

VC3C completes tour of the Champlain Trail

I don't have to tell you how poor a summer we've had with all the rain, but despite the adverse conditions at times, I'm happy to inform you that the special event started on June 1 was carried to completion on July 30 without missing out on any of the scheduled stops. We've even added Field Day and Canada Day contest for good measure.

You'll read about the Champlain Trail event either in "Radioamateur" which is the RAQI monthly journal or in TCA. For now, to let you sample how things went on The Trail, let me just reproduce a text sent to the Cobden Sun as feedback and thanks to the community.

If time permits, I may have a presentation ready to show you at the September OVMRC meeting. Lots of pictures of the operation along the Champlain Trail.

COBDEN NATIVE OPERATES WORLDWIDE AMATEUR RADIO ON THE CHAMPLAIN TRAIL

The Champlain Trail caravan rolled through the Cobden area on July 6th, stopping at Memorial Park to activate yet another site marked by the passage of Champlain during his first voyage to the Ottawa Valley.

The Champlain Trail special event is an initiative of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club based in Ottawa. In conjunction with the celebrations of the 400th anniversary of Quebec City, mobile units from Ottawa supported by 14 local Radio Clubs along the Trail, have been activat-



Graham Bennett, VE3GBD, operates VC3C station at Cobden while Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, logs the contacts.

ing 16 major sites from Quebec City's Champlain monument to the Champlain Trail Museum in Pembroke using "VC3C" a special Industry Canada authorized callsign.

The Cobden activation started at 9am and ran until 5pm. Antennas were erected, power source connected and soon contact was established with far away stations. One of the operators was Cobden native, Graham Bennett, callsign VE3GBD, now living in Ottawa. Graham is a blind radio amateur who volunteers weekly at the OVMRC exhibit radio station at the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa. He is seen in the picture with his sidekick Larry Wilcox, callsign VE3WEH, who is logging the contacts.

Graham quickly established contact with Doug in Manitoba and with Burt in Florida on the 20 meter band in the voice mode. Several other contacts followed, covering mostly North America, i.e. NC, TN, IN, NJ, VA, GA, as the propagation

of radio waves was not very favourable in the earlier portion of the day.

Visitors were greeted with our handouts on the Champlain Trail and on Amateur Radio. They were especially numerous coming from the Bennet family. We enjoyed meeting all of them.

Later on, we changed to the Morse code mode and were able to raise stations in Europe, i.e. Czech Republic, Lithuania, Italy, Germany, Finland. A fitting list for the activation of the Cobden site, which is associated with the astrolabe, an instrument that is pointed at many azimuths.

On behalf of the OVMRC, I would like to thank the Whitewater community, especially Councillor Mr. Cobb for allowing us on the grounds of the Park, the Information Kiosk attendant whose warm welcome made us feel at home, and the visitors who stopped by to see us in action. An enjoyable day along the Champlain Trail.

Maurice-Andre Vigneault, VE3VIG
Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club
Project Coordinator
"On The Champlain Trail"

Alan VA3STL photos & report about OVMRC & MARG Field Day

Alan has written a nice report of his experience at both Field Days. Well worth your time to take a look.

Alan's website:
va3stl.wordpress.com

Cheers & 73
Larry VE3WEH



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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

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jerry.neufeld@rogers.com.

OVMRC meeting dates for 2008/2009

The contract with the Museum of Sci&Tech has been signed and here is how the schedule goes for 2008 and 2009 OVMRC monthly meetings.

In September, our meeting is shifted back one week due to Museum requirements. In October, January and April, the meeting will consist of a flea market in the conference room rather than in the Auditorium.

Actually, all dates are the third Thursday of the month except for the September meeting. Here are the dates:

- Thu - 25 Sep 2008
- Thu - 16 Oct 2008 FleaMarket
- Thu - 20 Nov 2008
- Thu - 18 Dec 2008
- Thu - 15 Jan 2009 FleaMarket
- Thu - 19 Feb 2009
- Thu - 19 Mar 2009
- Thu - 16 Apr 2009 FleaMarket
- Thu - 21 May 2009
- Thu - 18 Jun 2009

Information on these dates were supplied by Steve, VE3SBC.

73 and Happy meetings
Maurice-André, VE3VIG

OVMRC ELECTION MEETING

September 25, 2008, 7:30PM

Canada Science and Technology Museum

As you all know from reading the last Rambler, our fine president, Jerry Neufeld, VE3QSO, has completed his term of office and he will not be coming back for another term. On behalf of the membership, I wish to thank Jerry for all the great work he has done holding the club together during his tenure and for the suggestions that he has put forth for innovation within the club. Should we be so lucky that at a future date he may chose to try a second run at it.

Appeals for candidates for the executive and the standing chairs have been made on nets and through the Rambler, and Matthew, VA3MHB, Election Committee Chairman, has made personnel appeal as well. As he reports: "Unfortunately I have no takers for elections this year, as nobody stepped up to the plate."

If you would like to help your club, please come to the September meeting and offer your services. Take a turn at helping the club progress through your own innovative ideas. OVMRC is a fine club and one of the most active in the region, but it requires your participation to keep it that way.

73 de VE3VIG
Maurice-André

Amateur Radio Course

Instruction Schedule 2008

The dates for the OVMRC Amateur Radio course have been set in conjunction with the Museum of Sci&Tech.

The course will start on September 30 and run two nights a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays, until December 18, in the usual classroom at the Canada Science and Technology Museum, St-Laurent Boulevard South.

For those attending the course and interested in building a small kit, there will be an extra session called Project Day on Saturday, 18 October 2008.

For more information about the course please contact the Course Director, Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ.

73 de VE3VIG
Maurice-André



RAC Bulletins

RAC announces a newly revised HF Band Plan.

The HF band plan presently in use in Canada has been adopted in 1996.

Since, many changes have happened in the Amateur world and other band plans have been revised and modified. Let us only mention the changes announced by the FCC in 2007 affecting the US band plan and the revised one adopted by the

IARU Region 2 countries at the Brasilia conference in September 2007.

Just under two years ago, Radio Amateurs of Canada had asked Bob Nash, VE3KZ, a former First Vice President of RAC, to re-activate the HFBPC (HF Band Planning Committee) with a goal to review and modernize the Canadian HF Band Plan. Bob's committee has since worked very hard in studying and consulting all across Canada to eventually come up with a band plan proposed to the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada. The RAC Board has adopted this plan at its July 2008 meeting and the new band plan is now on the RAC Web page at:

http://www.rac.ca/service/bandplans/hfband_e.php

RAC wants to thank the HFBPC members for their hard work and wishes the Canadian Amateur community much pleasure in using the new band plans.

Please spread the news.

73,
Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA
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Amateur radio, out of this world.

The NASA Web site has an excellent article about the ARISS program.

You can read it at:

www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/behindscenes/ariss.html

In Canada, the Sponsors are the Canadian Space Agency, Radio Amateurs of Canada and AMSAT. Since the start of the program, there have been 21 Canadian schools that had a contact with an astronaut aboard the International Space Station and we have another 11 waiting for their turn to come up.

If you know of a school interested with this adventure, refer them to me and we will take it from there.

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