



Niagara ARES



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Special points of interest:

- Niagara ARES Newsletter will be published periodically and emailed to ARES members in the Niagara Region.
- Niagara ARES CEC is Henry, VA3OV.
- Contact Henry at: va3ov@bell.net.
- Newsletter prepared by Geddie, VE3CJX.
- To unsubscribe from this newsletter, contact Geddie at ve3cjx@gmail.com
- Niagara ARES Net every Monday 8:00pm VE3RAF.

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It is time to follow the example of our furry fellows and the various birds that reminds us that we should come out of hibernation.

I have dusted off my **Go Kit** and portable antennas for some outdoor operation. I need to improve the operating position in or around the vehicle during public events.



We are looking at running a **Spring SET** in late March or early April. Scenario will be based around a public event away from the city.

It has been sometime since we activated the emergency radio stations at the hospitals and fire stations in the region. I would like to operate from these locations on a **weekday** to allow the personnel at these points to be present during the exercise. I will need volunteers to operate from the following locations.

Fire stations: Fort Erie, Niagara Falls, Thorold;

Hospital: Fort Erie, Port Colborne, Welland, Niagara Falls, Hotel Dieu Shaver, St Catharines, Grimsby.

We will continue to conduct regular voice message exercises (using message form **IMS 213 - R** available at <http://www.aresniagara.org>) during our weekly Monday night net.

Packet (digital messaging) is still in the news. We are looking in organizing a packet net in a converse (conversation) mode, P2P (person to person), using the digipeater and the KA node in Outpost and Winlink Express software.

We have some DVDs available with the You Tube instruction video of Outpost for two dollars each. I will bring them to the meeting.

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We are looking forward to a busy year again with various public service activities such as:

Ride for Roswell on June 24
Field Day on June 24 / 25
Canada Day Parade on July 1st
Spring SET,
MS Walk-a-Thon,
Terry Fox Run,
Niagara Marathon,
Fall SET, and
Christmas Parade (2), (TBA).

We are pursuing additional activities that will test our equipment and communications skills. It is in the planning stage. A lot more work is to be done at this point. I am always looking for suggestions from our members to make the hobby interesting and challenging.

How can we improve and apply our communications skills?

This month's meeting is on **Wednesday, March 15th** and will be at the:
Niagara Regional Police Headquarters, 5700 Valley Way, Niagara Falls.
Meeting time is from 1900 to 2130.

A visit to the communication centre is planned for that evening if local events will permit.

There is a visitor parking just outside the building main entrance just off Valley Way. If by chance the parking area is full, there is overflow parking across the road. Come through the main entrance and the community room is straight ahead. Just ask at the front desk if unsure. And if you have one, wear your ARES ID card.

Henry Jarzyna, VA3OV
CEC

Stepping in at this time to get the newsletter to all our Niagara ARES participants is a reminder for me that we all work together as amateur radio operators for the benefit of our community.

Denis, VE3KVE has mentored me through the newsletter tasks in past years at NPARC as well in the area of digital modes using Winlink, and more recently Outpost PMM software for which I am very grateful. In the past few years I have watched Denis work with radio amateurs in the Burlington and Niagara area with such enthusiasm and with such confident leadership he continually expanded our involvement in significant community activities. My hat goes to Denis!

Geddie, VE3CJX
Editor