

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Jan 2011

Edition 55

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Ramblings

First, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and healthy 2011.

December has been a great month for OVMRC. On December 16, the Christmas party was a big success. Thanks to Joe VE3EUS, Membership Chair, and other people involved in the organization. On December 17-18, the Club participated, under the call sign VE3JW, in the RAC Winter Contest. It was a great day. I was present for a couple of hours logging contacts made by my son on 15 meters SSB. It gave everyone present the opportunity to appreciate and use the nice new equipment that came with the upgrade of our club station. Contests such as this one are fun also because contacts are easy to make and all people on the air are so kind and eager to exchange a signal report with you. Thanks to Bob VA3QV, Special Event Chair, for leading the organization of the event. Thanks also to Darin VE3OIJ, Amateur Radio Exhibit Chair, for

making all the arrangements with the museum.

The first club meeting of 2011 is January 20 (Thursday). The guest speaker will be Erika Sharp. The presentation will be on Wind Mobile Internet network interfaces and their use in combination with amateur radio software applications. I look forward to hearing this presentation.

I've been contacted by the organizers of a car rally scheduled for September 24, 2011 (Saturday). The event will include the Mercedes, Triumph, MG, BMW, Mini and Jaguar car clubs of Ottawa. The rally will be a treasure hunt. The anticipated entry is 30 to 60 cars. The rally will start in Carleton Place and will end in Perth. This will be designed as a fun event. The rally has been planned for some time and some reconnaissance of the route has disclosed that there is minimal or non-existent cell phone coverage. They will be establishing about six checkpoints and a control station for the rally. The event is an opportunity for

amateur radio communications. OVMRC has been invited to establish six mobile and one base station, to be co-located with the checkpoints and base station. Please, let me know if you are interested and if you will be available to participate in this event in your capacity as a radio amateur.

Finally, I would like to conclude this column by warmly thanking all OVMRC executives and standing committee chairpersons for your commitment during 2010 and all the hours you put in the operation of the Club. For others, if you wish to get involved we have right now to vacant positions to fill: the Technical Chair and Program Chair. No experience is required. Just the desire to help is needed. If you are interested to join, you may talk to any member of the executive committee.

Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB
President

michel.barbeau@sympatico.ca

OVMRC Executive 2009-2010

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For information about the duties and responsibilities about all Executive and Chair positions, please visit the OVMRC forums, Member section or contact any member of the Executive.

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
- **Travel-Mor Trailer Sales**,
Ottawa, ON

The club's web site is hosted by:

Magma Communications Ltd.

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 (SK)

OVMRC Repeaters

147.300 MHz(+)

444.200 MHz(+)

Amateur Radio Exhibit VE3JW

Web site:

ovmrc.on.ca/ve3jw.htm

Canada Science &
Technology
Museum

The Rambler is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated 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, its officers or its 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:

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robert_cherry@hotmail.com

MINUTES, OVMRC GENERAL MEETING

December 16, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began informally at about 19:00. There were 34 people in attendance.

2. CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Members and guests got together for the customary Club Christmas potluck dinner. They brought a large variety of appetizers, salads, main courses, condiments and desserts to share. The Club supplied beverages and music.

In the spirit of good will and comradeship that typifies amateur radio, Angelo VA3ITY, presented to the Club a pennant from his home Club located in Modena, Italy. Darin VE3OIJ accepted the pennant on behalf of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club. In turn, he presented Angelo with an OVMRC sew-on patch. Angelo then presented to Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) a pennant from the Italian national amateur radio association, the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI). Chris VA3SM accepted the pennant on behalf of RAC. In turn, he presented Angelo with a RAC baseball cap and a RAC sew-on patch. Angelo is an avid CW enthusiast. In addition to holding a Canadian Amateur Radio

Operator Certificate, he also holds equivalent qualifications, not only from Italy, but also from Brazil.

Door prizes were won by Lucia Gassi (a bottle of Canadian VQA red wine), David VE3ZZU (a bottle of Canadian VQA white wine) and Marcel VE3FNG (a \$40.00 gift certificate courtesy of Les Produits Électroniques ELKEL Ltée, of Trois-Rivières, Québec).

In the spirit of the season, all unopened and non-perishable items remaining at the end of the evening were donated to the Shepherds of Good Hope, 233 Murray Street, Ottawa.

3. UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Club Executive will be held at 19:00 on Thursday, January 6, 2011. The next general meeting of the Club will be held on January 20, 2011. All meetings take place at the Canada Science and Technology Museum, 1867 St Laurent Boulevard, Ottawa, Ontario.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended informally at about 22:30.

5. SIGNED

Joe VE3EUS, Secretary

MINUTES, OVMRC GENERAL MEETING, NOTICE OF MOTION

At the general meeting of January 20, 2011, members in good standing will be asked to vote on the following motion:

Moved that the Executive of the Club be authorized to increase membership dues to \$35.00 per year and that, further, it be authorized to offer a membership discount of \$10.00 per year to those who are members in good standing of Radio Amateur of Canada (RAC) on the date that they join the Club or that they renew their membership.

If the motion is adopted, those who are members of RAC at the time of joining the Club or of renewing their membership would pay a net fee of \$25.00. Those who are not members of RAC at the time of joining the Club or of renewing their membership would pay the total fee of \$35.00. The reasons why these changes are necessary will be discussed at the meeting.

Signed,

“Joe VE3EUS, Secretary”

Mailing List Update

Last June 2010 OVMRC webmaster updated the mailing list software to a new system. The primary function of the update was to allow the use of personalized emails sent to all members of the OVMRC mailing list. This has worked very well. However, there are still a few members (and SPAMMERS) who forget that the mailing list only understands a few commands in the subject line. As a friendly reminder, you can only send the commands 'subscribe' and 'unsubscribe' (without quotes) to the list manager ovmrc@distributel.net. Any other commands or emails will be logged and discarded. I've just gone through the logs from December and note a few address change requests. In order to do that, it is best to send an email to the webmaster on the club website. Alternatively, if you are planning to change ISP's (service providers) you can do this yourself by first unsubscribing your old email and then subscribing your new one. If you are using an alias (such as ve3abc@rac.ca) you need to configure your software(outlook express?) that you are sending as your alias, not your home email provider. The OVMRC mailing list manager will not know who you are if you use

ve3abc@sympatico.ca(for instance); it will know you only as ve3abc@rac.ca. In this case you will need to notify the webmaster. When members change emails and don't inform the list manager, it causes undue strain on the system. It sends you an email, and the email is bounced, and re-processed by the list manager. It is important to minimize bandwidth and stress on the systems as a whole. I ask that you be cognizant of these details. This principal applies to all mailing lists to which you subscribe.

The following members have emails which are repeatedly bouncing. If you know any one of these, please ask them to re-subscribe with their new email address or contact the webmaster:

jerry.neufeld@rogers.com
wally.clarke@sympatico.ca
ve3qso@rac.ca
anton.bloem@sympatico.ca

(VE3EIT)

longbow@igs.net
ve3ix@rac.ca

73,

See you at the next meeting!

VE3JW MMA DECEMBER RESULTS

December was a busy month. With the RAC winter contest and some good band conditions, it was difficult to pick out the MMA winning

contacts for the month.

Solar weather has improved and we had many sunspots to help improved propagation.

Many new or unusual DX entities were contacted from VE3JW in December. These include: Democratic Republic of Congo, Kermadec Islands, South Africa and Swaziland.

December results (Does not include the Winter Contest contacts)

Made by Guests and Visitors:

1. Best SSB QSO (Distance):
 VA3DPA to WD1W, 318 km

2. Best CW QSO (Distance):
 VA3ITY to IM0QMA, 6569 km

Made by regular ops:

6. Best SSB QSO (Distance):
 VE3VIG to 3DA0TM, 13357 km

7. Best CW QSO (Distance):
 VE3VCF to ZL8X, 13182 km

8. Best HF Digital QSO (Distance): VE3HAZ to ZS2CR, 13417 km

9. Best Satellite QSO (Distance):
 VE3OIJ to EA4CYQ, 5618 km

10. Best D-Star QSO (Distance):
 No recorded D-Star

*** Five QSO list for Dec 2010:**
 VE3VCF, VE3EJJ, VE3LTN, VE3VIG, VE3OIJ, VA3CMD, VE3HAZ

*** Most contacts for Dec 2010:****- Guest op:** VA3ITY, 4**- Regular op:** VE3VCF, 40*** Total QSOs at VE3JW for Dec 2010:** 143**Volunteers hours for December 2010:**

This month our operators have totalled 216 hours and 30 minutes.

Well done everyone!

Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ

VE3JW RAC Canada Winter Contest



Photo courtesy of: Joe Lemieux VE3EUS

On December 18th at 0000hrs UTC the words CQ CONTEST, CQ CONTEST VE3JW CONTEST were heard echoing through the Canada Science and Technology Museum. That phrase was heard for the next 24 hours as VE3JW with the kind permission of the Museum was able to compete for its first RAC Canada Winter Contest.



Photo courtesy of: Joe Lemieux VE3EUS

The contest which is sponsored by the Radio Amateurs of Canada runs every December on a Saturday close to Christmas. The OVMRC has participated in this contest in the past with the last time being in December 2006 operating CF3RCS from Bate Island. This time the operating positions were a lot warmer.



Photo courtesy of: Joe Lemieux VE3EUS

With the hard work of Darin VE3OIJ who as Station Manager of VE3JW had to get permission from the Museum for us to operate for the full 24 hours of the contest which included the traditional "Silent Hours" when the museum is closed to the public and Bob VA3QV who looked after the scheduling of operators the job got done. Operators were

scheduled in the following shifts:

0000-1200 Three operators
 1200-1600 Four operators
 1600-2000 Four operators
 2000-2359 Four operators
 (3 after the museum closed)

The extra operator was for when the museum was open to the public to answer any questions that might occur as not to distract the operators who were busy making contacts and breaking pileups. We had one operator on the new Flex Radio operating on 6- 10-15-20 CW or SSB depending on the operator's preference. We had one operator on the TS 2000 operating 2, 40 and 80 CW or SSB depending on the operator's preference and one operator on 2m FM using the Kenwood D700.



Angelo, VA3TTY

Photo courtesy of: Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB



Angelo, VA3TTY- 2

Photo courtesy of: Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB

I am pleased to report that for our first contest as VE3JW our claimed score was as follows:

RAC CANADA DAY CONTEST SUBMISSION

Printed: 12-23-2010

ENTRY INFORMATION

Submitted by: Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ

Operating as: VE3JW -
Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club

Address: PO Box 41145
City, Province: Ottawa, ON
Postal Code: K1V 7A1

ENTRY CLASS: Multi-Operator
Multi Transmitter Any
Authorized Power Level

OPERATORS

VA3QV, VA3ECM, VA3DPA,
VE3NPO, VA3CEW, VE3IJJ,
VE3VIG, VA3ITY, VE3EUS,
VA3CMD, VE3VCF,
VE3EMB

SCORE CALCULATIONS

Canadian QSO's were:

167 X 10 = 1,670
(excludes any RAC)

RAC QSO's were:

25 X 20 = 500

Total DX contacts:

183 X 2 = 366

Total of ALL QSO's:

375 QSO's = 2,536 points

Total MULTIPLIERS: = 46

CLAIMED SCORE: 116,656

Grand Total

Now this score will not set any records but if we go by last year's scores it gives us something in the middle.... We won't win but we sure did not lose and most importantly we did have fun...

Thanks to all who participated and a special "Thank You" to the Museum for allowing us to operate from the museum for the event.

73 bob, VA3QV



Bob, VA3QV Joe, VE3EUS Angelo, VA3ITY

Photo courtesy of: Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB



Joe, VE3EUS

Photo courtesy of: Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB



Joe, VE3EUS Angelo, VA3ITY Darin, VE3OIJ

Photo courtesy of: Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB

VE3RAM and the SPAR Winter Field Day

I would ask you to check out the following website and then come back and read the rest of this article.

www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php

Some of us have been thinking of operating a demonstration station for the Spar Winter Field Day. The idea of this would be to operate (outside) in a public location such as a park for a few hours of the contest on the Saturday and Sunday. Something like from noon to 4pm on the Saturday and 8am to Noon on the Sunday.

Now for this contest all bands and all modes are usable including 2m repeaters so the idea would be to have one station on repeaters and one station on HF and just have some fun giving out some contacts. Meeting for coffee after both days operating would be a good chance to brag about

the contacts we made or lie about the ones we missed.

If you are interested in getting some fresh air as well as warming up the air with some RF let me know. If we have enough bodies to man the equipment then we can take it to the next level which would be to plan a location to operate from.

With your participation we can do this... Let me know via email if you are interested or find me at the Jan Meeting on the 20th at the museum.

73 bob, VA3QV

va3rcs@rac.ca
va3rcs@rac.ca

2011 Club Meeting Dates:

- January 20, 2011
- February 17
- March 17
- April 21
- May 19
- Jun 16

2011 Exec Meeting Dates:

- February 3
- March 3
- April 7
- May 5

2011 Rambler Deadline:

- February 7
- March 7
- April 11
- May 9
- June 6



Canadian Ski Marathon 2011

February 12 and 13

Once again the Canadian Ski Marathon (CSM) is spooling up. This year is the 45th anniversary for the CSM. Radio is a few years behind that.

The CSM depends on ham radio volunteers to provide important and timely safety and logistical communication for the benefit of the skiers. The amateur radio CSM web page (<http://www.radio-1.ca>) is up and running with 2011 information. The event runs between Lachute and Buckingham in western Quebec - snow or shine.

If you would like to volunteer this year, please email Harold, VA3UNK (radio1@admin2.ca). Although I can't promise anything, assignment requests are generally first-come, first-served.

Please join me the second weekend in February (12th-13th) and help make 38th our best year yet!

Bye for now,
Harold va3unk

YASME Excellence Award

The YASME Foundation supports the development and promotion of Amateur Radio around the world.

The YASME Excellence Awards www.yasme.org/excellence.html are given to individuals who through their own service, creativity, effort and dedication have made a significant contribution to the cause of Amateur Radio. The contribution may be in recognition of technical, operating, or organizational achievement as all three are necessary for amateur radio to grow and prosper. With the 2010 Excellence Awards, YASME recognizes the following individuals in order to recognize them and inspire others on behalf of Amateur Radio now and in the future.

(VIA the IARU Bulletin)

Canadian Amateur wins YASME award

Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA for developing DX Atlas, Morse Runner, HAM-CAP, CW Skimmer, Rocky and other innovative software. Alex's products are making a remarkable impact on the competitive HF operating environment. Making this software available to the amateur community at little or no cost demonstrates excellent ham spirit.

[/www.dxatlas.com/](http://www.dxatlas.com/)

Christmas Party Photos

Courtesy of Joe Lemieux, VE3EUS

