# Rambler

Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated



Mar 2014 Edition 58 Page: 1

# OVMRC February Mini Flea Market

The February meeting of the club was a mini flea market, held at the museum on Thursday February 20th. It was well attended (about 3 dozen amateurs and non-amateurs) by both sellers and buyers, with 12 sellers offering a vast variety of parts and equipment. The buyers came armed with big rolls of cash (perhaps from mortgaged homes?) but with sharp bargaining skills.

The unofficial award for 'most-stuff-for-sale' was won by Joe (VE3EUS) who brought enough items to cover 3 entire tables. He had a diverse selection of gently-used components and transceivers plus a vintage receiver, and he went home much lighter in the weight of items he had to carry, except for those essential ones he bought at the flea market from other sellers. At the end of the night he had a thicker wallet.

Three amateurs, James (VE3MYZ), Jacques (VE3TSC) and Graham (VE3GBD) were unable to attend the flea market and the items they offered for sale were displayed by Joe on their behalf.

Maurice-Andre brought in a number of really nice items at great prices.

Ernie offered his customary variety of deals on components, with the best steal being a heaping box of mini fans offered at only \$0.50 each - a better deal than a cup of coffee at Tim's. The bag-of-components offered at "Honest-Ed" prices at his table gave the person who was repairing some equipment or building something from scratch a good selection of components from which to choose.

Good to see Bob (VE3QV) again - he had a very neat table with a nice selection of handi-talkies and other goodies.

Darin and Beth provided discriminating buyers the opportunity to purchase their almost-new computer and audio equipment.

Yours-truly had a small offering but managed to sell most items, and (thank goodness) that included a heavy power supply would have been 'forgotten' at the museum at the end of the night if it had not been sold.

My apologies for anyone that I missed, as I spent half the evening browsing at other tables and ogling the bargains that others had purchased – for example Darin had a really neat 2 band Arrow antenna.

At the conclusion of the night, a happy band of buyers and sellers returned home, secure in the knowledge that a good proportion of the stuff they were carrying would be in the flea market next year after each of their respective partners were shown their best-deal-of the-century.

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# Meeting Date

VE3JW 40th Anniversary......6-10

#### **Club Meeting:**

## March 20th

**40**<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF AMATEUR RADIO AT THE CANADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM

DOOR PRIZES
BAOFENG UV3R+ DUAL BAND
HANDHELD & A DIAMOND 771
DUAL BAND PERFORMANCE
ANTENNA

The Club benefited in the amount of \$140 from both donated items and donations from sellers in lieu of table fees.

Brian Williams VE3KNE Secretary OVMRC

# OVMRC Executive 2013-2014

#### **President:**

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#### **Vice-President:**

Vacant

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## Standing Committee Chairpersons

#### **Amateur Radio Exhibit:**

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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-Riviéres, QC

# • KENWOOD ELECTRONICS CANADA INC.

Mississauga, ON

• TRAVEL-MOR TRAILER SALES, Ottawa, ON

The club's web site is hosted by:

# PRIMUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS CANADA INC..

www.ovmrc.on.ca

#### Visit the OVMRC Store

at

http://www.cafepress.ca/ovmrc

#### **OVMRC Life Members**

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

Ed Morgan, VE3GX 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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## Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated

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#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

# TO CONFER THE JERRY WELLS AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD UPON PAUL LABBÉ, VE3NJS

t the general meeting of March 20, members in good standing will be asked to vote, by secret ballot, on a motion to confer upon Paul Labbé, VE3NJS, the Jerry Wells 2013 Amateur of the Year Award.

Paul, VE3NJS, has served the Club by managing the Club repeater, by managing the Club special events trailer and by taking the lead on several challenging technical projects. At the general meeting of the Club held on January 16, 2014, the undersigned members in good standing nominated Paul for this award.

Over the years, access to the Club repeater site had become difficult. Paul drafted a letter to the Minister of Public and Government Services Canada outlining the situation and the terms of the contract signed in 1979 between the Crown and the Club governing the operation and maintenance of that repeater. As a result, an efficient and timely procedure for access to the repeater site was put into place. The President of the Club commented "The results achieved by Paul are but one example of his professionalism, great sense of responsibility, his leadership and his dedication when he takes on a task on behalf of the Club." Paul is now leading the committee involved in assessing the condition of the repeater and in planning what maintenance and upgrades may be beneficial.

Paul has also taken on the responsibility for maintaining, upgrading and towing the Club special events trailer. Over the

years, he has continually striven to improve the functionality of the trailer. He modified the interior and repaired the roof. He used his own resources, vehicle and time to prepare and make available the trailer for Field Day and Lighthouse-Lightship Weekend. He has taken charge of preparing the trailer for winter storage.

Using research, engineering principles and experimentation, Paul proposed a solar powered system to replace the 4KW gas generator that, for years, had supplied the trailer radios and lights. He led a work crew that installed solar panels on the roof. wire harnesses to distribute the power and additional batteries inside the trailer. He devised controllers for charging the batteries and for distributing the DC power produced by the system throughout the trailer. This new power source allowed the club to participate in Field Day 2013 in a special category. The solar panels performed flawlessly throughout the event. Subsequently, Paul prepared a comprehensive presentation that he presented to the Club on his research into solar alternatives and on the work required to implement the chosen design.

We, the undersigned, are proud to nominate Paul Labbé, VE3NJS, for the Jerry Wells 2013 Amateur of the Year Award.

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ Joe Lemieux, VE3EUS

# Special Event Callsign In Effect

In celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of amateur radio at the Canada Museum of Science and Technology, a special callsign has been authorized by Industry Canada. For the entire month of March, operators of the museum demonstration station (VE3JW) will be operating as VC3S, in digital modes, CW, and phone.

There will be a QSL card issued for contacts with VC3S. QSL requests are handled through VE3JW. Details are available at: <a href="https://www.qrz.com">www.qrz.com</a>

73 de VE3OIJ Darin

# INVITATION

### CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF AMATEUR RADIO

#### AT THE CANADA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MUSEUM

March 2014 will mark the 40<sup>th</sup> year of amateur radio operations from the Canada Science and Technology Museum (CSTM) in Ottawa. Industry Canada has authorized a special amateur radio call sign, **VC3S**, especially to commemorate this occasion.

For four decades, licensed amateur radio operators from the Ottawa Valley Mobile Club (OVMRC) have interpreted for the visiting public the evolution of radio technology and its continuing strategic importance to everyday life. They have used various analog and digital radio communications modes to illustrate how radio amateurs "talk" to each other locally and around the world.

Amateur radio is more than just an interesting hobby that can be enjoyed by young and old alike. It can also serve communities during civil emergencies when domestic modes of communications fail. Most recently, amateur radio communications were used to link provincial authorities with municipalities during the land line and cell service outages that occurred during the Alberta floods.

During the weekend of March 15 and 16, volunteer amateur radio operators will demonstrate various aspects of radio technology and amateur radio communication techniques. These demonstrations will take place at the amateur radio station, VE3JW, located at the Museum. Visitors will be able to hear and, if they wish, communicate with other stations under the supervision of a licensed operator.

The public is welcome to participate in the special events at the Museum during the weekend of March 15 and 16. To learn more about the evolution and importance of amateur radio, the public is invited to attend the regular general meeting of the Club on March 20 at 07:30 )P.M. at the Museum. Speakers will interpret the history of radio communications and of amateur radio for today's technology savvy users. There will be door prizes.

#### For more information:

Sandy Haggart, President, Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, VE3HAZ@ rac.ca

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club (OVMRC):

www.ovmrc.on.ca/index.htm

Canadian Museum of Science and Technology (CSTM):

www.sciencetech.technomuses.ca/english/inde x.cfm

www.sciencetech.technomuses.ca/francais/index.cfm

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC):

www.rac.ca/ or www.rac.ca/fr/

Ottawa Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG):

www.emrg.ca/

Alberta Floods:

www2.canada.com/edmontonjournal/news/stor y.html?id=9a2c105f-8370-40eb-980e-1312b1ba9ecc

# THE JERRY WELLS AWARD

It was my privilege and pleasure to know Jerry Wells VE3CDS (SK). I first met Jerry when, in 1992-93, shortly after I had retired, I took the OVMRC qualification course. He was the course administrator and also the Club's Accredited Examiner. There were over 20 students in the class. Jerry, along with Brice Wightman VE3EDR, taught Morse code during the first half hour of each Tuesday evening class. The required code speed at that time was 12 wpm. As you may guess, Jerry was a CW man. He had been a ham for many years. He was a very practical one. I still recall his lecture on propagation and some of his comments about electromagnetic interference (EMI). The comment that I recall best was that "it rather shakes a ham when he sees his neighbour's lights going on and off in synchronism with his key strokes."

Jerry was a generous individual. He gave me some RG 58 flexible cable for a 5/8-wave two-metre roof-mount antenna that I was building and a speaker magnet to be used for its mounting. The magnet was quite strong and, when I mounted it in my lathe to widen its gap, the cuttings would not fall away, making the operation rather slow: The head stock of my lathe is still magnetized! Jerry's dedication to the Club and to the course was very evident, even after his first wife died. He did not miss a single evening of the course.

Jerry was heavily involved with the demonstration amateur radio station VE3JW located at the Canada Science and Technology Museum. In the mid-1990s, he and Cy Webster VE3SIY organized the refurbishment of the station to its present configuration. Cy looked after the paper work to get a grant from the New Horizons Program administered by Health and Welfare. That grant was used to buy a Kenwood TS-850, an ALS 600 solid state power amplifier and a Telex TH7DX beam antenna. Jerry's practical nature was apparent on the Saturday morning when the assembled TH7DX antenna was installed on the top of the tower. To save the Club the cost of a commercial crane, he arranged for an Ottawa Fire Department ladder truck and crew to perform the task. One of Jerry's plans for the refurbished station was a system that would allow shut-in hams to operate the station over a telephone line from their residence. Unfortunately, this was never implemented because of technical and administrative problems inherent in restricting remote access to the station to licensed radio amateurs.

Another of Jerry's interests was working with the handicapped. He was active with the High Horizons recreational program for the physically handicapped held at the MacKay United Church in New Edinburgh. It was there that he met June Knight whom he later married. When he died in November 1997, Jerry was President of the Ottawa Handicapped Association.

Following Jerry's death, Larry Wilcox VE3WEH (SK) successfully promoted the OVMRC Jerry Wells Amateur of the Year Award within the Club. The Award was to be given for outstanding service to the Club and to amateur radio in general. Because of Jerry's interest in CW, the Award was accompanied by a quality set of CW paddles. The Award was given for several years, but not for the past few. It is being revived this year with the presentation to Paul Labbé VE3NJS.

On March 20, June Knight will make the presentation of the Jerry Wells Award to Paul VE3NJS.

Ernie J. Jury VE3EJJ

### VE3JW 40TH ANNIVERSARY

as it been this long already? The more than 20 years that I have been involved with the Amateur Radio Exhibit **VE3JW** at the Canada Science and Technology Museum seem to me, as I reflect on them, a fast blur of exciting times, special events, improvements through renovations, many enjoyable hours operating state-of-the-art amateur radio equipment at which is arguably the best open-to-the-public amateur radio station in Canada and, addressing thousands of enquiring and interesting visitors.

But this station has been around for more than 20 years. This venture all started back in 1967 at the time of the opening of the National Museum of Science and Technology, as it was called then, when the curator of the communications exhibits called upon Ed Morgan, VE3GX (SK), to find radio artifacts for the museum. It was at around that time that the idea of an amateur radio station at the museum germinated in Ed's mind. It took many years to realize it, and finally in March of 1974, the station was officially opened.

We will let Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, narrate the beginning of the VE3JW station as published in the April 1999 edition of the OVMRC Bulletin, the RAMBLER.

How did VE3JW get started?



Jim W Cotter after schooling at Brantford, Ontario.

"The call sign, VE3JW, was originally held by Jim W. Cotter, an early radio Amateur who did not have the gift of sight because of an unfortunate childhood accident. He became a silent kev in 1969 at the age of 67. Jim was a personal

friend of Ed Morgan, VE3GX, who had the job of erecting an antenna for him whenever he moved. His transmitter was a Johnson Viking II, which he operated with the aid of an audio output device, developed by Ed, that was used in parallel with the panel meters of the transmitter and antenna matcher.

When Jim's call sign became available, Ed had the idea of a demonstration Amateur station in the communications section of the National Museum of Science and Technology in Jim's memory and that of early radio pioneers.

Ed had to reserve the vacated call sign, sell the idea to the Museum's exhibit curator, and get an equipment supplier on board, all of which he was able to accomplish after getting the goahead from the club.

The equipment supplier was Heathkit, who made a long-term loan of the following kits that were assembled by club members: HW-101 transceiver, HP-23B power supply, SB-600 speaker, HDP-21A microphone, SB-610 monitor scope, SB-200 linear amplifier. A 30' tower with a Mosley 3-element triband beam was installed on the roof of the Museum by club members.

Station operation was inaugurated on the evening of March 19, 1974, with Jayne Arbuckle, the 9-year-old granddaughter of Jim Cotter, sending the first signal with a 10"



Jim Cotter's grand-daughter keys the opening of the original VE3JW station.

spark coil transmitter, the sort used by the first transatlantic station, VAS, at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia (and similar to the unit located in the display beside VE3JW). The station operated in



Original VE3JW station.

this configuration for several years until the communications exhibit was revamped over a period of about three years.



Jerry Wells (SK) during Girl Guide event, shows the rebuilt VE3JW station.

During this period, Jerry Wells, VE3CDS (SK) took responsibility for the station and, along with a few others, designed the current station configuration. Then, with Cy Webster, VE3SIY, he arranged for a New Horizons grant from the

Department of Health and Welfare to purchase the equipment that we enjoy today (in 1995): a Kenwood TS-850 transceiver, Ameritron ALS-600 linear, Hy-Gain 7-element triband beam, and a Cushcraft multi-band vertical antenna, to name the major items. The station log shows that it does very well in DX operation, regularly reaching European and African countries, and occasionally Australia and New Zealand.

VE3JW is staffed on a volunteer basis, mainly by members of this club, although as a national demonstration station, it is available to any licensed Amateur.

A few years ago, the OVMRC undertook to operate the station for a minimum of 500 hours per year in exchange for the use of the Museum's facilities for our monthly meetings and course requirements. So far, we have successfully met this obligation."

Thank you Ernie. And in the same issue of the Rambler (April 1999) I wrote a report on the 25th anniversary of VE3JW. Here, follows a short rendition of it.

## VE3JW Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Friday, March 19, 1999, marked the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the opening of the VE3JW radio station in the NMST at Ottawa. I had never seen the station so busy!

Renovations at the Museum in 1995 moved the radio station into a new area. Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, a recent silent key, along with other Amateurs and Museum staff, deserve much credit for the excellent modern exhibit, layout and equipment now in use.

The Museum itself had been very busy all week when more than 3500 visitors were recorded, and this Friday, many more were expected.

I started calling on the 20m band. "This is VE3JW Special Event Station celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Radio Station VE3JW at the Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa." I was surprised to hear the many stations responding to congratulate us so early in the morning. One of the first callers was a station in Moscow, Russia, and it was followed up by many other stations in Europe.

Collin Guillas, VA3CSG, a 16-year-old newly licensed VE3JW station is located. We had been working since Amateur, came in to assist me. He set up the Amateur TV demonstration and opened up the PACKET station. Then, he went to the 2m FM station and logged many congratulatory QSOs from local stations.

Shortly after noon, Ken, VE3KJB, and Larry, VE3WEH, came in to take on the Trans-Provincial Net on 40m as control station. Following their announcement of the Special Event, they heard a flood of well-wishers.

During that time, I used the TH7DX beam to cover all the provinces, East and West. An unusual amount of visitors were filing through the exhibit. I finished up on the 15m band with some interesting contacts from Spain, Scotland, England and Eire, all wishing us well on this special day. At the end of the day, we had worked 2m FM, 2m Packet, 10, 15, 20 and 40m SSB and CW, while demonstrating ATV, computer-assisted satellite tracking, and MIR space station trajectory and overpass.

The activity at the VE3JW station on its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary would have caused Jimmy and Jerry to be jubilant.

#### New JW

When Jerry Wells and his group planned for the VE3JW station in early 1990, they had a vision of a future station encompassing all modes and including satellite communications. In the late nineties, I became manager of the VE3JW station and I wanted to follow Jerry's vision.

A new challenge was underway: that of making the VE3JW Amateur Radio Exhibit the #1 demonstration station in Canada. The objective was to rebuild the existing VE3JW station with new state-of-the-art equipment including satellite communications, large wall-display and facilities for visitor interaction. The New JW was to become not only a demonstration station but an operating station, and a training station covering all aspects and modes of the Amateur Radio hobby, and welcoming all licensed Radio Amateurs regardless of club affiliation. Quite a tall order considering the very limited funds available from the sponsoring Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club.

In year 2000, the Museum launched a new five-year program for their Connexion Exhibit where the

1999 on a plan to include satellite communications in our display. However, the new Museum program did not have sufficient funding to allow for our plan to be implemented.

A new group, the Amateur Radio Exhibit Group was formed to oversee the new development of the station. We solicited help from a number of manufacturers and retailers without success. In late 2000, we submitted a demand for a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. With an OVMRC operating reserve and an OTF grant of \$7,600.00 for new equipment at the station, the Museum decided to include the VE3JW plan in their renovation program.

Renovations started in Fall 2001. The radio station was completely emptied and only the partition walls remained. New counters and shelves were built into three separate consoles: VHF console; Satellite console; and HF console. Mounted in the center wall was a 36-inch video monitor to channel all our demonstrations from three computers and a VCR. The AC power distribution was redesigned in order to give each console its own independent circuit.

VE3JW volunteers got busy on the roof installing the satellite antennas. Telesat Canada donated a Quadpod support and we mounted a 10-foot pole to support the Yeasu G5500 Azimuth-Elevation rotors. A 10-foot boom was adorned with a 14-element VHF, and a 30element UHF antennas. We added two 20db gain preamplifiers. The Museum did a great job of designing a special weatherhead for our cable run. We added an Anli base antenna for our newly purchased Kenwood TM-D700A used for APRS, Packet and IRLP.

Besides the D700A above, the OTF grant allowed us to acquire the satellite antennas, the rotors, a Kenwood TS-2000 transceiver, two preamplifiers, a dual-band base antenna, two Kenwood speakers, a power supply, satellite tracking interface and software, cables, connectors, and miscellaneous hardware.

Our station was closed for about one month while this was going on.

## Opening

The official opening of the New JW station took place on October 12, 2001. Attending the opening was Ottawa MPP Claudette Bover, the Museum DG and

staff, the OTF representative, Kenwood Canada representative, Bytown Marine, Telesat Canada, RAC representatives, club presidents from the region, and VE3JW volunteer operators. Some Museum visitors also gathered around the station.



2001 renovation with satellite comm.

We made a full presentation of our new station followed by short speeches from the MPP, the DG, and the OTF regional representative who presented a plaque outlining the Ontario government participation in our project. A ribbon-cutting ceremony took place and everyone enjoyed the new JW cake.

The local media was on hand conducting interviews, and we were on the evening news with great coverage of the event – promoting Amateur Radio.

#### Results

A lot of time was spent on the newer modes and equipment. PSK31 contacts all over the world interested many visitors who were invited to complete a QSO at the keyboard. Witnessing a satellite contact with full tracking display on our large screen fascinated many others as well as hearing astronauts on the International Space Station answering our calls. We talked to Susan Helms, Frank Cuthberson and space tourist Dr Simony. We conduted a direct ISS contact at our station for a school in Orléans.

We trained all our operators for satellite operation and offered a free satellite course to any licensed amateurs. I tuned in Oscar 10 one day and called indicating that I was at the Museum's demo station. I immediately got a pile up starting with Finland, then Denmark, Ukraine, Russia, Italy, Germany, Belgium, France,

England – a total of 15 contacts in 50 minutes taking time to chat with each one. When the 2.4 GHz dish was installed with the help of Clare Fowler, VE3NPC, and the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club volunteers, we were able to chat at length, everyday, with stations in Japan, New Zealand and Australia through our largest satellite, Oscar 40.



Satellite antennas with 2.4 GHz dish.

With three separate consoles, we were able to easily host groups of special events such as JOTA, GOTA, YOTA, giving an opportunity to these youths to experiment with Amateur Radio on one band or another. We also conducted White Cane Week every year and hosted Carleton University computer science classes and other school groups.

The station was well attended as shown in the increase in volunteer hours, reaching up to three times what was required by the Museum.

#### **Anniversaries**

During this time, we celebrated VE3JW's 30th and 35th Anniversaries in 2004 and 2009 by inviting the whole Jimmy Cotter family. In 2004, Jimmy's daughter Peggy, completed a Single Side Band contact with T99A in Bosnia, which won her the palm for the furthest contact on that special day. In 2009, Jimmy's great-grandson, Cleary, was there to cut the Anniversary cake.

### New phase

In 2010 we approached the Museum to help us spruce up the station with new technology: the SDR (Software Defined Radio) development; the D-Star digital voice system; new interface for satellite tracking; LCD monitors for our computers; and a



Jim Cotter's daughter Peggy, grand-son Clark, great-grand-son Cleary showing confirmation of winning contact during 30th anniversary commemoration.

larger 55-inch LED main demo screen display. The OVMRC and the Museum reached an agreement for a 50-50 split of the cost of this improvement.

The SDR demos are a great success and this new



VE3JW renovations to include satellite comm. VE3JW renovations to include satellite comm.

system facilitates the use of many digital modes such as JT65 weak signal communications. The D-Star system is now open to worldwide contacts regardless of propagation. Its clear audio is a great improvement over the analog audio, and it is possible to find a station anywhere in the world by just entering the call sign.

### Objectives reached

When Jerry Wells and his group envisioned the objectives for a new station, here is how he presented



New clocks, SDR, D-Star, in the "New JW"

it in a correspondence to manufacturers and retailers who were potential contributing companies:

"This station will be used to educate the visiting public about radio communications in general and the various facets of Amateur Radio in particular. We intend to demonstrate all modes of Amateur Radio communications available today so that young and old alike may explore the wonders of speaking with people from around the world on HF or via satellite, using Amateur communications to transmit data and images (including television) and capture satellite imagery and telemetry"

After spending time, over 20 years, at the station, I would use the same words to describe what we are doing today. It would seem that we have attained our objectives, and in some ways even surpassed them.

Although, we must be aware that such a complete and advanced station may intimidate some Amateurs to the point where they do not dare to show up. It is not our aim to prevent access to the station for any licensed operators. On the contrary, we welcome everyone with a desire to learn as our volunteers are also mentors. Come and spend some time at the station, even if it is only for short-wave listening. You will soon appreciate the facilities. Only, today, they are really "short" waves, that of the satellite signals on ultra high frequencies.

On this coming March 19, 2014,

#### HAPPY 40<sup>TH</sup> VE3JW!

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG Amateur Radio Exhibit Volunteer Canada Science and Technology Museum

# 2014 Meeting Dates

#### March 20

40th Anniversary of
Amateur Radio and the CSTM
Reflecting the history and
value of amateur radio within
CSTM and our community

#### April 16 - Wednesday

Home Brew Evening -Show us what you've been building this winter

#### **May 15**

Mobile Show n Tell

Bring your mobile installation and we'll look and evaluate. Prize(s) to be awarded. To be held outdoors, 19:00h

# June 19 Annual General Meeting Elections

#### **NOTE**

All meetings at the museum will have access by the south side door S5A, on the right side of building

# What's Happening Elsewhere!

## Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC)

#### www.oarc.net/blog/:

The next meeting of the Ottawa
Amateur Radio Club takes place on
Wednesday 12 March at 7:30 PM
in the Ottawa city Hall, second
floor. Brian Jeffrey VE3UU will
deliver a historical presentation
entitled "Adventures from the
Coldest Part of the Cold War."

Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC) <u>ve3rlr.dyndns.org/</u>:

#### West Carleton Amateur Radio Club www.wcarc.on.ca

Seems pretty quiet around the valley, eh? More info will follow by email when it comes available.

# Rambler deadline

Meeting date minus 13 days

Apr 04 May 02 Jun 06 Jul/Aug 09

Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor:

#### **Robert Cherry**

No later than the deadline for the desired edition.

April Rambler submission deadline is:

Friday, 4th Apr 2014



Baofeng UV3R+ dual band handheld 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary door prize provided by Pepper's Radio Sales, Rockland

# OARC Project, GNU Radio

The OARC Project, GNU Radio for beginners, shows participants how to build basic software designed radios using GNU Radio, a free, open source software package, together with an inexpensive (~\$20) USB TV tuner. Clayton Smith VE3IRR who leads the project is also teaching the necessary digital signal processing background required to understand how they work. The 35 participants have met on three Saturday mornings so far exploring several SDR packages and and using GNU radio to build AM and FM (both narrow and wide band) receivers. On March 8 they will build an SSB receiver and modify it to receive CW. Sessions have also demonstrated how versatile SDR radio can be beyond AM FM and SSB reception to include: receiving information from aircraft to track their position as they overfly Ottawa, decoding the ever present water and power meter transmissions on 900MHz, reading pager messages, receiving DMR and D-STAR transmissions and even building simple amateur television systems.

# Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated

First Name:



# P.O. Box 41145 Ottawa ON K1G 5K9

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date:				PRINT		*****	
Call Sign	NEW 🗌	CHANGE		OVMRC	Preferred First Name		□ No □YES ¬
Caragi	,	mane			Preferred Pars, Name		
Street	'					Apartment Number	1
City		Province				Postal Code	_
Hame Phone	Work Phone		E-mail Address				_
Are you a member of Radio	Amateurs of Cana	ıda (RAC) Yes □	No □ RAC	D:	Expiry Da	ite: / /	
Full Memb	ership (Me	a Member mber of RA ip (Unlicens	C) (	\$35.00 \$25.00 \$15.00	/year □		Amount Enclosed  \$ Cheque  Cash
ly Interests are:	_	F/UHF Pho Phone	ne	□VHF/U	HF Digital jital	□VHF/U	
Current Occupation: Retired, Former Oc Skills: (Please list them a							
COMMENTS							

Call Sign: