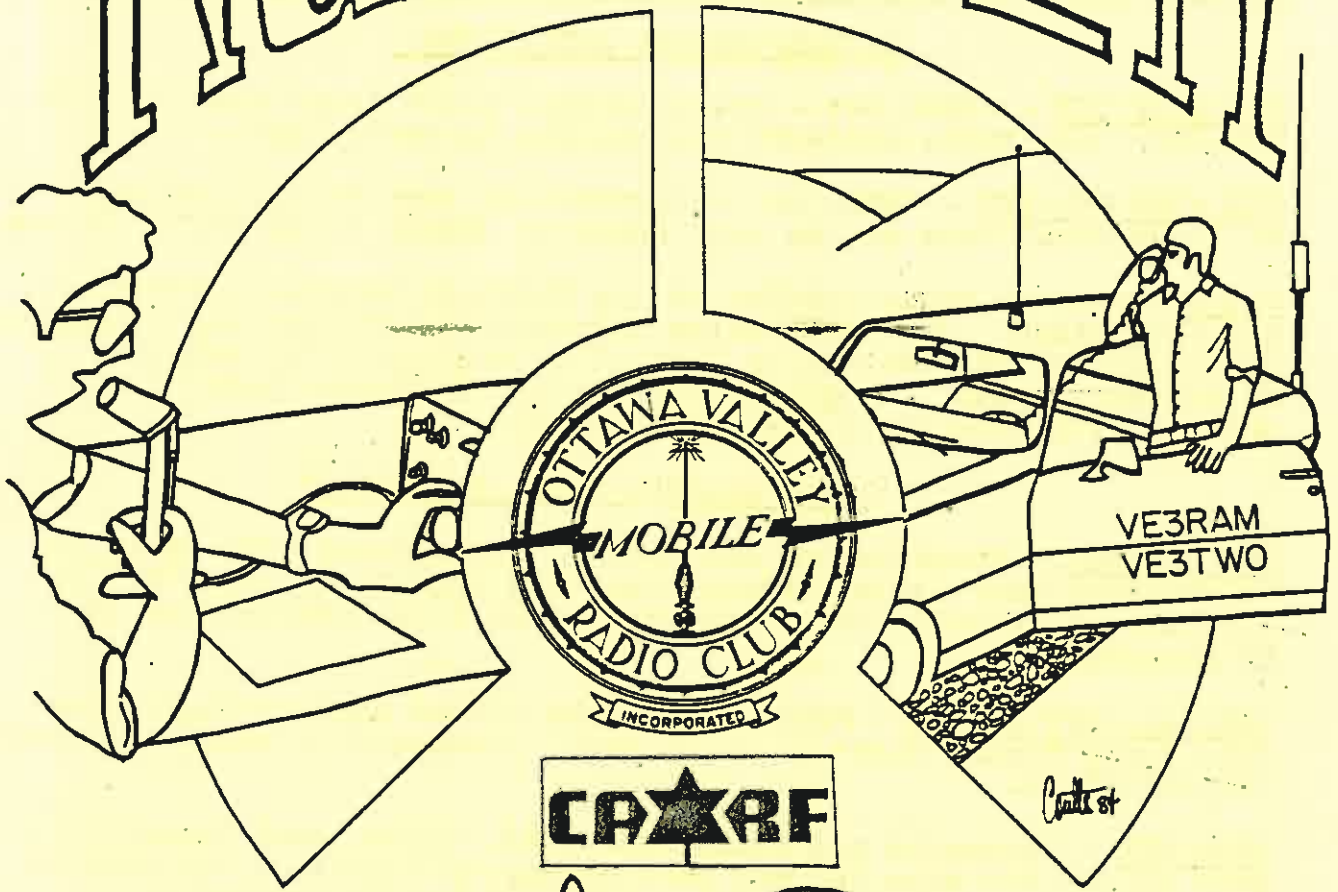


Ramble



NEXT MEETING:

DEC 19 1985

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1985-1986 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Bob Campbell	VE3KLK	729-7536
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Hughson	VE3DVH	835-3093
SECRETARY	Kathy Rodd	VE3OWY	722-0255
TREASURER	Chuck King	VE3PDK	733-2079
TECHNICAL ADVISOR	Keith Ballinger	VE3IMT	726-8878
PUBLIC RELATIONS	George Dew	VE3OWW	237-1290
PAST PRESIDENT	Pat Brewer	VE3KJQ	820-9309
PAST VICE PRES	Vance Johnson	VE3OAO	824-9555
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3CDS	225-7374

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every 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.

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 11:00 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 Ve2CRA 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.

THE MILITARY NET - Sponsored and conducted by Frank, VE3MSC, Tuesday at 20:00 Hrs on VE3TWO 147.30/147.90 MHz.

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).

The OVMRC provides code practice 24 hours a day. Dial 825-0786

RUMBLINGS FROM OLYMPUS

Well! at last the powers-that-be in the Department of Communications having laboured mightily, have brought forth proposals for redesigning the Amateur Radio Service in Canada. Considering just how far down the totem-pole the Amateur Service rests in the Department's priorities, it is a bit surprising to find DOC willing to devote so much time and effort to this project. Like an iceberg, the document is made up of many factors that are not immediately visible and it will take careful study to determine all the pros and cons.

Certainly there will be, on the part of some of our colleagues, an immediate rejection of the proposal without careful consideration of all the implications. We will, of course, hear that the service, as we know it, is being destroyed; that the service will become a glorified "CB" activity; that "grandfathering" will open the doors to candidates, otherwise considered unacceptable; that "it" just won't work (even though they have nothing to offer in "its" place), and, of course the age-old cry that, "we had to struggle and sweat for our "advanced" - so why shouldn't they".

Such statements, sterile and thoughtless, come too easily to mind and therefore are suspect and unworthy of much consideration. We are now being given the opportunity to take part in this process. We are invited to offer constructive criticism that could influence our hobby for years to come. WE MUST NOT BLOW THAT OPPORTUNITY AWAY! If we do, it is most unlikely we will get another such chance in our lifetime. Remember too, that a negative response without the offer of a viable alternative counts for nothing. No response at all denotes apathy, and that is just as bad.

Copies of the Proposal, with background papers, are available at DOC District and Regional offices. GET A COPY! - STUDY IT CAREFULLY!, send a considered comment to the DOC. We have until May 15/86 to take a part in this process, so don't just react in haste. Take your time. Discuss it with your colleagues. Look for the good points in the proposal. Balance them against the weaknesses as you see them and then, and only then, put your ideas on paper and send them in.

Meanwhile, in a few days, it will be Christmas and I take this opportunity to wish you all the joys of the season and a Happy and successful New Year.

Bob - VE3KJK

NATIONAL CAPITAL DIRECTORY

The OARC will be publishing a National Capital Amateur Directory next spring. A copy of the Mobile Club membership as of December 4, 1985 was sent in for inclusion. If there have been any changes in your address or phone number since you paid your membership please let Pat VE3KJQ know at 820-9309. If there are any changes in the next few months pass them on as well so that the directory can be as up-to-date as possible.

Don't forget the Sunday before Christmas at the museum of Science and Technology. We will be playing Santa Claus for the kids on 2 metres. Contact George our PR man for details....

MINUTES OVMRC MEETING 21 NOVEMBER 1985

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 p.m., with the President, Bob VE3KJK, welcoming guests.

Herb VE3HMF moved that the October minutes be accepted, seconded by Paul VE3JLP. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

The President advised the members that Pat VE3KJQ had offered to sell the club his cassette recorder for \$115. The recorder has been used for club and course tapes etc. The Executive had already agreed. Jim VE3JPC moved the club buy the recorder. Seconded by Merv VE3MEJ. All in favor. Carried.

The 2 club rigs are to be modified by Kathy VE3OWY.

The \$6.00 shortage in club coffers was reimbursed by the Bank.

Merv VE3CV reported on the Repeater Council Meeting in the absence of Russ VE3FSN. There was nothing specific regarding VE3TWO. Anyone wishing to set up a repeater should contact Merv for information regarding Council members to deal with.

NEW BUSINESS

The President reported on a proposal from Russ VE3FSN for the club to purchase 2 walkie talkies, \$86. US each, for the benefit of club members in tower work. The Executive's feeling was hand helds would be of more use, but wondered if intended use would justify the expense as the 2 club rigs and belt are seldom used. After general discussion it was moved by Jim VE3JPC the club not purchase the equipment. Seconded by VE2MEJ. Carried.

The President then advised the members of Doc's VE3LC gift of boxes of parts to be stored at Jerry's VE3CDS until the auction. The President directed Mike VE3DVH to contact Doc.

George VE3OWW reported to and requested members assistance for a Museum's talk to Santa Claus weekend (21 & 22 Dec). There was concern the event would conflict with established Santa events. Merv VE3CV suggested a show of hands which proved to be limited. anyone interested can contact George VE3OWW.

The President asked the members to support Jerry King at CHEO. There will be more information later.

The President then advised members the evening was to be computer night. A dismal turnout of hardware or software prompted a discussion of the proposed D.O.C. restructuring of the amateur service. General information indicated that each amateur should get a copy of the paper, digest the information, then return with comments not just yes or no answers. It was cleared up that club responses are welcome. Feedback is wanted from those interested or students of amateur radio. Bill VE3NR suggested a copy of the paper should be printed in the Rambler, so I won't repeat it here. Also, the President suggested discussion following various nets. After the paper is released, the President will have another in depth meeting for the members to discuss it.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS INCLUDED:

A membership count of 129 from Mike VE3DVH the Vice President; Pat VE3KJQ the Past President indicating he had copies of the constitution;

George VE3OWW, Public Relations, advised that operators are always needed for VE3JW;

Jerry VE3CDS the Editor requested articles for the Rambler, specifically technical ones.

Kathy VE3OWY the Secretary had a nil report.

The President Bob VE3KLLK introduced Dave VE3KMV, to describe amateur related modifications to his \$99. Radio Shack Color Computer. The President then told members of his brother-in-law, who, after wearing his Sinclair Timex touch pads out, made one of brass tacks, dowling and plywood.

The next general meeting will be December 19th. The Executive meeting will be 28th November at the home of the President.

The meeting was adjourned by Ray VE3FN.

Kathy VE3OWY
Secretary

"CQ CONTEST" AT VE3JW

During the last weekend in October a team of 20 local hams plus two assistants took part in the CQ World-Wide DX Phone Contest at VE3JW, the radio station at the National Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa.

The station is ideal for this type of event although I believe this was the first time it had been tried at this particular location. There are two rigs at the station with linear amplifiers as well as a tribander and a recently acquired Apple computer which was used for logging and dupe checking.

The contest ran for 48 hours and, apart from a couple of breaks, the station was operated for the full period, with at least one Advanced operator on duty during each of the six-hour shifts. For many of those who participated this was their first taste of contesting with a lot to learn about the equipment, DX and, of course, contesting itself. When the dust settled we had managed to make 504 QSOs to 63 different countries in 18 zones. Hardly a record breaker I'm afraid, but a lot of fun for all concerned. The following table summarises the results for each band;

Frequency	QSOs	Points	Zones	Countries	Score
1.8 Mhz	0	0	0	0	0
3.5 Mhz	218	477	7	13	9,540
7 Mhz	23	58	11	22	1,914
14 Mhz	158	409	17	48	26,585
21 Mhz	105	281	13	38	14,331
28 Mhz	0	0	0	0	0
All bands	504	1,225	48	121	207,025

Apart from the thrill of the chase there was also a public relations aspect to the contest. In order to keep visitors to the museum informed, we maintained a display which included a world map to show which countries had been contacted. By the end of the event we had good coverage across North, Central and South America and the Carribean, all of Europe as well as Russia, North Africa and Japan. Some of the rarer ones were EA9 (Ceuta and Melilla), HC8 (Galapagos Island), ZF (Cayman Islands) and 4UITU (ITU Geneva). It was very satisfying for the operators to

see those little yellow pins spreading across the map and it certainly helped to explain things to visitors.

As might be expected we had a few technical problems. After some very heroic last minute efforts by Dave, VE3JTZ to write a dupe checking program for the Apple we lost some of the data (Murphy's Law of Entymology - "There's always one more bug". The nice shiny new Yaesu FT757GX transceiver also gave problems. It developed a rather strange automatic QSY feature which wasn't mentioned in the manual; in other words what you saw on the display was not what you got from the VFO. Fortunately we had the good old made-in-the-USA Ten-Tec rig as a back-up so we were able to carry on without too much difficulty.

In closing I'd like to thank everyone who turned out for the contest and those who stopped by to give support. The results have been duly submitted to CQ magazine but I'm afraid it will be next September before you see your call-sign in print and learn where we placed. Maybe by then you will have become a seasoned contester and we can once again take on the world from VE3JW.

Mark VE3OWL

SUSCEPTIBILITY

We have known for years, and it is becoming increasingly more evident, that manufacturers of consumer electric/electronic equipment, be it TV, radio, cooking devices or any of a multitude of domestic appliances intended for use in the home, are deliberately ignoring any requirement that the manufactured items must be made impervious to RF influence from outside sources. Obviously, this is done to save installed cost of appropriate shielding or the headline installation of suitable devices (circuitry) that will nullify the effects of RF originating from a transmitter of any type that is operating properly within its own licensed part of the spectrum.

It is difficult to comprehend why consumers should be expected to accept, without guaranteed redress, any appliance, purportedly intended for a specific purpose, that insists on acting like a radio receiver and responds to influences, such as RF, that have no relation to its purpose.

Manufacturers knowingly take a calculated risk that their product will be installed in an area where it will not be subjected to transmitted RF influences. They also gamble on purchasers not having sufficient knowledge about interference to place the blame for their problems where it rightly belongs. A related problem is that retailers are usually ignorant of these problems of susceptibility and when a purchaser seeks redress for a problem appliance, from a salesman who has extolled its virtues, little sympathy ensues. Unlike its US counterpart, the DOC, for some obscure reason, has resisted having a printed circular that would guide troubled purchasers to the proper target for their complaint.

Admittedly, some manufacturers are sufficiently conscientious to make suitable modifications to their product if it becomes susceptible to interference. Others hide behind limited warranties or the technical ignorance of the consumer and attempt to shift blame onto the invading transmitter who may be quite within all the restrictions applicable to his type of operation.

It is difficult to understand how Standards Approval can be granted to equipment that is being manufactured for a specific purpose that in its completed form acts as an RF detector with potential for creating problems for both the purchaser and for other services in the community.

This problem can only increase with the growing numbers of electronic equipment appearing on the market for public use. One need only consider such appliances as remote telephones, pagers, radio equipped construction equipment and delivery vehicles, taxis, childrens' electronic toys and CB radios. The list is almost endless, but the extent of the spectrum is not. We can only speculate on the new developments that await over the horizon and the demands they will impose.

It is imperative that the DOC must react to the growth of this problem, probably in conjunction with the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, by establishing mandatory standards of rejection that will be incorporated at the time of manufacture or, at the very least will be guaranteed as a manufacturer's responsibility in the event of complaints of susceptibility.

Such a requirement should be written into acceptable standards and it must be enforced. The present situation cannot be allowed to continue.

Bob VE3KLLK

NOTICE OF ANNUAL DINNER

The annual OVMRC dinner is tentatively set for Saturday January 25, 1986 at the Peppermill Restaurant. If we have more than six people we are entitled to order from the group menu which is only \$9.95 for the complete dinner. The Peppermill also has daily specials ranging in price from \$7.95 to \$9.95 between 5 and 7pm. You can also order from the regular menu. We will be asking for an indication of how many are interested at the December meeting. Based on that count we will reserve space. The group menu is shown below. If you are unable to be at the December meeting, but would like to attend, call Bob Campbell VE3KLLK at 729-7536.

THE PEPPERMILL Special Group Menu

SOLE ALMANDINE
(fresh filet of sole dipped in our almond seasoning and baked to perfection)

SIRLOIN
(a New York cut of sirloin for particular appetites)

PRIME RIB OF BEEF
the 'Ladies Cut' juicy and tender for the modest diner)

All of the above dinners are served with chef's salad, choice of potato, vegetables, rolls and butter, coffee or tea and desert for \$9.95

1568 Merivale Road at Meadowlands

DOC PROPOSES NEW CERTIFICATES

On October 25, representatives of CRRL and CARF met with DOC in Ottawa to hear DOC's proposal for "Restructuring of the Amateur Service." Why restructuring? First, DOC feels strongly that the present structure, with its heavy emphasis on technical knowledge, is no longer relevant in a world where most amateurs operate using commercially built rather than homebuilt equipment. Second, DOC is concerned, as many of us are, that the Canadian Amateur Service may be dying. Last year, the growth rate fell to 1.1%. The average of all Canadian amateurs is around 55. Very few young people are joining the ranks. What will happen when the old-timers pass on? Will there be any Amateur Radio as we know it?

Almost everyone who studies the problem seems to come to the same conclusion. If the Canadian Amateur Service is to remain viable, it must attract more amateurs. The service will also have to reflect the fact that nowadays few amateurs build their own equipment or even feel a need to know all that goes on inside their commercially built equipment. And, it will have to become easier for new amateurs, especially the younger ones, to join the ranks. Of course, the object will still be to have a quality Amateur Service.

DOC feels we can have this (and more) through "restructuring." Under the proposed plan, there would be three certificates: Certificate A: This would be the entry-level certificate. The sole requirement would be a pass mark on an examination on: (1) installation and operation of a modern amateur station, including interpretation of meter readings, adjustments to prevent interference, grounding and use of low-pass filters; (2) basic electronic theory, including safety practices while working on circuits and correcting interference problems such as front-end overload and audio rectification; (3) antennas and propagation, including types of antennas and feed lines and characteristics of various modes of propagation; and (4) domestic and international regulations applicable to Amateur Radio. There would be no code test.

Holders of Certificate A would have the following privileges and restrictions: (1) the transmitter portion of the station, from microphone or key input to RF output, would have to be commercially built and specifically marketed for use on the amateur frequencies; however, other parts of the station (a receiver, transmatch, antenna or computer interface) could be homebuilt; (2) no emissions would be permitted on bands below 30 MHz; however all modes of emission would be permitted on bands above 30 MHz; (3) maximum power would be 250-W dc input; and (4) a holder of Certificate A would not be allowed to become a licensee of a repeater or remote base station.

Certificate B: This certificate would give additional privileges when used in conjunction with Certificate A. The sole requirement would be a pass mark on a Morse code sending and receiving test given at 12 WPM. Holders of Certificates A and B would have the same privileges and restrictions as holders of Certificate A, but would be permitted to use all modes of emission on all amateur bands, above and below 30 MHz.

Certificate C: This certificate would give additional privileges when used in conjunction with Certificate A or Certificates A and B. The sole requirement would be a pass mark on an examination of advanced electronic theory, with a degree of difficulty somewhere between that of the present Amateur and Advanced Amateur examinations. Holders of Certificate C would

receive the following additional privileges: (1) the right to use homebuilt transmitting equipment; (2) the right to use maximum legal power, 1000-W dc input; and (3) the right to become a licensee of a repeater or remote base station.

Under the proposed new structure, candidates would be able to write the examinations for all three certificates at a single sitting. Existing amateurs holding either an Amateur or Advanced Amateur Certificate would be deemed to have the privileges given by all three certificates, A, B and C. Existing amateurs holding a Digital Certificate would be deemed to have the privileges given by Certificates A and C.

At press time, your editor was working from a draft provided by DOC. Notice of the proposal had not yet appeared in the Canada Gazette. By the time you read this, the notice should have appeared and copies of the proposal should be available from all offices of DOC. DOC intends to give amateurs and other interested parties 180 days from the time that the notice appears in the Canada Gazette to make comment.

Take it from us--DOC is not interested in simple expressions of "yes" or "no." Comments will have to be qualified. Specific issues will have to be addressed. DOC offers these suggestions: (1) Are there significant factors that DOC has not considered that might affect the proposed structure? Could the proposed structure be improved? What would you suggest as an alternative? (2) If you were an aspiring amateur, would the proposed structure encourage you? Why or why not? (3) If you are an amateur, does the proposed structure realistically reflect the way you operate? (4) How will the proposed structure affect the future of Canadian Amateur Radio? (5) Does the structure adequately accommodate special-interest groups? Is there still a need for a Digital Certificate? (6) Would Canadian Amateur Radio benefit from a Novice-type licence similar to what is available in the U.S.? If so, how could a Novice-type licence be incorporated into the proposed structure?

Comments should go to the Director General, Radio Regulatory Branch, DOC, 300 Slater St., Ottawa, On K1A 0C8. Please send a copy of your comments to CRRL. It will help your CRRL reps and workers with their homework over the next few months.

The above is reprinted from the December issue of QST "Canadian Newsfronts." Complete copies of the above article are available at the December meeting courtesy of Ray VE3FN. All members are encouraged to make their views known to DOC on the proposed changes to the Canadian Amateur Service. A discussion meeting will take place early in 1986.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held on Dec. 19th at the National Museum of Science and Technology. Start time is 8:00 P.M.

Program will be a video entitled "Air Phone" supplied by Vance VE3OAO. Should be interesting.

Merry Christmas to all the readers of the Rambler...
Good Health and good Hamming in 1986...

VE3JW OPERATING SCHEDULE

Museum hours are from 9 AM to 5 PM

Morning 10 AM - 1 PM

Afternoon 1 PM - 4 PM

Dec 14 Sat	Susan VE3OSP & Joan VE3OSE	Hugo VE3KTN
15 Sun		
21 Sat		
22 Sun	Reserved for communication with North Pole	
28 Sat	Pat VE3KJQ & Ying VE3FUB	
Jan 4 Sat		
5 Sun		Don VE3ATJ & Richard VE3OAR
11 Sat	Alan VE3LNH & George VE3OWW	Leo VE3NVL & Jerry VE3CDS
12 Sun	Dan VE3EBI & John VE3NJ	Mark VE3OWL & Dave VE3JTY
18 Sat		
19 Sun	Ric VE3NJM & Gord VE3OSM	Bob VE3JDB & Vance VE3OAO

Anyone wishing to operate VE3JW
May contact George Dew VE3OWW at
237-1290.

OVMRC
P.O. Box 5530 Stn F
Ottawa Ontario
K2C 3M1



FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

JIM HAMILTON VE3GJY
2038 ARCH ST.
OTTAWA ONT.
K1G 2H1