



MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING October 16, 2008, 7.00 PM

This meeting consisted of another club Mini Flea Market and a presentation by Ken Halcrow VE3SRS about the 50th Anniversary of CFS Alert. There were about 40 people attending the Flea Market. As planned, very little business was conducted during this meeting as it was primarily intended for the Mini-Flea Market and a presentation by Ken VE3SRS. It was also the last meeting attended by Steve VE3SBC, our Programs and Publicity Chair, prior to his departure for permanent residence in Bedford, near Halifax.

The doors were opened about 6 PM and people showed up early to set up their tables and Amateur radio gear, to browse and to buy. Tables were offered free to members of the club. Many guests attended since it was open to anyone. During the last meeting of the Ottawa Vintage Radio Club (OVRC), Larry had invited their members to attend and some picked up some real bargains, including their Vice-President, Paul Guibord. Many other good bargains were enjoyed by those attending and much of the amateur radio gear on display was donated to the OVMRC by the following generous individuals: one of the founding members of our club Jerry Erland VE3BBY, Joe Blanchette VE3BAD, Jean Denney VE3PXV, and by Herbert (Bert) Foulds VE3BT, who generously donated his entire Amateur radio station and test equipment in order to raise funds to be used exclusively for VE3JW improvements. The next Flea Market is planned for the General Meeting on Thursday Jan 15, 2008. Be sure to attend. The Flea Market went on till just after 8pm



At flea market, left to right, Maurice-Andre VE3VIG,
Norm VE3LC, Mike VA3MPM, George VE3BNO

Photo courtesy of: Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

2. 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CFS ALERT, the "Frozen Chosen", CFS Alert, Nunavut, Canada, VE8RCS/VYO

Larry introduced our speaker Ken Halcrow VE3SRS. Using all the photos which Ken shot of his trip to Alert, we were all able to relive the entire trip and all the activities of their visit. Among the 50th Anniversary celebration, one of the objectives was to reactivate the amateur radio station VE8RCS. For nearly 40

years, amateur radio was the only communications available for station personnel to talk with loved ones in the south. Military members were stationed at Alert for 6 months at a time and were unable to bring family members. Their only contact to speak to loved ones left behind, by voice, was via phone patching which was accomplished by amateur radio. The "Frozen Chosen" included Les VE3KFS, Bob VE3GLO, Scott VA3XA, and Ken VE3SRS. They traveled there in a C130 Hercules Aircraft and after arriving, eventually erected antennas and activated special event station VE8RCS/VYO. Ken had four tours at Alert in 1967, 74, 76, & 88. To say the least, it was an exciting trip and wonderful journey. His presentation and photos were excellent and I felt like I was there experiencing the voyage back in time. While they were operating from Alert, I was very lucky to make contact with Scott VA3XA. Although propagation was not exceptional, Ken gave a run down of their contacts and they had over 5,000 contacts on CW, Voice, and RTTY.

Anyone wanting to see photos and to read more about this exciting venture can go to their web page:

IMPORTANT NOTE: Ken left his souvenir calendar celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Alert on one of the tables so those attending could pass it around to see the photos it contained. Unfortunately, he did not mention during his presentation that he wanted it back and someone took it home. It is an irreplaceable memento of his trip and he wants to have it back. Whoever took it home, please return it so Ken can have it for his memorabilia of this historic event.

3. FAREWELL TO STEVE VE3SBC, PROGRAMS & PUBLICITY CHAIR

Larry introduced Steve Cochran VE3SBC and thanked him for all his work in this position over the past several years for the club as our Programs and Publicity Chair. Larry noted that our loss would be a gain for the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and that we would miss his presence here in Ottawa. He invited Steve to come forward to say his goodbyes. Steve thanked both the members, his friends and the Museum for all their help with club events and programs over the years he served. He was given a long round of applause.

4. 50/50 DRAW:

Chris VE3CUZ our Membership chair, announced the club collected a total of \$46 for the 50/50 draw and he invited Steve VE3SBC to come forward to draw the ticket for the \$23. Amazingly, when the number was read out, it turned out to be Larry's ticket! Amidst howls of "it's fixed", Larry quickly chose to donate his share to the club, and received a round of applause.

5. NEXT GENERAL MEETING - ELECTION - NOVEMBER 20, 2008:

Larry reminded members there will be an Election of the Executive at our next General Meeting to be held on November 20, 2008.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned about 9.45pm.

Signed
Larry Wilcox VE3WEH
OVMRC Acting Secretary



OVMRC Executive 2006-2007

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Vacant

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OVMRC Life Members

Maurice-André Vigneault,
VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

Ed Morgan, VE3GX

Bill Wilson, VE3NR

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

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.

A Note From the Membership Chair

Hello, and welcome to the OVMRC, I am the new Membership Chair and have the responsibility to keep members informed of club news and events. This done through our official newsletter, The Rambler, and on-air information during formal and informal nets.

First, let me thank Bill Hall VA3WMH for his continued efforts and expertise in design and maintaining the Rambler. He has done an exemplary job so far and I want him to know how much we appreciate his efforts! Thanks Bill!

Two new databases have been created in order to manage club memberships. One stores members' personal information, which is kept in a secure location, as it should and is mandated by privacy legislation. This data comes directly from the form you filled out when you registered for the 2008-2009 season. The second database is the one used for the distribution of the Rambler, our newsletter. It stores only names, email addresses and call signs and is managed by an online service, called Mach5, which uses secure technology.

We now have a new way to register for email distribution which is totally automatic. All you need is access to email. If you have not already done so, you are invited to subscribe to the electronic version of the Rambler. "OVMRC members are automatically added to this distribution." OVMRC@rogers.com To do so, simply send an email to: with the word 'subscribe' (no quotes) in the subject line. All other text in the body of the message will be ignored. When we send the Rambler, it will come to your email in-box as an attached file bearing the .pdf extension. PDF documents are easily read by Adobe's Acrobat Reader available free from www.adobe.com. There are many other sources of this reader also. Included in the email will be a link which allows you to manage what the servers know about your email subscription. It's really quite simple and easy to use. If you wish to receive a printed version of the Rambler by mail, please let me know at any meeting. I will make sure that your mailing address is up to date in our database so we can mail it to you in a timely fashion. There is no additional charge to receive the Rambler by mail, but only if you cannot receive it electronically. If you are visually impaired, we can create a text version for you which will be compatible with your text reader. Please let me know of your particular circumstance.

Name tags are also available at a cost of \$7.00 (taxes included). Please let me know so I can order them for you. Be sure to include your call sign and first name when you place your order. You will receive your name tag at the next OVMRC meeting.

The Club also offers round sew-on OVMRC patches for \$5.00. These are about 4" in diameter and look great on any jacket.

The OVMRC web site will be getting a facelift soon. Check frequently for updates. We are also looking for ideas to improve the site. Please send any ideas/requests or source code to me for consideration. The club site can be found at ovmrc.on.ca.

Finally, if you have any ideas, comments or proposals which you feel may benefit the club, kindly let one of the Executive members know. We are always looking for more input. These could include events, outings, visits to historic sites, assembly projects etc. that would interest other members.

I look forward to seeing you at the next club meeting!

73
Chris Wiesner
VE3CUZ

Signing of a MOU between the IARU and the IFRC

November 3, 2008

To: - All Canadian Radio Amateurs

Re: Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The International Amateur Radio Union, IARU and The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, IFRC

As you know, the prime reason why we are able to justify keeping our frequencies and privileges around the world is because of our ability to provide communications in cases of disaster. When situations arise that communications are either destroyed or inadequate, authorities know that they can call on Amateurs to support them at no cost and that they will be providing their own equipments. The same help is also offered to the World's major Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) providing humanitarian aid to populations in need.

This willingness and ability to help by the Amateur Service and the Amateur Satellite Service has also been recognized by the ratification of the ITU (International Telecommunications Union) Tempere (Finland) Convention.

Another step towards general global recognition of our offered abilities to serve came with the recent signing of a MOU between the IARU and the IFRC. On June 27th, 2008, Mr Markku Niskala,

the IFRC Secretary General and Mr Timothy St. J. Ellam, VE6SH, Vice President of the International Amateur Radio Union, signed this very important document.

Thank you to the IARU international team of negotiators for this success.

73,

Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA
- Vice President International Affairs,
Radio Amateurs of Canada

- Director Area A,
IARU Region 2

- Chair, Emergency Communications
Committee (EMCOMM)
IARU Region 2

ve2ka@iaru.org

Ontario Mobile Cellphone Bill and Amateur Radio

November 3, 2008

The Government of Ontario has tabled legislation intended to improve road safety by banning the use of some kinds of electronic devices by drivers. While the target of Bill 118 was intended to be cellular communication devices, the draft bill is written so broadly that many Amateurs are concerned that Amateur Radio mobile operation could be banned by the bill's provisions.

RAC has already taken steps to protect the interests of Amateurs in that province. RAC President Dave Goodwin VO1AU/VE3AAQ has written to Minister Bradley specifically requesting that Amateur Radio be excluded from the scope of the bill. This letter reminded the minister that similar legislation in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Quebec explicitly or implicitly protects mobile Amateur Radio operation.

A careful reading of the bill reveals that any exemptions will be contained in regulations. RAC will shortly meet with Ontario transportation officials to make the case for protecting mobile Amateur Radio operation. This will be done in conjunction with the Canadian Association for Rallysport (CARS) Executive Director Alastair Robertson VE3RAA.

73,

Dave VO1AU/VE3AAQ
President, Radio Amateurs of Canada
(RAC)

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 FY 07/08 01 July 2007 to 30 June 2008. On September 15 2008 the files and reports were obtained from the OVMRC treasurer Mr. Robert Plante.

AUDIT METHODOLOGY

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

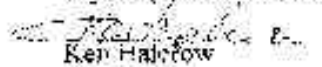
- a. Banking Summary Report (Income/Expenses) 2007-07-01 through 2008-06-30 (in Canadian Dollars)
- b. Itemized Categories Report (Income/Expenses) 2007-07-01 through 2008-06-30 (in Canadian Dollars) (Accrual Basis)
- c. File Folder FY07/08 Expenses
- d. File Folder FY07/08 Inflows

To simplify the audit a large portion of file entries and statements were cross checked with inflows and expenses, bank statement entries, expense vouchers, cash flow (USD to USD) and Transaction/charging accounts were made.

AUDIT RESULTS

During the Financial Audit of the OVMRC (inc.) accounts no financial inconsistencies were noted. Mr. Robert Plante is commended for exemplary due diligence in the performance of his OVMRC Treasurer responsibilities.

Signed (18 October 2008):


Ken Halfow
VF3SRJ
Phone: (813) 837-3261



The Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation
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15 October 2008

A-0499
OTTAWA VALLEY R.C. VE3JW
PO BOX 41145
OTTAWA ONT
CANADA K1G 5K9

Dear AMSAT Contributor:

Please accept my thanks for your generous contribution of \$150.00 to AMSAT which we received on 07 Oct 08. Donations like yours will help ensure the success of AMSAT and our projects. As you directed, your donation has been applied:

EAGLE \$150.00

The task of designing, constructing, testing and launching the Project Eagle spacecraft is challenging. Your contribution will help us meet the costs as they are incurred.

Your support is very much appreciated.

Thanks again for your support. Because of contributions like yours, AMSAT should be able to continue "keeping ham radio in space".

73 and very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martha".

Martha E. Saragovitz
Manager

ON THE CHAMPLAIN TRAIL

PART 2

FIRST OUTING CHAMPLAIN LOOKOUT

As scheduled, Sunday Jun 1, amateurs from three regional clubs (OVMRC, MARG, CRAO) were en route early in the morning. Good mix of RAC and RAQI clubs. A light fog was covering the Champlain Lookout in the high Gatineaus.

We have chosen this site, first for the name, then for the magnificent view of the Ottawa River and valley towards the Northwest where Champlain travelled, including Mohr Island where he is said to have stopped. The National Capital Commission (NCC), Gatineau Park section, gave us permission to set up for the day.

Jean-Paul, VE2JPV, and Jean-Claude, VE2JCG, our two riggers, were busy with our dipoles, multiband and 20m. Bob, VA3QV, who was operating with Yagis for 2m, 70cm, and 6m rigged at the back of his half-ton, made the first contacts in SSB.

What a surprise, and excitement, to learn that the first contacts were with RAC President, Dave Goodwin, VE3AAQ. Besides honouring us with his participation on the air at the opening of our special event, Dave was first on all three bands, providing Bob with a "hat trick". Bob had success as well with contacts into Mississippi and Texas on 6 meters indicating a good opening, although short lived.

During that time, Darin, VE3OIJ, had his station up, all digital, and started to make contacts on 30m PSK31 with his multiband dipole high in the trees. He was powered with a very quiet Honda generator. Openings were for the South and Mid-West USA. Pierre, VE2AIM, made a couple of contacts on 80m with his vertical on the roof of his vehicle.

Earlier, I had made some contacts on 80m, then on 20m. Our equipment was deployed outside on tables. Just before lunchtime, a soft rain started to come down. We hurriedly protected the equipment and took a break at noon.

As planned, Richard Ferch, VE3KI, Vice-President RAC, Regulatory Affairs, arrived around 1pm. I set him up inside my vehicle and he got busy on 20m CW. The rain continued and, from inside, Richard as well. In fact, he was enjoying it so much that he stayed until 4pm; com-

pleting many conversational contacts in order to well activate this first site.

As I prepared to replaced Richard to try some contacts with Europe in SSB, huge black clouds could be seen overhead. We used the momentary break in the rain to dismantle our antennas from the trees and fold up for the day before the next pour. No contact with Europe today, as the propagation was absent.

This first outing was a good experience for the coming two months. It showed me that by rainy weather I must cut down on equipment in favour of operation inside the vehicle, or, get me a shelter. We don't plan to cancel any outings.

CHAMPLAIN MONUMENT - ASTROLABE Major's Hill Park, Nepean Pointe, Ottawa

Saturday June 7 found us at Nepean Pointe, at the South end of Alexandria Bridge that leads to the Hull sector of Gatineau. A monument was erected in 1915 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the passage of Champlain at this site. In fact, during his second voyage to the Ottawa Valley in 1615, Champlain made solar observations with his astrolabe from this very site. We had to activate the Champlain Astrolabe Monument.

Major's Hill Park is under NCC jurisdiction, Ottawa Parks Section. In order for us to use the site, we had to sign a document of understanding and we had to prove that we were insured (RAC Plan).

Jean-Claude, VE2JCG, was on the spot to help us set up our wire antennas in the trees. Darin, VE3OIJ, was first on air and took care of all digital modes. He worked in PSK31, MFSK16, CW, and SSTV on 15, 20 and 30m.

A special guest for a special event

We had invited RAC President Dave Goodwin, VE3AAQ, to come and log at least one contact. We were happy to see Dave arrive early and immediately worked CW on 20m. I had a Hustler vertical in operation. As soon as we set up the 20m dipole in the trees, Dave noticed a 20db improvement. He persisted on 20m and when we moved the operating table in the shadow of a tree, he stayed till noon. He provided us with enough contacts for a good activation of this Champlain site.

We also had a special station. Martin, VA3SIE, walked around the Champlain monument while making CW contacts in QRP. His Elecraft K1 and his antenna spun around a 6 meters Shakespeare fish-

ing rod worn on his back, while trailing a radial wire as long as his antenna, did some good work.

In the afternoon, Martin mastered a pile-up on 20m from our main station with the help of Matthew, VA3MHB. Altogether, it was a good day under a radiant sun, and the advantage of "Warships Museums on the air" weekend. We completed several contacts with the warships.

PETRIE ISLAND A dream site for our special event.

Sunday, June 8, we are at Petrie Island, East of Ottawa. For better protection, Champlain and his men would stop over on islands met along their route. To mark this way of doing, we have chosen Petrie Island.

Here, it's a double responsibility: the City of Ottawa, Parks and Recreation Section, and Friends of Petrie Island. We have confirmed, with both organizations, permission to use the island.

Mr. Tweddle of the "Friends" invited us to set up near a beach, where about one hundred canoes were expected during the afternoon. It is an annual event supported by Sentinelle Ottawa and Canadian Heritage/Rivers. Soon, six large Voyageurs canoes and other types, and more than a hundred enthusiastic canoeists would surround us.

Early in the day, Jean-Claude, VE2JCG, helped me to set up the 20m dipole in the trees and we were on the air. Soon, two visiting couples arrived, Jean-Guy, VA2HO and his wife Louise, VA2HOL, accompanied by Yvon, VE2TG and his spouse, members of ARPI, the Portneuf club, a participant in our special event in their region. Here again, another fine example of the RAC/RAQI cooperation.

Other regional amateurs have visited us, among them, Tom, VA3TOO. Tom had never made an HF contact. I set him up on 20m and guided him through his calls. Tom logged a few contacts of which his first with Cliff in Alabama, then David in South Carolina. This elmering allowed an extension of our promotional objective, that of training.

Larry, VE3WEH, came to visit in the afternoon along with Patrick, VA3CMD, and Don, VA3GFD. We greatly thank Larry for his pictures of our installation amongst Voyageur canoes, a note totally in tune with our event. Thanks to the Petrie Island crew for this very appropriate background. Nice coincidence of events.

When visitors are numerous, promotion takes over from operation. Nevertheless, we logged enough contacts to activate the site. One of these contacts was a special event, CI3PEI, Prince Edward Island. Propagation was not too hot and the skip was very short, limited to New England and not too far to the South. It's been a memorable day from the point of view of the location and of the combined events activities.

PORTAGE-DU-FORT 14 June 2008

The first outing to take place outside the Ottawa region, Portage-du-Fort is located at about 100 kilometres of winding road on the North side of the Ottawa River.

In order to ensure early on-air time on the 14th, I got there the day before. This allowed me to try out propagation on the bands the day prior to activation. Half a dozen contacts of which Miami, Florida and Modeno, Italy, with a Hustler vertical, looked good for the next day.

Although we had announced the event previously in the region, I made a further effort to let the Valley folks know that we were in their region. FM 2m contacts on their local repeater and an announcement on the "Champlain mini-net" which covers the Valley helped us spread the word.

Portage-du-Fort was a rest stop for early explorer of the colony. It was necessary for they had to go around the river, which is quite tormented upstream, with a succession of rapids and falls. It is called the White Water region. This stop is still necessary today for pleasure boaters navigating the Ottawa to Ville-Marie. A large ramp was built to allow boats to be transported on adapted vehicles.

Near this ramp, there is a small hotel with a large park area by the river's edge. This was the spot we chose to activate the site. A hotel reservation for one night and the owner had no objections for us to set up there.

Due to uncertain weather on the 14th, we decided to use easily removable antennas. A few contacts on 40m with a vertical Hustler at the rear of the vehicle and the band faded. On a tripod, I set up two 20m Hustler in a Vee configuration and Chicago, Alabama and Ohio were ringing in.

A major breakdown, I loose my Kenwood TS-570D with an electrical supply problem. I switched to my FT-100D inside the vehicle as the rain has started to cool us up.

After ensuring a sufficient amount of contacts to activate the site, I made calls on the local repeater to find out if operators were on their way. (none at the site at the moment). I then folded everything and was on my way to Ottawa to repair my Kenwood. (Replacement of a diode in the supply circuit)

FITZROY HARBOUR 15 June 2008

Fitzroy Harbour Park, at 50 kilometres from Ottawa, is under provincial jurisdiction. We have then made arrangements with the Provincial Parks Commission and the Fitzroy Park administration.

For \$12.00, I picked a choice location on a promontory with a view on the Ottawa River and the Chats Falls. We are now activating another rest stop for explorers who had to go around the Chats Falls.

Nice sunny morning, but doubtful propagation. I started with a short venture on 80m to connect with the Pot Hole Net in Ottawa. Then, the 20m dipole went up high in the trees and a sunroof set up at the rear of the Jeep.

After the noon pause, 20m came alive and soon I was handling a pile-up. No long distance contacts, only towards the East coast to St-Johns, NL, and as far as Florida.

Bursts of electrical static crashes were heard more and more and some large black clouds could be seen at the horizon. A good sign of alert before the rain reaches us. I proceeded in dismantling the installation, protecting the equipment first and taking shelter inside the vehicle. The next minutes were never ending: violent storm, extremely loud thunder blasts, and an inundating deluge of water.

After its passage, I was left with taking down the 20m dipole in the trees, which was luckily not affected. This put an end to my activation but also to the activity of many a camper who now lined up to get out of the park.

CAP-AUX-DIAMANTS - VILLE DE QUEBEC

The Québec City site was the farthest site from our base of operation in Ottawa. The activation of this site coincided with my mother's 102nd birthday. I got to Québec City a few days before activation in order to duly celebrate this extraordinary longevity on June 19th.

The next day, June 20, I went to Cap-aux-Diamants site to check out the propagation. The Cap and its Belvédère

is the highest point of the region. It offers a magnificent view of Québec, the River, Ile d'Orléans, and the South shore. We could not have been at a better location for communications. No wonder then that this was the site where we have made the largest number of contacts.

My trials, on the eve of the activation, allowed me to log Texas and Halifax among others, and the well-known VE3XN, Garry Hammond of the Hammond Museum in Listowel, ON.

Saturday, June 21, was a very busy time on the Plains of Abraham. Big shows were being set up here and there. Jean-Guy, VE2FSK, and Germain, VE2GEJ, members of Club de Radio Amateurs de Québec (CRAQ) came to help, and we put up a 20m dipole in the trees.

In order to evaluate it, a Vee dipole was set up on a tripod. It was made up of two mobile Hustler antennas with 20m resonators. Amazing to find that, from this site, the dipole wire and the dipole Vee were about the same in comparison: antenna A - antenna B.

During the afternoon, Jean-Guy and Germain tried some contacts in PSK31. When Mario, VE2ZYX, and Richard, VE2ER, arrived, Germain went to his vehicle to try 2m FM contacts. He was very successful in a short time due to the altitude at which we were; he keyed up many repeaters and also covered the simplex frequencies.

We had announced that we would confirm all calls on any bands and in any modes. I would have liked to try some satellite contacts, but activity around our station and the availability of the satellites did not allow it.

Good activation of this main Champlain Trail site despite the so-so propagation. We had many contacts with the East coast but no openings to the West or to Europe. Nevertheless, we have totalled up the greatest number of contacts so far for a site.

At the end of the afternoon, we folded the station and I was back at the hotel to recharge the batteries for tomorrow at Deschambault.

CAP LAUZON - DESCHAMBAULT 22 June 2008

At Deschambault, the Association Radio Amateur de Portneuf Incorporé (ARPI) gave us some tremendous help. Jean-Guy and Yvon, who came to Petrie Island to

support us, were on site. But also, nearly twenty other members of the club were there as well, the largest participation of all the clubs on The Champlain Trail.

Cap Lauzon is a park on the St-Lawrence River, about 50 kilometres upstream from Québec City, and the Deschambault Parish administers it. Jean-Guy had made all the arrangements so that we could use it, and he published an article in a local bulletin to announce our visit.

Nice Park with tall trees, it was easy for us to set up. The ARPI group deployed a screen shelter, which was converted into a rain shelter when it started to rain. At the Jeep, I used an extra tarp. I so much liked their shelter that, when I came back to Ottawa, I immediately bought one for The Trail.

Let us mention here that Champlain had built a trading post in the vicinity. It was located on a small island in the rapids called Richelieu. We could see the island, directly in front of Cap Lauzon. It was a strategic location used by Champlain to control traffic on the river, to carry on fur trading activities and to alert in case of an attack.

We had two HF stations in operation with two wire antennas in the trees. We coordinated the use of the bands between 20m and 40m in CW and Phone. Jean-Guy was making 2m FM contacts from his RV and he totalled up a good log with the help of the linked nets. We had an opening towards Europe on HF 20m and we were able to log Ireland, Belgium, Germany and France.

Besides having the largest number of members on site, ARPI were successful in obtaining the same number of contacts as the Québec group. So, with these two top elements, I award the ARPI group the palm of the VC3C special event. Congratulations!

PART 3

CANADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM

OVMRC supports Amateur Radio station VE3JW located at the Science Museum in Ottawa. We were on the road during weekends, but during the week we used the VE3JW station to put on the air the special call VC3C.

Superbly equipped, the station allowed us to augment our number of contacts while making available to a greater number of amateurs the call VC3C. The JW station has a 7-element Yagi for HF and an ideal installation for satellite communications.

Therefore, we could answer to requests for skeds in both modes, as for example, one from Vancouver for AO-51 satellite, placing our two stations almost at the limit of the footprint. But, we pulled it out.

FIELD DAY with VC3C 28 and 29 June 2008

As long as we have a special call, we might as well use it. We have reserved a weekend to be on air during the North-American FieldDay.

Operating strictly from my mobile, VC3C was on air since the opening on Saturday. A heavy rain spoiled the game somewhat, but from the mobile, not much problems, only the weak propagation at the bottom of the solar cycle.

Some other contacts on the following day, Sunday, and soon we were receiving requests for QSL cards for FieldDay contacts.

CANADA DAY CONTEST 1 July 2008

Tuesday, July 1, a Holiday in Canada. Let's celebrate Champlain's Canada in a very special way, with a special callsign. The VA2MA/mobile was once again commandeered for the task.

Since zero hour UTC, VC3C was present on the radio waves. I was transmitting from different parks in the capital to finally end up, late afternoon, near the Parliament.

Last year, for the first time in the mobile, I had totalled up around 12,000 points (see TCA Sep/Oct 2007). I wanted to better that this year and I did, totalling around 15,000 points while having a great time.

We were back on The Trail, early July, heading for Pembroke and the "Champlain Trail Museum".

The JFK Memorial Transmitter Hunt

22 November 2008

45 years ago to this above date, the world witnessed, live on TV, the assassination of John F Kennedy, President of the United States of America.

The culprit is still loose and it is believed he was heard on Amateur Radio frequencies in the Ottawa area. He has been using the callsign VE3BNE to make contacts on the 80m-band and the 2m-band, usually on Saturday afternoon.

In order to help in the capture of this elusive pirate, the CARBHA group will launch a massive hunt in the Ottawa area on Saturday, November 22, 2008, from 2pm to 4pm.

In order to deceive his pursuers, this pirate displaces himself while transmitting on two bands, his main hideout being from where he transmits almost continuously on the 2m-band, although at a very low level not exceeding 1 watt.

In order to track him down, it would be advantageous to follow his 80m-band signal, usually around 3.760 MHz, and not exceeding 5 watts. This higher level of signal would more easily lead you to the main area of his hideout. Once in this main area, switch to the 2m-band, around 146.580 MHz in order to locate his hideout. Approach carefully as he may be armed with high levels of RF. He may also be operating with an accomplice. You may have to enter in a public building to corner him, once you have identified his antenna.

- Ottawa area
- 3.760 MHz <5watts
- 146.580 MHz <1 watt
- 2-4pm
- Sat, Nov. 22
- Start anywhere
- Coordinate on VE3TWO 147.300 (+)

Good Luck!
Your FBI (Funny Bunny Instigator)

For sale

Icom IC-91AD VHF - UHF D-star handheld. Accessories: remote control HM-75A microphone, handheld case, AA battery adapter, DC cord, cigarette lighter power cord, wall charger for battery. Total worth \$700. Asking \$350.

Contact Jacques, VE3TSC at 613-748-6597 or via email at .jacques1@magma.ca.

Reason for sale - have other radios for same frequencies.



OVMRC 08/09 Calendar

Month	Rambler Deadline	Club Meeting	Exec Meeting
Nov	7	20	27
Dec	6	18	TBD
Jan	2	15	22
Feb	6	19	26
Mar	6	19	26
Apr	3	16	23
May	8	21	28
Jun	5	18	25

Donations to our club.

Photo courtesy of: Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH



Yaesu FT-101, FV-101, & speaker, donated by Bert Foulds VE3BT

Photo courtesy of: Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH