



## IMPORTANT

Upcoming April 17 meeting. Be sure not to miss this one for two good reasons, first, because we are to vote on several proposed significant changes to OVMRC practice and structure and, second, because we will hear what promises to be one of our most interesting talks of the year, presented by Martin Gillen, VA3SIE:

### Antenna talk:

"Spring is here! It's time for a trail-friendly home-brew antenna system primer. These antennas are designed to be light to carry and quick to erect to minimize the hassle and maximize your on-air time" ❖

## RAMBLINGS

I return, if very briefly this time, to a theme that has predominated in most of my contributions to The Rambler, our view of what the OVMRC now is and what we would have it be. As I approach the end of my tenure as president of the club, I have several observations that I would share with you, most very positive.

In terms of activities, the OVMRC appears quite healthy, the range of things we do, extensive. With the implementation of proposed minor changes in club structure, discussed elsewhere in this issue, we may look forward to an even wider scope of projects for the next year. Hopefully, we will hear more about the digital side of things. Also, with rapidly growing interest in portable operation within the club, we may expect increased participation in field events, including direction finding. In general, the coming year, this spring included, should be exciting.

The objective that underlies all changes in the club, existing and proposed, is to make the OVMRC more attractive and more accessible. Another goal is to more greatly involve the membership at large in decision-making and implementation of projects. More concretely, our unusually large Executive Committee (15 positions, about 50 percent of the average

number of members at regular meetings) has led to a de facto bipartite division in the club, i.e. the Executive and everybody else. Such a division, especially with our numbers, induces a kind of passivity on the part of non-executive members who have come to rely more than appropriate on officers and standing committee chairpersons. This attitude is most apparent at times when volunteers are sought for projects or positions. By encouraging committee chairpersons to go outside the Executive for assistance, we hope to encourage more participation by members. Appreciative as I am to have worked this year with positive and committed people, I hope that there will be a healthy number of new faces on our next Executive. ❖

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROPOSALS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

During recent months, the Executive Committee of OVMRC (EC) has created three new awards that may be presented annually for special accomplishments and/or services to the club or to the community that are related in some way to amateur radio. Although the concrete form of the following three awards has not been specified, it is understood that, for the present, announcements of recipients will be made at the June Annual General meeting along with presentation of certificates.

### President's Award

In recognition of accomplishments or services related to amateur radio, the president of OVMRC may issue a special award to the person of her/his choice, whether or not that recipient is a member of the club and whether or not that recipient holds an amateur radio license.

### Public Service Award

As selected by an ad hoc awards subcommittee, the composition of which to be determined by the EC, an award may be presented to a recipient or group of recipients who are members in good standing of OVMRC for outstanding service to the community wherein that service is related in some way to amateur

radio. Rather than list examples of what such service might comprise, the possibilities so numerous, it is understood that, to qualify for this award, the service must be recognized as genuinely outstanding. In short, traditional activities such as Santa at the Museum of Science and Technology will not normally be considered.

## Most Innovative Project Award

As selected by an ad hoc awards subcommittee, the composition of which to be determined by the EC, an award may be presented to a recipient or group of recipients who are members in good standing of OVMRC for completion of a project or undertaking, technical or social, that concerns something new and useful. This award was initially proposed as a means of recognizing the efforts of club members that might otherwise go unacknowledged.

Several changes to current OVMRC practice and structure as set forth in the bylaws have been considered by the EC and are here presented as Due Notice of Motions, to be presented at the next regular meeting of the club, April 17. Where changes in bylaws are involved, the existing version of a bylaw will be given, followed by the proposed modification that will form part of a specific motion.

## Membership Fees

Since annual membership fees of OVMRC exceed those levied by most other amateur radio clubs in Ontario, and since the financial status of OVMRC in no way requires that elevated fees be charged, and since the EC wishes to acknowledge the special status of persons who wish to remain affiliated with OVMRC as associate members who no longer participate actively in club affairs, the EC proposes:

1. That annual fees for regular members of OVMRC be twenty dollars.
2. That annual fees for Associate members be ten dollars.



## OVMRC Executive 2006-2007

### President:

[Jerry Neufeld](mailto:jerry.neufeld@rogers.com), VE3QSO  
jerry.neufeld@rogers.com, 613-828-0959

### Vice-President:

[Jean Crepeau](mailto:va3jcn@rac.ca), VA3JCN  
va3jcn@rac.ca, 613-288-8777

### Treasurer:

[Robert Plante](mailto:plantrj@rogers.com), VA3SHO  
plantrj@rogers.com, 613-

### Secretary:

Vacant

### Radio Operations (HF):

[Patrick Tunney](mailto:va3cmd@rogers.com), VA3CMD  
va3cmd@rogers.com, 613-

### Technical:

[Cam Milne](mailto:cmlilne@nortel.com), VA3FO  
cmlilne@nortel.com, 613-763-8068

### Emergency Preparedness:

[Ken Halcrow](mailto:Ken_h@rogers.com), VE3SRS  
Ken\_h@rogers.com, 613-837-3261

### Newsletter:

[Jerry Neufeld](mailto:jerry.neufeld@rogers.com), VE3QSO  
jerry.neufeld@rogers.com, 613-828-0959

### Webmaster:

[Elias Zaydan](mailto:ve3ekz@rac.ca), VE3EKZ  
ve3ekz@rac.ca, 613-

## OVMRC Life Members

Maurice-André Vigneault,  
VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

Ed Morgan, VE3GX

Bill Wilson, VE3NR

## Standing Committee Chairpersons

### Amateur Radio Exhibit:

[Maurice-André Vigneault](mailto:vig@mondenet.com), VE3VIG  
vig@mondenet.com, 613-749-9010

### Amateur Radio Training:

[Ernie Jury](mailto:s282@freenet.carleton.ca), VE3EJJ  
s282@freenet.carleton.ca, 613-728-3666

### Accredited Examiner:

[Bob Kavanagh](mailto:ve3osz@rac.ca), VE3OSZ  
ve3osz@rac.ca, 613-225-6785

[Ernie Jury](mailto:s282@freenet.carleton.ca), VE3EJJ  
s282@freenet.carleton.ca, 613-728-3666

### Field Day:

[George Steeves](mailto:georgesteeves@rogers.com), VE3ZQH  
georgesteeves@rogers.com, 613-596-5015

### Historical:

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

### Flea Market:

[Jake Guertin](mailto:ve2tqx@rac.ca), VE2TQX  
ve2tqx@rac.ca, 819-684-9496

### Membership:

[Jean-Guy Hardy](mailto:jeanguy2@soltekweb.com), VE3YOS  
jeanguy2@soltekweb.com, 613-878-2117

### Publicity & Programs:

[Steve Cochran](mailto:stevec@nfc.ca), VE3SBC  
stevec@nfc.ca, 613-248-00323

### Radio Operations (UHF/VHF):

[Matthew Hall](mailto:va3mhb@yahoo.ca), VA3MHB  
va3mhb@yahoo.ca, 613-745-9752

## Sponsors

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

- Acceptable Storage, Ottawa, ON
- Bytown Marine, Ottawa, ON
- Elkel Ltee., Trois-Rivières, QC
- Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON
- Ottawa Camping Trailers Ltd., Ottawa, ON
- Travel-Mor Trailer Sales, Ottawa, ON

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 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:

[jerry.neufeld@rogers.com](mailto:jerry.neufeld@rogers.com).

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3. That members, regular and associate, as well as life-time members be eligible to receive issues of The Rambler in whatever form the newsletter is available at no cost.

## Requirements for membership in OVMRC

### Current status

#### 2.1.1 Full Member

Full Membership on submission of an application and payment of dues, is open to any licensed Radio Amateur having an interest in mobile amateur radio operations and activities.

To allow greater participation by persons who do not currently hold amateur radio licenses, the EC proposes instead:

#### 2.1.1 Full Member

Full Membership on submission of an application and payment of dues, is open to anyone having an interest in mobile amateur radio operations and activities.

### Current status

#### 2.1.3 Associate Member

Associate Membership, on submission of an application and payment of dues is open to anyone not holding an Amateur Radio license, having an interest in mobile amateur radio.

#### 2.2 Rights and privileges

#### 2.2.3 Associate Members

Associate Members may neither hold office nor vote on any matter put before the Club.

To allow associate members to be licensed amateurs and to entitle said members to full privileges except those specified in the proposed bylaw, the EC proposes two changes:

#### 2.1.3 Associate Member

Associate Membership, on submission of an application and payment of dues is open to anyone having an interest in mobile amateur radio.

#### 2.2 Rights and privileges

#### 2.2.3 Associate Members

Associate Members may neither hold office nor vote on any matter put before

the Club. Otherwise, they shall be granted Full Member privileges

### Proposed Creation of Special Projects Standing Committee

In the March issue of The Rambler, the rationale and duties of a new standing committee were elaborated. Since projects like annual flea markets are subsumed by this proposed new committee, the EC makes the following two proposals:

1. That a new standing committee of the OVMRC Executive Committee be created to be called Special Projects.

2. That the current Flea Market Standing Committee of the EC, as delineated in bylaw 6.4 be deleted. ❖

## OVMRC MAY PICNIC

Who: This Picnic is open to Members of the OVMRC and their families, and we encourage any other Amateurs and their families from other Amateur Radio Clubs to attend. The public is also encouraged to drop in and visit us to learn about "Amateur Radio in the Park".

What/where: Picnic At Vincent Massey Park

When: May 11/2008

Why: Looking for a reason to get out and enjoy the spring weather and try out the boat anchor you bought in Smiths Falls.

Talk in: VE3TWO 147.3+

I (VA3CMD) will arrive early (by 8am) to set up an HF Station and participate in the Pothole net.

Anyone interested is very welcome, bring your family, bring a picnic, bring a rig, come out and enjoy the scenery and shake off the snow!

Access via the parking lot at Vincent Massey park off of Heron rd. just west of Riverside Dr.

There will be a charge of \$3.95 per car per day. More Specific directions can be given over VE3TWO repeater.

Time is flexible. I will be there from 8 am until at least 4 pm, come when you can stay as long as you like.

There will be no rain date. All of the subsequent weekends are taken up by the May long holiday weekend, the National

Capital Race weekend, University/high school graduations/Commencement activities as well as Field Day in June, so this is a one Sunday, one shot event!

Listen in to the nets on ve3two for updates,

We hope to see you there!

73 de Patrick, VA3CMD ❖

## HELP PLEASE

On behalf of the Executive Committee and personally, as the current president of OVMRC, I make a plea for assistance and participation in some important offices and functions of our club. As organizations like ours go, we are healthy as I have said. If we have a serious weakness, it is our general lack of willingness as members to do more than attend meetings and participate in enjoyable activities. As a result, most of the work in keeping us afloat continues to fall to the same people, some of whom, I must assure you, are growing weary. Please help us out. Below are two areas in which we need assistance, the first, quite urgent. The second pertains to potentially vacant offices and standing committee chairpersonships of the Executive. If proposed changes to qualifications for membership in OVMRC are adopted this April, these positions will no longer obligatorily require holders of an amateur radio license.

### Urgent

As prescribed in our bylaws, we must strike a nominations committee by April 30 whose responsibility it will be to propose a slate of officers and standing committee chairpersons at our Annual General meetings in June. This committee is vital for us in the sense that the members will be those who contact persons they believe to be potentially interested in holding a position on the Executive. It would be very nice if, this June, we have four candidates available to serve as directors, i.e. president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, to say nothing about names of people who are willing to serve as chairpersons for committees. I appeal to the membership for help in this since no one on the Executive wishes to assume this additional task. Anyone willing to serve on the nominations committee should contact me by phone at 613-828-0959 or by e-mail at [jerry.neufeld@rogers.com](mailto:jerry.neufeld@rogers.com). Please try to do so prior to April 30.

Also, we need people who can be trained to operate the multimedia equipment at the Museum during OVMRC meetings

and related events. Roy Parsons, VA3CKD, has generously assumed this responsibility for some time, he the only qualified person available, thus obligated to attend every meeting and, at some inconvenience to him, required to be present early. Needless to say, without this equipment, guest speakers, if we can find them, will be seriously disadvantaged. We hope to organize a training course in the very near future at the Museum for several people who, optimally, will share the responsibility for running the equipment. If any of you are able to give us a hand here, please contact me or Roy Parsons at [va3ckd@rac.ca](mailto:va3ckd@rac.ca).

### The Executive Committee

Below is a list of offices and standing committees, a number of which will surely be vacant for the coming year. This list differs from what now exists in that the proposed new Special Projects Committee figures in place of the Flea Market Committee. Anyone wishing further information about or interested in any of these positions or in participating as a member of a standing committee should contact me. I will forward any names I have to the Nominations Committee once it has been formed.

### Officers:

- President
- Vice-president
- Secretary
- Treasurer

### Standing committees:

- Amateur radio exhibit (VE3JW)
- Amateur radio training
- Emergency preparedness
- Field day
- Historical
- Membership
- Newsletter editor
- Newsletter production
- Publicity and programs
- Technical
- Radio operations (HF/VHF nets)
- OVMRC webmaster ❖

## LETTER OF FINANCIAL AUDIT

President

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club (Inc.)

### AUDIT AUTHORITY

In order to meet the financial and legal obligations of the OVMRC (Inc.) the undersigned was requested to complete a financial audit of the OVMRC accounts for the period covering 01 July 2006 to 30 June 2007. On 24 January 2008 the files and reports were obtained from the OVMRC treasurer Mr. Robert Plante.

### AUDIT METHODOLOGY

During the period 1-8 Feb 2008 a financial audit of the OVMRC accounts was conducted. The financial transaction documentation consisted of the following files and reports:

- a. FY 06/07 EXPENSE VOUCHERS
- b. FY 06/07 BANK STATEMENTS
- c. FY 06/07 BUDGET
- d. FY 06/07 INFLOWS
- e. Profit & Loss Statement - 2007 (CAD - INCOME & EXPENSES)
- f. Balance Sheet - As of 2007-06-30 (CAD - ASSETS & LIABILITIES)
- g. Register Report - 2007:2 (USD CASH)
- h. Register Report-2007 (CAD - OVMRC CHEQUING)
- i. Register Report - All Dates (CAD - GIC's)
- j. Register Report - 2007 (CAD CASH)
- k. Transaction - 2007 (CAD - OVMRC CHECQUING)

To simplify the audit a very respectable number of file entries and statements were cross checked with incomes and expenses, Bank statement entries, expense vouchers, cash flow USD to CAD and Transaction/chequing accounts were made.

### AUDIT RESULTS

During the Financial Audit of the OVMRC (Inc.) noted above no financial inconsistencies were isolated. To his credit Mr. Robert Plante is providing the OVMRC (Inc.) with exemplary due diligence in the performance of his Treasurer responsibilities.

Signed (8 Feb 2008)

Ken Halerow (VE3SRS)  
OVRMC Emergency Preparedness Chairman

### OVMRC 2008 Calendar

| Month | Rambler   |         | Exec Meeting |
|-------|-----------|---------|--------------|
|       | Dead-line | Meeting |              |
| Apr   | 4         | 17      | 24           |
| May   | 2         | 15      | 22           |
| Jun   | 6         | 19      | 26           |



## Moving forward on The Champlain Trail



In last month's Rambler we informed on the progress of preparations for activating The Champlain Trail from Quebec City to Pembroke. Since then, we have been very busy in contacting all the clubs

along the way, inviting them to participate, and in obtaining permission from municipalities (and NCC) to set up at the different locations.

14 Clubs have been contacted and they all have acknowledged with a return email saying they will present the project at their next Club Meeting. Of these, 8 Clubs have already submitted volunteer operator's names, the Montreal UMS has offered the RAQI emergency trailer complete with R7 antenna, and the Sorel CRAFT has offered a table at their monster Fleamarket on 25 May for OVMRC to showcase our project.

Responses from municipalities and NCC are slowly coming in. The Pembroke "Champlain Trail Museum" will be very happy to host us on their grounds. The Quebec City and Ottawa Champlain monument sites are still in the balance. We're keeping our fingers crossed. Some organizations have standard forms to fill out, requesting a lot of information regarding the project. I've already completed the ones for the NCC and the 5 pages 'formulaire' for Quebec City.

Here is a list of proposed sites, dates, and Clubs for the different areas.

### Sequential dates of activations:

01 June 08 - QRV - Champlain Lookout, Gatineau Park.

Clubs: OVMRC, OARC, MARG, CRAO

07 June 08 - Ottawa Nepean Point Champlain monument

08 June 08 - Pétrie Island (stayed on islands for protection)

Clubs: OVMRC, OARC, MARG, CRAO

14 June 08 - Portage-du-Fort (round Whitewater Region)

15 June 08 - Fitzroy Harbour (round Chats Falls)

Clubs: CRRA Arnprior, WCARC WCarleton

18 June 08 - Portneuf/Deschambault (15 leagues up river)

21 June 08 - Québec City Champlain monument

Clubs: ARPI, CRAQ

05 July 08 - Allumettes Island (met Grand Chief Tessouat)



### Cobden Park

*Photos courtesy of Maurice-André, VE3VIG*

06 July 08 - Cobden (Astrolabe found)

Clubs: RCARC, ZRRRG

12 July 08 - Trois-Rivières (Champlain)

13 July 08 - Sorel (start towards Lake Champlain)

Clubs: CRAM, CRAFT

19 July 08 - Ile Sainte-Hélène (Champlain's wife)

20 July 08 - L'Orignal (Champlain Township)

Clubs: UMS Montréal, PR-ARES

30 July 08 - Wrap-up Ottawa Region - QRT.

Possibly Etienne Brulé Lookout (Champlain's companion)

Clubs: OVMRC, OARC, MARG, CRAO

We are also looking at activating the Champlain Bridge to Aylmer from Bate Island and Paul, VE3CPH is looking into

city archives about the Champlain stay on Green Island.

So, join in the fun of mobile and portable operation, be it for an hour or so, by sending me your name and date of participation and I will draw out a schedule.

See you on the Champlain Trail,

Maurice-André, VE3VIG