

## TALK TO SANTA

**1:00 pm - 4:00 pm**  
**Saturday, Dec 16 and**  
**Sunday Dec 17, 2006**

In December 1960, the first annual "Children's Christmas Party" was held. Gerry King VE3GK (SK) was Santa Claus. There were presents, cartoons, games and food and this event became one of the most popular of our annual club activities.

I became involved as the Coordinator for the "Talk to Santa" event within the Canada Science and Technology Museum in 1997 as a result of my visit to the Civic hospital to visit Jerry Wells VE3CDS. He was concerned about the Talk to Santa event and asked me to ensure that I would look after it while he was in hospital. Unfortunately, his illness took his life at the very young age of 69 on Nov 10, 1997. Over the years, we have had many of our members helping out with this event and also Amateurs from other clubs have assisted.

The objective of our annual "Talk to Santa" event is to provide an opportunity for children to talk to Santa Claus at the North Pole. They receive a certificate attesting to the contact. Santa usually operates a simplex net along with his Amateur Radio "Elves" using their handie talkies. Santa's Elves get the child's name and age and operate their radios for the children. Santa is at the North Pole so we must use a special "Santa Claus" frequency which is capable of reaching the North Pole. One of Santa's Elves will be at a table listening for the names of the children and typing up special certificates "Season's Greetings from the North Pole Radio Station" for the children.

On Saturday, December 16 and Sunday December 17, 2006 we will be conducting this annual event again. So if you would like to volunteer as one of Santa's Elves for this event, please let me know. I hope I have inspired some of you to volunteer this year as Elves for this very worthy and very satisfying event.

Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH  
613-747-5565



## December Meeting

- ✓ CASARA North Bay Exercise  
Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS
- ✓ Satellite Course  
Maurice-André Vigneault

Coffee, Pop & Cake???

### Silent Key

It is with deep regret and much sadness that I have to inform Radio Amateurs of Canada members, Canadian amateurs, and our friends everywhere that General Manager Deborah "Debbie" Norman VA3RGM became a Silent Key late in the evening of Monday November 27 2006.

So many of us have known Debbie through many years of working with her at CARF, through the merger with CRRL and many years with Radio Amateurs of Canada. In so many ways she was the voice of RAC, the cheerful personality on the other end of the phone line.

On behalf of RAC's members and your many friends in amateur radio, Debbie, our sincerest thanks. May you rest in peace.

73/88

Earle Smith, VE6NM  
President, Radio Amateurs of Canada  
Chair, Board of Directors

## CHRISTMAS DAY NET

There will be a special Christmas Day Net on repeater VE3TWO and all radio amateurs are encouraged to join in. This net gives you an opportunity to tell everyone about the new amateur gear that Santa is going to bring you; on the other hand, if you haven't been a good amateur this year, and Santa does not bring you a new rig, you are still welcome to join the net, if you promise to be better behaved next year. You can also convey Christmas greetings to all your friends.

This is an opportunity as well to introduce any visitors you may have over Christmas in your home to amateur radio, in an informal way. It is also a good opportunity to introduce your own children and visiting children in your home to the fun side of amateur radio. Start them young on your hobby!

The net starts at 0930 hours EST on the OVMRC club 2 metre repeater VE3TWO, 147.30 receive, 147.90 transmit. It will be just about as informal as a net can get. See you then. This year the net will be carried simultaneously on 70cm (444.200 MHz(+)) and 6m (53.030 Mhz RX and 52.030 Mhz TX).

I will be net controller, as I have been for more years than I can remember, but it is probably over 25 years.

I would also like to thank the OVMRC for allowing again use of the club repeaters for this net.

73 and Ho Ho Ho!

Sydney, VE3GVI  
613-820-0093

P.S. Now is the time to start practicing your Ho Ho Ho for the Net. Don't wait until Christmas Eve. Most amateurs need at least 3 days to practice!



## OVMRC Executive 2006-2007

President	VACANT
Vice-President	<a href="#">Jean Crepeau</a> VA3JCN 613-
Treasurer	<a href="#">Robert Plante</a> VA3SHO 613-
Secretary	<a href="#">Jacques Choquette</a> VE3TSC

## Standing Committee Chairpersons

**Amateur Radio Exhibit**  
[Maurice-André Vigneault](#)  
VE3VIG, 613-749-9010

**Amateur Radio Training**  
[Ernie Jury](#)  
VE3EJJ, 613-728-3666

**Accredited Examiner**  
[Bob Kavanagh](#)  
VE3OSZ, 613-225-6785  
[Ernie Jury](#)  
VE3EJJ, 613-728-3666

**Field Day**  
[George Steeves](#)  
VE3ZQH, 613-596-5015

**Historical**  
[Larry Wilcox](#)  
VE3WEH, 613-747-5565

**Flea Market**  
[Jake Guertin](#)  
VE2TQX, 819-684-9496

**Field Day**  
[George Steeves](#)  
VE3ZQN

**Membership**  
[Gerry Trottier](#)  
VA3GLT, 613-745-5828

**Publicity & Programs**  
[Steve Cochran](#)  
VE3SBC

**Radio Operations (UHF/VHF)**  
Matthew Hall  
VA3MHB, 613-236-5283

**Radio Operations (HF)**  
[Patrick Tunney](#)  
VA3CMD

**Technical**  
[Jake Guertin](#)  
VE2TQX, 819-684-9496

**Emergency Preparedness**  
[Ken Halcrow](#)  
VE3SRS, 613-837-3261

**Newsletter**  
[Bill Hall](#)  
VA3WMH, 613-830-5580

**Webmaster**  
[Elias Zaydan](#)  
VE3EKZ

*Note: all e-mail addresses are:  
[callsign at rac dot ca](mailto:callsign@rac.ca)*

## Sponsors

The OVMRC acknowledges the following organizations for their support of our activities:

- **Acceptable Storage**, Ottawa, ON
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- **Elkel Ltee.**, Trois-Rivières, QC
- **Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc.**, Mississauga, ON
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The *Rambler* is produced using **Corel's Ventura™ 8** software.

The club's web site is hosted by **Magma Communications Ltd.**

[www.ovmrc.on.ca](http://www.ovmrc.on.ca)

## OVMRC Life Members

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

Ed Morgan, VE3GX

Bill Wilson, VE3NR

## OVMRC Repeaters

147.300 MHz(+)

444.200 MHz(+)

## Amateur Radio Exhibit

### VE3JW

Web site:

<http://ve3jw.tripod.com>

Canada Science & Technology  
Museum

The *Rambler* 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., it's officers or it's 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](mailto:va3wmh@rac.ca).

## WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE OVMRC 2006-2007?

We still don't have a President in spite of our efforts. We would like to have a President to fulfill the objectives of our Club and to provide us with more leadership.

You may ask, what is required to be President? Well, you don't need a University degree, or a PhD, just a love for Amateur radio and your fellow Amateurs! Of course a real desire to help serve all the members of our Club to the best of your abilities, is a definite asset. To be President, you simply need to inspire and motivate people. You should be able to communicate and what Amateur can't do that? You should be able to articulate your thoughts clearly, positively and also be a good listener. You will need a little empathy so you can put yourself in another person's shoes from time to time to understand their viewpoint. You will need to be flexible and adaptable. As our leader, you will simply coordinate our activities and provide guidance to the Executive with a vision to accomplish the Club's objectives. You will earn the trust and respect of our Club members and gain theirs in return. Your confidence will inspire our members and they will appreciate your efforts in leading our Club by example as you become a role model.

We have a very good and dedicated Executive that want to bring you another enjoyable year in our Club. Jean Crepeau VA3JCN, is doing a very good job as Vice-President. The other members of our Executive are providing lots of support and assistance and we thank them for their efforts. We have a very skilful and talented Executive this year. However, a new President would certainly help the entire Club and make our jobs easier.

What an opportunity YOU have to volunteer as our President! Just think of all the satisfaction and experience you will gain! This position is open to YOU so don't hesitate, just let any member of the Executive know that you would like to serve as our President and we will nominate you as our President. Why don't you volunteer?

73 de  
Larry Wilcox VE3WEH  
Nominating Committee Chair

613-747-5565

Steve Cochran VE3SBC  
Committee Member

613-248-0323



Opening of VE3JW, at the Museum of Science and Technology, Ottawa, Ontario, 19 March 1974.

Larry O'Brien, President of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club and Bernie Best, President of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club accompany Jim W Cotter's granddaughter on opening day of the VE3JW Amateur Radio Exhibit station in 1974.

*Photo courtesy of Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG*

## SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING

You've heard it before, "Amateur Radio's future is in space". Past accomplishments in space are warrant of our ability out there. NASA is ever more confident in that ability after assessing the many tasks we have performed for them. Amateur Radio on board the International Space Station is continually growing in importance as requested and approved by every astronaut who have been in the solitude up there. In recent weeks, discussions on how best to implement Amateur Radio for the soon-to-be station on the moon, to allow astronauts to vent off, have been on a positive note. The building of Phase 3E, Express and Eagle are well underway, as well as Phase 5A, ordered by NASA to orbit Mars.

Albeit, future in space is right now, if only you have a 2m radio. VO-52, AO-7, NO-44 and the ISS are a few satellites you can listen to for voice, packet, APRS, SSTV and school contacts. And some of them will

allow you to uplink on 2m. FO-29, SO-50, and AO-51 have been working very well if only you have a little more equipment.

At VE3JW, your Amateur Radio Exhibit station, we have all the necessary equipment to carry regular satellite communications with the existing and the upcoming satellites. Not only is this equipment available for you to use, but we have set up a short course to help you get acquainted and work satellites.

The course is open to all certified Radio Amateurs, comprises three 2-hour sessions which you can attend at your leisure, in your own time. Pick a date and time (7 days a week) from 10AM to noon, 1PM to 3PM or 3PM to 5PM. No charge for the course or entry to the Museum. Register with Maurice-André, [ve3vig@rac.ca](mailto:ve3vig@rac.ca), tel: 613-749-9010 or VE3JW station 613-991-6749.

This course will introduce you to satellites, make you aware of the many factors having

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## JERRY WELLS AWARD – OVMRC AMATEUR OF THE YEAR NOMINATION, 2005-2006

We, the undersigned, nominate Bob Sharp VA3QV for the above award. We believe Bob made a significant contribution during the Award Year to further the objectives of the OVMRC and Amateur Radio as a result of his leadership while serving as our President and through his personal involvement in Amateur Radio during the entire club year.

The leadership and interest Bob demonstrated as President in providing an excellent year of progress for our club was outstanding, particularly in the mobile area. His conduct and leadership during Executive and General meetings is to be commended. His monthly column writing

Ramblings not only reflected his desire to encourage our members to become more radio active but also provided an insight into his own activities and involvement in Amateur Radio. He has served as Net Controller for the Canadian Ski Marathon and at remote check points for the Quest for Cure. His interest in operating portable and mobile stations during his many trips to local parks where he operated under all types of weather conditions, both on VHF/UHF and HF Radio, using home-brewed antennas, was extraordinary. He was also a very active participant in many local Amateur Radio nets and more distant HF nets, from his fixed base station and portable station. He served as Net Control Station for our Pot Hole Net, Welcome Mat Net and Wise Owl Net.

We believe without a doubt, through his entire year of tenure, not only as President, but also as a member of the OVMRC and as an active on the air radio Amateur, that Bob has contributed to the interest, study and progress of the science and art of Amateur Radio. He has given encouragement and provided hands on assistance in building and erecting antennas and provided advice to new Amateurs.

Bob participates with the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (CASARA) Unit 12, Ottawa, which provides supplementary air search capability for the Canadian Armed Forces. CASARA provides an organized and trained group of volunteers to aid and assist in the conduct of Search and Rescue operations.

Bob is also a member of the Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG), Ottawa. This group of trained Amateur radio operators volunteer their time and equipment in the event of an emergency. The main role for EMRG is to provide radio communications in an emergency to organizations which do not have a radio system, or who

normally rely on commercial telecommunications that have failed or may fail.

We believe his efforts promoting Amateur radio and assisting others has fostered good will and understanding among Radio Amateurs in the OVMRC and the Amateur Radio Community.

Signed: November 16, 2006

Steve Cochran VE3SBC  
Patrick Tunney VA3CMD  
Larry Wilcox VE3WEH

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effect on their signals, and provide you with hands-on practice until you've completed contacts on your own. For a list of the subjects covered in the course see below.

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG  
Amateur Radio Exhibit Group VE3JW  
Canada Science and Technology Museum



### TRAINING FOR SATELLITES AT THE VE3JW STATION

#### 1 - INTRODUCTION TO SATELLITES

- First AR Sat 1961
- Different Size
- Launch and Orbit
- Inclination, Anomaly, Attitude
- Squint Angle, Spin Modulation
- Polarization,
- Frequencies, Bands, Modes
- Inverting Transponder

#### 2 - INTRODUCTION TO PRACTICAL

- Antennas
  - Handheld, Stack, Dish
- Radios
  - Handheld, Mobile, Base
- Split, Trace, Doppler
- Antenna controls
- Satellite tracking
  - Software
  - Keplerian Orbital Elements
  - Computer clock sync.

### OVMRC 2006 - 2007 CALENDAR

Mth	Club Mtg	Exec Mtg	Rambler Deadline
DEC	14 <sup>th</sup> *	21 <sup>st</sup> *	1 <sup>st</sup>
JAN	18 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
FEB	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
MAR	15 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>rd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>
APR	19 <sup>th</sup>	26 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>
MAY	17 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>
JUN	21 <sup>st</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>

#### 3 - WORKING SATELLITES - AUTOMATIC MODE

- Setting up the computer
- Selecting a satellite
- Setting up the radio
  - Automatic tracking
  - Automatic Doppler

#### 4 - WORKING SATELLITES - MANUAL MODE

- A few examples
- Practical exercise

#### 5 - WORKING THE ISS

- Ericsson, Kenwood, PCSat2
- Packet, APRS, Voice, SSTV
- Frequency selection
  - 145.800 MHz Downlink
  - Uplinks

#### 6 - QSO info

- Call
- Grid Locator
- Quality of signal
- Name
- QTH

#### 7 - PAPER WORK

- Log
- QSL
- Awards