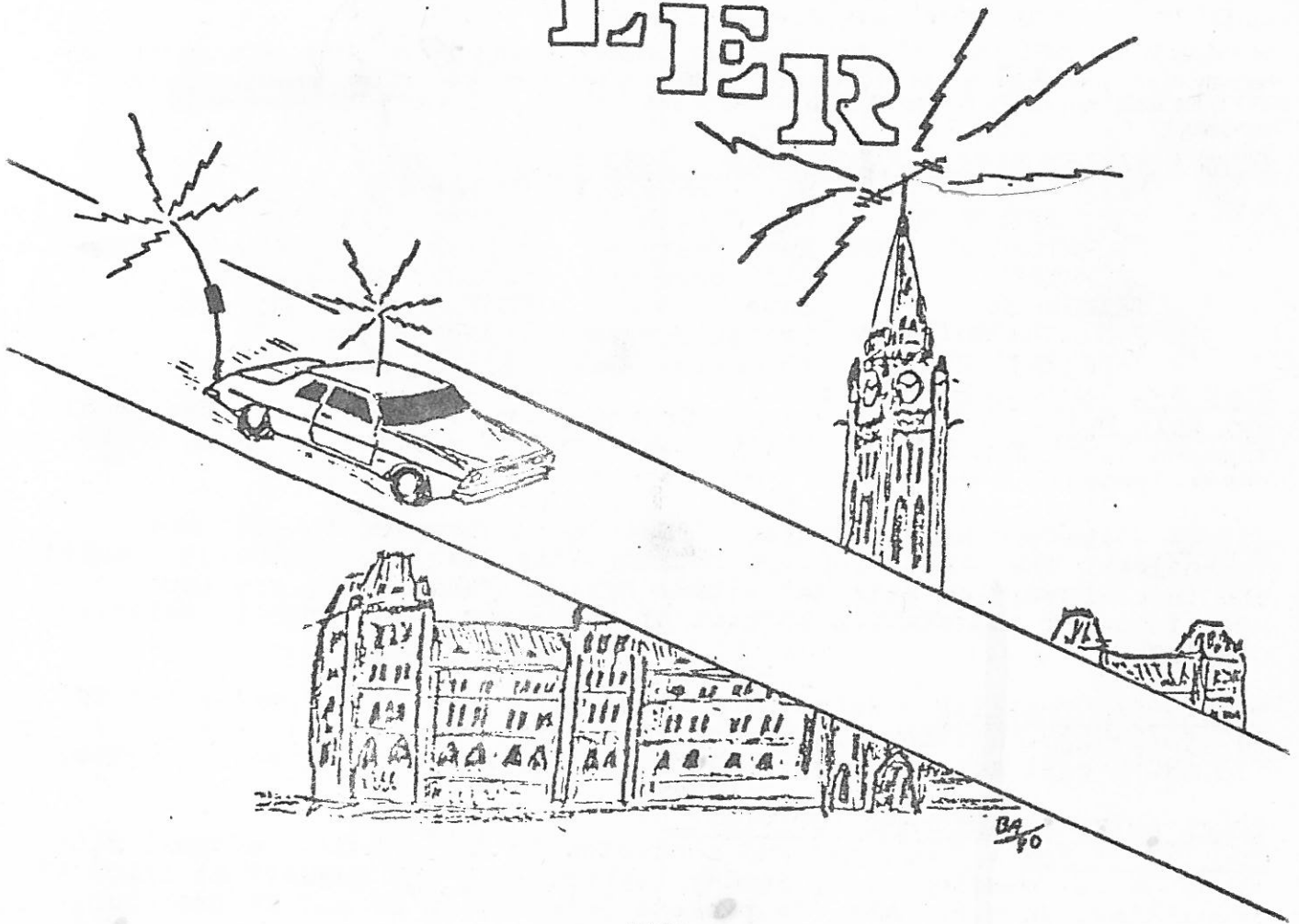


# RAMBLER

OVMRC's

MAR. 1980



C.A.R.F.  
R.S.O.  
C.R.R.L.

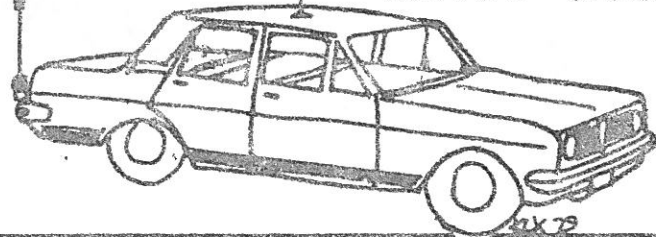


VE3RAM  
VE3JW  
VE3TWO

# OVMRC's RAMBLER

PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED BY  
The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.,  
P.O. BOX 5530, STN F,  
OTTAWA, Ontario K2C 3M1 CANADA

VE3RAM CARF  
VE3JW RSO  
VE3TWO CRRL



ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED.

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur Radio. Regular club meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month (except July and August) at 8:00pm unless otherwise posted. Meetings will normally take place in the auditorium of The National Museum of Science and Technology on St Laurent Blvd (South of the Queensway).

## OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB - 1980 - EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Mike Shacklock	VE3LAR	523-1571
VICE PRESIDENT	Ray Perrin	VE3FN	828-9235
TECHNICAL ADVISER	Russ Pastuch	VE3FSN	521-7994
SECRETARY	Barb Bareham	VE3AHV	523-4246
TREASURER	Dave Coutts	VE3KLX	829-2537
P.R. CO-ORDINATOR	George Morgan	VE3JQW	731-4829
PAST PRESIDENT	Tom Hayes	VE3ABC	822-2811

## CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES:

Pot Hole Net - OVMRC Net - every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 AM, local time on 3.760 MHz SSB. All Radio Amateurs are welcome to check in and participate.

VE3 JW - Amateur Radio Station of National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC, Inc., maintains this station, schedules operation and in co-operation with the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, provides operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display.

Monitoring Facility - Barb VE3 AHV monitors the club repeater VE3 TWO 147.90/147.30. Stations requiring assistance are asked to repeat VE3 AHV'S call several times, then wait for a minute or so for a reply.  
\*\*\*\*

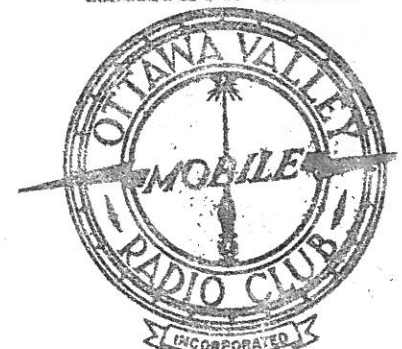
## LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NET ACTIVITIES:

Pot Lid CW Net - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3 GX- Informal slow speed CW net meeting every Sunday (except July and August) at 11:00 AM, local time, on 3.620 MHz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedure.

Capital City FM Net - Sponsored and operated by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, meeting every Monday at 20:00 (local time) on VE2 CRA repeater 146.34/146.94.

Swap Net - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. Meets every Sunday (except July and August) as part of the Pot Hole Net and every Monday as part of the Capital City FM Net. Inquiries: Ed, 733-1721.

AMATEUR RADIO



OTTAWA, ONTARIO

March 1980

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES- FEB 80 - The meeting commenced at 2005 hrs with approx 30 in attendance. The Pres welcomed 3FLT, 3EWE, 3JSO and Gord Laird. It was motioned by 3FHC and seconded by 3GG that the Jan gen minutes be adopted as read. ... CARRIED. OLD BUS - The Pres stated that the printing quality of the Rambler was due to a "gremlin" in the typewriter and not in the copier. On behalf of 3ABC, the Pres advised that the Snowarama was cancelled due to lack of snow. The members were advised that a Spring Auction chairman was required and a place to hold it. He asked members to come up with ideas and mentioned that the United Church hall in Bells Corners may be worth looking at. A chairman for "Meters for Millions" is needed -- 3GYP has volunteered to help whoever volunteers. Field Day was discussed and it was stated that 3JLP and his son 3JL<sub>w</sub> will act as co-ordinators. Members were asked to contact them if they wish to volunteer. The need for a monitor on 3TWO was discussed and 3J<sub>w</sub> stated that to his knowledge there had been no objection to the cancellation of the service. The Pres stated that an amendment will be published in the next Rambler. The Pres reminded everyone of the Wed evening net at 2100 hrs. COMMITTEE REPORTS - Treas stated cash on hand in bank is \$193.93; total of 38 members (2 life, 3 family, 3 associate, 29 full and 1 DX); advised the members that everyone who has paid their dues should have their membership cards by now. He is still accepting dues by mail. DEADLINE IS 31 MAR 80 !!! TECH - Russ was pleased that the repeater is now working well due to the antenna location. He is still looking for ideas for the RAMBLER and commented on the Club Project. PR - George advised that there have been a total of 26 check-ins on the new 2M net. He indicated that there is still no insurance for the antenna which will soon be located on the EMR bldg. He also expressed an urgent need for volunteers to operate the Pot hole Net. EDITOR - Bob urged members to send contributions to him and that the new RAMBLER cover is still being worked on. NEW BUS - The Pres asked for a motion to adopt the amendment to the Constitution to include the RAMBLER Editor as a member of the Executive. It was moved by 3BDO and seconded by 3CCT... CARRIED. The Pres advised of a letter received from 3KLK referring to COMSONT. The letter was read to the members and Bob was asked to give a brief explanation of how COMSONT operated. It was proposed that a letter be sent in reply stating the OVMRC's willingness to support COMSONT. A motion to this effect was made by 3LAR and seconded by 3JQW.... CARRIED. It was brought to the attention of the members that there has been some objection to the City of Nepean's bylaws concerning the erection of towers and antennas. Ray (3FN) is looking into the matter and any interested hams should contact him during the week of 25 Feb. 3JQW has agreed to coordinate any club action regarding the AnRL's idea to lower the bottom end of the US 20m phone band. In response to a suggestion from 3JLP, a few magazines were on display at the front of the room. These are to form the start of a magazine exchange between members. This was followed by a discussion on whether or not to sponsor an Amateur Radio Course. Many aspects were covered and any interested hams were advised to contact 3FSN. 3GYP and 3JQW have expressed a willingness to support this venture. The possibility of a winter social activity for the club was mentioned but due to lack of snow, this doesn't seem feasible at this time. The Pres stated that there is a need for someone experienced in insurance matters to look into the matter of coverage for 3TWO and other club equipment. A suggestion was made to contact the OARC as they have recently done this. The Pres will check this out. PROGRAM - 3J<sub>w</sub> announced that the guest speaker was Dr Murray Strome (3JSO). Dr Strome gave an excellent talk and slide display on Satellite and Radio Communications as used by the Dept of Energy, Mines and Resources.

ADJOURNMENT- The meeting adjourned at 2158 hrs with a motion by 3FHC and seconded by 3JCM... CARRIED. Next Gen meeting - 2000 hrs 20 Mar 80 at the S&T Museum. Next weeks program will be a SSTV demo by 3FSN and 3LAR.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

With a bit of luck, this issue of the RAMBLER has a new appearance with it's new cover. The cover design relates closely to the location of the club with its depiction of the Parliament Buildings, suitably decorated with a discrete antenna. The club's Mobile status is also evident. Credit for development of the design goes to Brian Abra, who has obvious artistic abilities but unfortunately has not fallen under the spell of Amateur Radio. In choosing the design, thought was given to economy and durability. We wanted a cover that would withstand the tests of time, and not need to be redeveloped at too frequent intervals. Meeting the latter criteria makes it possible to produce in quantity, and in advance with a resultant saving in costs. This is the first step in escaping to greater things.

As mentioned in the minutes of the last general meeting, the membership, in attendance, approved the association of this club with COMSONT, to provide a local, mobile arm to that organization which was developed by the Emergency Measures Organization as a province wide communication facility. In the event of a serious emergency, in this area COMSONT would call upon OVMRC for local back-up communications between EMO and such centres as Police - Fire - City Hall - Red Cross - and of course major evacuation centres. Let us hope the call will never need to be made, but if it is, let us be ready. To set minds at rest, there is no thought of COMSONT displacing or clashing with other emergency nets. In a real emergency there is room for more than can be easily provided. It only needs to be controlled and this is what EMO has in mind.

COMSONT activates its net three times weekly for a brief check lasting less than an hour. It operates Monday, Thursday and Saturday at 1500Z (1000 EST) on 7195 KHZ, plus or minus and backup frequencies (if necessary) of 7155 KHz and 3775 KHz.

8

-Editor

BY-LAWS - A reading of paragraph 8 of the club's By-Laws and experience gained during the last election of officers, suggests that more precise TERMS OF REFERENCE should be developed for the guidance of the nominating committee. No criticism is made of past nominating committees who have abided by the instructions now in the By-Laws. Of concern, is that by putting forth a slate comprised of only one candidate for each executive position, and assuming no challenge from the floor, the committee has in effect chosen the executive and the process of the subsequent election is a "rubber stamp" activity. The present executive has this matter under review and hopes to have a solution before the need to appoint a new nominating committee next fall. Any suggestions from club members would be welcomed.

NEW FRONT COVER - In order not to waste already printed stock, the material printed on the back of the front cover is the same as the cover of the last issue. The April issue will incorporate the final change to the appearance of the RAMBLER.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION - In accordance with Article 7, due notice is hereby given of the cancellation of the monitoring service described in Article 2 Paragraph 5 and the intent to amend the Constitution by the deletion of said paragraph 5 from the Constitution and the renumbering of paragraphs 6,7 and 8 to read 5, 6 and 7.

PREZ SEZ

Rather an omnipotent title eh!

If you attended the last meeting you heard me read the letter we received from Bob Campbell VE3KLLK, the Eastern Region Controller for Communications Ontario (COMSONT). Bob also gave a little talk on the purpose of COMSONT. Briefly, COMSONT would like to be able to have a file of the names of a group of Amateurs, who could form a 2 metre extension or "rear link" in the Ottawa area, to the 40 metre Ontario net. It was my opinion and indeed of all those who attended the last meeting, that the OVMRC could serve as this 2 metre facility. I will be sending a letter back to Bob advising him of our willingness to assist COMSONT.

For the time being I will act as an overall coordinator for the OVMRC's activity in COMSONT. This however should not be interpreted to mean that to be a member or participant in COMSONT you must deal through me. No -- rather if you as a member of the OVMRC would be willing and capable of providing some 2 metre support of COMSONT I would like to register your possible involvement. I will have set up at the next and future meetings, a register that I would like members to complete (name and call). The basic things I would like to note would be:- times available, whether you have auxillary power, types of 2 metre gear and your antenna complement.

Well, that's my first effort at an article, like Russ, I hope to be able to keep it up in the future.

- The Prez

TREASURER'S CHEST

There are 50 members as of 28 Feb 80. This includes 2 new members 2BXP Bill Proctor and 3KEH Teddy Paull. This is a good sign! The big deadline is 31 Mar 80. So if you aren't on the band wagon yet, climb aboard. Applications are attached to this issue. I would appreciate it if you would submit an application with your dues so that I don't have to dig through last year's files to find information which is either incorrect or out dated. I am looking for someone to play acting Treasurer for the auction. Anyone interested can talk to me on the club repeater or on the telephone (829-2537). Remember the "Wise Owl Net" which I control on Wed nites from 2100 - 2200. If anyone is interested in being the control station after 2200, please approach me and I am sure we can make an agreement. Keep those cards and letters coming in! Thank you for your support to date.

- Treas

FROM THE PR DESK

It is interesting, in light of our discussions at the last meeting, that the Algoma Amateur Radio Club is also considering becoming involved in the Communications Ontario Net. We will learn more of what they plan to do after their March meeting.

As one of the purposes of our club is to provide assistance in times of emergency, COMSONT appears to be an effective way to link Amateur groups throughout the province in an emergency network, and is worthy of our active support.

An item in the York North Splatter raises some interesting possibilities. Apparently the Ontario Government, through the Minister of Culture and Recreation (and out of Wintario funds) has given the York North Amateur Radio Club a financial grant to assist in the purchase of Amateur radio equipment

for recreational purposes.

That the possibility of obtaining such financial assistance exists should be kept in mind in case a need arises in the future.

In case you have not heard about CBC plans for using its new slot in the 3950 - 4000 KHz segment of the Amateur band, the following from CARF News Service might be of interest:

"The CBC plans to use one or possibly two frequencies ... for its Sackville, N.B., transmitters. The starting date, which could be as early as June, 1981, depends on the completion of a new curtain array beamed to the Northwest. The new facilities, which will put out 250KW AM signals, are designed to augment those already serving the Canadian North with programs in English, French, Cree and Inuit. Bandspread will be eight KHz.... The broadcasts will certainly be readable in the Northeastern states and possibly as far south as Florida."

The Wise Owl Net, which meets each Wednesday evening at 2100 hrs on repeater VE3TWO, is doing well. So far, a total of 26 different stations have checked in, and we have a solid core of regulars. It appears that our feeling that a mid-week 2 meter evening net was wanted was correct, and our thanks go out to Dave, VE3KLX, who has accepted responsibility for this net.

We could extend this net to other evenings if there is enough support. Bill VE3BDO, has offered to look after Tuesday evenings, and I am willing to look after Monday evenings.

If you are interested in extending the net to other evenings, let us know.

Mike, VE3KMG, tells us that "The Ladies' Great Ride For Cancer," sponsored by the Canadian Cancer Society, will take place on Sunday, 1 June. This bicycle ride will leave the Lincoln Fields shopping centre, travel along the parkway to the Old Mill, and then return by the same route.

Mike is looking for volunteers to man some 6 to 8 checkpoints along the way and to provide a communications network. If you would like to help out for a few hours, get in touch with either Mike or myself.

Jim, VE3GAG, in Glenburnie, is looking for names, callsigns and QTH's of retired Signal Corps personnel. If you send the information via the club address, we will see that it is sent on to Jim.

- Your PR Offr knows it all

LETTER TO THE EDITOR - "I would just like to point out something that should be included on the first page of the RAMBLER. That is, the volume, issue, month and year. Without at least the month it makes it difficult to file issues as one has to look inside to determine this. Also, on the February issue, no volume or issue number appeared. Please do not forget these items as they are important. Otherwise, I enjoy reading the contents.

Ed Kipp VE3KLP

(Sorry about missing those items in the February issue. We also noted the lapse. We fear however that this information, in the over-riding interests of economy, will not appear on the new cover. We will however ensure that it appears at the top of page 2, immediately above the minutes of the last meeting and if we can resolve the cost factor, will move it to the front cover. -- Editor )

TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

It appears as though this should be a reasonably busy column for the next couple of months. This month's major item will be a description of the club 13.8 volt DC supply. I'll present most of the goodies this month, and conclude next month with showing how it can be turned into a variable supply.

First however - - -

VE3JW- The station at the museum is still working well. My only comment, not trying to veer into George's (JQW) territory, is that the station is manned only during Saturday and Sunday. The rest of the week it's free, so ... if you want to operate, come on out. The equipment is there and free for the using. If you're griping because of living in an apartment, here's your chance to operate 1000 W with a beam.

VE3TWO- The repeater is working well. However, a problem seems to have appeared in the time-out timer. If the club was awarding time-out awards, we'd go broke on postage. The timing interval is very erratic, and varies from two to four minutes. I've located the problem and should have it solved shortly.

Club Project - The supply has been prototyped and tested. I had hoped to have the unit at the February meeting, but the transformer hasn't shown up yet. However, I think it will be a super supply when finished. With any luck, I'll have it at the March meeting.

If you're interested, let me know. The number of interested parties will determine whether I actually buy parts for so-many supplies or only publish the plans. Let's see some spirit!

No matter your interest in Amateur radio, you're certain to have some twelve volt gear or equipment around the shack. Whether as fancy as a 10 GHz gunplexer or as mundain as a 2 meter mobile, it all has to be powered somehow.

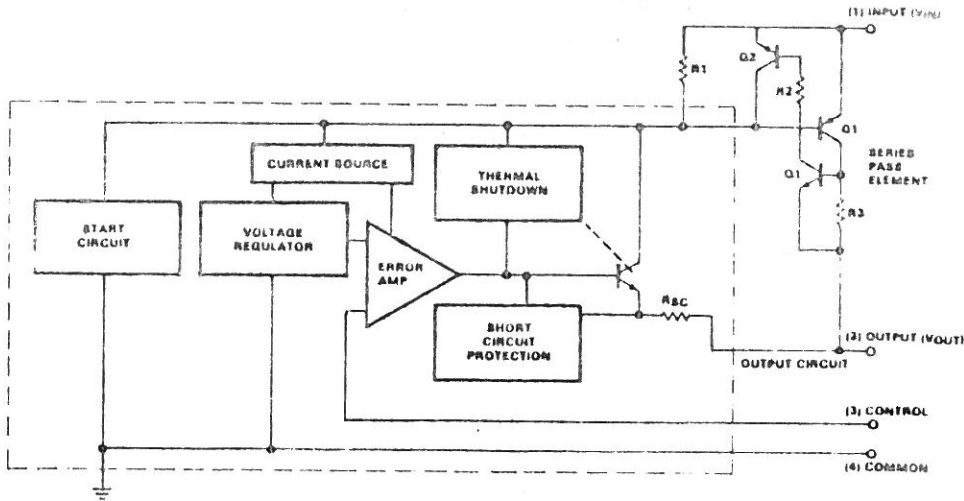
While a good old solution is a 12 volt car/motorcycle battery, between the acid and constant cleaning and filling, this solution leaves much to be desired. The obvious solution is a 13.8 volt supply.

Now, I can hear the screaming about the fact you don't own enough gold to pay for it or that the super chip is available only from Grub's supply in Dawson. This supply is not only inexpensive - under \$40 Can; the parts are readily available, all in Ottawa.

The  $\mu$ A78HG is a 4 pin, TO-3 package, IC that has recently appeared on the market. This unit, manufactured by Fairchild, contains almost all components required to construct a DC supply. The IC is a hybrid regulator with a 5 amp continuous output rating. The 5 amp figure may be surprising as most supplies require hefty 2N3055 pass transistors. The beauty of this unit is that the pass transistors are part of the regulator therefore, less muss, less fuss and fewer interconnections. The  $\mu$ A78HG has other comforting characteristics such as thermal overload, short circuit and safe-area protection. Translated into english means that it is almost impossible to destroy. Any increase in load above 5 amps causes it to shut-down, reducing voltage to zero. If the beast overheats due to poor heatsink design or excess continuous power load, it shuts down. This particular beast is so tough as to tolerate a short circuit without re-diffusing itself all over the inside of its case.

The regulator consists of a monolithic chip driving a discrete series pass element and two short-circuit detection transistors. A beryllium-oxide substrate is used to optimize the thermal characteristics of the device. If the safe operating area of the device is ever exceeded, the device simply shuts down, rather than failing or damaging other components or external equipment. This feature eliminates the need to design costly output circuitry, over-conservative heat sinks and protection circuitry for the supply.

BLOCK DIAGRAM - 78HG

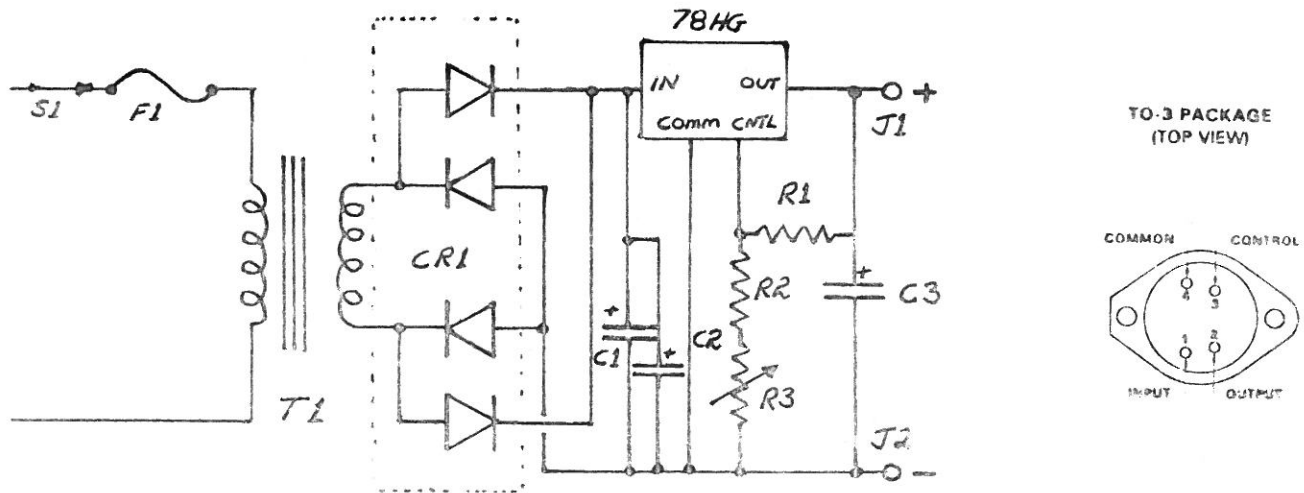


Performance - The output regulation has been shown to be better than .1 volt drop from no load to 5 amp load. This is accompanied with an output that contains less than 50 mv ripple.

Combine the IC with a suitable source of raw DC, transformer/diodes/capacitor and you have a supply. The only other electronic components required are two tantalum capacitors, for regulation improvement; and two resistors and a pot, for setting output voltage. This component count is impossible to beat with the old standby, the 723 regulator and 2N3055 pass transistor design.

What you end up with is a very versatile supply that is capable of 5 amp continuous output, excellent regulation, negligible ripple, low cost and minimal parts count. And maybe best of all, you can say "I built this."  
Circuit-

SCHEMATIC OF THE 13.8 VOLT, 5 AMP SUPPLY



The power transformer T1 is an 18 volt, 5 amp unit. It provides the diode bridge with the AC voltage required. T1 is fused on the primary side for safety. The bridge rectifier is a single unit rated at 10 amps at 100 PIV. The pulsating DC output from the bridge is filtered by a 5000 ufd, 40 volt electrolytic capacitor.

The output is applied to the input of the 78HG regulator. The output level is controlled by the divider formed by R1, R2 and R3. The output is then fed to a pair of five way finding posts. The tantalum capacitors ensure stable operation and improve transient response of the circuit. (note::: I found out that they really are necessary ! !)



Construction - As the majority of the circuitry is inside the voltage regulator IC, external components are minimal in number. This means no printed circuit board and easy point-to-point construction. The transformer, bridge rectifier and capacitor are secured to your chassis cabinet, etc. The heatsink is drilled to accept the four-leaded TO-3 case. The IC is smeared with silicon grease and firmly fastened to it. The case is at ground potential, so no mica washers are required. The remaining components can be wired on a pair of terminal strips. The supply can really be considered a one evening project.

Part list

- C1 - 5000 µfd, 40 volt electrolytic
- C2,C3 -1 µfd, 35 volt tantalum
- CR1 - 100 PIV, 10 amp
- F1 - 1 amp fuse
- FH1 - fuse holder
- HS1 - heatsink
- IC1 - 78HG
- J1,J2- binding posts
- R1 - 4.7K,  $\frac{1}{4}$  watt
- R2 - 2.7K,  $\frac{1}{4}$  watt
- R3 - 2K trim pot, 1/8 watt
- T1 - 18 volt, 5 amp
- S1 - SPST switch

Testing and adjustment - The power can now be applied and the circuit set for 13.8 volts DC. Carefully feel the transformer, bridge and IC for signs of overheating. These components should be cold under no-load conditions. A voltmeter connected to the output should show an output between approx 10 and 15 volts. Carefully set R3 for an output of 13.8 volts. (Remember: 12 volt mobile electrical systems are really 13.8 volts and this is what you want. The additional 1.8 volts can make quite a difference in the power output of a 2 meter mobile).

\*\*\*\*\* Concluded next month \*\*\*\*\* Concluded next month \*\*\*\*\*

Before I sign for this month, a peek at next month:

- a. conclusion of power supply (variable too!)
- b. simple mobile charger for Yaesu FT-207R
- c. increase the low power setting on FT-207R's to 1 watt
- d. guest article ..... by YOU

In closing, if you must destroy something, make sure your local parts emporium is still open.

Until next month, from the Buzzard's Roost.

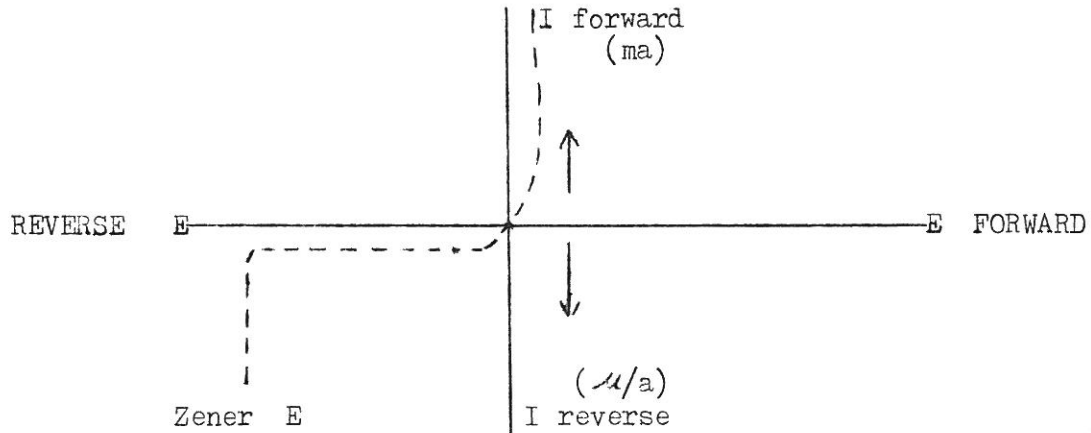
de Tech Advisor

THE LOWLY LITTLE DIODE - MIGHTY BIG PERFORMER

If you remember radios before the days of solid state, one of the biggest power eaters in the set was a type 80 tube, or equivalent, (power supply rectifier). It required 5 volts at 2 amps on the filament (10 watts) not to mention the voltage drop between the filament and the plate and resultant power loss.

The little germanium or silicon diode now in general use can handle  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 amp with less than 1 volt drop in the forward direction, or less than 1 watt dissipation, and in the reverse direction, less than 50 micro-amps of current flows; a small fraction of a watt for 110 volt power supply.

We usually think of a diode idealistically as either a short circuit in the forward direction and as an open circuit in the reverse polarity. If you measure some diodes, you will note first, that germanium diodes do not conduct significantly until .1 to .25 volts are applied after which the voltage drop remains almost constant regardless of the current it passes. It also has an extremely low current when reverse polarity voltage is applied.



Silicon diodes require .4 to .7 volts to provide significant current flow. These voltages are often referred to as the junction potential barrier.

Anytime a diode is used, the junction potential voltage should be recognized as existing and that it will effect the signal action, particularly in RF detection such as is used to develop AGC voltage, AM detection, RF meter rectifiers etc. In some cases, this barrier potential can be overcome by applying a positive bias voltage, equal to, or slightly less than the junction barrier potential.

This characteristic of the diode is also used as a limiter or regulator. Diodes may be used in series to develop a particular voltage drop such as the development of a particular regulated bias voltage. A limited, or controlled maximum AC voltage can be obtained by using two diodes connected in opposite polarities. In this case the junction barrier potential voltage limits the amplitude of each half cycle. To increase the level of limiting, 4 diodes may be connected in parallel-series. This is recommended to be connected across the land line input/output of a phone patch to protect against high voltage transients entering the Bell system's cables.

(A note on Zener diodes and capacitive diodes will follow)

- Merv VE3CV

20M BEACON - Comments on the Pot Hole Net recently made me realize that some of our members don't take QST and other perhaps take it but don't read it thoroughly. If so you missed an article in the January issue on a most useful service which is now available on 14.100 MHz from a beacon on Stanford university campus near San Francisco. It's much more elaborate than the beacons you have all probably used on 10M and can be thought of as a powerful radiating signal generator, carefully calibrated. The details are as follows:

Frequency: 14.100 MHz  
Time: XX00, XX15, XX30, XX45 (where XX = the even hour)

Text:

"QST QST de  
WB6ZNL Beacon

preamble at 100 W

9 secs dash at 100 W

.. _____	9 secs dash at 10 W
... _____	9 secs dash at 1 W
.... _____	9 secs dash at 0.1 W
..... _____	9 secs dash at 0.01 W
73 SK WB6ZNL "	sign-off at 100 W

The frequency is very accurately controlled so you can check your xtal calibrator against it. The transmission starts exactly on time - within half a second by my check - so you can use the start to set your clock. The total sequence lasts 75 seconds then the beacon closes down till the next sequence starts in just under 14 minutes.

Its most useful feature is the series of 9 second dashes transmitted in 10 db steps from 100 watts to 10 milli watts. These can be used to check your "S" meter, compare antennas or else as an indication of your stations overall sensitivity. I find on a good evening I can just detect the 10 m Watt signal which says something about the potential for QRP on the HF bands !

You will only find the beacon when the band is open to the West Coast. It's not very strong, even at its 100 watt level, as it uses an omni directional antenna. Since it's only on for 75 seconds, you need to be right on frequency or you will miss the start of the transmission - at least the first time anyway.

There are long term plans to add a long dash to allow beam patterns to be plotted but that's for the future. Meanwhile, if you think you have a hot receiver - antenna combination, why not challenge a rival to see whose station is the most sensitive on the band fade-out or comes in one evening ?

- Paul VE3JLP

QSL's RECEIVED BY STATION VE3JW FOR JANUARY 1980

	<u>Canadian (6)</u>	
	Brampton, Man	Sackville, NB
	Barabey, BC	Sarnia, Ont
	Ottawa, Ont	St Catherines, Ont
	<u>USA (12)</u>	<u>Foreign (10)</u>
Allentown, PA	Burlington IND	Mexico
Sacramento, CA	Cleveland OH	S Africa
San Antonio, TX	- Jet Propulsion lab	Germany (2)
Worthington MINN	at Cal Inst of Tech	Portugal
Meriden, CONN	Pasadena, CAL	Australia
Bertoud, COL		Czechoslovakia
Ocean View, NJ		France
Ruffin, NC		England
Jacksonville FLA		Costa Rica

CLUB RAMBLINGS

1980 Call books- We have been informed that the Ottawa Public Library, 120 Metcalfe Street, now has 1980 call books in the reference section on the second floor. The person manning the desk in that section will make them available, on request.

Spring Auction - Efforts are being made to decide a location in which to hold the spring auction. On occasion the large building with the clock tower, shown on the front cover of this issue, seems to have frequent periods of vacancy. One wonders .....!

CLUB ACTIVITY - In the February issue of the RAMBLER, a letter was published suggesting a "winter activity" to complement the summer Bar-B-Q. Members interested in this idea and who have ideas of the form the activity could take should phone George (3JQW) at 731-4829. From the appearance of the thermometer and the great outdoors, it seems as though we have a bit of winter left.

BELL CHANGES EXCHANGES- If you call any numbers in the 825 exchange after 8 March, better double check the number. Ma Bell has converted our district over to the 226 exchange. Your typist (3FHC) can now be reached at 226-7070.

AMATEUR RADIO COURSE - The RAMBLER erred in suggesting, in the February issue, that prospective students should be ready for the DOC exams THREE MONTHS AGO. Pardon our slip and for January 1980 please read 1981 as the earliest target date practicable. Five potential instructors have offered their services, but at least one more is needed to spread the workload equitably and to ensure success for this venture. Phone George (3JQW) or Russ (3FSN) if you can help.

HINTS AND KINKS - Everyone has heard about the effectiveness of putting small radio parts ie; grimy CW bugs of uncertain age, through the dishwasher with a load of dishes. Doing this removes grime and grime from inaccessible crannies and restores the item to near mint condition. But did you know that you can give the same treatment to old and grimy radio chassis with excellent results? Remove all tubes for separate cleaning and in the case of really elderly equipment, remove paper cone speakers, cloth insulated line cords, non-metallic cabinetry and any bakelite plates that would impede drying. Run the set through the wash cycle only. It is suggested that you do not do so when the washer is full of dishes. Dishes develop a strange habit of objecting. Allow to dry for a couple of days and then go to work on a clean item. It really works!

TESTIMONIAL DINNER - for Bob Eaton (Pres of IARU) being held on Mark Twain showboat Mississauga Sat 10 May. Cost \$20/person. Info contact Gord Steane (3BMG) 211 Kirk Dr. Ancroehill Ont L3T 1C7.

BAND OPERATION CHANGES - 902 - 928 MHz is now open for A3 and F3 only.  
420 - 430 MHz has been lost to us. Phone is now ok on 40 M (7050 - 7100 KHz).

NAIROBI NEWS - Rob Bareham reports that after a spot of on again/off again problems with the Kenya licensing authorities, he now has his permanent licence -- it's still 5Z4YW. The drought or dry season is almost over and the rainy season approaches. When the rains come he will be unable to transmit on 10, 15, or 20 meters because of flooded traps and deteriorating coax. The rains usually last anywhere up to ninety days after which he will probably be back with us as strong as ever.

40 METER CHANGE - On February 28, the outgoing Minister of Communications signed the ministerial certificate which opened to phone traffic the portion of the 40 meter band lying between 7.050 and 7.100 MHz. This is of particular interest to DX operators as already some very interesting evening DX has been worked. The announcement went out over all the various nets that evening and also was reported on the W1AW bulletin. By Friday evening, enthusiasts were reporting good contacts with VK7 and Lord Howe Island (VK2). Also, certificate Amateurs with schedule 5 endorsements can now operate phone in the 160 meter band subject, of course, to all the restrictions applicable to that band.

We thought it might be a good idea to keep Club members up to date on the planning for the Club's major annual event, the ARRL Field Day, so if we can manage it there will be a short column on this subject in the next three issues.

First a few general comments. The dates to remember are the 28th and 29 of June. We need lots of operators, both phone and CW. For those new members who have not taken part in field day before may we strongly suggest you drop out to the site, for a few hours anyway. The operating techniques can be picked up quite quickly, we'll put you on logging contacts for the first hour and that will be all the exposure you'll need before you take over the mic or the key for the second hour. Yes, we said "KEY"! If your fist is a bit rusty we can fit you into some quiet hours, during the night, and with the help of your logger you'll be surprised how many contacts you can make as the exchanges are, basically, very simple.

We wonder if any club members can produce a vacation or tent trailer to be used as an operating point? Mike can and will produce the DND tents we need them but the trailers are just that bit more comfortable - are usually bug proof and also easier to heat if we get cold weather.....remember last year? Anyway let us know if you can beg, borrow or steal one for the weekend.

The site will be the same as last year and we will put a map in the Rambler and have a talk-in to make sure nobody gets lost.

We have a number of ideas to make the weekend enjoyable for the XYL and harmonics- details on these in a later issue- so plan to bring them along.

See you on Field Day!

73's Paul and Bob Cooper  
VE3JLP VE3JLQ  
821-2167

LIGHTNING ARRESTER - a very fast policeman

MIXER - used in alcoholic beverages

OHM - house in England

RESISTOR - someone who doesn't want to be arrested

TRANSIENT VOLTS - found in old box cars

Doreen and Ed Morgan,  
VE3CGO & VE3GX  
755 Hamlet Road,  
OTTAWA, Ontario.  
K1G 1P7

AMATEUR RADIO  
OTTAWA LATTE  
RADIO CLUB  
P.O. BOX 5530  
STA. "F"  
K2C 3M1  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO

