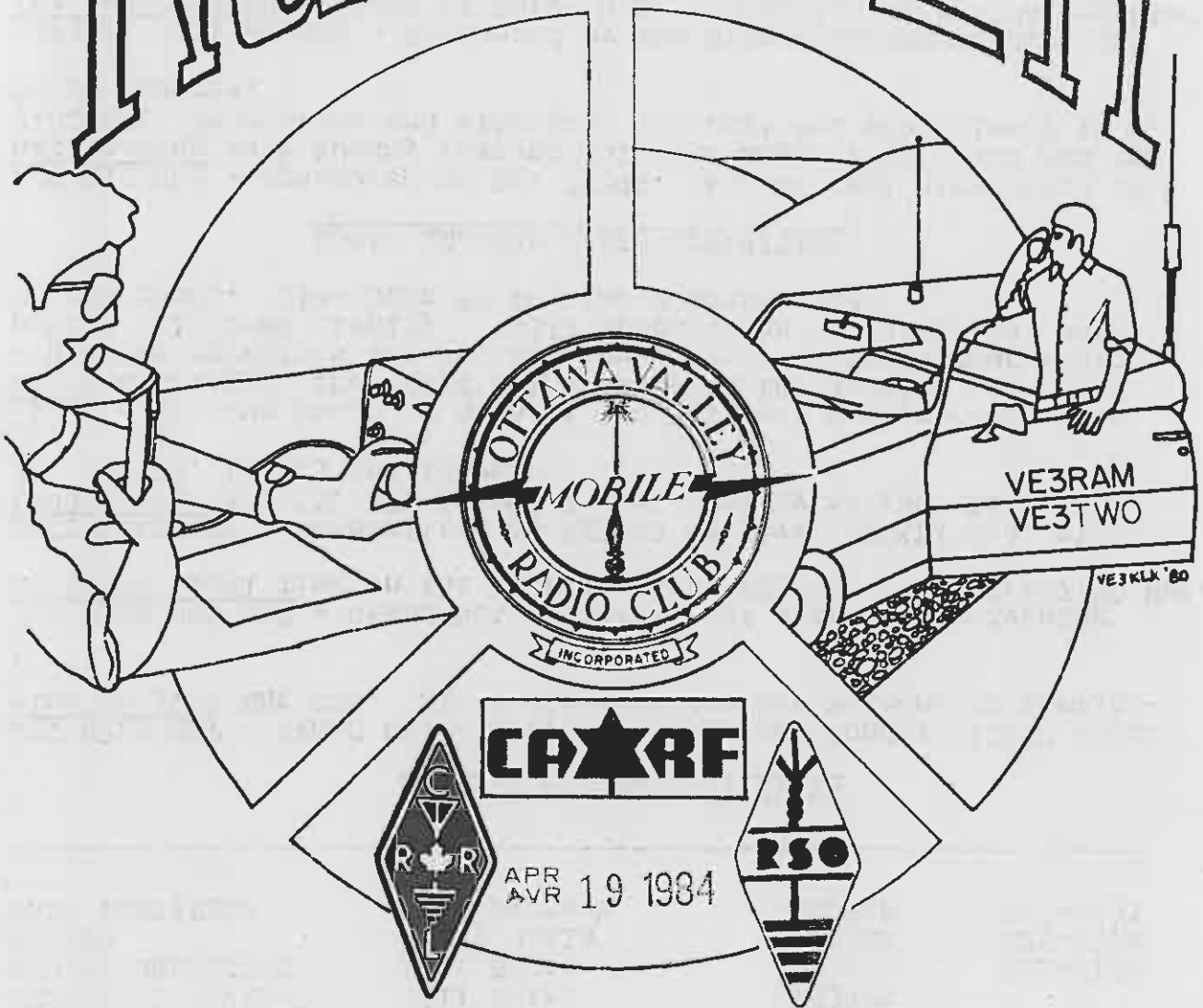


# RÄMBLER



THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1983-1984 EXECUTIVE

VE3KIX	Dave Courts	PRESIDENT
VE3KJQ	Fat Brewer	VICE PRESIDENT
VE3KIK	Bob Campbell	SECRETARY
VE3OAO	Vance Johnson	TREASURER
VE3NPG	Bill Balke	TECHNICAL ADVISOR
VE3JNH	Alan Boyce	PUBLIC RELATIONS
VE3GDS	Jerry Wells	EDITOR
VE3FSN	Russ Pastuch	PAST PRESIDENT
829-2537		
824-9555		
729-7536		
725-1528		
722-8130		
225-7374		
828-9235		

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 local time on 3.76 MHz SSB. All radio amateurs are welcome to participate.

THE WISE OWL NET - OVMRC Net - Ragchew net each Friday Evening at 20:00 local time on the club repeater VE3TWO - 147.30/147.90 MHz. CODE PRACTICE - Transmitted on VE3TWO by Dave, VE3KIX Wed. at 1900 local, 18, 15, 13, 10 and 7 wpm. Friday at 1900 local 40, 30, 25, 20, 18, 15 and 13 wpm.

VE3JW - Amateur Radio Station of the National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC helps maintain the station and schedules operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display. VE3JW operates on all HF Bands, both CW and phone. Slow scan TV is also demonstrated.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES

POT LID NET - Sponsored by Ed, VE3GX. An informal slow speed CW net meeting each Sunday (except July and August) at 10:00 Hrs on 3.62 MHz, to provide and stimulate interest and proficiency in CW procedures.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday night at 20:00 Hrs. Conducted on VE2GRA repeater 146.94/146.34.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX, each Sunday as a part of the Pot Hole Net and each Monday as a part of the Capital City FM Net (except July and August). Ed may be reached at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur Radio. Regular meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 20:00 Hrs unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd. (south of the Queensway)

CHIEF BRIEF

Spring has sprung, the snow has rizz. Oh well, if we all think nice thoughts maybe it will melt and move to Florida.

Some upcoming things that you should know about. Operation Horsepeople is coming up June 16, 17. Fiddler's Green will happen on May 27. Further details are forthcoming.

Jim Cummings, VE3JPC, is looking for people interested in getting going with Packet Radio. There is a kit available from the U.S. which possibly if bought in bulk might help to reduce the cost. In other words, the more the merrier. If you would like to know more about Packet Radio, give Jim a call and he will be able to furnish you with further details.

Well it's time to go to the far East end of the galactic spiral arm and set course for Orleans to yet another OVMRC executive meeting at Vance's, VE3OAO. I think we'll have to rely on instruments since nobody has ever dared travel into the inner core of Orleans and we're not sure of the strange new world we're about to encounter.

See you at the April meeting.

73 De Dave, VE3KLX  
President

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V.P. VIEWS

The main event for this month is, of course, the annual OVMRC auction and flea market. This will be held on Saturday, April 14, 1984 at Canterbury High School. We will try to have the doors open shortly after 8:00 AM for the flea market sellers. Doors will open for everyone else at 9:00 AM. The auction will begin at noon. The flea market will remain open all day. Talk-in will be on VE3TWO.

The club will have its own flea market table, so if you have any items that you would like to donate to the club it would be appreciated. If you can't bring the items to the auction you can contact Jerry VE3CDS and leave them with him.

There is one important change in the auction this year. Sellers will be limited to ten items. This is to ensure that we are able to get through everyone before the 5:00 PM closing time. Last year we didn't really make it in time.

The canteen will be running all day as usual. The national organizations will be there as well as your favourite local distributors.

A final note. These things don't happen on their own. If you can, please help out on auction day. We now have 101 members available, so let's see you there!

Pat VE3KJQ

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CORRECTION

On the inside front cover please not the POT-LID NET is on 3.62 MHz at 11:00 A.M. every Sunday - not 10:00 A.M.

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated  
Consolidated Statement of Income and Expenses  
(unaudited)

	3rd Quarter, 29/12/83 to 29/3/84	Nine months 27/5/83 to 29/3/84
<u>Balance Forward:</u>		
Bank Balance	3115.46	2323.25
Petty Cash	21.93	13.32
TOTAL	3137.39	2336.57
<u>REVENUE:</u>		
Club Memberships	61.00	812.00
Amateur Radio Course		1175.00
Rambler Advertisement		15.00
Barbeque Admissions		43.50
Bank Interest	41.19	131.05
TOTAL	102.19	2176.55
<u>EXPENSES:</u>		
Rambler Printing Costs	35.58	346.71
Rambler Postage	80.00	217.60
Amateur Radio Course	400.00	1050.78
Social Activities		81.19
Post Office Box Rental		16.96
Flowers		33.17
Stationery		31.39
Shipping		8.24
Club 2m Mobile Xcvr	367.00	367.00
Auction Building Rental	66.66	66.66
TRN Donation	30.00	30.00
Radio Licence Fees	27.00	27.00
(Postage on above fees)	.32	.32
Bank Service Charges	1.54	4.62
TOTAL	1008.10	2281.64
Book Balance 29 Mar 84	2231.48	2231.48
Bank Balance 29 MAR 84	2209.37	
Petty Cash 29 MAR 84	21.61	
TOTAL	2231.48	

VANCE JOHNSON VE3OAO  
TREASURER

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NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held on April 19 at 2000 hrs.

Location; Museum of Science and Technology  
St Laurent Blvd.

Our speaker for the evening will be Bill Balke VE3NPG, Bill is going to talk to us on good operating procedures especially when providing communications for various types of events..... should be interesting.

Maybe we will be able to generate some interest in field day...  
THINK ABOUT IT

MINUTES OF THE OVRRC MEETING - MARCH 15/84

The meeting was called to order by the President, VE3KJQ, at 2005 hours.

The following guests were present: Mr. Ernie DeCoste and VE3JSE, John Mau.

The minutes of the previous regular meeting (Feb. 16/84) were approved on a motion by Bob, VE3NJI, seconded by Vance VE3OAO.

BUSINESS:

VE3KJQ, Pat spoke concerning the club auction (Sat. April 14). Flea market people will be admitted to the hall at about 8 AM. Flea market opens at 0900 - the auction to start at noon. Club must vacate the school at 1700. Flea market tables cost \$5.00 each. Donations for the club table can be given to VE3CDS, Jerry! "Talk-in" on VE3TWO by VE3JRR, Bucky.

VE3LAR requested reimbursement of expenditures involved in new RAMBLER covers. This expenditure was authorized.

VE3KJQ, Dave, spoke on the WISE OWL certificates. New certificates will be issued to newcomers and update stickers to past holders.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice President 3KJQ - reported membership at 99. Fees for remaining half year now \$5.00.

Treasurer, VE3OAO - reported current book balance as \$2320.38.

Public Relations - VE3LMH, introduced members of the 3JW committee and asked for volunteers to become members of the committee.

Secretary - reminded members that OVRRC will be handling the "Talk-in" for the coming RSO convention and asked for volunteers to serve brief shifts on the talk-in station.

Editor of RAMBLER - 3CDS spoke concerning the strong support given by his wife in the preparation of what has now become the best club publication in the field of Amateur Radio, in Eastern Canada, or should we say the continent?

Tech Advisor & Past President - Absent.

CARF - VE3NR spoke about the new TRC24 and asked what impact it had for the students in the amateur course run by the club. He also spoke at some length on the problem of antenna towers that were becoming popular targets for municipalities when making restrictive bylaws.

CRRL - VE3FN, also spoke on the tower problem and on the cable TV invasion of amateur frequencies in Vancouver. He also mentioned his particular interest in "weak signal VHF" operations.

RSO Convention - VE3LAR gave a current update on progress.

VE3JPC - spoke on the availability of computer RTTY equipment.

THE GUEST SPEAKER: VE3FN, Ray gave an interesting slide show on the activities of the CRRL.

The meeting was adjourned at 2130 on a motion by VE3GOG, seconded by VE3OFM.

The next executive meeting to be at the home of VE3OAO.

VE3KJQ - Secretary

QUA VE30AO

Since the printing of the OVMRC 2nd Quarter Financial Statement, I discovered an error in my recording for two of the accounts. I reported this immediately to our President, Dave, and he said not to worry about it. But as I am preparing to present the 3rd Quarter Report, I feel that someone out there, now or someday, will be comparing these reports and notice the discrepancy.

In posting the revenue from the Amateur Radio Course, I forgot to deduct the 3 club memberships from the student fees deposited October 21, 1983. This makes the revenue from the Radio Course \$30 poorer and the revenue from the Club Memberships \$30 richer. However, everything still adds up to the same totals.

So, if anyone would like to amend their copy of the January 1984 RAMBLER, here is how to correct the report: Under REVENUE:, Club Memberships, change the 292.00 to 322.00; change the 721.00 to 751.00. Amateur Radio Course, change 205.00 to 175.00; change the 1205.00 to 1175.00. And while you are at it, change the typo error on Barbeque Admissions from 43.00 to 43.50 (this was noted in the January OVMRC club meeting). All other figures remain the same.

Here is a summary of the Amateur Radio Course Account:

Total Student Fees	\$1347.00
Minus Club Memberships	212.00
	<hr/> 1135.00
Sale of Radio Course Materials	40.00
	<hr/> 1175.00
Minus Radio Course Expenses	1050.78
	<hr/> 124.22

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HELP WANTED

As most of you are aware The Mobile Club has agreed to provide talk-in for the R.S.O. Convention which is being held in Ottawa on Thanksgiving week end. The coordinator of this activity is none other than our own Bob Campbell, VE3KIK. Bob needs help... help in the form of good operators who know the city and know their way around the downtown area. Maps will be provided and guidance by Bob will be at hand. Let's make sure we provide the very best to our out of town visitors. Contact Bob at 729-7536 or at the Club meeting.....

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My latest report on VE3JW that a new 2m rig has been added along with a new 2m antenna. Work parties have been set up to rework the antennas at the museum and de bug the equipment. Looks as if things are going quite well. If you want to help operate and/or maintain the station call Alan. He'll be glad to hear from you.

A HAM BY ANY OTHER NAME (From TCA via SARC NEWS)

The word Ham as applied to Amateur Radio dates back to 1908 and was the call letters of the first Amateur Wireless station operated by some members of the Harvard Wireless Club. They Albert S. Hyman, Bob Almy and Reggy Murray.

At first they called their station Hyman-Almy-Murray, but tapping out such a long name in code soon called for a revision. They thus changed their sign to HY-AL-MU, using the first two letters of each name. Early in 1909 some confusion resulted between signals from Amateur Wireless HyAlMu and a Mexican ship named the Hyalmo. It was then the boys decided to use only the first letters of each name - and the call became HAM.

In the very early days of radio, Amateur Operators picked their own frequency and their own call letters. Then, as now, some Amateurs had better signals than some commercial stations. The resulting confusion and interference finally came to the attention of congressional committees and they in turn gave much attention to proposed legislation, designed to critically limit Amateur activity.

In 1911, Albert Hyman chose the controversial wireless legislation bill as his thesis at Harvard. His instructor insisted that a copy be sent to Senator Davis A Walsh, a member of one of the committees hearing the Bill. The Senator was so impressed that he sent for Hyman to appear before the Committee. He was put on the stand and described how the little amateur station was built.

He almost cried when he told the crowded committee room that if the bill went through, they would have to close the station because they could not afford the licence fees and all the other requirements that were set up in the bill. The debate started, and the little HAM became the symbol of all the little Amateur stations in the country, crying out to be saved from the menace and greed of the big commercial stations that didn't want them around.

Finally the bill got to the floor of Congress and every member talked about the poor little station Ham. That's how it all started, and you'll find the whole story in the Congressional Record. From that day to this - and probably to the end of time - in radio language an Amateur is a HAM.

Merle Henry, W3MMY,  
The Sine of the Times,  
Indiana County ARC,  
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

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VE3JW

As you have read in previous issues of the Rambler the amateur station, VE3JW is back on the air. The station has been operated on Saturday and Sunday afternoons on a regular basis. As a result of the efforts of our PR man, Alan VE3LNH, a working committee has been formed.

See also Page 4 for more information on VE3JW

VE3IATopics From London ARC Bulletin

The reason that HF waves can propagate beyond the horizon is of course that they are bent at the ionosphere and turned back to earth. Conventionally we believe that the wave, arrived at earth, is re-reflected back to the heavens and so it proceeds hoppity skip to the distant target area. Every one of you has seen the traditional vertically zig-zagging diagram of this many times. Is it true? Well maybe so and maybe not and maybe sometimes.

With many others I have always had a bit of trouble envisaging this model of propagation as "normal" although it does satisfactorily explain some things some of the time. The problem is that if you start adding up the ground and sky losses at each bounce over a very long haul they just don't square with the sometimes extremely strong signals that we observe. Now one of the problems of living here in the northlands is that there is no ham population of any great size antipodally placed from us to help us ponder the great wonders of sending signals more than half way around the globe. New Zealand au contraire is conveniently located antipodal to Gibraltar. Come with me for a bit of DX at 7L1AZV.

In NZ on a winters afternoon the 20m long path opens across the South Pacific, South America, up over Gibraltar, to the Caucuses and beyond. Take a globe in hand and follow my signal across the winter afternoon of the southern hemisphere, to evening in Ecuador. Speed through the summer night in Spain, on to midnight in Moscow and breakfast in Ulan Bator. Lean over my shoulder as we fill the log all afternoon with entries that nearly all have one thing in common; the strong stations we talk to are virtually all just going to breakfast. Signals peak about one hour before sunset. For an hour or two my 7L neighbours are in on the action too and it seems that whether one is running a 4 element monobander at 75 feet or a little tribander at 30 there are stations for all. With dusk the F2, weakly ionised by the winter sun, rapidly loses interest in bouncing signals and the band flattens and dies after sunset.

All this time my beam has stayed fixed at bearing 135 degrees, across South America, and yet you and I have worked nothing from south of the equator. In fact we know that there it is now late night and the band in the same sorry state that we will experience here very soon. What gives? These guys are closer, and in the same direction. Their signals will bounce fewer times, will be less absorbed, should be stronger. Where are they? And NO they are not in bed smart ass; they are DXers and they NEVER sleep!

The answer HAS to be that under these afternoon LP conditions, and also on Summer evenings, the signals are hardly returning to earth at all. They leave the transmitting antenna at a non-critical 30 degrees or so (a modest antenna at modest height) to deflect at the ionosphere and then to either travel trapped within the conducting layer itself (the fibre optics model) or skid with low loss beneath the F2 layer (the chordal hop model). As they pass into daylight they fetch up against the tilted lowering daytime ionosphere and are deflected to earth, again arriving at relatively high angles. Good news for little low guns!

Tony



FROM CRRL NEWS

That Vic-20 cw sending program that appeared in 1984 January QST has become very popular. If you're lazy and don't want to type it out, just send a blank cassette tape and a stamped return envelope to Maritimes-Newfoundland Section Manager Don Welling, VE1WF, at 36 Sherwood Drive, Saint John, New Brunswick E2J 3H6. He'll make a copy - that works!

Want to check out propagation on 20-metres? Use the world-wide beacon system on 14.100 MHz. These beacons transmit in 10-minute cycles starting on the hour. Stations are: 1st minute - 4U1UN/B in New York; 2nd minute - W6XB/B in California; 3rd minute - KH60/B in Hawaii; 4th minute - JALIGY in Tokyo; 5th minute - 4X6TU/B in Israel; 6th minute - OH2B in Finland; 7th minute - CT3B in Madeira; and 8th minute - ZS6DN/B in South Africa. After a 2-minute break, another cycle begins.

CRRL has made several important requests of DOC: 1) that DOC remove all operating restrictions on the 160-metre band, now that LORAN-A operation has ceased; 2) that DOC reinstate RTTY privileges on 7050-7100 kHz and that DOC delete the requirement to identify in cw or voice after RTTY transmissions; 3) that DOC allow specific amateurs to conduct low-power tests on the 18 and 24.5 MHz bands, to enable them to take active part in the ARRL Antenna-Design Competition announced in March QST; 4) that DOC, on Morse Code tests, limit punctuation to period, question mark, comma, slant bar and double dash, and Q-signals to those in common use; and 5) that DOC allow a few day's grace, as required, for those wishing to write an Advanced Amateur exam "one year" after writing an Amateur exam, and for those wishing to use credits obtained "one year" ago on an Amateur or Digital Amateur exam. DOC exams are scheduled in the same month from year to year, but are rarely exactly "one year" or 365 days apart. This has caused problems at some DOC offices.

Prefix hunters, take note. To commemorate the bicentennial of their province, Ontario amateurs will be able to use the special prefix X03 throughout July. To commemorate local events, Yellowknife amateurs will be able to use the prefix CJ8 from June 23 to July 6, and Cornwall amateurs will be able to use XK3 from July 14 to July 29.

FROM CARF NEWS SERVICE

The FCC in the U.S. apparently doesn't fool around with enforcement action. A California Amateur, known as a flagrant offender, was sentenced to a year and a half in the slammer on four counts of operating a transmitter without a license. Here at home, if the DOC prosecutes anyone successfully or otherwise, it doesn't publicize it. Despite requests to the Department to inform the Amateur media, so far the result has been one notification of a case in the past three years. One cause may be the lack of funds. Under the government's cost recovery philosophy departments play at being private business and charge each other for services rendered and maybe DOC has problems in finding money to pay the Justice Department for prosecutions.....or maybe we are all just too, too law-abiding!

Wall paper collectors please note that the Radio Society of Ontario is sponsoring a colored parchment certificate to commemorate the province's bicentennial. Ontario stations must contact 200 VE3 stations for one point each. Other Canadian districts must get 100 VE3 contacts for two points each. U.S. and DX stations require 20 QSOs for 10 marks each. Any Ontario station with a special call or prefix doubles the points. No QSL's are required. Fee is \$1.00 for the event which started January 1 and runs for the full year. Contact VE3GCO or VE3FOI for further details.

If you are going to the U.K. for a visit you will be glad to know that reciprocal licensing arrangements will now take only a few days from receipt of a request. The speed-up results from the procedures being returned to the Post Office from the U.K. Department of Communications, which used to take weeks to process the papers.

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Ottawa, Ontario  
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FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

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