

# RAMBLER

## 1970

CLUB CALL: VE3RAM

MONITORED FREQS  
3760 KHZ, 146.940 MHZ

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL  
MAY YOU HAVE  
HEALTH, HAPPINESS & PROSPERITY

Vol. 13 No. 1, OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INCORPORATED, Ottawa, Ontario, January 1970.

Editor: Ed Morgan, VE3GX, 755 Hamlet Road, Ottawa 8, Ontario. (Tel. 733-1721)

### 1970 EXECUTIVE

President: Bernie Best, VE3SH, 745-3151.  
Vice Pres: Art Childerhose, VE3CGD, 839-2896.  
Tech Adviser: Tony Vandenberg, VE3FXG, 745-6928.  
Public Relations: Bob Jones, VE3FRE, 822-2821.  
Secretary: Bert Foulds, VE3DDK, 728-5606.  
Treasurer: Trev Hagan, VE3BMC, 745-0235.  
Past Pres: Mike Patriarche, VE3DNJ, 224-4979.

### NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING

PLACE: N.R.C. Sussex Street, Room 3039.

TIME & DATE: 8 PM THURSDAY, 8 January 1970.

### PROGRAM

#### BUSINESS

TALK: "My Most Recent Trip To The Arctic" Illustrated with color slides by Doctor Maurice Haycock VE3BDO.

LADIES: You are most welcome to attend. I am sure that those of you who attended his last talk will be most anxious to hear this talented and distinguished gentleman.

### COFFEE & COOKIES

### RAG CHEW

### REPORT ON THE LAST MEETING

The December Meeting was Election Night. The 1970 Budget was approved by the membership. The motion by VE3GX which appeared in the December issue of the Rambler was approved by the membership. Our Club is now officially affiliated with the R.S.O. Incorporated. The Election was conducted by the Nominating Committee Chairman, VE3FRE, assisted by VE3CZ and VE3CGO in a most commendable manner. The election results are reflected at the top of this page. The prize draw for the 1969 members by virtue of their membership cards was conducted by Bernie VE3SH who also purchased the many prizes from Club funds. Many thanks for an excellent job Bernie.

The retiring President, VE3DNJ, Mike Patriarche, thanked the retiring Executive and membership for their support during 1969. He also thanked the following individual members for their efforts in 1969.

- (a) Bernie Best, VE3SH, for coffee and cookie services.
- (b) Doreen, VE3CGO for services as Monitor Station and Pot Hole Net Manager.
- (c) Ed, VE3GX, for services as Bulletin Editor and SWAP NET Manager.

Mike also reviewed the 1969 Club Achievements and Activities as follows:

### 1969 CLUB ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- 5 Jan 69 : Completed a 13 day Public Demonstration of Amateur Radio at the National Museum of Science and Technology. Picture of event and brief description appeared in QST.
- 26 Jan 69: Simulated Emergency Test (AREC SET) conducted on 2 meter FM to check out communications between all 5 Ottawa hospitals.

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- February 69: New Service to Club Members introduced. Foreign edition of the Call Book purchased so that members can check with the Monitor Station for QTHs Etc.
- 14 Mar 69: Second Club Informal Dinner held at the Eastview Hotel.
- March 69: Club Sponsored SWAP NET Service Supplied to the OARC via their 2 M FM Capital City Net.
- 19 Apr 69: As a Public Service, provided communications for the 1969 Miles for Millions Walk.
- 29 Apr 69: Sponsored and Operated a most successful Spring Auction.
- 10 May 69: Provided Communications for the Ottawa Flying Club Air Rally.
- 6,7 June 69: Provided Talk-in Service on 2 and 75 for the OARC Eastern Ontario Convention held in Ottawa at the El Mirador Hotel. Our hospitality room had many guests of note including most of the Don Messer Show.
- 28/29 June 69: Came first in our class in Canada in Field Day. 1059 contacts with a final score of 7154.
- 10 July 69: Held a very successful adult poolside party at the QTH of VE3YC.
- 10 Aug 69: Held a Hidden Transmitter Hunt. VE3FXG first prize winner.
- 19/20 Sept 69: As a Public Service, club members participated in the communications for the Cystic Fibrosis Shinerama.
- 9 Oct. 69: Revised Club Constitution, issue 4, accepted by membership.
- 19 Oct. 69: Held a Hidden Transmitter Hunt. VE3GAH first prize winner.
- 25 Oct. 69: Provided communications for the Ottawa Flying Club Air Rally.
- 21 Nov. 69: Pre-Festive Season Informal Dinner held at the Eastview Hotel.
- 14 Dec. 69: Held our annual Childrens Christmas Party. See write-up elsewhere.

- GENERAL: (a) Club affiliation with R.S.O, Inc. completed. ARRL affiliation applied for.
- (b) Club Public Service Museum Assistance Project located over 60 items of antique radio and electronic equipment for the National Museum of Science & Technology.

From the foregoing it is again obvious that our Club has had a most successful year. Our Club is entering its 13th year in 1970 and I am sure that the new Executive with the assistance of the membership will continue with the high standards set in the past.

#### REPORT ON THE CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The 14th of December was the date of this most popular event. 51 children representing 21 families attended. This year we had a new feature "PITMAN THE MAGICIAN" assisted by the ever lovely Colleen. The magic act was very professional and delighted the children as well as the adults! "Pitman the Magician" alias Phil, VE3DQK, is available for entertainment at a reasonable fee. We heartily recommend his act! We also had a movie. Gifts were presented to each and every child in attendance. Sandwiches, milk, cookies and ice-cream were served to the children. The adults enjoyed coffee sandwiches and cookies. Many hands are required to put on a party like this. The following is a list of credits:

- (a) VE3GAH, Gord, film and projector.
- (b) Jenny Patriarche (XYL 3 DNJ) telephoning and present wrapping.
- (c) VE3CGO/VE3GX gift selection and purchase, gift wrapping, ice-cream, milk, hall rental.
- (d) VE3GFL Hutch, Coffee, fee collection at door.
- (e) All those who arrived early to help set up the hall.
- (f) The ladies who helped in the kitchen and served at the tables.
- (g) The people who cleaned up the mess, and put the hall back into its original shape.

Thanks to all for another wonderful party. I am sure that the children had a most enjoyable time. They certainly look forward to our Christmas Party each year!

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SILENT KEY

Jim Cotter, VE3JW became a Silent Key on December 28th, 1969 at the age of 67 and is survived by his wife Rose, 5 children and 9 grandchildren. Jim became a radio amateur shortly after World War I and was very active on all bands on C.W. and fone. Laterly he operated multi-band SSB, CW and 2 meter FM. It is most difficult to do justice to him in writing since he has been a legend during his entire life. His operating experiences and feats would fill a book and then some! In the early days and before the advent of SSB, he built his own equipment, despite the fact that he has been totally blind since his very early childhood. Jim owned and operated a radio repair shop before WW2 and repaired radios, appliances, motors etc. He also did these repairs from his home during another period.

During WW2 he worked as a machinist at Hughes-Owens, Ottawa. In the early days there was no test equipment available for the blind so Jim tested voltages with his fingers and was reputed to be able to judge voltages (a.c. or d.c.) with great accuracy in accordance with the intensity of the shock! I am sure that hardly any of his many amateur radio friends throughout the world ever knew that he was blind because he never mentioned this fact to anyone. He was in fact, the first blind radio amateur in the world!

I would like to quote an entire article from QST page 52, November, 1925. Jim was then c3EN, this was several years before the VE3 prefixes were assigned and he obtained his famous VE3JW call sign containing his initials for James William. The article is under the Amateur Radio Stations section and contains a picture of Jim at the controls of his station. The title is "c3EN, Ottawa, Canada."

QUOTE:

"The antenna at c3EN is a two-wire flat top 50 feet high and 60 feet long. The counterpoise is a single 60 foot wire directly underneath the antenna. The station is located only six blocks from the broadcasting station CNRO. The power in the transmitter varies from two 5-watt tubes to one 5-watt tube to two 201-1's depending upon financial conditions and upon the life of the 5-watters. The plate supply is obtained from a 1000-volt transformer and a 28-jar rectifier seen at the right of the photograph. The transmitting circuit is a Hartley. Filament supply is obtained from a toy step-down transformer, center tapped.

The receiver is a single circuit one. The secondary is coupled to the antenna by virtue of a few turns of antenna wire twisted around the grid lead of the detector tube. Two stages of audio frequency amplification are available, although only one stage is all that is generally used. The receiver operates over the 20- and 40-meter bands.

Although c3EN is not a high power station it has reached out very well, having covered the best part of the U.S. and the whole of the Atlantic Coast. Jimmy Cotter the owner and operator of the set is an enthusiastic A.R.R.I. man and is a member of R.C.C. On his operating table Jimmy has a local telephone for quick QSRing of local messages.

One of the interesting things about 3EN is the fact that it was assembled almost entirely by a blind person. Years ago Jimmy lost his sight when a box of dynamite caps exploded in his hands. He went to the school for the blind at Brantford and after finishing school returned to Ottawa where he got the radio bug. His apparatus has been assembled from hook-ups read to him by the various Ottawa amateurs! " UNQUOTE

Our sympathy to the family in their loss. Amateur Radio has lost a real pioneer and an inspiration to us all. He and his famous call VE3 January Washington will be remembered as long as amateur radio exists! Your editor was privileged to be a personal friend of Jimmy Cotter. A wonderful experience indeed!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

It is that time again. Please help us to replenish the coffers and to enable us to produce a 1970 membership list. If you are unable to attend the next meeting, mail your dues, \$3.50 for Full and Associate members, \$1.00 for DX members to Trevor Hagan, VE3BMC, 2152 Fillmore Cresc., Ottawa 9, Ontario. Make the cheque or M.O. payable to the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated. Your prompt attention would be appreciated.

RAMBLINGS

Our congratulations to Gary Ryan, W6JON (ex W2YYP) on being elected President of the RAMS, the Sacramento Mobile Club ---I am sure that the training you received in our club will stand you in good stead. ---They have a real worker and a good man in Gary --- VE3FBT Ron has a new car and has his two meter mobile rig remoted from the trunk --- VE3BGX Gib has his new home brew linear completed and in operation---Good Show and Tell feature for a future meeting.