

Monthly Update

February 2022

www.ve3osh.com

Club Executive

President – **Derek VE3TKE**
Vice President: **John SWL**
Secretary: **Jackie VA3BTQ**
Treasurer: **Bob VE3HIX**
Membership Secretary: **Thomas VE3PDK**
Past President: **Laird VE3LKS**

Committee's

Repeater & Technical -Trustee: **Lex VE3LEX**
Website: **Laird VE3LKS**
Club Examiner: **Aldo VA3AG**
Newsletter: **Steve VA3TPS**
Net Manager: **Steve VA3TPS**
Presentation Coordinator: **John VE3KZT**
RAC Representative: **Ken VE3RMK**

February Meeting

When: Wednesday February 19, 2022 at 7:00pm

Due to the on-going Covid 19 restrictions we will be continuing our monthly meetings by Zoom and we will be holding them on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. These are also the nights of our weekly Virtual parking lot zoom meetings but on the third Wednesday the first hour will be our official club meeting to deal with club business and then carry on with the Virtual Parking lot for those who have the time.

This month, **Laird VE3LKS** will be giving us a presentation on the Tuesday night Rag Chew stats that he has been keeping during COVID.

January Club Meeting

At our January zoom meeting we had a great presentation from **Paul Mower VA6PPM** on SOTA -Summits on the Air. **Paul** showed numerous photos from his activations and the scenes were spectacular, it was a very informative presentation, Thank You **Paul!** Derek VE3TKE now has a pdf copy of this presentation. If you would like a copy, send Derek and email ve3tke@gmail.com.

We also held our club elections for Secretary and the Treasurer. **Bob VE3HIX** is again our Treasurer and **Jackie VA3BTQ** is again our secretary. The club was looking for a couple of volunteers for committee positions and we now have **John VE3KZT** as our Presentation Coordinator and **Ken VE3RMK** is our clubs RAC Representative. A big Thank You to all of our volunteers stepping up to fill these positions.

Tuesday Night Rag Chew

This is not a formal net but rather a lively roundtable. Some can only stick around for a few minutes while others are there from start to finish. We never know what the topic de jour will be but someone always comes up with something interesting. So, if you are available between 1900 and 2000hr on Tuesday's pop onto VE3OSH and join the conversation. As well, since this is a

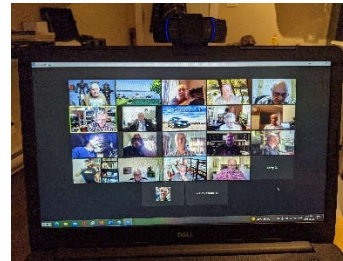


Website – ve3osh.com

rag chew, and not a net. We are looking for volunteers to step up and help by being a Net Control Operator. This is not a hard task and is good practice in case you are ever required to run a control situation in an emergency, so whoever is there just needs to write down call signs and rotate through the list twice. You can email **Derek VE3TKE** the list afterwards and he will put the names in the log that we keep. So, make sure your computer is working and you have an Excel or equivalent program to enter data in the supplied spreadsheet. You can also use a pad of paper and a pen or pencil instead of the computer. Pen and paper is also a good backup. It's also a good test of your 2m radio equipment. Be prepared to have some fun. To see who will be the net control operator for any given Tuesday night you can check the club calendar on VE3OSH.com website.

Latest Update is that in recent weeks, **Grant VA3KJI**, **Aldo VA3AG**, **John VE3KZT**, **Laird VE3LKS** and myself, **Steve VA3TPS**, have taken turns at Net Control. I have been selected to try and keep a list of volunteers and dates who are willing to take a turn at Net Control. So, check your calendars for Tuesday nights and if you're interested send me an email and I will pencil you in. If we have enough volunteers, you only have to do it once every 6-8 weeks or so and no one person gets stuck doing it all the time...so come on everyone let's help out our club and the members! My email is va3tps@outlook.com

Wednesday Night Virtual Parking Lot



Our Wednesday night face to face is now a Virtual Parking Lot meeting over zoom so make sure **Derek VE3TKE** has your email address. **Laird VE3LKS** will be sending out the zoom invites every Wednesday morning or afternoon. Before COVID hit there was quite a crew that used to meet at the Tim Horton's at King and Wilson at about 7:30 pm every Wednesday. However, that pesky COVID thing has messed that up with not being able to get us all inside so we have adapted. This is what Amateurs do – we adapt. So, we moved our weekly meet-ups outdoors to a lonely parking lot, set up our lawn chairs, and safely distanced at 144MHz (2m) apart and enjoyed some great conversation and show n tells. Then it got cold and dark too early so we adapted, once again, and took to a weekly zoom meeting. **TAKE THAT COVID!** It has actually been quite a success as more people can show up, due to distance or schedules, and yet we can still do show n tells by simply sharing our screens. It is not uncommon to have 20 to 25 participants but we can easily handle more. So, quit complaining about being bored and hop on the Virtual Parking Lot

At our zoom meetings we have Amateurs from around the globe, Hawaii, Labrador, Sudbury and Kapuskasing, I thought being in Fenelon Falls I was DX but apparently, I am just another local ham. So come out and join us on Wednesday's!

On Wednesday January 12 our VPL we welcomed a new guest from Australia, **Graham VK4GRA**, I wonder from what country our next guest will be from? So, try to remember Wednesday nights and drop by our Zoom VPL and say hello and see who is visiting from around the globe. It starts around 7:00 pm and will last until the last die hard leaves but you can pop in anytime and say hello and stay as long or short as you want.

Email – info@ve3osh.com

White Feather Fun!



January 29, 2022 - Beautiful sunny cool morning at WFF. A North wind had us huddling on the south side of the building. Vehicle thermometers read -25c that's -13 on the old scale. **Brian VE3IK** brought his thermometer from home it indicated -15c, 5f, you can see this in the group photo. On my drive up, in Enniskillen it was -31c, -24F. Eleven of us were there for the group photo with one late comer. Wasn't sure if my camera would work when it was this cold so I put my extra hat over it to keep it warm until everyone was in place for the photo op. Thanks for the picture, **Derek VE3TKE** (thanks to **Joe VE3VGJ** for picture and story)

If you are sitting at home wondering where all the excitement is you don't have to look any further. Heck, we even spotted cash changing hands, equipment being discretely shunted between vehicles, and lately a variety of CW Keys for others to try in the CW training class that's now be offered. The other major attraction to WFF is of course, the WFF fritters. You do not need to be a member of the North Shore Club to join in the fun. If your club is struggling to do social events, we are more than happy to have you join us and promise we won't tell them. We won't even bug you about membership as we truly feel that if you enjoy our company and events that you will want to join anyway. Details about our White Feather weekly event is right below in the "Saturday Breakfast" section.



Our Saturday morning meet ups at **White Feather Country Store** has morphed a bit thanks to this COVID annoyance. They had to close their dining area but you can still get take out from the counter. So, if you need your fix of a steamy hot beverage, as well as a hot fritter, pop up to **White Feather Country Store**, which opens at 8:30 am, and then join the gang in the south east corner of the parking lot. Make sure to bring a lawn chair as we now sit outside in the parking lot. Just give a shout on the repeater between 8:00 and 8:20 am to see if anyone is heading

up that way and come and join us. **White Feather Farms** is located at 65 Raglan Road E, Oshawa which is at the corner of Simcoe St and Raglan Rd in Raglan, just south of our repeater site.

Swap Shop

I am looking for items for sale or wanted by anyone to put here in our Update. If your shack cleaning and trying to get rid of some stuff put it here in the update and also if you're looking for any items, cables, connectors, antenna's and so on we can put it in here and hopefully some one might have what you need. With the Hamfest's put on hold due to Covid, this is a good way to give away or sell some of those boxes of great stuff you don't need or use.

For Sale:

Ranger RCI-5054DX 6m transceiver. AM/FM/SSB/CW. 25W. Comes with mounting bracket, microphone and power cable with cigarette plug. \$160 OBO. Contact Laird VE3LKS @ VE3LKS@yahoo.ca



For Sale:

A uniden handheld scanner BC75XLT asking \$80

An Alinco DJ-V17 2m 5w handheld, battery is weak, radio is awesome, asking \$35

If interested please call Grant VA3KJL 289-685-6875 email grabutcher2@gmail.com

Editor's Note

Hi everyone, as you can see, I have made a few changes to the Update and we are moving ahead so if you have suggestions, please send them along to me. We are also looking for articles from anyone (send them to me at va3tps@outlook.com). I am also interested in any ideals of what you might want to see in our monthly Update so let me know and I will try to accommodate your requests.

73 de **Steve VA3TPS**

Station of the Month

February's Shack of the month is from **John VE3KZT**



Thanks **John**, maybe once spring is here **John** can show us his POTA setup. Don't forget I need some more pictures of your Radio Shacks so send the picture and info to **Steve VA3TPS** at va3tps@outlook.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

According to Thomas VE3PDK, our membership secretary, and Bob VE3HIX, our treasurer, this is the most wonderful time of the year! We are making your membership renewal even easier this year. Step 1: click here to go the membership section of our club page and submit the online form. Step 2: send Thomas an e-transfer to thomas@schitka.com or give either Bob or Thomas your fees in cash. NOTE – if you are claiming that you are a RAC member make sure you check with RAC to make sure your membership is paid up. We have to double check this for our RAC insurance policy so please do not try to claim this if you are not a current RAC



Morse Code Training

On Friday January 7 at 7:00 pm we started our CW training classes on zoom with our instructor **Aldo VA3AG** doing the honors for 13 of our members. So far it has been slow, tough teaching an old dog new tricks...hi hi but we got all winter. Thanks **Aldo!**



Special Event Stations

The IARU HF Championships are on the weekend of July 10, 2022, this is where Radio Amateur Teams from around the world attend and compete for the Championship and this year it is in Italy. To celebrate this competition 150 Italian Ham radio operators are operating special event stations from January to July 10, 2022. All you need is 50 points to get a certificate, which is between 10 to 20 contacts depending on which mode is used. They are operating SSB, CW RTTY, and FT8 on all bands from 10m to 160m.

You can get more info at www.qrz.com and enter callsign I18WRTC or at <https://www.wrtc2022.it> and click on the WRTC 2022 Award.

From the President.

I am still in my due diligence phase of understanding how the club operates and learning the history of the club. Also spending some time with some of the club members getting their take on the club as to what is good about the club and what changes they would like to see going forward. If you would like to share your opinion on the club with me, just send me an email and I will setup some time to meet with you, possibly with some coffee involved and we can discuss the club from your point of view. Now is the time if you would like to see some changes.

Finally made the required notification of change of Directors now including our recent change of Treasurer and Secretary with the Ministry. Continuing to make changes to the club's mailing address with a number of people.

I am also working with the by-Law committee in updating and making the new required changes to meet the not-for-profit act that changed last October 19th, 2021. Don't worry, we have three years to comply with the requirements.

I have also joined the CW training class to learn how to quit counting the dots and dashes with the other members. It's quite a challenge. We had to make a change and slow down as we have a diverse group of members attending the class. Some already have their CW endorsement and just need to tune up their skill while others are starting from scratch, like me. We have had seven classes to date and most of the class feels that it's getting better. We are actually starting to understand some of the letters that are being sent to us. Like anything, the more you practice the better it gets. One thing we learned in the last class is that CW has no spell check, you receive what you receive or is that Aldo trying to trick us so that we can't think of what the word will be ahead of the letters being sent. Anyways, Aldo is a great teacher and I thank him for devoting his time to try to teach a group of members CW.

If you have any suggestions on what other training classes you would like to see the club run, send me an email and let me know your thoughts.

Derek VE3TKE