



THE RAMBLER

Volume 33 Number 7 August, 1990

DELEGATED EXAMINERS GUIDE READY

by Charles King, VE3PDK

Guide for Delegated Examiners, Radiocommunications Information Circular 1 (RCI-1), Issue 2, dated 1 January, 1990 is finally available from the Department of Communications. It outlines the requisites and conditions for accreditation of Clubs and individuals as DOC examiners. "Individuals will be accredited on a case-by-case basis ... where there are no other accredited examiners available. Clubs must agree to examine non-club members and may not charge a fee, although a reasonable cost recovery may be made for actual expenses incurred in conducting the tests.

Accreditation requires the signing of an undertaking to comply with all DOC requirements with respect to the administration and marking of examinations for amateur radio operator certificates. Clubs undertake to ensure that examiners are properly qualified to conduct such

examinations and to ensure the integrity and security of procedures and materials.

Once accredited, a letter of authority, valid for two years, is issued permitting the Club or individual to conduct examinations in code, theory and regulations on behalf of DOC for the appropriate amateur certificate class -- Amateur, Advanced or Digital.

DOC will brief examiners and will conduct periodic reviews of the examination procedures. This will help them determine the examiners qualifications for retention, extension or renewal of his accreditation.

Examination results are to be reported to the candidate immediately following the test and to DOC within ten days on form 16-901. Attestation by three amateurs for code testing is no longer accepted. Code testing results must be reported by an accredited, delegated examiner.

Credits at the amateur level remain valid for one year.

RCI-1 refers to the existing code requirements of 10 and 15 words per minute and to the separate examinations for theory and regulations. It is assumed that RC-1 will be reissued in the fall along with other RCIs concerned with restructuring of Amateur Radio.

It was decided at the July Executive meeting to ask for an additional Delegated Examiner to assist Ed, VE3VLF. Gerry, VE3CDS, who works with the Club's Amateur Radio Course, should be accredited as the second Delegated Examiner. This will enable him to conduct the Morse Code examinations as well as the theory and regulations examinations in Ed's absence.

THE VERY BEST TVI

by Gerry King, VE3GK

When the CJOH TV transmitter site at Hazeldean, Ontario first went on the air in the 1960s, I was hired to maintain the station during evenings and weekends. Roy, VE3AXC, the supervising engineer allowed me to work on my home-brew transceivers to while away the hours between duties. What a guy ... what a guy ...

My latest transceiver project used a single 6146A in the final. When the last solder joint was cooled, I ran final tests into a dummy load on 80 meters. Everything worked fine. Then I slung a windome antenna between two of the guy cables on the TV transmitter tower up around 75 feet to run the first on-the-air tests.

"Hello radio!" I called with my whole 50 watts output power. Worked super! Was called back in about a minute -- both on the air and on the telephone. A TVI complaint! -- "WOW" it was Roy. "You're coming in on my TV!"

"But, you're over three miles away!?"

IN FACT, I WAS COMING IN ON EVERY TV SET IN THE WHOLE WORLD TUNED TO CHANNEL 13 AND RECEIVING CJOH! That's gotta be TVI at its best. I was getting to the FM input preamp and the large FM modulators. You see -- you don't need a bunch of power to have some fun!!



THE RAMBLER

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NEXT MEETING OF THE OVMRC

20 Sept, 1990

1930 hours

Room #1

Multi-service

Centre

**1480 Heron Road,
(East of Alta Vista Dr. near
Baycrest Drive on south
side of Heron)**

**Watch for a map and
talk-in frequency in
September Rambler.**

CLUB CALENDAR

Annual Picnic Barbeque
Saturday, 25 August
from 1530 hrs to whenever
at VE3PAA, VE3PAB QTH
(see map etc. in this issue)

First Club Meeting
of the new season
1930 hrs
20 September

Amateur Radio Course Registration

Tuesday, 11 Sept, 1990
1900 to 2100 hrs (7 to 9 pm)

NOTRE DAME HIGH
SCHOOL - Room 318
250 Holland Avenue
Ottawa, Ont.

Maximum enrolment -- 30

Tuition, texts, tapes, tutoring,
examinations, Club membership
\$105.00

RAMBLER COMMITTEE

Editorial Board

Chas. King, VE3PDK
Jerry Wells, VE3CDS
Wilf Graham, VE3RWG

Circulation

Mike Beausoleil, VE3BGP
Fred Haire, VE3NJF
Eric Still, VE3OTT
Kevin Still

AMATEUR RADIO NETS

POT HOLE NET - Sundays 1000 hrs. 3.760 MHz (includes Swap Net)

SWAP NET - (Ed Morgan, VE3GX regular feature of Pot Hole Net and Capital City FM Net. Call Ed 733-1721 for listings and queries.

POT LID NET - Sundays 1100 hrs(except Jul & Aug) 3.620 MHz slow-speed CW.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Mondays 2000 hrs 146.94 MHz. Swap Net featured.

PACKET RADIO VOICE NET - Mondays 2040 hrs 146.94 MHz follows Capital City FM Net.

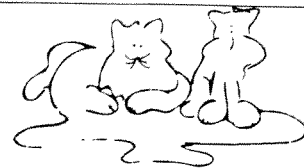
MILITARY NET - Tuesdays 2000 hrs 147.30 MHz.

CUMBERLAND EMERGENCY NET - Wednesdays 1930 hrs, 147.03 MHz

THE WISE OWL NET - Fridays 2000 hrs. 147.30 MHz

Strays

by Doug Carswell, VE3ATY



Here it is, already time to gather our thoughts for the coming year. There have been a number of changes in the Executive and we had our first meeting in July at my QTH. We covered a lot of territory and the new members got right down to business. To give you some idea, there were 28 minuted items, including such things as the handing over of records and tasks to the new members of the Executive. I can say, "look out! These guys are ready to roll." Things discussed included:

(i) **how do we promote amateur radio;**

(ii) **where are we going to meet** (as you know the museum is closed this coming fall: the answer is the Multi-Service Centre, 1480 Heron Road (across from St. Pat's - it used to be St. Peter's Junior High). Our meeting room has a rail for stretching your leg muscles and a mirror that runs along one wall for checking out how you're doing);

(iii) **what's on for the first meeting** and several meeting after that (we hope to have a rep from DOC out to tell us the scoop on the new regs and when all the amateur licensed holders get grandfathered);

(iv) our PR man, Ed Sieb, VE3RDZ, who views his role as getting new people to become licensed, suggested that later in the season we **hold an amateur week** and that we conduct some get-acquainted demos at some of the malls (more on this as the ideas moves out of the embryonic stages);

(v) our new Treasurer, Judy, VE3PAB, has volunteered to **put our accounting on a PC** using an accounting package suited to our needs and to establish standard procedures to be followed by Treasurers who succeed her. She also volunteered to host the Annual Picnic/Barbecue at her QTH;

(vi) Rambler Editor, Chuck, suggested that we should **encourage everyone to bring out non-members** to

the meetings, and also indicated that he has a number of people who will be working on the Publication Board for the Rambler;

(vii) Mike, VE3BGP, our Membership Chairman wanted **new copies of the Bylaws** of the Club for giving to new members (Chuck followed up on this by saying he would arrange for a new printing of the bylaws - Chuck called me later to indicate that there were some revisions that should be made as the bylaws tended to be disjointed in the current form and there were a number of items concerning restructuring ((our organization - not DOC's rule changes) (more to follow on this later)),

(viii) Judy also suggested that we keep a record of who brought out new people to the meetings with a view of **giving an award at the end of the year to the one who brings out the greatest number of new people;**

(ix) also there will be **door prizes** at some of the meetings - what and which I am not sure about - but we plan to have something for the first meeting to get things off to a good start; (x) Tech Adviser, Ed who is also the Club's Designated Volunteer Examiner raised the issue of where is **the location of the Club gear**. As you know he will need help on this one, and;

(xi) he also indicated that we needed a **second volunteer examiner** and Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, has indicated he would accept the responsibility on our behalf. This will work to our advantage as Jerry is also a member of the course faculty.

Incidentally **the course is on again** this fall starting at 7:00 P.M on the second Tuesday in September (that's the 11th) at Notre Dame High School (it was at one time known as Fisher Park). Further details will be made available as things get sorted out. Pat Brewer, Jerry Wells, Chuck King, and yours truly will probably form this year's faculty. All details are not available at this point in time.

Lee, VE3OWD, said he would **continue to work on the Club history** and will do some re-write as he gathers information. A substantial package of data was received from an old member and ex-President, Mike Shacklock, VE1AR, and this has been passed on to Lee.

The above gives you some idea of our first executive meeting and what's in the wind for the coming year. I got worn out just reading about it. As I said, your Executive is off and running - so lets give them the support needed to make it a good year for you, the Club and amateur radio. See you at the September meeting. Don't forget, there will be a door prize and we are going to count heads towards the year-end prize as suggested by Judy.

SILENT KEY BOB HERBER VE3PUE

The Club mourns the passing of Bob, VE3PUE, on Sunday 5 August, 1990. Although Bob's first Club was the Telephone Pioneers, he was a regular attendee at the meetings of the OVMRC where he had a warm greeting for everyone. The Pioneers recognize that Bob would have been the first to laugh at the euphemism "silent key" as his was always silent. He disliked CW. He was, however, generous to a fault in his relations with amateurs, especially the handicapped.

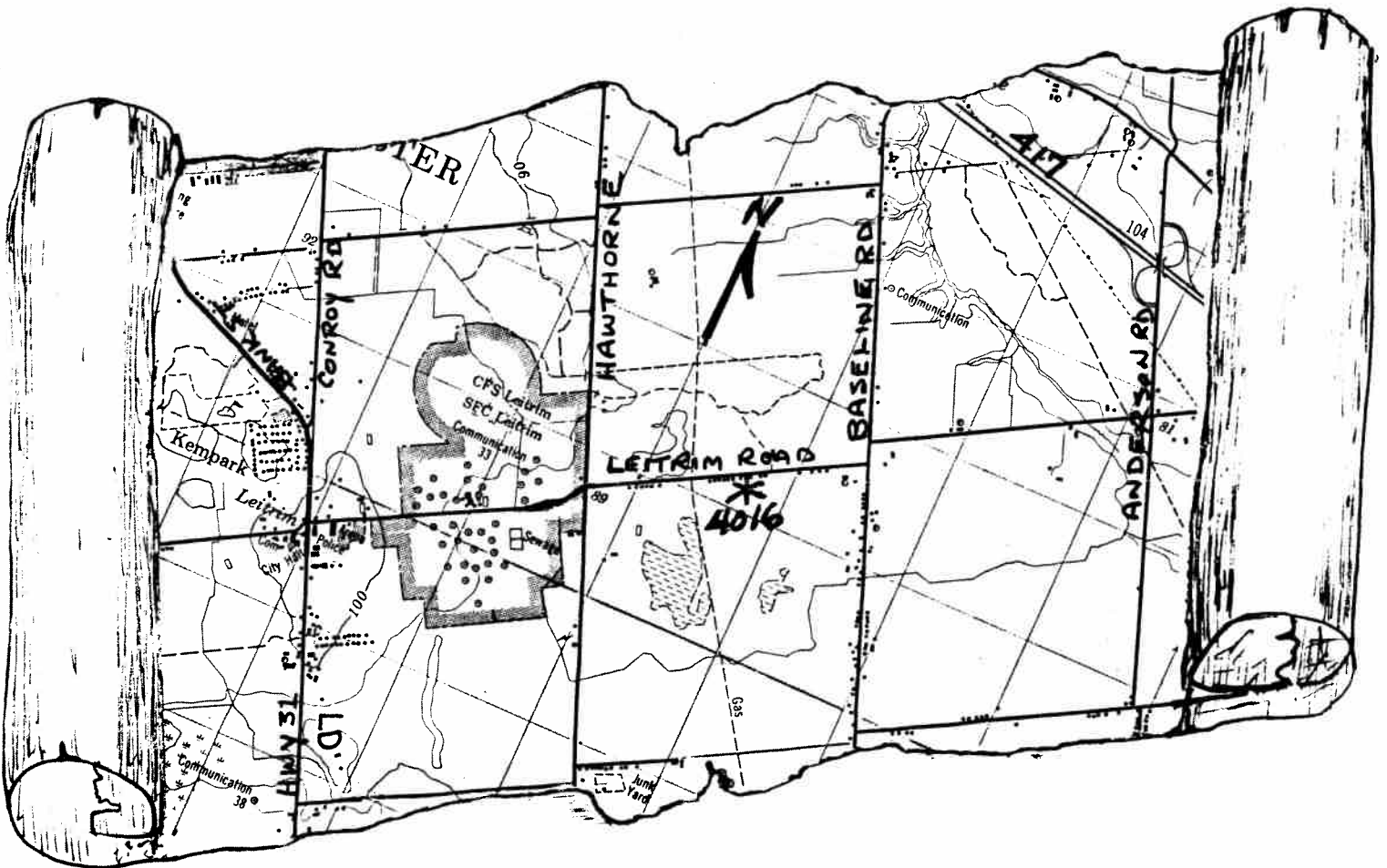
The Club extends condolences to Mrs. Herber and to Bob's family. He will be sorely missed, but our memories of this generous amateur will all be good ones.

OVMRC BBQ/PICNIC SATURDAY, 25 AUGUST

- HOSTS: Fred and Judy Taetz -- VE3s PAA & PAB
- LOCATION: 4016 Leitrim Road, Gloucester, 822-0937
- TIME: from 1530 hrs -----on
- FACILITIES: 1 (ONE) BBQ, fridge, 20 lawnchairs, small pool
- GAMES: Bring your equipment - Badminton, Baseball, Croquet (one set here) Soccer and other games

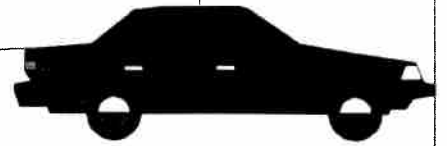
Come one and all and bring the family. An additional BBQ is welcome if many people plan to cook.

Talk-in on the Club repeater VE3TWO 147.900 in/147.300 out, if you need directions, but check the map below.



NEWS AND VIEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

by Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ



It may be summer, but the amateur radio bulletins still keep coming in from across the country. Here is the roundup of news from the June bulletins starting in Halifax and working to the west.

The **Halifax ARC REFLECTOR** has a report on the React '90 emergency drill. They found that packet was the most effective way to send messages and HF voice was the least effective. Some members had difficulty operating government supplied radios. If you are considering buying a new 2 meter radio, you might want to get one with sub-audible tone built in. An article called "*Playing the Tourist*" implies that many US repeaters have tone access.

The **Pioneer ARC TELEPARC** has some changes for the autopatch on TEL. The repeater will now use * and # instead of 703 and 307, also the timeout on 911 calls will be extended to 8 minutes. Doug, VE3CDC reported that two volunteers are working on refurbishing Armed Forces radio equipment in response to his article which appeared in several bulletins (*including the Rambler*). Bill, VE3EKA thinks that Amateur Television is a way to attract young people to amateur radio. "*Wouldn't it be great if there were a way to actually show your friends your latest computer program directly on their TV sets?*"

You may be surprised to know that there is still more discussion of an OARC/OVMRC merger in the June *GROUNDWAVE*. They devote a page and a half to a packet message from Michael VE3WMB. He advocates a referendum and says, "I think the main reason that OVMRC is 'not interested' is that many feel that the 'merger with' is a synonym for 'assimilated by'. I guess this one just won't go away.

The **Sudbury ARC SARCommunicator** has some words of wisdom, "*You can't fool all the*

people all the time, but some highway interchange signs come pretty close!"

The **Manitoulin ARC** celebrated its second anniversary with a Birthday Bash attended by 68 people. They don't mess about at Field Day either. They put their antennas on top of a bluff at 1400 feet above sea level. June was the last month for *PACK-ET RACKET NORTH*. John VE3OTH decided to end it "*due to the lack of interest in packet radio in this area*". It was a great effort and it is sad to see it go.

The **Scarborough ARC** in Toronto will be celebrating its 45th anniversary next year. It's a little older than the Manitoulin club. The *SARC News* has some useful equipment net frequencies and times gleaned from the *HALTON AMATEUR*:

Icom Users Net: 14.317 MHz
USB Sundays at 1700UTC

Yaesu Users Net: 14.317 MHz
USB Sundays at 1900UTC or
after Icom net

Kenwood Users Net: 14.317
MHz USB Sundays at 2000UTC or
after Yaesu net

Collins Users Net: 14.263 MHz
USB Sundays at 2000UTC

(no mention of an MFJ users net,
hi hi)

The debate in London over tone access to local repeaters continued in the June *LARC BULLETIN*. Bill VE3AUI wrote a three page allegorical article against having tone access. He doesn't see the need as "*Only to accountants of Megahertz and frequency police could the two metre band be considered filled. The frequencies are spoken for, but not on.*" That last statement could be true here as well.

The **Chatham Kent CLEAR SIGNALS** reproduced Eric, VE3OTT's excellent article from the May *RAMBLER* on *Volunteers and the Boss*. If you missed it you should look it up. There are some good points in it.

The **Saskatoon ARC GREEN SHEET** contains descriptions of two repeater networks in Saskatchewan. There is two-meter voice linking possible over a network of nine repeaters and packet linking over a network of ten digipeaters of which three include BBSs. The club was considering using all solar power again this year for Field Day or trying a steam-powered generator.

The **Calgary Amateur Radio Association** now has a membership of 300 and must be one of the largest clubs in the country. Recently CARA received a letter from hams in the Astrakhan city area of the USSR. Their club station is UZ6UWA. They want to "*establish friendly contacts between our clubs, run contests, exchange information and maybe delegations.*" The VHF section of CARA held its June "meeting" at the Carling O'Keefe Brewery where there was a \$5.00 charge for "snacks, etc.". I'm sure it was well attended. The CARA annual awards banquet had a total of 34 door prizes. Wish I was there! No sooner had the ARES group of the Calgary Disaster Services been established, than it was called out. On May 26, water in the Elbow and Bow rivers was nearing flooding stage and eight checkpoints were established to monitor levels. These were manned by six amateur radio operators, although a total of 33 had checked in to net. The city official was astonished at the number of operators available and was pleased with the response time. In the informal debriefing which followed it was pointed out that "break" was meant for emergencies and "break, break" for serious emergencies. "*If you must break into net with information or traffic, give your call sign only. During heavy net activity giving your call suffix will suffice at first when trying to get the net control's attention.*"

That's it for the summer, see you again in the fall.

AMATEUR RADIO COURSE

FOR A DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS CERTIFICATE TO OPERATE AMATEUR RADIO STATIONS

New DOC regulations make the licensing requirements for amateur radio the easiest ever. New manuals outline minimum requirements in radio knowledge and regulations. Qualified, experienced instructors take you through each step at a manageable pace. Morse Code, although not a requirement for the first level of proficiency, is taught and practised at each session, enabling you to qualify for a more advanced level. Examinations are written in the classroom in a friendly atmosphere under the supervision of Club Examiners on behalf of the DOC.

- Place:* Notre Dame High School, 250 Holland Avenue, Ottawa
- Dates:* Tuesdays, starting 11 Sept, 1990 to mid-February, 1991.
Registration Tuesday 11 Sept - 1900 to 2100 hrs (7-9 p.m.)
- Times* 1900 to 2200 hrs (7 to 10 p.m.) each Tuesday starting 18 Sept.
- Tuition:* \$105 includes all texts, Morse Code tapes, tutoring, examinations, membership to the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club and subscription to the Club newsletter The Rambler.

Enrolment limited to 30 students.

Course conducted by: **The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club**
P.O. Box 5530, Station "F"
Ottawa, Ont. K2C 3M1



EDITOR'S CORNER

Charles King, VE3PDK



Club Members Make the Nationals. Over the past few months, members of the Club, who had submitted articles to *The Rambler*, were pleasantly surprised to find their names in print in the national amateur radio journal, *The Canadian Amateur*. Gerry King, VE3GK, whose *Gain Game* column appears monthly in that journal, had two articles reprinted from *The Rambler*. *The Ubiquitous 6L6* and *75 Meters One Thousand Meters Down*, both informative and entertaining, and must have been enjoyed by national readers as much as they were by our own Club members. VE2OWW, George Dew's article *The Case of the Humming Antenna* surely provided a few chuckles as

well as raising questions on the source of the hum. Even your humble Editor saw his soldering iron project reprinted. VE3OTT, Eric Still, whose article *Volunteers and the Boss!* gave us much to think about, will see this article reprinted in the Chatham Kent Amateur Radio Club's *Clear Signals*. Eric's pearls of wisdom on voluntarism obviously gave others pause for thought as well.

Congratulations to these writers and a vote of thanks for sharing their experiences and knowledge with other amateurs. How many other potential authors are hiding out there with experiences and information we could all benefit from? With summer on the wane, isn't it time

you started making notes on that homebrew gadget you made last winter? How about humorous or informative anecdotes in amateur radio operations? We can all do with a chuckle and dear knows we can never learn enough -- so how about it?

Remember, you don't need to be an accomplished writer. Put your ideas down on paper or on packet or just call the Editor and say, "I think I have a story you might like to print." There is lots of help available to rewrite or just to polish up your story so don't let that stop you. Make a pledge to contribute at least one article to your paper this year. See you in print.



The Wise Owl Gives A Hoot!

by Leo Desjardins, VE3NVL

On September 8th, 1969, The Wise Owl Net resumed operation for another season. That season came to an end on June 29th, 1990. As in the past, The Wise Owl Net is the place to meet new and old friends in the Amateur community in Ottawa. The Net features Club announcements, CRRL and CARF bulletins and subjects of general interest to the amateur radio community.

During the season's forty-three week period, Nets were conducted each Friday evening at 2000 hrs. A special Net was run and controlled by Sydney, VE3GVI on Monday, December 25th. Total Net time during the course of these 44 Nets was 2414 minutes (40.23 hours) 86 hams checked in for a total of 664 QNI. A special thank you is ex-

tended to Sydney for running the Christmas Net. It was well received.

From January 19th to March 30th, 1990, eleven qualifying Nets were run for The Wise Owl Certificates. A minimum of ten check-ins are required for a Class "A" and not less than seven check-ins for a Class "B" Certificate. Eight Wise Owlers qualified for the Class "A" and seven for the Class "B". These were presented to each recipient at the regular Club meeting on May 17th, 1990.

I hope that everyone who participated enjoyed themselves as much as I did in managing and controlling the Net. I want to thank you all for taking part throughout the season. A special thank you goes to Chuck, VE3PAP, for controlling and managing the Net during my illness. And of

course, many thanks to Dave, VE3KLX, for taking over the reins during my absence on the first Net of the season.

The Wise Owl Net will be off the air for the months of July and August, but operations will resume on Friday, September 7th. As your Net manager, I look forward to meeting everyone again. Remember to tune in every Friday evening at 2000 hrs (8 p.m.) local time on repeater VE3TWO (The Wise Owl) at 147.90/30 MHz. This is your Club Net. Together we can make it bigger and better than ever.

Work is underway on the production of a new Wise Owl certificate -- one that you will be proud to hang in your shack. So plan to check in ten times during the qualifying run so that you will get one this year.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, APPLICATION AND AMATEUR RADIO COURSE STUDENT RESERVATION

Here is an opportunity to renew your membership or to reserve a space on the Amateur-Radio Course for a friend or neighbour.

If you have not already renewed your membership, why not use the form below to do it today. This will ensure that you don't forget it in the rush later on and guarantee your continued subscription to *The Rambler*.

If you have already renewed or if you have another membership form laying around in a previous issue of the *The Rambler*, use it to reserve a space on the Amateur Radio Course for a friend or neighbour. His or her membership application duly noted as a prospective course member and accompanied by the membership fee will guarantee their enrolment. The fee will be deducted from the tuition at the time of registration on 11 September.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.,
P.O. Box 5530, Station "F",
OTTAWA, Ontario K2C 3M1

Radio Call Sign

Date

Family Name		Given Name & Initials		Preferred Radio Name	
Address - Apartment, House Number, Street				Home Phone	
City/Town	Province	Postal Code	Business Phone		

New Member Members Renewal
 Association Memberships
 CARF CRRL
 OARC Other

Applies for membership/renewal for the Membership Year.....in the following category:

- REGULAR MEMBER* - as a licensed amateur..... \$15.00 _____
- ASSOCIATE MEMBER* - as a radio enthusiast..... \$15.00 _____
- FAMILY MEMBER(S) - of a Regular or Associate Member..... \$1.00 _____

Given Names

Total: \$ _____ Enclosed Cheque Cash

For Office Use

Membership Number _____

Membership Registered

Receipt Issued

Card(s) Issued

Subscription Registered

* Includes subscription to *The Rambler*