

THE DRIVEN ELEMENT

APRIL 2020

The Driven Element is the newsletter of the Guelph Amateur Radio Club.

President's email ve3sld@gmail.com
Website www.garc.ca
Newsletter rvwebb@rogers.com

Nets

FM Monday night net at 7:30 pm local time on VE3ZMG 145.210 (negative offset) CTCSS 131.8

70 cm. SSB sideband net, Friday at 9 pm local time on 432.210

6-meter net Tuesday 9 pm local time on 50.170

Upcoming Events and Meeting

Monday April 20- 7 pm Virtual club meeting. Elections deferred until the fall

Saturday April 25- Rotary tree planting deferred to 2021

Sunday May 3- MS Walk

Monday May 18- 7 pm Virtual club meeting.

Dayton- Cancelled

President's Message

COVID19: Message from VE3SLD

by [Guelph ARC](#) | 2020-03-18
[0 comment](#)

Firstly, I do want to apologize for the last minute cancellation of the Wellington Brewery Tour. The brewery tried to contact me by phone, which I was unable to hear due to the ambient noise at my work site. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

After discussion with the Executive Team, I have decided to cancel the Guelph ARC Meetings for the remainder of the current business year (up to May, 2020). I am also postponing the elections until the club's first meeting in the fall. The present Executive team will remain in place until elections can be held. For the sake of continuity I will stand for another term as your President. The April 20, and May 18 meetings will be held on the air as informational sessions on VE3ZMG – the main club repeater. I will update the membership of our Health Unit permanent EmComm radio install. This project is being spearheaded by Richard VE3HTU and Steve VA3ZXN.

The Central Ontario Hamfest Committee is presently having similar discussions, and we expect that they will make a decision about the June 7 event sometime in late April. We will advise you accordingly. I will also be in consultation with Bill, VA3QB regarding Field Day.

In view of the current pandemic, I would ask all members to inspect their portable radio equipment and keep the batteries charged, so that if EmComm becomes active, we will be in a position to respond. For now, stay safe and healthy.

Barry D. Brousseau C.E.T.

VE3SLD

President, Guelph Amateur Radio Club

Club Meetings in light of COVID 19

Guelph ARC Response to COVID19

by [Guelph ARC](#) | 2020-03-18

[0 comment](#)

With the COVID19 outbreak, norms are being shattered and we are expected to change on the fly. To that end, the club would like to announce the following:

Weekly Nets Reactivated:

We are reactivating the Monday Evening Nets effective Monday (March 23) at 7:30PM ET. We are looking for volunteers to be NCS for the next few weeks, and will post them to the Events Calendar on the GARC website. If you are interested, please send a note to nets@garc.ca. If you are a relatively new operator, don't be shy – we will send you the net preamble and the instructions on how to hold a net.

This is a great way to hone our communication skills during a time of crisis, and also a great way to be social during a time when all social interaction is happening remotely. We hope to hear everyone on the nets going forward.

Regular Meetings Reinstated – To Be Held Virtually:

The next club meetings **will** occur, but they will be held virtually using GoToMeeting. This is the same tool that RAC uses to facilitate all of our Board and Executive meetings nationally, and it's a great way to get people together, **face-to-face**, and hold full and proper business meetings with presentations. If you are a Windows or Mac user, please go to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install>, download the software and install the plugin. If you plan to use your smartphone or tablet to attend

the meeting, please goto the Apple Store or the Google Play store and install the GoToMeeting App. We ask that you use headphone/earphones at the least – preferably a wired or wireless headset – to cut down on crosstalk/feedback during the conferences. *Installing the plugin/app only serves to prepare your PC/device to eventually connect to the conference when the links are posted to the website.* Please stay tuned to the [Events Calendar](#) for details of the meetings as they are posted.

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We are adapting and learning as the facts and realities of this new disease reveal themselves. Every newscast, on line blog and newspaper has differing facts and theories that morph by the hour.

We will survive and end up learning more about infectious disease, epidemiology and maybe even ourselves as this event progresses.

Our website is excellent, thanks to Phil, and is a good way to share information and keep updated on how to access our virtual meetings as well as club activities. We will use a virtual meeting room, a method new to us, in order to hold a club meeting.