

# rambler

CLUB CALL: VE3RAM

CLUB AFFILIATIONS

C.A.R.F.  
R.S.O. Inc.  
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MONITORED FREQS  
3760 kHz, 146.940 Mhz

Vol.13 No. 10, OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INCORPORATED, Ottawa, Ontario, October 1970 .

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## 1970 EXECUTIVE

GIANT 4 PAGE  
SPECIAL EDITION

<u>President:</u>	Bernie Best, VE3SH,	745-3151.
<u>Vice-President:</u>	Art Childerhose, VE3CGD,	839-2896.
<u>Technical Adviser:</u>	Tony Vandenbelt, VE3FXG,	745-6928.
<u>Public Relations:</u>	Russ Downs, VE3EQZ,	224-1803.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Bert Foulds, VE3DDK,	728-5606.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Trev Hagan, VE3BMC,	745-0235.
<u>Past President:</u>	Mike Patriarche VE3DNJ,	224-4979.

POT HOLE NET: Official Club. NET. Meets every Saturday and Sunday at 10 AM local time on 3760 kHz. All Radio Amateurs are welcome to participate. Membership in the Club is not a requirement.

SWAP NET: The Club Sponsored SWAP NET is conducted by VE3GX every Saturday as part of the Pot Hole Net on 3760 kHz. This service is also provided to the Capital City Net on 146.940 MHz. FM every Monday at 8 PM. Contact VE3GX to list items or make enquiries.

MONITORING FACILITY: Sponsored by the Club as a service to the general public and to Amateur Radio. VE3CGO monitors 3760 kHz SSB, 146.940 MHz FM daily from 8 AM to 6.30 PM. If you need assistance or have traffic, call VE3CGO (say the call sign at least 3 times) Please allow a period of at least one minute for a reply.

## NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING

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

TIME & DATE: 8 PM THURSDAY 8 October 1970.

### PROGRAM

#### BUSINESS

SHOW & TELL: Technical Talk on Synthesizers and a Demonstration of the F.V. Topping Ltd DTO 23 Digitally Tuned Oscillator (by Tony VE3FXG)

#### COFFEE & COOKIES

#### RAG CHEW

### REPORT ON THE LAST MEETING

Unfortunately there was a bit of mix-up with respect to the Appollo 12 film. Instead of the flight film we had one covering an interview of the astronauts prior to the 12 flight. It was very interesting but unfortunately many were disappointed. The BTCO film Beyond All Barriers was a superb scenic color film and therefore well received. There were many visitors and new members in attendance.

REPORT ON THE CYSTIC FIBROSIS "SHINERAMA"

Male and female students from Ottawa University turned out en masse to shine shoes in return for a donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Fund. All shopping centers, as well as the beer and liquor stores in the Ottawa and Hull districts were covered. Amateur Radio again greatly facilitated the operation by providing constant communications for supply requirements, donation pick-up, personnel transportation as well as many other administrative needs. Last year was Shineramas first year with radio communication. The organizers were so pleased with the way that Amateur Radio contributed to the success of the event that it was eagerly requested again this year. Twenty-seven 2 meter FM mobiles and a fixed station manned by three operators were required from 4-9 PM Friday 25 Sep 70 and 8.30 AM - 5.30 PM Saturday 26 Sep 70. A most commendable demonstration of Amateur Radio Public Service. The students raised \$16,500.00 for the fund! Congratulations to Roy, VE3ADM, assisted by Tony VE3FXG for the organization of the Amateur Radio Communications.

FALL AUCTION

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club have announced that the Fall Auction sponsored by them will be held at Wallis House at the corner of Rideau and Charlotte streets Saturday 7 November 70. Registration of items will commence at 10 AM. The location is the same as last year.

VE NEWS REPRINTS ARTICLE ON THE DEGRADERS OF AMATEUR RADIO BY "CHAIRMAN MORGAN"

The September issue contained a reprint of my article with two errors cranked in which detracted from the impact. Rowland OB fire your proof reader because every article of mine you re-print has "cranked -in errors" which detract from the impact! In this last one "grad" instead of "grade" and "There" instead of "Their" in my opinion destroyed the impact! You may not think so but I sure do! I am pleased to be quoted or have articles re-printed but request accuracy! You are doing a FB job with your VE NEWS which I will explain Covers "Canadian Amateur Radio from Coast to Coast Monthly" The only publication to do so! Subscription rate \$2.00 per year for 12 issues, obtainable from the Editor and owner "Rowland C.E. Beardow, VE3AML, 91 Milton Street, Courtright, Ontario.

ON CLUB MEMBERSHIP BY "CHAIRMAN MORGAN"

"The following is the opinion of the editor and does not necessarily reflect that of the individual club member" During the past year our local membership has increased from the normal maximum of 45 to over 60 members. One might consider this a measure or indication of success! But is it? As a small Club we have been able to accomplish things that Clubs many times our size are unable to do. In addition, one gets to know each of the members and even their families. A much more intimate arrangement. The number of "workers" in any organization are but a fraction of the total membership. Many individuals join an organization and never attend a meeting or activity. They feel they are supporting the organization by virtue of the membership fee! This is a well-intentioned but poor philosophy. I would prefer a Club with 20 active members than one with 100 half-hearted members. As a Charter Member of this Club, I propose that we limit the membership of our Club! This will prevent us from becoming a Club with a large membership and eliminate the attendant impotence! I suggest that we immediately freeze our membership at the present figure with a view to an ultimate membership of 50 members. The reduction to be achieved by normal attrition. A process familiar to those employed in Ottawa! The DX Members are excluded since they are former members who wish to retain their affiliation and now live elsewhere, remote from Ottawa. The newer members might view this proposal with surprise since they are not acquainted with the history of our Club. I am sure that all the "workers" and those members concerned with the welfare of our Club recognize the advantages of a membership limitation! Food for thought!

PERSONALIZED IDENTIFICATION PIN

Your editor took advantage of an offer by a Toronto firm for a free sample. The item contains your name, call sign and the name of the Club. It will be available at the October meeting for your perusal. If anyone is interested I can order them. The price is \$1.10 for quantities of 10-24. For quantities 25 or more \$1.00 each.

TECHNICAL ARTICLE

Be sure to check page 4 of this issue for another excellent article by Mike, VE3DNJ. I am sure that this mini-tuner will meet all requirements for portable operation. Just what we have been looking for!

RESIGNATION OF EDITOR

It is requested that the membership accept my resignation as editor of the Rambler, effective immediately. I have been grinding out 12 issues per year since February 1961 and am of the opinion that someone else deserves a chance! I wish to thank VE3CGO, Doreen for her faithful typing of the envelopes and also those who have offered encouragement during almost 10 years of editorship. It has been a pleasure to serve you! I am sure that I have angered some people over the years but my intention was to make people aware of various problems and offer constructive criticism. If the new editor will permit it, I may submit the odd expose to him.

COMING ATTRACTION 13 November 70

Informal Dinner for Club members and their XYL/YLs to be held at the Eastview Hotel. Full details to appear in the November issue of the Rambler. Book your sitter now.

COMING ATTRACTION 13 DECEMBER 70 ANNUAL CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

This popular annual event for Club members and their children will be held in the basement of Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 933 Smyth Road as in previous years. Full details will be given in the November issue of the Rambler.

WELCOME ABOARD

To the following new members: Roy Maskell, VE3ADM; Ian Hamilton, VE3AMK; Ray Dagenais, VE3ARJ; Lloyd Carr, VE3FHC; Rod Riley, VE3CSR; Carl Everson, VE3BYX; Keith Beaupre, VE3BKA; Fred Marshall, VE3DPM, Matt Lewis, WA2ZSA. Gentlemen, I hope you will enjoy your Club and are able to participate in most of the activities.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

In view of the increase in membership since our April, 70 list, a list of the additions will be included at the end of this sheet. Please cut off the list and append it to your April 70 list. For the benefit of the newer members there will be copies of the April list at the meeting. A new list will be available early in the new year.

MORE ON THE PROPOSED CARF ARRL AMALGAMATION

Check the October 1970 issue of CQ "ZERO BIAS" for a well written account of the happenings. Dick, K2MGA sums it up very nicely. Maybe it is time for my proposal. My last proposal with respect to CARF wasnt even given honorable mention by those studying the question even though I understand it was used on the agenda.

RAMBLINGS

Harry ex VE3EMQ is now VE8CB in Inuvik -...- Keith Jones, VE3MH, a former member has just returned to Canada from a three year stint in U.K. where he operated as a G.-...- I am sorry but that is all I have to report ---of course I will think of more items after the bulletin is in print.

APRIL 1970 MEMBERSHIP AMENDMENTS

- Delete VE3BOI Earl O'Hara from local listing and transfer to DX list
- Delete VE3CKY Guenter Kronmueller - deceased-unfortunate victim of firearm accident
- Delete VE3DQK Phil Pitman from local listing and transfer to DX list.
- Delete VE3EMQ Harry Billard from local listing and transfer to DX list (now VE8CB)
- Amend call sign of VE2BJR Ron Hutchinson to read VE2ZD.

DETACH THE FOLLOWING AND ADD TO YOUR April 1970 MEMBERSHIP LIST

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VE3CZD	Doug Hopper	2210 St. Laurent Blvd	Ottawa 8,	731-7588
VE3CNM	Ron Archer	1290 Firestone Cr.	Ottawa 5,	825-5839
VE3FHN	Lloyd Graham	South Mountain, Ont.		
VE3GIR	Ken Robinson	705 Golden Ave.	Ottawa 13,	728-9198
VE3ADM	Roy Maskell	38 Revol Rd.	Ottawa 12,	825-1334
VE3AMK	Ian Hamilton	128 Osgoode	Ottawa 2,	232-9110
VE3ARJ	Ray Dagenais	14 Petty St.	Ottawa 12	825-1920
VE3FHC	Lloyd Carr	1362 Marchand St.	Ottawa 15,	746-2593
VE3CSR	Rod Riley	840 Springfield Dr.	Ottawa 8,	733-7012
VE3BYX	Carl Everson	P.O. Box 4 Osgoode, Ont.		826-2426
VE3BKA	Keith Beaupre	Iroquois, Ont.		657-4340
VE3DPM	Fred Marshall	RR#1 Cardinal, Ont.		657-4514
WA2ZSA	Matt Lewis	335 MacLaren St. Apt 903	Ottawa 4,	233-2836

TECHNICAL TOPICS - A Miniaturized Antenna Coupler for the Travelling Ham

Now that the leaves are beginning to change and a wee touch of frost is in the air, the time has undoubtedly come to talk of amateur vacation operation and an indispensable piece of equipment for such operation, the antenna coupler. (My timing is, I suppose, analogous to the usual example of antenna erection in January.)

In this day of matched 52 ohm transmission lines and pi-network outputs, the antenna coupler is not the common article that it used to be. When camping, staying in a hotel or with relatives, or in any event away from home, it is usually inconvenient to raise a properly resonant antenna, and the 2:1 SWR limit of most contemporary SSB transceivers makes a coupler mandatory when operating into random lengths of wire. In the past, most multiband couplers have been bulky and cursed with complex switching circuits. The purpose of this brief note is to describe a more practical approach: using a toroidal coil, a complete tuner for 80 - 15 meters is built into a box the size of the common Armaco SWR bridge.

Most radio amateurs are familiar with the necessity for various combinations of series and parallel tuning in the antenna tuner (see any ARRL Handbook). Fortunately, when the antenna length is under some degree of control such flexibility is not required. Through the use of a certain simple L - network, all reasonably resistive impedances above 52 ohms may be matched. Only once has the author been unfortunate enough to be unable to load a random piece of hook-up wire thrown over a tree, and that case was readily corrected by the addition of ten feet of extra wire to the antenna (the last word is used loosely).

The circuit of the simple coupler is as shown below. The coil was wound with 17 turns of #18 wire on a 1.25" OD Q1 material ferrite toroid. For clarity, only four taps are shown in the diagram; although the coil should be tapped at turns 2,3,4,5,7,9,11,13,15, and 17, numbered from the input end. If you are in doubt about the characteristics of your particular toroid core, it is an easy matter to bread-board the small number of components and carry out a little "cut-and-try" while loading into a number of different lengths of hook-up wire.

The operation of the coupler is simplicity itself. After rough-tuning the transmitter, RF energy is fed in through an SWR bridge (a necessity) and the variable capacitor is swung through its full range for each switch position in turn until the unique combination yielding the lowest indicated SWR is found. The power amplifier is now tuned more precisely; since the coupler and transmitter loading adjustments interact somewhat, a little juggling is required.

In closing, it should be noted that while the small toroid used will cope quite nicely with SSB (due to the inherently low duty factor), prolonged operation in "tune" will result in strange crackling noises and the emission of rather unpleasant combustion products. It is also suggested, although no trials have been carried out, that this coupler is not suitable for use with 2 kilowatt PEP linears. If these two points are kept in mind, the antenna tuner described herein could turn out to be one of your more useful homebrew projects.

