



Niagara ARES

June 10, 2019

Volume 3 Issue 6

Special points of interest:

- Niagara ARES Newsletter will be published periodically and emailed to ARES members in the Niagara Region. / Website: <http://www.aresniagara.ca/>
- 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@cogeco.ca
- **Niagara ARES Voice Net every Monday 8:00pm VE3RAF & Packet Net on Wednesdays.**

Contents:

- Join in the ARES Monday and Wednesday Nets, etc., Watch for Upcoming Field Day, Training and Events.
- When's the Next Meeting?

June 19th

Niagara Regional HQ



Heading into the Field Season Full Swing!

We now conducted four ARES Nets in May on our regular repeater VE3RAF 145.190MHz. Check-ins varied from 8 to 12 individuals. Thank you to all who participated.

Our **next Niagara ARES meeting is on June 19, 2019 at 1830**. We will continue with more voice message training exercises before the meeting. Bring your portable radios. We may use UHF and Simplex to send these messages. Prior to our **regular monthly ARES meeting**, we will begin 30 minutes early for a **message handling exercise**. In groups of two, we will disperse with HT 's in hand and spread out within a 1km area of the venue. Three IMS 213R messages will be sent and copied. We will review our individual experience in sending and receiving these messages.

A second UHF Fusion repeater is operating in our Region on 444.725MHz, (Tone 107.2 Hz. Split 5.0MHz). located in Fonhill. The **two UHF repeaters now offer full coverage of the Niagara Region**. Use them and enjoy. They are set on auto mode allowing everyone to use analog or digital depending on available equipment.

The month of **June promises to be a busy one**. We have the following activities coming up requiring many volunteers to be successful:

Saturday June 22nd kicks off with the **Ride for Roswell** Requiring 8 radio operators at the man check points along the route from the Peace Bridge to the Rainbow Bridge along the Niagara Parkway. We need everyone to be on station at **0630**. Use of a mobile radio would be an asset. We are expecting the work to be completed by 1030, allowing us to move along to our Field Day activities.

Field Day is also on **Saturday June 22** at the Black Creek Community Centre, at 2959 Baker Rd, Stevensville found off Netherby Rd and the QEW. Setup is at **1100H**. All participating radio operators will be scheduled to be on the air by 1400H running for 24 hour until 1359 H on Sunday June 23rd. The number of eager participants for the event will determine our overall plan of operation.

The plan so far will require **16 volunteers** to setup antennas, tent/shelters for radio stations and operate by 1400H. Leaders will be assigned to take responsibility for the set up, find a logger and to ensure all proceeds safely and in a timely manner.

We will be operating in ARRL Category **3A BATTERY POWER AND SOLAR**. (which are being made available with 3 generators as backup. Each station which is set up is to have a Station Leader who will ensure radios and accessories are set up and operations are carried out for safe operation for 24 hours. Prior to Field Day various antennas will have been evaluated. New antennas will be built as required to suit the station's operation. At least 5 radio stations will be set up outside the community center and be housed in the following shelters:

Tent Trailer: SSB Phone 40 / 20 / 15 / 10 M
Motor Home: Digital PSK 31 / FT8
Travel Trailer; GOTA / VHF / Packet Winlink / Winmore / Pactor.
Cargo Trailer; CW/SSB 40 / 80 / 160
Tent / Shelter: Satellite / 6M SSB

The facilities at the Community Centre will be available for the NPARC/ARES Volunteers and Guests. Saturday night dinner will be catered as we did in the past and coffee and beverages will be available to the participants. Please find other important information regarding this Field Day which is active right across North America (such as applicable rules and guidelines) using this link <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Canada Day July 1st promises 2 main events: The **St John's Ambulance Run** (Niagara Falls) 1km and 5km from 0830 to 1000. We will be looking for at least 6 radio operators/marshals. When this Run is complete, Operators will then transfer to the Parade Route on Queen St as determined by the Net Control. **Canada Day Parade** (Niagara Falls) will run from 1000 to 1200. In total, we are looking for 12 radio operators. We will be using HT on simplex and repeater frequencies. *A Team Effort is always needed to make these events fun and especially successful. This a great opportunity to promote the hobby of applied radio science with your friends and neighbours and to show our commitment to the community we live in.*

See you all on **June 15th at next ARES meeting** located at:
Niagara Regional Headquarters at 1830.
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold. Room C103.
Campbell West entrance. Check bulletin board in the entrance.
73

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Learn Something New: Online Emergency Service Training

Online Course Code	Name	Length	Delivery Method
EM 125	<u>Exercise Programs: An Introduction</u>	4 hours	Online
EM 131	<u>Accessible Customer Service for Emergency Responders</u>	4 hours	Online
IMS 100	<u>Introduction to Incident Management System</u>	4 hours	Online

Niagara ARES now an integral part of GTA ARES *Since May 2019*

The following municipalities and Region are represented in this group: Hamilton, Burlington, Oakville, Halton Region, Peel Region, Mississauga, Toronto, York Region, Durham Region.

The local ARES Net is Monday evenings on regular repeater VE3RAF 145.190MHz. All local Niagara as well as GTA radio operators are welcome to join in and tell us how our signals and transmissions are. We would all like to hear especially from any new radio operators, and over the border operators, tell us of the local weather and practice using on air radio protocols.

A new **Fusion repeater on 442.250MHz is operational** at a new location in Fonthill offering great coverage throughout the Region. At the same location a **digipeater was installed** to offer access to the Winlink (WL2K) Gateway and the CMS server from every corner of the Region.

We have had good success with getting testing radio antenna set ups and amateurs wanting to try new modes expanding our confidence in coverage through out the Niagara Region, and Greater Toronto Areas.

You are Invited!

Canadian National Parks on the Air: January 1 to December 31 "Come join the fun and plan to visit one of Canada's beautiful Parks and Historic sites!". Check the following link <https://cnpota.ca> for more details and rules.

The Spring ARES/NPARC SET was held on Saturday May 11 from 0800 to 1400. For the first time, we participated in the exercise with our counterparts from the GTA. All went well and tasks were well accomplished. We used a Net Control coupled with an Incident/Scenario Coordinator for the first time. The Incident/Scenario Coordinator allowed for reporting changes in conditions which helped with setting priority on the fly.

The SET mock scenario was called “Twister in the Short Hills” and was very interestingly and systematically carried out. Folks in Toronto heard our transmissions and we were successful in sending and receiving messages as planned. We continue to use new radio equipment and repeaters as well as applying various modes. We learn well from our practice together.

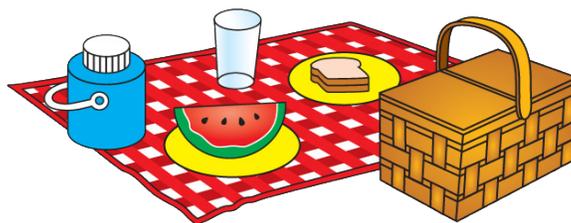
In May, preparatory work was carried Jack VE3ZPW, Steve VA3FLF and Henry VA3OV who visited the Port Colborne and Fort Erie Hospitals to activate the radio stations and made attempts to connect via **Packet Winlink**. Messages were exchanged with Kevin VE3RRH, Roy VE3OQP, David VA3DPG, John VA3WM via the VE3RFM Digipeater. Although it was not smooth sailing but the mission was accomplished.

In conclusion the participants agreed: 1) we **need to familiarize with the software and hardware** to improve our performance. 2) we need to **maintain the voice link** as we send digital messages. 3) we need to move to **standardize our equipment**. To accomplish this will require some capital that Niagara ARES does not have, so, we will need to be creative to find ways to **raise funds** to acquire appropriate communication equipment. Of course we invite participation as well as some how setting aside funds to accomplish this. To bring our project to completion will require some focused determination and hard work from all of us knowing **as a Group we can succeed**.

Some severe weather and high water level conditions have occurred in the Niagara and GTA areas. **Our CANWARN Storm Spotter Training** of May 8, 2019 was coordinated by Niagara Region’s Patricia Martel, and our local CANWARN/ARES representative, Brian VE3BMX allowed us to spot supercell activity as we experienced persistent rains during the month. The event was very well attended and was held in the Pond Inlet room at Brock University with the surprise that parking had be made available free of charge to the participants.

Up Coming Events Calendar:

- Ride for Roswell June 22
- Field Day June 22- 23
- Canada Day Parade July 1st
- Fort George August 24-25 ??
- Terry Fox Run September 15
- CIBC Run for the Cure September 29
- Run for a Mile October 14
- Niagara Falls Santa Claus Parade



Bring your HT and HF radio, pack your picnic basket, meet with some friends and get on the air for some of our up coming events. Don't forget the visit to one of 11 National Parks in the Niagara Region alone! **Canadian National Park On the Air** (and Historic sites). Check the following link <https://cnpota.ca> for more details and rules.