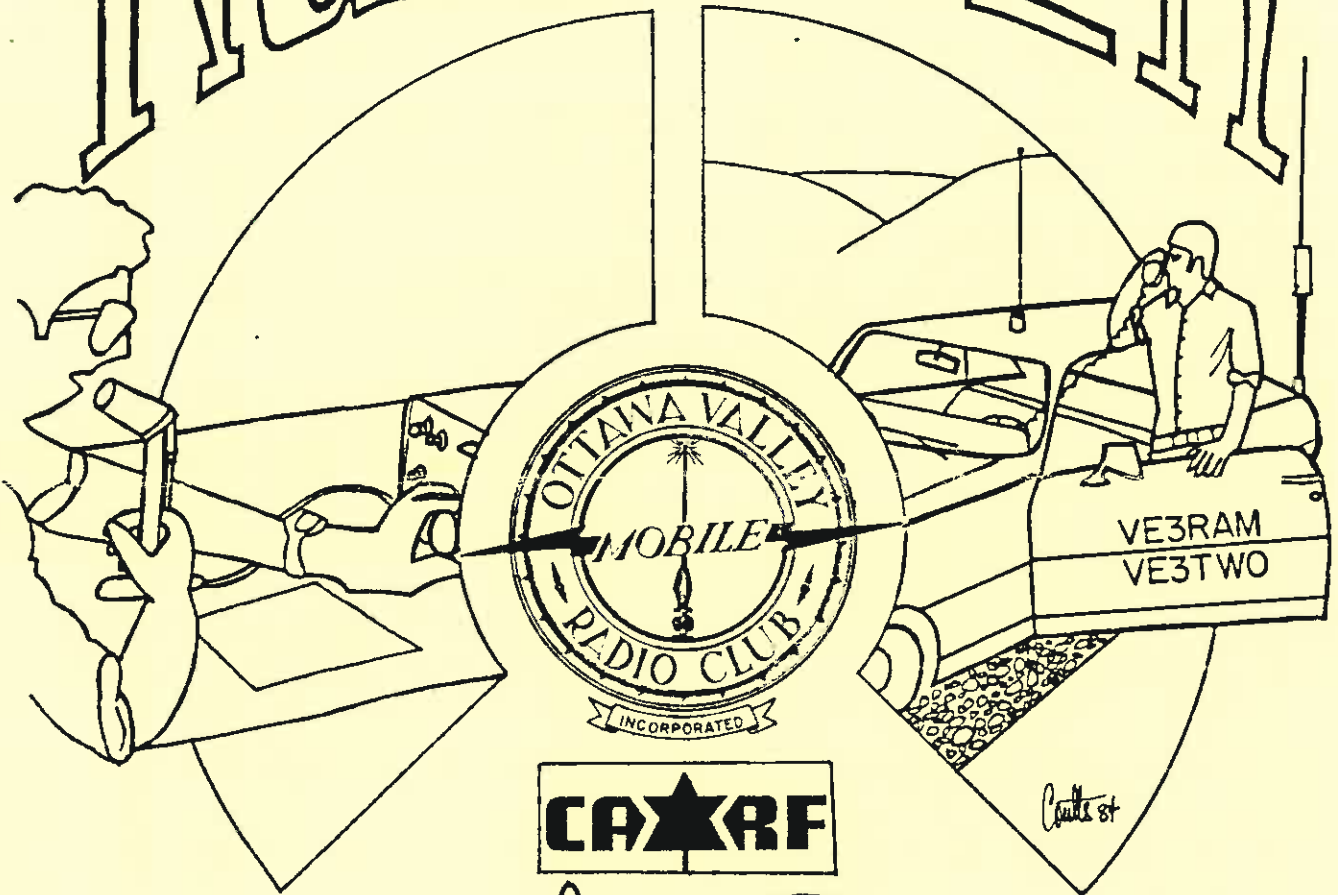
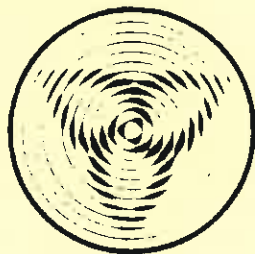


RāMBLER



CA★RF



NEXT MEETING:

Nov 20, 1986

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1986-1987 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Vance Johnson	VE30AO	824-9555
VICE PRESIDENT	Bill Seyler	VE30AI	836-5818
SECRETARY	Kris Anderson	VE30WE	225-4152
TECHNICAL ADVISOR	Alan Boyce	VE3LNI	737-4937
PUBLIC RELATIONS	Bob Brown	VE3JDB	729-6440
TREASURER	Bob Hicks	VE3OSN	745-9392
PAST PRESIDENT	Bob Campbell	VE3KLK	729-7536
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3CDS	225-7374
MEMBERSHIP	Pat Brewer	VE3KJQ	820-9309

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every Sunday, 1000 local time on 3760 kHz. SSB. All radio amateurs are welcome to participate.

THE WISE OWL NET - OVMRC Net - Ragchew net every Friday evening at 2000 local time on the club repeater VE3TWO - 147.30/90 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. For information or if you wish to operate the station, contact the Public Relations Coordinator.

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 1100 hrs on 3620 kHz, to provide and stimulate interest and proficiency in CW procedures.

CAPITOL CITY FM NET - Sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday evening at 2000 hrs local time. Conducted on VE2CRA repeater 146.94/146.34.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX, each Sunday as part of the Pot Hole Net and each Monday as part of the Capitol 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 2000 hrs on VE3TWO 147.30/147.90 MHz.

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 2000 hrs unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the Museum of Technology on St. Laurent Blvd (south of the Queensway)

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

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QUA VE30AO

Hello all you happy ramblers. and welcome to the RAMBLER Volume 29 Number 9 and the third issue printed on our new photo copier.

Last month's Rambler was a little slow coming thanks to a part in the photo copier that was broken in the move from the dealers showroom to the publishers print shop.

The problem wasn't noticed until during the printing of Vol. 29 No. 8 because it only makes a difference when a large volume is being printed continuously. The broken part is supposed to eliminate the static build-up on the paper as it is fed through the copier. Since it wasn't doing "its thing", paper was wrapping around the print drum and made a big jam. The service person cleaned the jam and replaced the part and now we are enjoying the results...

Have you noticed how the phonetics of my Radio call sign's last three letters keep changing? It took me months to come up with my first ones three years ago - OVMRC Accounting Officer other than Over and Over. Then two years ago it was OVMRC Admission Officer. At first this year it was OVMRC Administration Officer, then Old Apple Orchard and now On And Off. On And Off makes more sense. It typifies my style of operating and maybe even my chara-

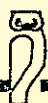
cter... Since when I operate on HF, it is usually in the CW or AI mode, then as I tap out my QSOs it is a series of Ons And Offs...If you looked at my radio log book, you'll immediately notice that I'll operate for a while, then months will go by when I don't operate. I'm On And Off there too. I have other interests in life which use the same TIME spectrum which crowds into the space devoted to our common hobby. I believe it is OK to be diversified. Mind you, it takes a while longer to reach a goal in any field of endeavor, but when you come back to something you've left for awhile, it is always surprising how much you can remember and sometimes it seems that you are better than you were when you left it. However, International Morse Code is an exception to that rule, but it isn't hard to pick it up again. I'm not one that likes to copy WIAW or practice tapes because what amateurs send to each other in their QSOs is so different, and besides - again - that takes away from time I could be having a QSO with someone and have something to put into my log book.

Well enough of my philosophy for this month....I've enjoyed reading articles in QST and TCA.....

Vance VE30AO
President

=====

*** RED DOT ON YOUR RAMBLER,
YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE ***



MINUTES OCTOBER MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 20:06 by the President VE3OAO, Vance. There were approximately 35 in attendance including one visitor VE3BGV Chip also a local amateur radio astronomer. It was noted that the call sign for Leo VE3NVL had been shown incorrectly at the bottom of page 2 of the Rambler (Minutes of the OVMRC meeting Sept. 18th.)

The minutes of the September meeting were not approved since the President indicated that they had not been seen by all members due to the delay in mailing the Rambler.

President Vance announced that Alan VE3LNH has agreed to be chairman of the Life Members Committee. A presidential proposal was made that the front cover of the Rambler be reformatted to reduce the size of the illustration and make space available for some of the contents now on the inside of the cover and thus gain extra space. This was discussed and was not acceptable to the members since there is no problem with printing the extra page and the information on the back of the cover is almost generic (the name change only yearly).

President Vance received a letter dated Oct. 16th from Janet Elias of the Educational Research staff of the Museum of Science and Technology, thanking the OVMRC for the help provided in organizing an amateur radio demonstration for high school students at VE3JW on Oct. 3rd. Janet was in attendance and received a round of applause from the members.

An announcement was made

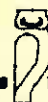
that the Ontario Trilliums have received QSL cards for Peter Takats but his call sign is not known. Anyone knowing this information is required to contact the Ontario Trillium or the club secretary Kris VE3OWE.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

Vice-President Bill VE3OAI reported that Ralph Cameron VE3BBM who was the guest speaker at the September meeting suggested that the club may wish to consider a bulk purchase of toroids that can be used to correct RF interference problems. Bill informed the members that he had used one with 9 turns of coax at the input to his cable TV converter to correct an interference problem from his transmitter on 80 metres. A poll was taken and about 22 people indicated interest in purchasing toroids at \$6.00 each. Alan VE3LNH requested that anyone who is interested should contact him. A motion was put by Alan that the club purchase a quantity of 30 toroids for resale to members. This was seconded by Leo VE3NVL.

Vice President Bill VE3OAI proposed that the Field Day site be at the Connaught Rifle Range where there is adequate space for antennas and facilities are available for the field day stations. This proposal was not accepted by the members because the site is not open to the public which is a major field day consideration. The Treasurer Bob Hicks VE3OSN was not able to attend as he had just been to the dentist.

Alan Boyce VE3LNH the newly appointed Technical Coordinator reported that a



meeting had been held to discuss and design the new switching panel, to switch antennas and power circuits required for the Museum station VE3JW. The meeting was successful and the detailed drawings will be presented to the Museum staff in a week or so. Alan also commented that copies of the May/84 QST article on how to ground your ham shack will be made available at the next meeting. He also reminded members who are interested in purchasing toroids from the club's bulk purchase to contact him.

Bob Brown VE3JDB gave a report on Public Relations. He commented that the operating schedule for VE3JW was not in the Rambler this month. However it is on the packet bulletin board and will appear in the next issue of the Rambler and will include OARC members as well as OVMRC members. He reminded members to call Mark VE3OWL if they are interested in operating VE3JW during the CQ WW contest. He also invited members who are interested in operating VE3JW to contact him as operators are required for the weekends. He proposed that a separate list of operators be prepared for special occasions such as providing demonstrations of amateur radio for special groups and suggested that this should appeal to retired members who can attend during the daytime.

Membership Chairman Pat Brewer VE3KJQ reminded members who receive their copy of the Rambler with a red sticker that they have not paid their annual dues and requested that they do so. He also explained that the publication of the Rambler had been delayed by problems with the photocopier.

These were caused by static buildup which resulted in paper jamming. This has now been corrected by the Nashua service personnel (a missing ground wire was replaced to provide static discharge.)

The RSO dinner (no convention this year) will be in Newmarket in connection with the fleamarket. There will be two panel discussions including one on voice linking. It is proposed to hold the morse code exam at the Radio Amateur Course location (Laurentian High School at Baseline & Clyde). There are now 23 students attending the course. Mentors are needed to provide as required help to the students. This will be arranged by giving the students the telephone numbers of members willing to offer help. Those interested in this worthwhile undertaking should contact Pat.

Merv VE3CV chairman of the St. Lawrence Valley Repeater Council said that they will hold a meeting immediately following the OARC flea market. The meeting will be at 13:30 in Room 1147 at NRC.

Bob VE3JDB introduced the guest speaker Ken Tapping a radio astronomer with NRC who gave a very informative and interesting talk illustrated by numerous slides on the objective and techniques of radio astronomy. The essential difference from optical astronomy is that radio astronomy allows observers to detect objects at far greater distances than is possible by optical methods. Any matter that is above 3 degrees Kelvin (-270 degrees C) emits radio signals and is observable. He provided a comprehensive overview of the subject beginning



with a review of the early observations by Karl Jansky of Bell Labs and subsequently by a dedicated radio amateur Grote Reber in the 1930's, through the later development of large radio telescopes like the one at Jodrell Bank, the discovery of pulsars by Cambridge scientist Jocelyn Bell and the mysterious high energy Quasars that are still not understood. The speaker also mentioned two local amateur radio astronomers in the Ottawa area who are active observers. They are Frank Roy and Chip Wiest VE3BGV. The speaker answered several questions following the talk and was thanked by Bob VE3JDB for a very excellent presentation. We look forward to a future talk by Mr. Tapping.

President Vance VE3OAO announced that the next meeting will be on Nov. 20th. The executive meeting will be Oct. 23 at Bill's VE3OAJ QTH in Kanata at 7:30 pm.

Leo VE3NVL asked whether there are any plans to hold a Christmas activity (talk to Santa Claus via radio) at the Museum. He acted as the French speaking Santa Claus last Christmas along with Jerry Wells VE3CDS as the English speaking Santa Claus. This is a very worthwhile endeavour and it is expected that it will be further mentioned in the Rambler.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:17 on a motion by Bob VE3JDB, seconded by Bob VE3KJK.

Kris Anderson VE3OWE
Secretary

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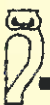
FROM THE V.P.

I had thought of writing a technical article but since I made the error of describing over the air a capacitor as that gadget that looks like a chlorofil chicklet I thought I'd better not. Instead let me tell you about my owl.

Since the tower has gone up I have been unable or unwilling to sit out in the yard. The birds were causing considerable mischief gathering as they will, it was mentioned that an owl placed well up on the tower would discourage them. Subsequently I purchased same and assisted by Jack VE3SR managed to get this bird properly installed.

Normally I would merely state the owl was effective but not so, the martins by this time had flown and the starlings couldnt give a hoot for my owl. The results nevertheless were quite spectacular. Every bird watcher in the neighbourhood showed up. Surprise! One young lad claimed his brother had seen the owl fly. I informed him his brother had been drinking his bath water. The local bus stopped and the driver informed his passengers that the owl had been there since nine A.M. and it was their migratory time. One well dressed lady with binoculars leaped out of her car with her brood in tow and told the XYL "You have a visitor". The misses informed her the owl, by this time named Hootie or is that spelt Hootbie? was available at local emporium.

Disappointment...since that time we try to look indifferent and hopefully upon



return of the martins it will be possible to sit out in the yard without fear of reprisal or an umbrella.

On the bands lately there has been considerable activity on 15 metres or is it meters in this case? Managed to work JA twice, the joy of having a beam.

Also this past week I took part in a test by the DOC. Perhaps later on we may have a report on this. I will not speculate.

73 to all VE3OAI Bill
V/Pres

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GREETINGS FROM THE FAR EAST!

Well most of you have not heard from me in quite some time. I was able, however, to get back to Ottawa for a supper date with Russ, Dave, Pat and Kathy at the beginning of September and I also saw Rene who flagged me down after noticing my call plates from Nova Scotia (Flashing lights and a honking horn tend to surprise one when you don't expect to be recognized!).

So what have I been up to I hear you ask. Funny you should ask. Lately I have been pushing the packet racket in the Halifax/Dartmouth area with my PK-64. Lots of fun but until very recently there hasn't been much activity. Seems the big "action" is in the Truro N.S. and PEI area. But now one of the really active locals, Don VE1AMC, has got himself packetized and with his location, Halifax/Dartmouth packeteers now have a route into the "Hub". One

of the other fellows here, Dave VE1EI, has written a small packet BBS program for the VIC 20 and that makes things a little bit better. We hope to get a digipeater going at the Halifax airport and that too should help connect us with the outside world. The next thing will be a link to East-Net so we can get up and down the eastern seaboard and into Ottawa as a matter of fact! I have not tried any HF packet but I have listened. The HF station here by the way is the TS430 driving a B&W 3.5 - 30 folded dipole which is from 15 to 30 feet above the ground. Not the powerhouse signal that some have but perhaps I'll be able to get into the Quebec Net or the CJ Net when the winter rolls around.

I must say at this point that the latest changes to the Rambler are really outstanding. The format, the content and the overall product is really super. I can see that the addition of the photocopier to the production has improved things a great deal. I 'phoned Russ today because I had to find out how it was done. After I found out, and having got the push from Dave, KLX, in the October issue of the Rambler, I felt I should write an article or two.

In the future I would propose to let you know more about what is going on down here. But for now I will close and wish you all 73 and TTFN.

Mike VE1BSN/VE3LAR

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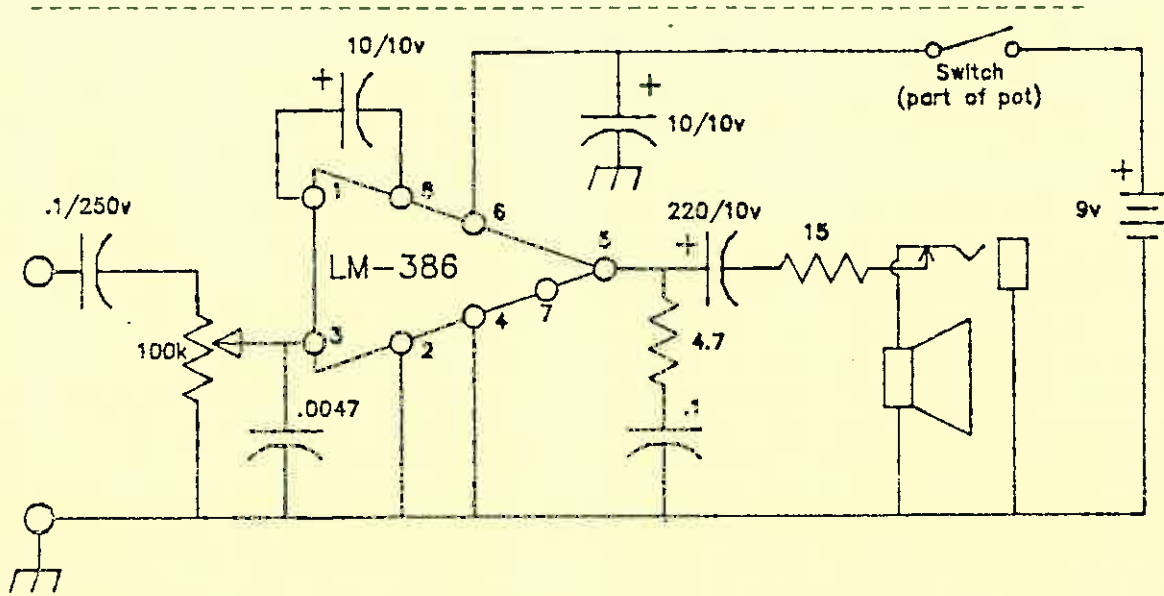


This month's project is a simple audio amplifier/speaker combination. It is both useful as a piece of test equipment and as an audio amplifier

/speaker combination that can be used to increase the output level from that new receiver you have just completed.

Circuit

The audio amplifier is based upon the LM-386 integrated circuit. It features a high impedance input and operates quite nicely on a 9 volt battery.



Components

Item	Description	Radio Shack Number
IC	LM-386	RS 276-1731
pot	100 k	RS 271-092
switch	SPST	RS 271-1740
jack	closed, 3 cct	RS 274-250
speaker	8 ohm, 2 1/4 in	RS 40-246
capacitors	10uF/35v	RS 272-1025
	220uF/35v	RS 272-1029
	.1uF/250v	RS 272-1053
	.0047uF/500v	RS 272-130
	.1uF/50v	RS 272-135
resistors	10 ohm	RS 271-8001



Construction

Construction is straight forward, with the circuit being easily constructed on a piece of perf-board. The only care to be taken, is the use of shielded cable for the connections from the input terminals to the IC, to reduce the likelihood of picking up stray AC hum.

If you are looking for a 9 volt battery connector, look around the house for a dead 9 volt battery. A few minutes with a pair of side cutters will yield a perfectly servicable connector.

Use two 10 ohm resistors in parallel to make the 4.7 ohm resistor, and use two in parallel and then in series with a 10 ohm resistor to make the 15 ohm resistor.

The input connector, if built as a signal tracer, can be another jack or binding posts, as you decide.

Operation

The input is connected to the audio source and the volume control adjusted for the desired level. The jack allows the unit's loudspeaker to be connected to an external audio source. Take care when using this unit with tube type equipment as the voltages you will encounter can be lethal.

Conclusion

This is a handy little audio amplifier/speaker combination that will very quickly earn a place in your shack.

- Russ VE3FSN

COMPUTER TIPS FOR YOUR 64

In each issue of the Rambler we will present a few hints and tips that may be helpful and increase your enjoyment of this good old stalwart of the computer world. Many of the items were discovered in RUN. Last month, tips 3, 4, & 5 dealt with disk handling and storage. This month we will look at disk directories.

TIP #6

Selective directories - If you want to get a directory of all files of a certain type, you can use one of the following commands:

```
LOAD"$*=P",8      - loads PRG
files only
LOAD"$*=S",8      - loads SEQ
files only
LOAD"$*=R",8      - loads REL
files only
LOAD"$*=U",8      - load  USR
files only
```

This saves the need to look through the directory of a full disk for a specific file.

TIP #7

Multi-selective Directory - It is well known that you can load a selective directory by using something like \$0:AB* which will load a listing of all directory files with names beginning with AB. It is less well-known that you can use \$0:AB*,CD* to get all those files with names beginning with AB or CD.

You can make up to five selections at one time, and the trick works with or without the wedge. The entries for the different selections are not separated on your screen, but appear



intermingled in the order in which they are written on the directory as a whole.

TIP #8

Ever find yourself with a program partly entered into memory and then need to have a look at the disk directory? If you use the command LOAD"\$",8 you load the 1541 disk directory into memory and overwrite any program already there. On the 64,(or for that matter, the VIC 20) you can avoid any problem by using the following:
POKE44, PEEK(46)+1
LOAD"\$",8
LIST

When you wish to return to your Basic program, just type:
POKE46, PEEK(44)-1:POKE44,8.

This permits you to have a look at the directory but find your program still there when you go back. Of course, if you have a printed directory on the disk envelope, you don't need this program.

MORE NEXT MONTH

Bob - VE3KLLK

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"CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT"

Video Pirate is an Amateur.

John R. MacDougall, KA4WJA, of Ocala, Florida, pleaded guilty Tuesday, July 22nd, to one count of illegally transmitting the HBO interfering "CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT" signal before U.S. Attorney Larry Gentile in U.S. Court for central District of Florida at Jacksonville.

MacDougall, 25, a part-time satellite uplink operator for the Central Florida Teleport, also owns MacDougall Electronics - a company that sells backyard dishes. He used the commercial uplink facility to lodge his protest against HBO's decision to scramble its satellite-delivered programming. His April 27th jamming was not apparently his first.

Uplink satellite programming at the Central Florida Teleport ends at midnight. At 12:32 AM on April 27 MacDougall, feeling the financial pinch, typed out a character generated message on his screen and fed it up to Galaxy I along with a colour-bar background.

The overwhelming message greeted HBO and warned satellite programmers that "no way" would the public go along. The four and a half minute message was seen by millions of viewers who were watching the east coast feed.

from W5YI Report, August 1, 1986. via CARF Bulletin 13/86

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NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held on Nov 20 at The Museum of Science and Technology on St Laurent Blvd. Start time is 8 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Ben Tolley VE3MPD. Ben will talk to us on the activities of the Ottawa Remote Control Club. He will have a video to demonstrate some of the Club's activities.



LIFE,
THE UNIVERSE
AND EVERYTHING

VE3MSC from VE3KLX
.....BEEP Beep?

I am sure that by now most of you have noticed that the repeater has a decidedly different twang to it's voice. This is due to the new micro-processor repeater controller that has been installed. This replaces the original controller that was installed some eight years ago and which has given us excellent service, despite going through two fires. Evidence of the fires still exist as a thin layer of carbon covering the boxes enclosing some of the equipment.

The new controller has a few features that did not exist on the old machine and I will run through these quickly.

The repeater will normally identify "VE3TWO", however, if unused for a period of time, will identify "VE3TWO OVMRC" the first time it is keyed up.

There is now a "courtesy beep" at the termination of a transmission. This indicates that the timers in the system have reset and allows people the opportunity to break into a conversation between the time you drop your carrier and the beep sounds. Please wait for the beep, it's polite and if you don't, the timers will not reset, leading to a timeout. There is no need to wait for the repeater to drop, just

allow the beep to sound.

Yes, the timeout timer is back. It's set for 3 minutes and should not be a problem. To reset just wait for the beep. I have found a way to disable the timer for nets and will incorporate this feature into the controller in the future.

A feature that used to exist on the repeater, and I'm talking about almost ten years ago, is an indication that you have timed out. An impending time out is indicated by the repeater sending a stream of 10 dits over your transmission, prior to shutting down. When you drop your carrier, all timers reset and you are greeted with "TO", short for you-know-what.

The hang timer is set for 4 seconds, plenty of time for you to find the mike, even when mobile.

In order to effect the changeover in the fastest manner possible, the controller was installed in a 2 metre repeater owned by BARF. The change to the new controller was thus really a complete change of transmitter/receiver and controller. After the controller has proven it can function properly, the original equipment will be rebuilt and reinstalled, the BARF equipment remaining available as a backup in case of a failure of VE3TWO. I would appreciate hearing from anyone regarding audio quality, range improvement and intermod problems with the new equipment. Tests seem to indicate that the receiver may be more sensitive, and if so, maybe something can be done to



improve the existing equipment.

The repeater does not have any user accessible features built-in yet. I feel that the new controller has to be given a shake-down first.

I am continuing to have problems with the design of the equipment used to charge the back-up power battery. I use the singular term as one of the batteries has died, the other apparently working well having been used at field day. I am beginning to doubt the advisability of installing a battery at the site. It will create maintenance problems and with the track record to date, may not be much of an emergency supply. It is obvious why communications companies are into nickel-cadmium cells, they are much easier to take care of. Now if someone knew of a source of used, discarded but usable nicads...

All goes well with the course as we swing into the more interesting portions of it. Attendance has stabilised, however, with the World Series games on Mondays, it was down for those two weeks. As a whole the students seem to be doing quite well. As is normal, some are doing great in the code, some are doing great in the theory, some are even doing good in both and there are always those that are finding the going tough, but I don't see any quitters in the audience yet. Obviously, I'm not trying hard enough. It appears as though the DOC has decided upon multiple guess exams for the

theory portions from now on. This will mean looking at the homework and quizzes, again, and incorporating some more changes.

As well as having become a high tech operation in the printing process, the Rambler has also become high tech in article collection. The articles submitted by Mike and by Pat were both picked up via a computer and modem. I hope that in the future, the number of articles submitted in this manner will increase. This has a number of advantages; less work on the editor's part in that the articles do not have to be retyped, it's easy and the system tends to be system independent, allowing the various computers to talk to each other. Articles can come from Apples, Commodores, Tandys, etc. If you would like to try, just give me a call and we can arrange a transfer time. If there is enough interest, maybe the system can be automated. The best choice of word processors to use seems to be Wordstar, but I have also processed Word Perfect, so I think just about anything can be used at this end.

I'm afraid my attention is beginning to wander. The sun is streaming through my window and is telling me I should do something useful. I suppose that means I should turn on a football game and fall asleep on the sofa.

de Russ VE3FSN



CRRL NEWS

Did you work VE7EXPO ? If so, your contact was among the 12,594 contacts (7668 on HF and 4926 on VHF) made by this station which was operated from May 2 to October 13 from Vancouver's world fair. VE7EXPO's first contact was with K7YFF, and last contact, with British Columbia Section Manager Ernie Savage, VE7FB. In spite of poor band conditions, a noisy RF environment, a noisy physical environment and 3627 amateurs who just dropped by to chat,

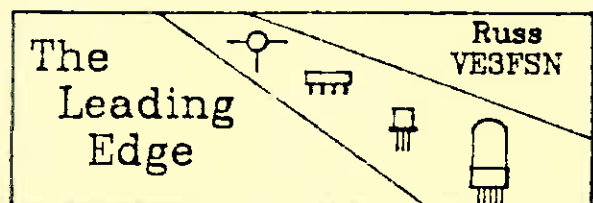
VE7EXPO operators, five per shift, two shifts per day, managed to work all Canadian provinces, all U.S. states and 85 DXCC countries. Dennis Pekrul, VE7CXN, is handling VE7EXPO's QSL cards. There are lots to fill out and they will be routed through QSL bureaus. Please be patient. If you didn't work VE7EXPO, you might be interested in a souvenir QSL card to brighten your shack. Dennis advises he has a good supply. He'll be glad to send one to anyone who sends him a self-addressed envelope and a 34 cent stamp.

Jim DeZorzi, VE3ZK, is organizing a cross-Canada packet radio network to assist with the distribution of the CRRL bulletins. If you'd like to be part of this network, contact Jim by packet radio, VE3ZK via VE3GYQ, or write to him at 1047 Prince George Road, London, Ontario N6H 4E2.

As a result of the Jack Ravenscroft case, CRRL, CARF and some commercial users of the radio spectrum have expressed serious concern to the Electromagnetic Compatibility Committee of RABC, the

Radio Advisory Board of Canada. Now, that committee has formed a special subcommittee chaired by a DOC engineer, to study the problem of RF susceptibility of non-radio electronic equipment. At its September meeting, the subcommittee unanimously supported an approach suggested by CRRL Director Ray Perrin, VE3FN. Ray would have DOC make a regulation that would require manufacturers of non-radio electronic equipment to modify their equipment at no charge whenever it malfunctioned in an RF field. The subcommittee also supported changing the Radio Act to allow the Minister of Communications to make such a regulation. If the Radio Advisory Board adopts the recommendation, they will be sent to the Minister. Early indications are that the Minister will be receptive to the recommendations.

In case you missed the change, the Honourable Flora Macdonald is now Minister of Communications, replacing the Honourable Marcel Masse.



AT&T Bell Laboratories has built a photonics switch that may become the basis for an optical computer or switching machine. The photonic switches or transistors are composed of 2500 ultra-thin, alternating layers of gallium arsenide and aluminum gallium arsenide.



The switches are turned on and off by light, much the same way as conventional transistors are controlled by electrical charges.

Researchers at the University of Illinois have combined with researchers at the General Electric Company to develop a microwave transistor with a maximum cutoff of 230 GHz. The device has a noise figure of 2.3 dB and an efficiency of 28% at 60 GHz, compared to the 2.5 dB and 14% efficiency of other GE devices.

As integrated circuit densities increase and packaging styles change, the substrate on which the devices are mounted must change. No longer called simply a printed circuit board, the substrate becomes a high-tech combination of a graphite core with a layer of silicon carbide deposited on it. Researchers at Texas Instruments Semiconductor Group have produced this sandwich which has a thermal coefficient close to that of the silicon used in the chips. Differences in expansion with temperature changes are minimized and so is damage to the chip due to this uneven expansion.

Chip designers at Siliconix have developed a power MOSFET, called the EleFET, that can carry 50 A and hold off 500 V. The MOSFET die is .448 by .535 in. and contains 93,000 transistors in parallel.

MEETING

20 Nov 1986

Guest Speaker

Ben Tolley

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

Despite the problems in getting the Rambler out last month many of you got the message to renew your membership. For those of you who didn't renew, we will give you one last chance. There will be a RED DOT on your address label and an application form stapled to your Rambler. Please take this opportunity to renew, otherwise you will be cut off after this month. Just to remind you, I am the membership chairman and you should give your memberships to me or send them to the club post office box. Membership now stands at 125 as of this writing.

Pat Brewer
VE3KJQ

MORSE CODE EXAMS

Last month Dave Coutts and I showed up at 19:00 on meeting night to run a code test. Unfortunately no one showed up. No doubt the late publishing of the Rambler had some effect, but I'm sure was not the only reason. At any rate, I have decided that I will make a change in the way that we will conduct the tests. First of all I will remind you that amateurs are now permitted under the DOC "attestation" program to conduct Morse code tests. I normally have the equipment required to conduct the test at the club's amateur radio class on Monday nights. Therefore I intend to conduct tests at the class at Laurentian High School at Baseline and Maitland. The classroom is on the left side of the



hall about 50 feet straight ahead of the front entrance. Exams would normally be conducted between 19:15 and 20:00. If you would like to write Amateur or Advanced Amateur code sending or receiving please contact me at 820-9309 BEFORE you show up as I will NOT normally have the test material with me and I am not always at the course. If you can't make a course night we might be able to do it at a club meeting, but again I require advanced notice.

Pat Brewer
VE3KJQ

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FLASH- ALL TAKE LUNCH

Back when morse was not just a code, but a language, and almost a way of life, some of the proudest practitioners of the art were Associated Press telegraphers. Most of them were recruited from Western Union or Postal, because AP wires were no place for beginners to practice. Phillips Code abbreviations for words and phrases turned an average sender into a speed demon, and a fast sender into someone who could give a receiving operator a nervous breakdown.

Recently W.F. "Nick" Carter, editor of the AP World and an old time western union operator, wrote about those AP Morse men:

"When the wire opened the sending operator in the control bureau called the roll and every telegrapher on the line answered up on the dot-you'd better believe it." From then onward the wire went like a bat out of hell. Or at least

it seemed that way, though the cruising speed was only about 35 words a minute. At that rate the day's wordage should total 15,050, but it rarely passed 14000 due to various interruptions such as messages and schedules.

Conversations with editors rarely delayed the wire. Telegraphers could talk a blue streak without missing a lick at work. Receiving operators could run to the fountain for a drink of water, shake hands and pass a couple of pleasantries with a visitor, or hurry a bulletin over to the editor's desk without loss of a word from the wire.

A few seasoned men could fall 25 words behind the sender and yet catch up; such is the amazing nature of human memory. But if 30 seconds later you asked the operator to repeat those words again, he couldn't do it. The moment he committed those words to paper the memory cells involved were wiped clean, like a recorder tape.

"actual working time for the day was 7 hrs, 10 min. The wire was shut down 30 minutes for lunch. And twice a day the sending operator said "take 10"-a welcome command.

"During those 10 minutes the telegraphers did the same thing teleprinter operators do with their "tens" today. Any man who couldn't run across the street, put down a hot cup of coffee, gobble two doughnuts, and get back to his wire in 10 minutes was in the wrong business."

The punctuality of lunches and tens was inviolate.



"Our favorite story from the Morse days has to do with this spirit of punctuality:

"In 1923 the newly-employed sending operator on the Kentucky state wire out of Louisville transmitted:

FLASH- PRESIDENT HARDING DEAD...ALL TAKE LUNCH!

"In a few seconds every operator along the line was scooting toward the nearest lunch counter. "We are told that although no real harm was done-no papers were near deadline-the bureau chief, H.M. Sheppard, was in a living rage for those 30 minutes before the wire started up again and the bulletin and bulletin matter were cleared."

From Western Union Telegraph News Sept/Oct 1965

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A SHORT NOTE ON YU LAND

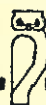
I had a chance to visit Yugoslavia - for a couple of weeks in October with my family and found it most interesting. Our destination was a little village called Bogatic.

About 20 km from where we were staying (with my in-laws) was a Ham friend, YZ7XX, Nik. I went to visit him three days after arriving in Yugoslavia. My wife's uncle drove me there to drop me off for a few days and as we were travelling along, I constantly kept looking up for antennas. I had no luck spotting any on my journey until of course I saw one at my arrival at YZ7XX QTH. After saying good-bye to my wife's uncle I looked up at Nik's antenna while chatting

and exchanging handshakes. Finally we had met after three years of communicating on 20 meters. We went into the house to meet his brother, YU7MIT and father, YU7MBG. Oh yah - plus the shack, which included an FT102 and a home brew amplifier. As for his antennas, his quad was down so that struck out for any communication back to Ontario. He had an 80 meter with an inverted Vee and 40 with a vertical roof mount. After an enjoyable dinner, Nik took me to the local radio club YU7GST to meet another Ham that was engaging in a YU contest on 80 that night. After chatting awhile with Nik (who knows his english very well) and saying hello to the contestee, I walked around and saw many awards and diplomas and also a classroom that contained 10 tables with a keyer on each and headphones. I asked about sessions here and was told that they give free lessons consisting of two hours a night, 3 times a week to beginners. After leaving the club we went back to Nik's house to do some operating. My reciprocal license was not available so I operated under his call sign using his equipment. What fun!! I talked to many of my friends in Greece on 80 meters and also contacted Hams in Italy, Romania, etc. After an enjoyable stay it was time to head back to Bogatic.

I plan to go back in 1988 for a longer time and I will take a rig with me to operate in Bogatic and also plan to visit my father's homeland-Greece.

John Frangos, VE3NRP
de London club "Bulletin" 11/86



VE3JW SCHEDULE - NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

	<u>Morning</u>		<u>Afternoon</u>
NOV			
8	OPEN		VE3BAJ VE3OPK FRED KINGSLEY
9	VE3EBI VE3CBE DAN WALLY		VE3ATJ VE3PDK DON CHUCK
15	VE3LNH ALLAN		VE3MJV VE3JDB BRUCE BOB
16	VE3OFM VE2FPD VE3PAI TOM ROBERT DONALD		VE3PDK VE3OWN CHARLES KEN
22	VE3OSL DOUG		OPEN
23	VE3OWE KRIS		OPEN
29	OPEN		VE3PDA VE3KTN TED HUGO
30	OPEN		OPEN
DEC			
6	VE3LNH ALLAN		VE3OAO VANCE
7	VE3EBI VE3CBE DAN WALLY		VE3ATJ VE3PDK DON CHUCK
13	VE3PAE VE3OMH CHRIS CHRIS		OPEN
14	VE3OFM VE2FPD TOM ROBERT		VE3PAP VE3PAD CHARLES ROBERT
20	OPEN		OPEN
21	OPEN		OPEN
27	OPEN		OPEN
28	VE3OSN BOB		OPEN



LIFE.

THE UNIVERSE
AND EVERYTHING
- POSTSCRIPT-

All seemed to be going far too well. Reports indicated that the repeater not only sounded very good but that the range had improved measurably.

Then I noticed that the audio was variable, being excellent at times and then going mushy. This I could not explain. Seems it was my handheld, which was to later be found to be off frequency.

Dave, VE3KLX, noted that the repeater was shutting itself off, at odd times, for no apparent reason.

Finally on Sunday, 9 November, I found I was unable to bring the repeater up. Expecting the worse, I made a trip to the site only to find that the repeater was there, but at a much reduced power level. Installing the main unit, I took the new repeater back to the lab and as expected, nothing was wrong.

I suspect that the cable or connector to the transmitter may have shorted out, we may never know. However, I am pleased with the performance of the new equipment and learned enough to make a few modifications to it before I re-install it. For now, we are back to "Old Reliable".

de Russ - VE3FSN

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