLD TIMERS' NIGHT, being organized by VE3SJ, Jack, in honor of N.S.A.R.C.'s 40th anniversary. There will be lots of stories and reminiscences from some of our founding members, and vintage radio gear for you to examine.

If anyone has any **photographs** of past club activities over the years, or other **memorabilia**, please come and share them. Pictures can be mounted on a piece of cardboard with photo hinges, to make a simple but attractive temporary display, for example. Any other ideas? Volunteer!

We are aware that some area amateurs might want to attend this special night, but may be unable to do so for lack of **transportation**. If you have this problem, or if you know another ham who needs a lift, let the Executive know, so that we can arrange car pools where necessary. It would be a shame for someone to miss an exceptional anniversary event like this for lack of wheels!

#### GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL AT AIRPORT TOUR

Thanks to Fred, VE3HE, the loss of our regular meetin' hall at O'Neill Collegiate during the March break was the club's gain, with an interesting tour of the Skycraft Air Transport facilities in Oshawa laid on instead of the usual meeting. We appreciate Fred's efforts and those of the obliging people at Skycraft for making the evening so worthwhile for the more than 25 members who attended.

#### REBUTTAL

REGARDING THE EDITORIAL IN THE MARCH SPARKS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT CANDIDE WAS NOT ONLY FICTIONAL BUT FANTASTIC SINCE THE ARTICLE DEALT MOSTLY WITH THE LATTER. REGARDING THE ADDITIONAL 40 FEET, IT WOULD DEPEND ON THE LOCATION. BEING SURROUNDED BY LARGE APARTMENT BUILDINGS OR DOWN IN THE HOLLOW AND WORKING VHF, THE ANTENNA HEIGHT "MAY" OFFER IMPROVEMENT. A SITE MOVE WOULD BE MORE ADVANTAGEOUS.

WITH RESPECT TO THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AND IMPROVEMENTS, A SUGGESTION WAS MADE AT THE LAST MEETING THAT A PRACTICAL SOLUTION WOULD BE TO BUILD UP THE REPEATER FUND AND PURCHASE A COMPLETELY NEW SYSTEM WITH ALL THE BELLS AND WHISTLES. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS WAS NOT HEARD ALTHOUGH I HAD NO DIFFICULTY HEARING IT.

ON THE COMMENTS ABOUT THE POWER OUTPUT. INCREASING THE POWER FROM 40 WATTS TO 80 WATTS WOULD RESULT IN A GAIN OF 3 DB., AN INSIGNIFICANT AMOUNT. THE ARTICLE ON PAGE 9 OF THE SAME BULLETIN SHOWS THE IMPORTANT DETAILS ON VE3OSH. THE TAIL WAS PURPOSELY DESIGNED TO ALLOW WEAK MOBILES (THE SUBJECT OF THIS WHOLE ARGUMENT, I BELIEVE), TO GET IN BETWEEN THE POWERFUL BASE STATION TRANSMISSIONS, EMERGENCY OR OTHERWISE. THE THURSDAY NIGHT NET CAN ATTEST TO THE INABILITY OF THOSE WEAK STATIONS GETTING A TOEHOLD.

REGARDING THE COMMENTS ON PHONE PATCHING, AS FAR AS THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE IS CONCERNED THERE HAS BEEN NO SUBMISSION FOR THIS SERVICE, ALTHOUGH SOME COMMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE. ONE WAS IN REGARD TO THE NEED OF A PAIR OF 450 MHZ. UNITS TO PROVIDE A RADIO PATH TO, FOR INSTANCE, OSHAWA SINCE THE LOCAL LINE UP THERE SERVES PORT PERRY AND A HAMLET OR TWO. LINE CHARGES FROM THAT SITE TO OSHAWA WOULD BE PROHIBITIVE FOR A SINGLE PARTY LINE, WHICH IS THE REQUIREMENT FOR PHONE PATCHES.

IN THE MEANTIME, HOW MANY AMATEURS HAVE AVAILED THEMSELVES OF THE 9 GROUP OF NUMBERS USING VEJRPT. THEY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER ANY OTHER USER AND PROMPTLY DUMP THE OTHER CALL. ANY MOBILEER WOULD BE SURE TO HAVE THAT PAIR IN HIS MOBILE. REGARDING A BACKUP SUPPLY IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO INSTALL. IT REQUIRES THAT THE REPEATER GO TO LOW POWER, AND A CHARGING CIRCUIT. AS A RULE ALSO, WHEN SUCH A SUPPLY IS USED IT IS ADVISABLE TO STORE THE BATTERIES UNDERGROUND DUE TO THE GAS BUILDUP DURING THE CHARGE CYCLE.

AH YES, LINKING TO OTHER REPEATERS. NOT IMPOSSIBLE. MOSTLY USED BY MOBILES AND COTTAGERS TO CHECK WITH THE HOME BASE. IN EMERGENCIES, A GOOD THING TO HAVE. IF THE LINKING TRANSCEIVERS ARE TO BE BOUGHT (450 MHZ.) THEY CAN BE EXPENSIVE. OTHER EQUIPMENT TO MAKE THEM WORK CAN BECOME COMPLEX. VE3RPT IS COMPUTER CONTROLLED USING A 4800 SYSTEM WITH A HOME BREW PROGRAM THAT TOOK A STUDENT A COMPLETE SUMMER TO WRITE AND DEBUG. YES, GOOD STUFF BUT REQUIRES A YOUNG GENIUS WITH ENGINEERING (RYERSON OR U OF T, READ MARK OR TERRY) AS IN RPT AND THE ULR SYSTEM. SUCH TALENT HAS NOT AS YET SURFACED IN THE OSHAWA AREA. OR, THE NEW BREED OF REPEATER WITH REPLETE WITH THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY.

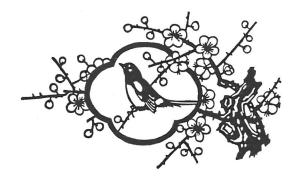
EPILOGUE - ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE IN THIS IMPOSSIBLE WORLD, HI!

BERNIE, VE3ATI LICENSEE VE3OSH...

[ Ed. note: Whether a task is "impossible" or merely challenging depends only on how anxious one is to accomplish it. NSARC will have roughly \$4,000 in the bank after the April flea market; and 120 adult members of any club can raise an equal sum in a fund-raising campaign for a project that they really consider important. There are always a hundred good reasons for doing nothing, but in this case a lack of money is not one of them. 1

#### CHINESE STUDENT COMING TO AREA -- Neil, VE3KSP

In September, Durham Region will acquire a new temporary resident. A student from Beijing, Ms. Yan Zhang (pronounced "Jong"), is coming to the University of Toronto to study for a Master of Arts degree in development economy — a subject of critical importance to the growing trade relations between Canada and China. Yan will be living in Whitby with Nazlin and me, which solves the expensive problem of room and board for her.



Tuition is another matter. Obviously a poor student from a developing country like China can't afford the \$14,000 in fees that this 2-year program costs. For this reason the university has established a registered scholarship for Yan, for which we are seeking taxdeductible contributions. I've personally raised a couple thousand dollars in donations since January, but Yan still needs lots more help.

If you have any connection with a company that might be able to contribute to this worthy international development project, please let us know. Even a small personal donation will enable this student to buy a textbook, for example. Some employers will match any personal contribution to the "U of T" that any of their employees makes. Cheques payable to the "University of Toronto China-Canada Friendship Award" can be mailed directly to the Director of Student Awards, University of Toronto, 214 College Street, Toronto, Ont. MST 3A1. Receipts for your tax purposes will be issued promptly.

I can't promise to make a ham out of Yan: Most Graduate students are too busy for hobbies! However, this visiting student will be most grateful for any help that our members or their employers can offer.

#### GUESS WHO'S COMING FOR DINNER

The Directors think that an Anniversary Party might be in order to mark the 40th birthday of our club. Tentatively, October would seem like a good time for some kind of banquet for members, their spouses, and guests. Whether and where this event can be held depends on how many people will commit themselves to attend, and how much they are willing to pay in advance for their tickets. (In our view, the club should not risk being stuck with the bills for an expensive party that nobody attends!)

We'd appreciate any ideas you may have on this subject. We'd especially like to hear from anyone who has had experience planning banquets for other organizations in the Oshawa area, and who would be willing to do the same for our club. Thanks.

## BIGGEST FLEA MARKET IN CANADA FIFTH ANNUAL

# DURHAM REGION AMATEUR RADIO FLEA MARKET

ORGANIZED BY: SOUTH PICKERING AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. VE3SPC & NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. VE3NSR

SATURDAY APRIL 12,1986 9:00 am to 2:00 Pm

Pickering High School
Pickering Village, Ajax

ADMISSION ONLY \$3.00 ea. - includes ticket on Super

Prize

(12 & under free)
DOOR PRIZES & COMMERCIAL DISPLAYS
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

### VENDORS:

doors open vendors only
7.30 am to 9 am
Tables \$5.00 ea. PLUS ADMISSION
Information & Table Reservations payable
to:PHIL WASHBURN VE3HAA
34 ALBERY CRES. AJAX, ONT.
L1S 2Y3 -1-416-683 3368

exit 399

TALK-IN FREQ. 52/52 Simplex 7.975/375 VE3SPA 7.72/12 VE3OSH

