



2006 OVMRC amateur radio operator course graduates, (from left to right) Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, Instructor; Clark Little, VA3LIT; Joe Lemieux, VE3EUS; Geoff Roddick, VA3GRK; Theresa Mein, VA3TGS; Ruth Beyerlein, VA3RBY; Dollard Olmstead, VE2DOJ; Ion Rugina, VE3MRI; James Hall, VE3MYZ.

Absent: Maureen Egan, VA3MOI; Doug Meredith, VE3DYG; Nicholas Scott, VA3NTS.

*Photo courtesy of Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH*

## 2006 Ontario QSO Party



This will certify that:

**VE3RAM**

Has achieved:

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - City of Ottawa**

**13,038 points**



## 2006 ONTARIO QSO PARTY FINAL RESULTS

**Call Location Category CW SSB Total QSOs  
Points Multis Claimed Score**

*ONTARIO By Score*

*Multi-op*

VE3KZ	HTN	MUAB	HP	Mixed	94	270	457	1058	195	206310
VE3MIS	PEL	MUAB	HP	Mixed	55	197	252	755	111	83805
VE3DC	HNO	MUAB	HP	Mixed	39	279	318	457	111	50727
VE3SWA	WAT	MUAB	LP	Mixed	67	100	167	390	90	35100
<b>VE3RAM</b>	<b>OTT</b>	<b>MUAB</b>	<b>LP</b>	<b>Mixed</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>13038</b>
VE3PSH	PSD	MUAB	LP	Mixed	9	124	133	202	63	12726
VE3AA	COC	MUAB	LP	Mixed	4	43	47	69	38	2622
VA3OSE	GRY	MUAB	LP	SSB	0	33	33	55	22	1210

## We need YOU!

The 2007 edition of the Canadian Ski Marathon is just around the corner. With the wonky weather, radio operators will likely be more important than ever to running a successful event.

Although all checkpoints may not be up and running, the lack of snow and last minute rerouting of the trails will likely require more "eyes on the ground" and better reporting than ever.

If you would like to volunteer, please visit <http://radiol.admin.ca> and email Richard, VE3UNW at [radiol@admin2.ca](mailto:radiol@admin2.ca)

Hope to hear you on the air February 10-11, 2007. 73.



## OVMRC Executive 2006-2007

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

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VE3VIG, 613-749-9010

Amateur Radio Training  
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VE3EJJ, 613-728-3666

Accredited Examiner  
[Bob Kavanagh](#)  
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*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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- **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

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# International Space Station (ISS) Contact with NA1SS from VE3JW

On Wednesday, January 24, 2007, students from École élémentaire publique Le Prélude, a French elementary school in Orléans, Ottawa, with assistance from a group of dedicated and talented Radio Amateurs, made radio contact with Sunita L. Williams, Expedition 14 Flight Engineer on the International Space Station (ISS) under the Amateur Radio for International Space Station (ARISS) program. Students from Kindergarten to grade six had made posters and a large group mural for the event were posted on the walls of the Auditorium at the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

Amateur Radio Station VE3JW was temporarily re-located to the Auditorium for this event. In order to use the Kenwood TS-2000 radio and the Satellite antennas on the roof of the Museum, a temporary 243 foot hard line coax cable belonging to Mike Joyce VE3LTN, was installed across the roof and down through the auditorium door. After much equipment testing, tweaking and tuning, trial runs and, not to mention all the wrist wringing, worry, consideration and more testing, all was finally ready for the big day!

Steve McFarlane VE3TBD was our Master of Ceremonies for this event and after the introductions and speeches by the School and local politicians, Steve turned it over to Mike with about a minute to go. The build up and intensity and the countdown to the contact caused the media to rush around trying to find the best "shooting" positions as they closed in on Mike VE3LTN, the prime Amateur radio operator and on Steve Regan VA3MGY, the back up Amateur radio operator. Finally the time had arrived. Brian VE3IX was at the satellite console looking after the ISS auto tracking system along with Maurice-André VE3VIG and Terry Walton VE3TWC was monitoring the downlink from the ISS at the usual VE3JW location. Newly licenced, James Hall VE3MYZ along with Steve Cochran VE3SBC were there as backups to relay and messages. They used their hand held radios on simplex and relayed the countdown to Acquisition of Signal (AOS) from the ISS over to Mike and Steve at the radios in the Auditorium. Suddenly, Mike first called, "November Alpha Sierra Sierra, this is Victor Echo 3 Juliet Whisky. How copy?" There was total silence in the auditorium and no response. He called again. Another quiet and very long pause, still no response. Tension was building, would we miss our



Photo courtesy of Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

opportunity? He called again and finally, after a much shorter pause, we all exhaled a sigh of satisfied relief as we heard a feminine voice call, "VE3W....JW..... here, over" Mike quickly replied, "Juliet Whiskey, roger solid copy, here's your first question", as he handed the microphone over to teacher Lori McFarlane. She controlled the microphone for the students and with clockwork precision, one by one, each student asked their one question. Astronaut "Suni" answered a total of 21 questions from the following list during the 9 min and 22 seconds prior to losing the signal from the space station as it went over the horizon. Many local Amateurs listened in on the downlink frequency and heard her responses to their questions. However, the uplink frequency is kept confidential so the Amateurs did not hear the students questions during the transmissions to the Space Station.

1. How did you celebrate the Holidays?
2. How does it feel to live in zero gravity?
3. What is the one thing from Earth that you miss the most other than your family and friends?
4. How long can an astronaut stay in space?
5. What is your favourite meal in space?
6. Do you get dizzy from the speed and motion of the station?
7. Have you ever been on a space walk? If yes, what is it like?

8. Could meteorites crash onto the space station?
9. Does everybody sleep at the same time?
10. What happens if someone needs immediate medical assistance?
11. What do you recognize on the planet Earth from the station?
12. How long before you became comfortable in the space station?
13. How many sunsets do you see in 24 hours?
14. What do stars look like in space?
15. Who inspired you to become an astronaut?
16. Has anyone ever brought an animal in the space station?
17. In how many years do you think a trip in space will be affordable?
18. What do you do in your spare time?
19. What do you like most about your stay in the station?
20. How long does it take to suit up to go outside?
21. How cold is it out in space?
22. They call Earth the blue planet. Is the Earth really blue from space?
23. What do you do with all the garbage in the station?
24. Can you smell anything in space?

Congratulations to you Maurice-André Vigneault VE3VIG! You were the spark plug behind this event and ensured it was a

success! I'm sure everyone will agree that you deserve a lot of credit. Thanks also to each and every one of the other Amateurs that assisted in making this such a memorable event! Thanks also to all of the organizations that were involved, the National Research Council for providing the Internet webcast, the Museum for providing the accommodations and coffee, but a special thanks to the school and all of the children. It was indeed a historical 9 mins and 20 seconds of time.

Come out to our next General Meeting on February 15, 2007 as we are planning on showing a video of the event.

73 until the next ISS contact  
Larry, VE3WEH  
OVMRC "Amateur" Photographer for this event

#### NEW HOME NEEDED FOR OUR ELECTRONIC TEST EQUIPMENT MANUALS

Did you know our club is still selling electronic test equipment manuals? Thanks to the efforts of Ernie Jury VE3EJJ, Len Gelfand VE3LGZ, and yours truly, we have been selling these manuals to raise money for our club since 1999. They were rescued from going into the dumpster and were donated to our club. We accept orders by email from around the world and all postage charges are paid by the buyer. The full amount must be paid before we mail the manual either by surface mail or airmail as requested by the buyer. Sales over the years has resulted in substantial income for the club. All of the money with the exception of the cost of mailing them, goes to the club.

If you want to see a list of the manuals being sold, they are on our web page:  
<http://ovmrc.on.ca>

Currently, we need to find another home for them. If you have storage space for these manuals and would like to take on the task of selling these manuals for the club, please let us know. We have about 30 linear feet of manuals on shelving. We would really like to have someone from our club look after this worthy project. If we can't find someone in our club, we may have to make other arrangements and would lose this revenue.

So if you can help, let us know by email:

Larry Wilcox VE3WEH at:  
[larrywilcox@rogers.com](mailto:larrywilcox@rogers.com)  
or telephone 613-747-5565

Len Gelfand VE3LGZ at:  
[lgelfand@magma.ca](mailto:lgelfand@magma.ca)  
or telephone 613-749-5101.

73  
Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH



The presentation of the OVMRC Amateur of the Year Award to Bob Sharp, VA3QV by Jerry Wells' widow, June Knight, at our January 18 meeting.

*Photo courtesy of Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH*

"As I look around the auditorium I note there are fewer Amateurs here that would have known Jerry. It is ten years this year since he has been a Silent Key. He would have been pleased to know that the work and involvement he took part in, is being carried on.

He was a Radio Amateur for 46 years getting his license in 1951 with the call sign VE3CDS.

The first award of this kind was presented to Jerry in 1997 and he was very proud of the honour. He was active for many years in the OVMRC and served in several positions on the Executive as well as participated in several nets, assisted in Field Days, GOTA, and Talk to Santa and other events. He taught Morse code and was a government examiner. He was also publisher of the RAMBLER for ten years. Until his death, he was Chairman of the Seniors Committee for the Radio Station VE3JW here at the Museum of Science and Technology.

He was given the honour of Life Membership in June of 1989.

I have the pleasure tonight in presenting this award to a man who has shown leadership and dedication to the OVMRC over the past year. Congratulations Bob Sharp!"

## February 15th General Meeting

1. The development of Aviation Radio in the North West Territories after WW II will be presented by Ernie Brown VA3OEB.
2. The ARISS Radio Contact at VE3JW by our club members for an Orleans Elementary School on January 24, 2007, will be presented by Maurice-Andre VE3VIG.

## March 15th General Meeting

1. Home Brew Night - get your projects ready to enter and maybe you will win a prize!
2. There will also be a presentation by Martin VA3SIE about his portable and pedestrian mobile QRP antenna designs.

## 2m Simplex contest

The 2007 2m Simplex contest (the 4th one) is being planned for Saturday 5th May (12 noon to 4pm local time). This avoids a clash with the Smiths Falls Hamfest which is a week later.