

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



June 2014

Edition 58

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President's Rambling:

Well we are winding down from a very busy and interesting year. The success can be measured in quality speakers who had interesting topics, the support from CSTM, VE3JW's 40th anniversary, the awarding of the Jerry Well's Amateur of the Year award along with the support and backing of OVMRC's membership. With this momentum it is anticipated that our membership will increase in the coming year as with the volunteer support of our VE3JW station.

Thanks for your individual support to the executive and associated OVMRC Chairpersons. We can't do it without you. Have a safe and enjoyable summer. Sandy/VE3HAZ

OVMRC's Show and Tell evening: This was the theme of our May meeting and again we saw the creative mobility of our members. It indicated their interest and effort to be mobile. Although there were only 3 stations set up all were able to make multiple QSOs on HF, VHF and UHF bands and modes of operation. They were awarded special certificates for their efforts and number of QSOs. Thanks to Georges/VE3LZY, Maurice-André/VE3VIG, and Michel/VE3EMB for their participation.



The Supporting

The evening was enjoyed by fellow supporting OVMRC members and guests.

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Meeting Date

Club Meeting:

Jun 19th
Thursday

ELECTIONS

Class Room 8 !!!

OVMRC Executive**2013-2014****President:**

Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ

ve3haz@rac.ca**Vice-President:**

Vacant

Treasurer:

Joe Lemieux, VE3EUS

ve3eus@rac.ca,**Secretary:**

Brian Williams, VE3KNE

bdwill@rogers.com**Standing Committee
Chairpersons****Amateur Radio Exhibit:**

Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ

ve3oij@amsat.org**Amateur Radio Training &****Accredited Examiner:**

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

es282@freenet.carleton.ca

613-728-3666

Membership:

Vacant

Technical:

Paul Labbé, VA3NJS

paul.labbe@usa.net,**Radio Operations:**

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ve3myz@rac.ca**Newsletter Editor:**

Robert Cherry, VE2AGE

cw527@ncf.ca**Webmaster:**

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va3sm@yahoo.ca

613-970-3993

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

• **PEPPERS RADIO SALES,**

Rockland, ON

Email: peppersradio@videotron.caWEB site: www.peppersradio.net

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.htmCanada 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:

[Robert Cherry, VE2AGE](mailto:Robert.Cherry@ncf.ca)cw527@ncf.ca**Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated****PO Box 41145****Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9****www.ovmrc.on.ca**

Meeting Minutes

May 15 , 2014

Mobile Show & Tell

This special club meeting was held outdoors with the topic being 'Mobile Show and Tell', where club members were invited to show off their mobile stations. Three club members, Maurice-Andre (VE3VIG), Georges (VA3LZY) and Michel (VE3EMB) set up their unique mobile installations in the parking lot and demonstrated their equipment to the remaining club members.

Maurice-Andre had a well-packaged portable setup contained within an instrument case in the back of his vehicle, enabling him to operate on HF, VHF and UHF. Layout was such that the transceiver and support equipment controls and displays were readily available. The very unique feature of his mobile station was the antenna, which was anchored between the front seats of his vehicle and protruded through his sunroof. Maurice-Andre operated on HF during the meeting and made several contacts on CW. His portable station demonstrated a well thought out design for quick setup.

Georges demonstrated his mobile VHS station operating, powered by a small gasoline generator. The transceiver was a new Yaesu FTM400DR giving him lots of flexibility to operate using many modes of communication. The transceiver, power supply and

computer were located in the passenger seat of his vehicle. During the meeting Georges operated on 2m simplex and made numerous contacts in the Ottawa area using 50 watts to a roof mounted antenna.

Michel's station was designed for a unique purpose, that being for Summits on the Air. During an activation of a summit, Michel has to backpack his station to the summit chosen, thus all equipment has to be very light. His transceiver is an Elecraft KX3 feeding a Buddipole antenna. The transceiver provided 5 watts output, with the power provided by a VERY compact and light Li ion battery with a whopping 13.2 AH capacity. He also carried along a standby wire antenna. All of this equipment was held in a standard backpack. A great demonstration of a communication system for a specific purpose.

These individuals allowed club members with the opportunity of looking at 3 unique equipment setups, each designed to maximize performance and ease of operation for a specific purpose. Perhaps these setups might encourage others to try to design and build their own mobile installations to optimize operation in their own area of interest.

At the conclusion of the evening Sandy presented each of these individuals with an OVMRC plaque, and a reminder to all that the club elections would be carried out in the next meeting in June.

New 472-479khz spectrum allocation for Amateur Radio in Canada

RAC is pleased to announce the official Canadian implementation of the 472-479 kHz band. "Agreed to in 2012 at the World Radio Conference (WRC), and now approved in Canada this is more good news for Canadian amateur radio", said enthusiastically Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW, and RAC President.

The amateur service is now authorized to use the 472-479 kHz band with the release of the new Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations by Industry Canada. While approved at WRC 12 by the ITU, each country then must implement regulations for its amateurs before the band is available. Operations are subject to the international foot notes, which limit power to 5 watts EIRP except in certain areas within 800 km of certain other countries. Industry Canada release:

http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/h_sf01678.html

The RAC 0-30 MHz Band Planning Committee will be proposing a suitable band plan to enable best use of this new very narrow band. Comments and suggestions may be sent to the committee via rachq@rac.ca. Those looking to become active on this new band are encouraged to write of their experiences for TCA, given the challenges of antennas and equipment for this new band.

This addition to our allocations is especially appropriate given that Industry Canada, with Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN, acting as a

representative for both RAC and IARU, lead the charge for this new band at WRC 12. Of course, WRC 12 was the end of a long process that started many years earlier and many others need to be recognized for their contributions: Industry Canada which brought together all of the industry players to form consensus, Ken Pulfer VE3PU (SK) who started it all off and provided help and insight throughout the multi-year process, Dave Conn VE3KL did the critical antenna analyses. Jim Dean VE3IQ oversaw getting licenses for 504 – 509 kHz experiments to verify non-interference to power control systems. Also, Norm Rashleigh VE3LC who guided the favourable responses to the proposed amateur secondary allocation at 472-479 kHz through IC's Request for Public Consultations on the WRC-12 decisions. Many others also provided valuable support and work over a seven year process.

Canadian amateur operators have two new segments of spectrum thanks to the very hard work by RAC with our regulator. Five 60 meter band channels were made available by Industry Canada a few months ago. Not a member of RAC? Please join to support amateur radio in Canada:

<https://www.rac.ca/en/rac/membership/form/>

580 Booth Repeater Survey and Maintenance Day

At the site of OVMRC VE3TWO repeater a team met Saturday 17 May at 0900. Paul Labbé invited the executive for a visit while Ernie VE3EJJ, Doug VE3SPF and Paul VE3NJS were going to do some repairs. While Doug made the maintenance to the transceiver of the six-meter repeater, Ernie and Paul went up on the roof to do antenna maintenance. The six-meter repeater received a new set of power transmitter vacuum tubes, tuning of the final and testing the transmitter using a dummy load. Then later, Doug used his antenna analyser to test the receiver and trip the repeater.

During a visual inspection of the antennas, Ernie and Paul noted some problems with the six- and two-meter antennas.



The 70 cm-antenna, a vertical IsoPole, passed the visual test, except for its proximity to a commercial antenna mast and a Yagi installed fairly close to it.

The main issue was with the six-meter antenna which suffered from an early wear off of its main radiator insulator (similar to the problem observed with R5 and R7 antennas).



After years of intense wind and temperature variations, a gap developed between the aluminum main radiator and the mast insulator. This caused the aluminum main vertical radiator to wobble inside the insulator holding it to the supporting antenna mast. The wobble over time damaged the connector for the tuning stud component of the antenna matching loop. Fortunately, Doug came with a set of antenna repair parts that allowed us to replace the broken antenna matching components using a new connector and stub. Then both adjustable parts of the matching antenna feeder were progressively tuned to the transmitting frequency. Step by step moving the tap on the loop and shortening the stub till we reached a low SWR at the desired frequency. Due to various factors, a too short

coaxial cable to the antenna analyser and the wobble of the antenna radiator which movement changes the feeder matching impedance, or possibly a defective cable to the repeater, the resulting SWR was about 1.5 at the connector to the six-meter cavities.

The two-meter antenna repair was easier. We simply raised its base pipe by un-tightening its U clamps and lock screw in order to slide up the antenna radials above the guard rail. Its SWR at the point of connection to the cavities at the transmitting frequency was below 1.7. The two-meter repeater works normally from what has been observed.

The 70-cm antenna SWR was below 1.2 at the transmitting frequency. A UHF stub was removed since its insertion was not necessary anymore. The antenna coax was reconnected directly to the 70-cm cavities. It appears that the 70-cm repeater needs more attention. We did not test the transmitter output or trip this repeater yet.

73

Paul Labbé VE3NJS

Report on the 2014 Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour

By: David Scott, VE3ZZU

I assisted with amateur radio communications for the 2014 Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour (RLCT) on Sat Jun 7 and again on Sun Jun 8. My Saturday check-points were Flewellyn at Eagleson and then Cemetery Side Rd at 9th Line. I manned those check-points from 7 am to about 11:30 am. On Sunday Jun 8th, I was assigned to parking lot P11, Stony Swamp Conservation Area on West Hunt Club Road (attached is my photo of the West Hunt Club amateur radio check-point that I set-up and manned on Sunday). I was at that check-point from 11 am to 6 pm. What a very long day it was Sun just to be in one location, sitting all cramped-up in my blue Honda Civic.



1 David/VE3ZZU's "Operational Station"

On Saturday, over 1,000 cyclists went from Algonquin College in Ottawa to Queens University in Kingston and just under 1,000 returned on Sunday (attached is my "best" photo of riders passing the West Hunt Club amateur radio check-point Sunday afternoon, all headed for Algonquin College).



2 Riders passing the West Hunt Club amateur radio check-point

Both Saturday and Sunday I drove over 200 km just to get from Orleans to and from my check-points in the Stittsville back-country and I was mobile for over 3 hours just driving to and fro. I took down and put away all my amateur radio gear as soon as I got back home to Orleans on Sunday and then I treated myself to a refreshing shower. I had a salad waiting in the fridge along with some big juicy oranges and big red grapes for supper. Mmm!

The Last Rider, Bib 768 on the 2014 RLCT, passed the West Hunt Club amateur radio "check-point", parking lot P11, Stony Swamp Conservation Area on Sunday, June 8th.

On both Saturday and Sunday the Ottawa Region ("Ottawa half") of the 2014 RLCT amateur radio communications was provided by Ottawa region amateur radio club members. The "sweep" function to make sure no riders were lost or unaccounted for, was done by Arthur Smith VA3BIT. Attached is a photo of Arthur on his big orange M/C and a video of his impressive "flashing lights" (location was at the West Hunt Club amateur radio check-point taken by me using my BlackBerry Q10 smartphone).



3 Arthur Smith VA3BIT

Ottawa EMRG/ARES Radio Support responsibilities and their locations were provided by the following people:

Control 1, Richard Hagemeyer VE3UNW (net control was at the EMRG (Emergency Measures Radio Group) net control location co-located with Ottawa fire dispatch.).

Control 2, Francois Daigneault VE2AAY

West Hunt Club, (Sat) Gordon Phillips VE3XGP, Heidi Phillips VE3HHP, (Sun) Dave Scott VE3ZZU.

Hopeside, (Sun) Scott Curda VA3PTO.

Eagleson - Flewellyn, (Sat) Dave Scott VE3ZZU.

Huntley, (Sat) Gord Holmes VE3AVA, (Sun) Dave Conn VE3KL.

Munster, (Sat) Scott Curda VA3PTO, (Sun) Doug Leach VE3XK.

Ashton, (Sat) Doug Fawcett VA3FAW, (Sun) Gord Holmes VE3AVA.

Cemetery Side Rd, Gord Mein VE3FRB, Theresa Mein VA3TGS, later, Dave Scott VE3ZZU.

Blacks Corners, (Sat) Dave Conn VE3KL, (Sun) Gordon Phillips VE3XGP, Heidi Phillips VE3HHP.

Loon Lane, Stuart Fedack VE3SMF, Louise Lagace VE3LOI.

Ottawa Bicycle Club (OBC) Mobiles (Sat & Sun)...

Admin, OBC RLCT Chair/ Radio, Mike Kelly VE3FFK.

SAG1, OBC Driver/ Radio, Tyler Tidman VA3DGN.

SAG2, OBC Driver, Doug Cooper; Radio, Margaret Tidman VA3VXN.

SAG3, Driver/ Mechanic, John Howieson VA3JO.

Repair 1, Driver/ Mechanic, Justin Kirkup; Radio, Harold Hamilton VA3UNK.

Repair 2, Driver/ Mechanic, Mike Plummer; no Radio, RX only.

OPS, OBC Route Manager, Driver, Chris Borzeki; Radio, Rick Furniss VE3IHI.

Sweep on MotorCycle, APRS, VA3BIT-8; Radio, Arthur Smith VA3BIT.

Repeaters use...

Primary...

Ottawa: VA3EMV/W 145.210(-) MHz, CTCSS 123.0 Hz, no IRLP.

Lanark: VE3KJG 146.640(-) MHz, no CTCSS, IRLP node 2947.

Frontenac: VE3FRG 146.805(-) MHz, CTCSS 203.5 Hz, no IRLP.

Secondary...

Ottawa: VE2CRA 146.94(-) MHz, CTCSS 100.0 Hz, IRLP node 2040.

Lanark: VA3TEL 145.230(-) MHz, no CTCSS; linked to VE3KJG.

Frontenac: VE3KBR 146.940(-) MHz, CTCSS 151.4 Hz, IRLP node 2750.

Submitted by,

Dave Scott, VE3ZZU

Member, Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club (OVMRC)

VE3ZZU's equipment set-up is worth mentioning:

- iCom IC-92AD portable radio connected to a
- MIRAGE B-34-G, 2-meter Power Amplifier, 35 W, a
- Comet SBB7 mag-mount antenna on a
- Diamond mag-mount, all connected with
- Anderson Power Pole connectors to a
- RigRunner connected directly to car battery via 8-gauge Power Werx wiring from
- Rick Armitage, Armitron (he goes to our spring and fall flea markets).

Some abbreviations used above ...

RLCT (Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour);
OBC (Ottawa Bicycle Club);
APRS (Automatic Packet Radio System);
SAG (Support & Gear);
ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services);
EMRG (Emergency); &
M/C (MotorCycle).

2014 Meeting Dates

June 19
Annual General Meeting
Elections

NOTE

All meetings at the museum will now have access by the front door as construction is now complete.

The June 19th meeting will be in **class room 8** at the museum.

Coming Events:

- **Field day:** June 28 – 29th on the museum grounds. To help us organize we need to know who's willing to participate and in what capacity, effort and time. OVMRC's communication trailer RAM will be on site. Space is available for those who want to set up their own station. So what is needed, amateur radio operators for sure, since the main objective is making contacts. However we need helping hands to setup (10:00 hrs. on Saturday 28th June) and take down (after 14:00 hrs. on Sunday 29th June). Some form of lunch and snacks will be available for the participants so please let us know if you are available. Email Sandy at dah542@gmail.com to confirm.
- **ILLW:** August 15 – 17th near the museum's light house. Same support, see ARRL Field Day.

OVMRC Repeaters

If you are interested in learning about or helping with the OVMRC repeaters contact our technical chair-person, Paul Labbé, VE3NJS, (paul.e.labbe@gmail.com). Extra pairs of hands are always welcome.

Technical information:

What have you found or read lately that might be interesting to others. Write it up and send the information to the Rambler Editor, Robert Cherry (cw527@ncf.ca) even if it is an URL

What's Happening Elsewhere!

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC)

www.oarc.net/blog/:

Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC)

ve3rlr.dyndns.org/:

West Carleton Amateur Radio Club

www.wcarc.on.ca

VE3ORF/3730 Group

www.ve3orf.com/

Seems quiet in the "Valley" no events submitted. Fishing season is upon us. Enjoy the summer radio activities.

Rambler Deadline

Meeting date minus 13 days

Sep 06

Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor:

[Robert Cherry](mailto:Robert.Cherry@ncf.ca)

No later than the deadline for the desired edition.

April Rambler submission deadline is:

Friday, 8th Aug 2014

For Sale by auction: Power Generator:

Reason for selling, OVMRC has gone to solar power for our communication trailer, VE3RAM.

Specifications: Champion Generator:

2006 model, less than 60 hours of operation

4000 peak Watts - 2000 running Watts

2 – 120 volt 60 HZ outlets

2 – 240 volt 60 HZ outlets

1 – 12 volt DC



Place: OVMRC AGM on Thursday June 19th at the Canadian Science and Technology Museum

Time: at end of meeting, approximately 20:30 hrs.

Bidding starts at \$125.00

ELECTION SLATE, 2014-15

The members listed below have volunteered to act as directors or chairs for the Club fiscal year that begins on September 1, 2014 and ends on August 31, 2015. Additional volunteers are required, notably for the positions of Treasurer, Chair of Amateur Radio Training and Chair of Radio Operations.

Members who would like to join the Executive, in no specific position, to explore how they might best contribute in the future are also welcome. Please let any of the Executive know of your intentions.

Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting that is scheduled for June 19th.

DIRECTORS

President: Sandy, VE3HAZ

Vice-President: Michel, VE3EMB

Secretary: Brian, VE3KNE

Treasurer: OPEN

CHAIRS

Amateur Radio Exhibit: Darin, VE3OIJ

Amateur Radio Training: OPEN

Membership: Joe, VE3EUS

Newsletter Editor: Robert, VE2AGE

Newsletter Publisher: Bill, VA3WMH

Radio Operations: OPEN



MEMBERSHIP FORM

- The membership year starts in September and runs to the end of August of the following year.*
- Regular membership is open to licensed amateurs.*
- Associate membership is open to all unlicensed radio enthusiasts.*
- Membership includes an e-mail subscription to the Club newsletter, the OVMRC Rambler.*

Date: **PLEASE PRINT**

RENEWAL NEW CHANGE OVMRC NAME TAG (COST \$10.00) No Yes

Call Sign	Surname	Preferred First Name
Street		Apartment Number
City	Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Work Phone	E-mail Address
Are you a member of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> RAC ID: _____ Expiry Date: / /		

Full Membership (Not a Member of RAC) \$35.00/year
Full Membership (Member of RAC) \$25.00/year
Associate Membership (Unlicensed) \$15.00/year

Amount Enclosed
\$ _____
Cheque Cash

My Interests are: VHF/UHF Phone VHF/UHF Digital VHF/UHF CW
 Satellite HF Phone HF Digital HF CW

Current Occupation:
If Retired, Former Occupation:
Skills: (Please list them all)

COMMENTS

OVMRC NAME TAG – ORDER DETAILS

First Name:

Call Sign: