

Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc. (**OVMRC**) Volume 47, Issue No 4



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RAC PRESIDENT VISITS OTTAWA

A ll Radio Amateurs are invited to attend the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club monthly meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2002 at 7:30 PM to meet our National RAC President, Mr William Gillis, VE1WG. The meeting takes place at the Auditorium of the Canada Science and Technology Museum on St-Laurent Blvd South (East sector of Ottawa).

Mr Gillis would like to meet as many Radio Amateurs as possible, whether members or not. He will put us up to date on many current subjects and also cover "RAC in 2002" activities.

LE PRESIDENT DE RAC VISITE OTTAWA

Tous les radioamateurs sont invités à la réunion mensuelle du Club Radioamateur Mobile de la Vallée de l'Outaouais le jeudi, 21 novembre 2002 à 19:30hrs afin de rencontrer notre Président National du RAC, M William Gillis, VE1WG. La réunion aura lieu à l'Auditorium du Musée des Sciences et de la Technologie, Canada, situé sur le boulevard Saint-Laurent sud, à l'est d'Ottawa.

M. Gillis a exprimé le désir de rencontrer autant de radioamateurs que possible, qu'ils soient membres ou non. Il nous mettra à jour sur plusieurs sujets courants et il parlera des activités "RAC en 2002".

RAC Bulletin

From: RAC Headquarters Date: November 8, 2002

Subject: Industry Canada To Conduct Public Consultation On Towers

RAC President Gillis has delegated Regulatory Affairs VP, Jim Dean, VE3IQ, to organize and present RAC's official response to the public consultation announced by Industry Minister Alan Rock on 31 October. Tim Ellam, VE6SH, will assist VP Dean with legal expertise developed in successfully defending a number of tower cases.

Radio Amateurs wishing to submit any comment or information on tower issues are requested to address their input to VP Dean via e-mail at ve3iq@rac.ca. RAC will keep you informed of developments through TCA and future RAC Bulletins.



Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc. P.O. Box 41145 Ottawa, Ontario K1G 5K9

OVMRC Life Members

Club Website

The OVMRC **Rambler** is available on-line at the club website:

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The **OVMRC** acknowledges the following organizations for their support

of our activities by providing them with courtesy copies of the *Rambler*:

The Rambler is produced using Corel's Ventura™ 8 software.

The OVMRC website is hosted by Magma Communications Ltd.

Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON

http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/rambler.htm

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VE3NR



OVMRC Executive (2002-2003)

President Mike Kennedy, VA3TEC

godtec@bigfoot.com

Vice-President

Treasurer Ken Gill, VA3KJG

748-0218,

Ken McKenzie, VA3NEK **Secretary**

829-4884, va3nek@rac

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Amateur Radio Exhibit Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

749-9010, ve3vig@rac.ca

Amateur Radio Training Bob Shaw, VE3SUY

737-9443, lycott@istop.com

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

728-3666

Accredited Examiner Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ

225-6785, ve3osz@rac.ca

Field Day Matthew Lange, VA3MWL

821-1814,

Historical Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

747-5565, ve3weh@rac.ca

Flea Market Vacant

Membership Adam King, VA3PIP

831-9970.

Newsletter Bill Hall, VA3WMH

830-5580, va3wmh@rac.ca

Publicity & Programs

Radio Operations Vacant

Technical Jake Guertin, VA3TOX

253-3732, va3tqx@sprint.ca

Emergency Preparedness Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS

837-3261, ve3srs@rac.ca



OVMRC Repeater

147.300 MHz(+) 444.200 MHz(+) 53.030/52.030 MHz



OVMRC web page http://www.ovmrc.on.ca Webmaster: John Rodger, VE3JR,jcr@magma.ca



Next Meeting Nov 21 Rambler Deadline Dec 1

The Rauller is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc. and is published 11 times a year (monthly, except for July). Opinions expressed in the Rambler are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the OVMRC Inc., its officers or its members. Permission is granted to republish the contents in whole or in part, providing the source is acknowledged. Commercial use of the contents is expressly prohibited. Submit articles to the editor or by e-mail to: va3wmh@rac.ca.

Ramblings



Emergency Preparedness in Amateur radio

The word "Emergency" has taken a whole new meaning these days. And it should.

Everyday we are advancing in technology and communications. But when a big or small event comes along to disrupt our communications of our daily lives, we need something to ease the burned of these

catastrophic events. This is where amateur radio has been able to fill the void. In the amateur radio community we have access to frequency, equipment and the most important, talented caring people. Currently the government has created various programs and an "Emergency Preparedness Act" to deal with these issues and help the country and its people. Some of these programs help in ways such as.

- The Provision of advice and assistance to federal departments and agencies with respect to the telecommunications requirements of their emergency response functions and related civil emergency plans.
- The provision of advice and planning assistance to provinces and municipalities with respect to emergency telecommunications and related warning systems.
- Coordinating the provision of an emergency broadcast service, based on the facilities and services of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Environment Canada and, privately owned networks and stations.
- Facilitating the provision of appropriate telecommunications equipment or services required in emergency response operations, as requested by lead federal departments. Such as those in close collaboration with the telecommunications industry, updates a national and regional inventory of telecommunication equipment which could be used in time of emergency.
- Providing advice and assistance, to private or public telecommunications undertaking in mitigating the disruptive effects of emergencies on domestic and external telecommunications.
- The provision of guidance, advice and coordination assistance to Canada's national and international telecommunications networks and broadcasting systems, with respect to the communications requirements of emergency responders, the rapid reception and transmission of inter-regional and transborder warnings to affected populations, and the dissemination of essential public information
- Coordination and management of programs to ensure the availability of telecommunications to meet federal

requirements during periods of systems overload or degradation.

The amateur radio community can assist in some or all of what is going with the government. We can offer services such as:

- Disaster Communications.
- Training of proper radio communications use.
- Advice and Assistance in radio communications.
 - Equipment installation.
 - Equipment purchase.
 - Assistance in cross communications from different systems.
- · Radio Amateurs of Canada
 - ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service)
 - Service provides names of individuals that are willing to assist in communications during a disaster.
 - NTS (National Traffic system)
 - Service provides four levels of nets to be used in a national communications system in an emergency.

Other agencies that are involved in emergency preparedness are:

- OCIPEP (Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection & Emergency Preparedness)
 - Provides national leadership of a new, modern and comprehensive approach to protecting Canada's technology facilities.
 - And the government's primary agency for ensuring national civial emergency preparedness.
- CCEP (Canadian Centre for Emergency Preparedness)
 - CCEP is a non-profit organization devoted to the promotion of disaster management to individuals, communities and organizations.
- · Industry Canada
 - Develops and maintains emergency plans, Gives advice and assistance in responding to disruptive effects, manages programs to ensure availability of telecommunications to meet federal requirements.

The Amateur radio community, such as individuals and clubs can assist and develop new ideas and techniques to maintain a better communication system during and after a disaster. You too can help, get involved, become a AREC member. Create new ideas such as radio kits for schools that students can build for emergency communications.

We at the OVMRC are purchasing a trailer for the use for training and use during an emergency. This trailer will be filled with communications equipment for the use of an emergency. Such as the normal HF, VHF, UHF and ARPS radio's. Can we include other equipment in case of an emergency? Mobile Satellite Telephony? Mobile Satellite networking, such as internet? Repeater and Bridge communications is another area to cover. Any other ideas?

I would like to invite you to share your ideas with use at the next meeting.

Let us know which direction you want the club to go with the emergency preparedness.

Please e-mail me with your comments about this article, and about emergency preparedness in general.

October 17, 2002

The meeting was opened by Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH. Larry in his capacity as Nominating Chairman, announced that the Executive Committee had appointed Mike Kennedy, VA3TEC, as Vice President. Larry then introduced Mike and turned the meeting over to him.

Mike introduced himself and gave a little personal history.

Mike asked if there were any guests, there was one guest. (Unfortunately I was not able to find out who the guest was.)

Bob Shaw announced that the radio class was present and they were making the meetings part of the course.

Mike then asked if there requests for assistance, there were none.

Richard Brisson, who is with the Communications Security Establishment, gave a great presentation entitled Enigma, It's Crypto logic History and Canadian Perspective. Richard when through the history of the famous encryption device and it's workings. In addition to the presentation and question and answer session, he has several actual Enigma with him for anyone who wished to looked.

Mike thanked Richard and he then turned the meeting over to Larry, VE3WEH, once again.

Larry, once again wearing the hat of Nominating Chairperson, announced to the meeting that Mike Kennedy was willing to take on the responsibilities of President of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club.

Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, nominated Mike Kennedy, VA3TEC, as President. The motion was seconded by Don Raymond, VE3DRO.

The motion carried.

Mike Kennedy was elected President of the OVMRC.

Mike assumed control of the meeting as the new President and asked for Committee head reports.

Ken Gill, Treasurer, VA3KJG, reported that he hoped that the clubs financial problems would be solved now that a President had been elected.

Ken McKenzie, Secretary, VA3NEK, had no information to report.

Maurice-Andre Vigeault, VE3JW, VE3VIG, reported that there had been a problem with one of the antenna rotor control switches and that the unit would have to be sent to Yaesu for repair.

Bob Shaw, Radio Course, VE3SUY, announced that there were 9 students in this seasons course.

Ken Halcrow, Emergency Preparedness, VE3SRS, reported that he had looked at three or four trailers but had not found one as of yet.

Adam King, Membership, VA3PIP, reported that there were 70 members present at the meeting.

This concluded that reports from the Executive members.

Andre Pilon, VE3CLW, told of his search to identify a strange sound that he had heard this past summer.

Rick Furniss, VE3IHI, told of changes that had been going on with the Emergency Preparedness groups in the area and about relations with the City of Ottawa. In addition, the changes that had gone into standardizing 12 volt connections. The connector of choice is the Anderson Power Pole connector. The connectors are available from him.

Frank Stratton, VE3YY, announced that the IRLP nodes would be going to 4 digits from 3 and that the procedures for openning and closing nodes would be changing. He informed the meeting that there were over 640 nodes and that his node was operating at 145.690 simplex

Door prizes were awarded in addition to the 50/50 winnings. 50/50 prize of \$53 was won by James Dawkins. Licence Plate holder, VE3ES, William Leal Coffee Mug, Greer Dedoe OVMRC Crest, VE3XMV

Mike closed the meeting.

Proposed Bylaw Amendment

The following is the text of the proposed bylaw amendment.

6.11 Emergency Preparedness

The Emergency Preparedness Committee is responsible for the co-ordination and planning of Emergency Assistance requests and activities. The Committee is also responsible for the purchase and maintenance of Emergency Preparedness related radio and related equipment and associated activities.

Next Meeting

Mr. Claude Lefebvre, Manager Operations Centre, Government Emergency Operations Co-ordination Centre (GEOCC) Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIPEP) will be our guest speaker for the December 12th meeting.

The presentation will focus on the OCIPEP mandate, pertinent legislation and the GEOCC operations. All members are cordially invited to hear about a very critical Federal department concerned with Emergency Preparedness.

Yesteryear

ongratulations to our new President, Mike Kennedy VA3TEC, who was voted in as our new President by members attending our last General Meeting held on October 17, 2002. Although Mike admitted he was "nervous," he impressed me with the way he conducted himself during the meeting and also during our Executive Meeting the following week. Mike is keen, interested and wants to lead our club into the future of Amateur radio. I hope he inspires more youth to join our hobby and our club. In being elected as President, Mike vacates his position of Vice-President and this position is open again. We have high hopes a new Vice-President will step forward to provide the necessary support for Mike during the 2002-2003 club year. We are still looking for people to volunteer for our Flea Market, Publicity and Programs, and Radio Operations Chairs. Please step forward and volunteer at our next meeting or contact any member of the Executive if you are interested in serving your club.

There were 70 people in attendance and our guest speaker Richard Brisson's presentation of the German code machine Enigma turned out to be a very intriguing, interesting, and an excellent presentation using Power Point which was enjoyed by all. If you missed the meeting, take a look at the photos included in this issue.

RAMBLER DECEMBER 1992

Once again, "Radio rabbits run rampant - Rambler readers regaled!", the front page featured articles written by Jacques Choquette VE3TSC and Allan Barnes VE3TYJ. They both chronicled Bunny Hunts held on Thursday, October 29, 1992 and November 14, 1992.

For those of you that are new to this sport, or that has never participated, "Bunny Hunting" is simply "Radio Direction Finding (RDF)." We call it a "Bunny Hunt" here in Ottawa due to our traditional mascot VE3BNE (see photos in this issue). It seems that Bunny Hunts around Ottawa have recently become more popular in the fall and run through to the spring.

The "Bunny" for the October 29 hunt was Neil Herber VE3PUE and Jacques reported his hiding location at Westgate shopping Centre. Participants arrived in the following order. 1. Tim VE3USL with Lorna (31 min), 2. Sharon VE3TDW, Duncan VE3BDC and Tom (32 min) 3. Dave VE3TVU (44 min.) 4. Mike VE3FFK, Wil VE3XMT, and Peter (55 min.) 5. Larry VE3WEH and Jacques VE3TSC who arrived after the hunt was over!

Al Barnes noted nine teams participated in the Bunny Hunt held on November 14, 1992. The first team arrived in less than 23 minutes, breaking the old record. Five teams found the Bunny who was hidden in the lower parking lot of Vincent Massey Park. 1. Steve VE3USM and Dave VE3KIU broke the record in 21 min. using a 4-element beam through the sun roof. 2. Duncan VE3BDC, Sharon VE3TDW and a friend were next with 30 min. 3. Neil VE3PUE was happy to find the Bunny in one hour, five minutes. 4. Tim VE3USL and his wife took 1 hr. 10 min. 5. Wil VE3XMT and Anne Jeffrey in one vehicle and Mike VE3FFK and Peter in another came in last. A special mention to Maurice-André VE3VIG for demonstrating the cheapest antenna - a single paper clip. The organizers for this chase were Al VE3TYJ, Ian VE3PSK and Steve VE3RUU.

What do you get when you win? Well, the enjoyment and pleasure of having learned how to DF, the sweet success of winning bragging rights, the responsibility to conduct the next hunt as the Bunny and of course, getting to show off and keep the mascot Bunnies. Yes, we have two Bunnies in the box now! It is a lot of fun and you would enjoy the comradeship, so why not come out to the next one. Simply listen to the local nets to find out when the next one is scheduled.

The Minutes of the General Meeting, November 19, 1992 by Secretary Larry Woram VE3WLN, contain interesting items. Ken VE3KJB announced the Flea Market would be held on May 15, 1993 at HMCS Carleton Drill Hall at Dow's Lake. Kenwood once again, donated a prize. Speaking of our Flea Market, we won't have one in 2003 unless someone volunteers to take on the task soon. It will soon be too late to make a booking (if not already too late) for the Stittsville arena, our usual spot. If you want to volunteer, do so soon!

Ian VE3SNX, needed operators for the annual "Speak to Santa" at the Museum of Science and Technology and for the National Capital Commission's five and ten Km Winterlude runs. This brings to mind our "Talk to Santa" event which will be held this year on Saturday, Dec. 14, 2002 & Sunday, Dec. 15, 2002. From 1:00pm to 4:00 p.m.., we will have four or five "Santa's Elves," dressed in red lab coats (provided by the Museum), operating their 2m radios throughout the Museum looking for children to "Talk to Santa." Our bilingual "Santa Claus" will be at the "North Pole" chatting with the children. Last year, the Museum provided small candy canes to give to the children when they picked up their own personal Certificate verifying they had spoken to Santa at the North Pole. I am looking after this event this year and please contact me if you would like to assist as one of Santa's Elves. It is a very enjoyable event.

Cy Webster VE3SIY was absent from the General Meeting, November 19, 1992. In his place, Jerry Wells VE3CDS, announced the Seniors Group had received a \$6998.00 grant from the Minister of State for Seniors for Amateur Radio Station VE3JW and that another grant application had already been submitted for an additional grant.

John VE3ACI, the Technical Chairperson, informed members they could expect better coverage from VE3TWO repeater with a new antenna and feedline. John was looking for assistance with the installation of relay racks at the repeater site.

Larry VE3WEH reported about the meeting he attended with John VE3ACI, Ian VE3SNX, and members of the 6m Interest Group (6MIG) including VE3INT, VE3SPF and VE3RDZ. The Group offered the club a lease arrangement for their 6m repeater, controller, duplexer and Ringo Ranger antenna for the sum of \$4.00. Any maintenance costs totaling more than \$200 annually will be the responsibility of the 6MIG. Either party can cancel with ninety days written notice, however, the club has the option of purchasing the equipment from the group at fair-market value. The consensus of the Technical Committee was to enter into the agreement since the lease benefitted the club at virtually no cost. Ed VE3RDZ gave a short presentation of the advantages of 6m operation saying that it was one of the up-and-coming bands.

Jerry Wells VE3CDS wrote a brief update on the progress of the committee that was set up to assist the redesign and recommissioning of VE3JW at the Museum of Science and Technology. With the receipt of the New Horizons grant, and the establishment of a new organization called "The Senior Operators," a group of Amateurs over the age of 60 would look after the new VE3JW station, the acquisition of new equipment for the station could proceed. The new station was expected to reopen in the latter part of 1993.

"VE3TWO gets new antenna" written by Mike Kelly VE3FFK, describes the installation of a new Diamond X500 HNA repeater antenna at 580 Booth Street. It was erected on a mast about seven feet higher, on October 31, 1992, by Mike, John VE3ACI, Steve VE3RUU, and yours truly. The previous mix of various types of coax with several adapters in line, was replaced with new a single short run of new RG-213 coax.

Well that takes care of the December 1992 issue. I hope to see you at our next meeting, November 21, 2002 when our guest speaker will be Bill Willis VE1WG, President of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). I expect to see a lot of new faces there and many Amateurs from other clubs as well.

73 Larry VE3WEH

ACHTUNG!! GEHEIMSCHRIFT

Indeed, the Secret Code machines exposed! Thanks to Richard Brisson we had a hands on demo of the wartime cypher machine known as ENIGMA of which the code breaking by the Allies is said to have shortened WWII by two years.

Here is a picture of the famous coder/decoder. With the help of drums, rotors and intricate wiring you can produce a coded letter. Rotors at transmitting and receiving ends are set according to a random selection which can be sent in the clear.

By pressing a letter key on the keyboard you send an electrical impulse through the rotors which ends up lighting a letter of the top display. That is how you encode. To decode, you press the key representing the encoded letter and the light board indicates the original letter providing that your rotors were set exactly the same as the encoding machine.

In the picture, you see two coding machines with an assortment of rotors. The one on the right has its top panel open to reveal the rows of lights just above the keyboard.

These machines were battery operated, the battery being self contained inside the box, to the right of the rotors.

Thank you Richard for a very interesting presentation.



Our coffee crew just recently returned from their world rovings. You'll recognize Miles, VA3COA and Margaret, VA3COB. Their return to the OVMRC meetings is very much appreciated as the social portion of our meetings was missed by many.



Enigma code machines and code wheels.

VE3JW UPDATE

Lots has been happening at the Museum Station.

Visitors from all over. Look at our guest book. Australia, Japan, Korea, India, Europe, Africa, South America, United States and from all provinces in Canada. All Amateurs.

This is no surprise as the word has spread around to all corners via radio waves, Internet and magazine. So, thanks are in order to all those who have made this station possible. The Radio Amateurs for whom the hobby is more than just a home station and would like to share it and see it grow. The regulars and the occasionals, volunteer operators, who have tripled the Museum's requirements for us to retain the invaluable privileges of such a deal.

But also, those working behind the scene. Those who come to

answer the call when we need to repair an antenna or install a new facility.

Recently, in order to enhance appeal for all regional amateurs and instil a sense of partnership with the VE3JW station, we have farmed out small projects to local Clubs.

The first such project was welcomed with enthusiasm, as a dozen members of the OARC joined their efforts to complete a full installation, including construction, of a system to allow us to work AMSAT-OSCAR 40.

Under the leadership of Clare Fowler, VE3NPC, they have engineered and built the necessary

circuits for 2.4 GHz operation: a power supply, an isolating amplifier, a switching system, an alarm system and a four foot dish complete with offset helical feed.

They provided cables, mounting brackets and a well-balanced set of counterweights. The only unit that was purchased was a DownEast converter, 2.4GHz to 2m.

Each participant had his task well defined and well documented, and Clare wrote an operating instruction pamphlet including diagrams for the system, which he left at the JW station for our guidance.

Clare used a four foot fibreglass dish as any other small antenna would have given us marginal results. In order to minimize wind load and heavy weight of the fibreglass, he cut diamond shape patterns into the dish. The holes were filled with a light metal mesh providing a much better reflecting surface.

As members were completing their task, units were brought in for fitting and assembling into a full system. A work party gathered on the roof of the Museum on Aug 23, 2002 for installation of the antenna which was to be mounted on the existing support and boom for our VHF/UHF satellite antennas.

Testing of the whole system through AO-40 could not be done during the day time as the orbit of the satellite at that particular time turned it into a nightbird. We approached the Museum for permission to come in around midnight to do the testing but were denied access as they had insufficient security personnel.

We asked again to come in at 6AM at the tail end of the pass. This time it was a GO! Clare and I met early and set up to wait for the bird. It did not take long for Clare to connect. He knew lots of users of P3D/AO-40 (remember the old designation?) and he was able to get some reliable reports of our performance.

I had never had a chance to work AO-40 before, so, Clare turned over the "handles" to me and I became almost speechless as I heard my voice return from the satellite with a considerable delay. Kind of throws you off at the beginning but Clare tipped me to move one

earphone off my ear. That worked very well.

As AO-40 was loosing altitude and improving attitude we had to decrease our transmit power level, lest we trigger LEILA, which is an alarm system on the satellite for those over eager operators using too much power. LEILA simply turns the TX off and everybody is a looser. Our UHF uplink was so efficient that we had to turn the power down to "5" watts!

As for our downlink, Clare reported that it was very quiet, the noise level being even lower than what he was expecting.

Satellite antenna Photo courtesy of Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

AO-40 is now coming around to a favorable orbit that will allow more day time operation. Eventually, it will be during Museum opening hours so that we can proceed with live demonstrations.

There are other projects for the VE3JW station which will be farmed out to other Clubs as we seek to make this station your station. If you're a licensed amateur this station is for you regardless of club affiliation.

The purpose of the New JW is to invite you to operate, to learn about the many modes of Amateur Radio, or to simply demonstrate state-of-the-art communications to the visiting public.

To facilitate your visit at VE3JW, the Museum has provided us with special passes for any licensed Radio Amateurs who wish to come in for that purpose.

Hope to see YOU at JW!

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG Amateur Radio Exhibit Group

William J. Gillis, VE1WG

Biographical Sketch related to Amateur Radio

1308 Shediac Road Moncton NB E1C 7A7 Phone 506-383-8016 506-383-1034

E-mail: gilliswj@nbnet.nb.ca

Native of Campbellton, New Brunswick. Born November 5, 1929. Qualified for Certificate of Proficiency and obtained station licence, VE1WG, 1946. High School Diploma & Bishop's University, Lennoxville QC, summer courses.

Held station calls, VE3BGX, VE3WY, and VE1NR while at various postings as senior management professional in Telecommunications Industry. Engaged for number of years in East Africa as a telecommunications management and systems design consultant on various Canadian government-sponsored international projects. Hold station license, 5H3WG, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Club Activity & Associations:

While resident in other provinces, member of Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Oakville (ON) Amateur Radio Club and Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs.

Founding executive member Moncton Area Amateur Radio Club, Inc., 1966. Club President, 1967, when Club sponsored major Centennial Year convention. Conducted Club's Training program for several years. Chair Club's Delegated Examiner and Packet BBS Committees. Former Editor & continuing contributor to Moncton Club Newsletter, QTC.

Past President & Charter Life Member Moncton Seniors ARC Inc., Member Old Timers Amateur Radio Club (Maritimes), Chairman "Old Timers Minifest" Conventions Committee, Member Society of Wireless Pioneers, Morse Telegraph Club and International Association of Airline Hams. Recipient of Twentieth Century Recognition Award for contributions to Amateur Radio in Moncton area.

National & Regional Experience:

Atlantic Region Director Radio Amateurs of Canada 1994-2001. Elected President of RAC for term 2002-3. Joint Chairman on RAC-Industry Canada, Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board. Served for six years as Chairman of RAC's Administration & Finance Committee, Chaired Ad hoc Group on Development of RAC Committees and RAC E-mail Deliberations Committee.

Married, seven children, fourteen grandchildren. Wife, Patricia, holds IC authorization VE1PAT, children Diane, Daniel, and Patti hold VE9PD, VE1BJ, and VE9PGT respectively. Grandsons, Derek and Jeffrey Prosser have authorizations, VE9DP and VE9JP. 73 Larry and Jake Hobbies include woodworking, music and genealogy.

Halloween Bunny Hunt Winner!



ongratulations to Keith who won the Halloween Bunny Hunt held on Saturday Oct 26, 2002! What a beastly hunter! He travelled a very short 11.9 K's taking only 35 mins. to find the Bunnies Lair! What a feat, what an accomplishment, and in a fall downpour of rain - well, maybe not a downpour but it

sure was raining! Using only his 1/2 wave mag mount on the roof and a handheld, he was exceptional in finding Jake and Larry at Billing's Bridge Shopping centre where they were parked in the middle of the lot.

In spite of dozens of clues from Bunny Jake, (so of them somewhat misleading - never trust the Bunny), Mike and Peter had to really work hard on this one! They had a late start late and after hunting for our signal for some time, suddenly realized and discovered they had a radio problem. So they had to return to Mike's for more radios! At least that is the excuse they used for coming in second. It took them until 11.30am and a total of 26.4 K's (and Peter said it seemed like a hundred!) to zero in on our Bunny Lair. Mike was so frustrated he was fit to be tied and a little miffed with our location - the bunnies were outside of their search area and didn't know it! We appologized - after all even Bunnies make mistakes.



We went to a local food spot, swapped a few stories of today's hunt and past hunts, had lunch and enjoyed our company. Thanks to all of the participants. We even discussed what could be done to improve attendance and came to the conclusion, all of those that don't participate and missing out on a lot of fun, enjoyment, accomplishment, and company among friends.

I have attached a few photos of the winner and our two Bunnies for your enjoyment. We hope to see lots more participants in the next hunt which will be conducted by Keith.