

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Jan 2015

Edition 59

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President's Rambling

Happy New Year! I do hope you all enjoyed the holiday

season, the weather sure cooperated up until the 4th of January, however it's Canada, eh?

The OVMRC Christmas dinner on December 18th. was a pleasant evening relaxing and socializing with OVMRC members, family and friends. I hope the pictures represent a thousand words for your reading pleasure.

This year we had an additional item on the dinner's agenda which was opening the Time Capsule. The rough cardboard box, black marker labelled "OVMRC 40th Year Incorporated Time Capsule" created a low level content expectation. However we should have realized the creativity and seriousness of those OVMRC members. It was a pleasant surprise when the cardboard box was opened revealing a beautifully hand crafted Oak box. The contents (*see list*) represented the effort and thoughtfulness of the contributors' contribution to the meaning of the 40th anniversary event. There is an encouraging reflection of the OVMRC members' club pride and Amateur Radio participation through those

40 years which is still evident in today's membership.



Throughout the next few months we will publish the written content. However for now here are some samples:

Place Privy Council memo:

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Meeting Date

Club Meeting:

Jan 15th
Thursday

**"The Quest for
Sixty Metres"**

Bryan Rawlings,
VE3QN

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

Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ

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

Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB

michel.barbeau@sympatico.ca**Treasurer:**

Beth Webster, VA3CEW

cemwebster@rogers.com**Secretary:**

OPEN

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Chairpersons****Amateur Radio Exhibit:**

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

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VACANT

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Chris Wiesner, VA3SM

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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

• **KENWOOD ELECTRONICS
CANADA INC.,**
Mississauga, ON

• **TRAVEL-MOR TRAILER SALES,**
Ottawa, ON

• **PEPPERS RADIO SALES,**
Rockland, ON
Email: peppersradio@videotron.ca
WEB 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

OVMRC Repeaters

VE3TWO

147.300 MHz(+)/100

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:

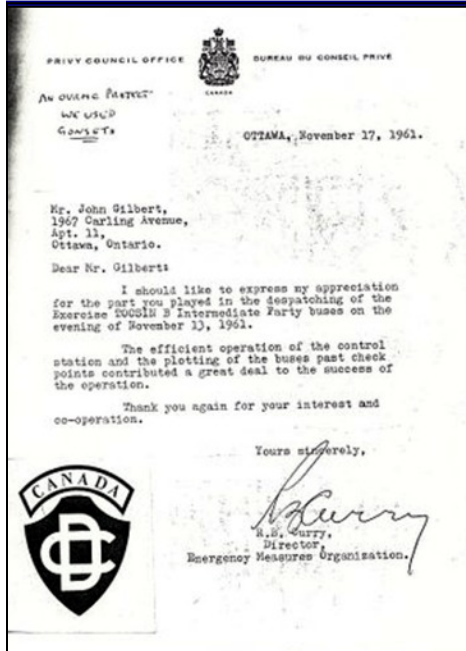
*[Robert Cherry, VA3AOD](mailto:Robert.Cherry@VA3AOD)
cw527@ncf.ca*

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated

PO Box 41145

Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9

www.ovmrc.on.ca



OVMRC Amateur Radio Course Update

The course is concluded and out of the 17 students that registered, so far we have 12 new amateur radio operators and we expect a few more to try their test in the 2015. They were unavailable for testing at the group exam session. Of those that wrote their exam and were successful, five obtained Basic qualification, six obtained Basic with Honours qualification, and one obtained Basic with Honours as well as Advanced qualification. We expect a couple of folks to try to upgrade their Basic to add Honours qualification in the near future.



We welcome the following OVMRC students to the air waves:



- | | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Jennifer O'Neil | VA3KNX |
| Eric Burgin | VA3EZE |
| Kelly Walsh | VE3LLX |
| Ezekiel Ruddy | VE3EKE |
| Erick Paquet | VA3KAQ |
| Leo Yull | VE3YYL |
| Frank Cloake | VE3FKL |
| Tim Orange | VA3ZZW |
| Kim Campbell | VA3KMY |
| Youri Querry | VA3QHQ |
| Gordon Evans | VA3ODT |
| Kevin Britton | VA3KBX |

As for the dinner, here are samples of the gathering: remember the saying a picture is worth a thousand words. Please consider this my 4 thousand word article. Hi Hi.



73 Sandy VE3HAZ

I would like to thank Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, for attending the course sessions and providing many practical demonstrations. I would also like to thank Mike Kelly, VE3FFK for also attending the course and who provided follow up examination sessions for a few of the candidates. I would also like to thank Darin Cowan, VE3EEE for providing the presentation to the students on the topic of Propagation.

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC

OVMRC Time Capsule:

Celebrating OVMRC's 40th Anniversary:

Enclosed 2002:

Opened December 18, 2014

Items: *colour indicates items to be reviewed*

- A. Hand Crafted Oak box: (designer/carpenter unknown)
- B. Letters Patent (copy) : OVMRC Incorporated Dated: 16th March 1962
- C. Article: Yesteryear by Larry Wilcox, (SK) his call was VE3WEH
- D. **VHS tape** of 40th anniversary March 28, 2002 General Meeting
- E. Amateur Radio Club Members 1981: Ottawa Area and Eastern Ontario
- F. The Canadian Amateur (magazine) May/June 2001 (cost \$7.25)
- G. Durham Radio Sale & Service Communications Catalogue 2002
- H. **Cassette tape** : labeled « Early History of Amateur Radio – OVMRC, Oct 5, 1995 **seems to be blank**
- I. **CD: FD 2000**, Ottawa- Hull, June 24 – 25; VA3RAC 35 Alpha (Win 95/98) GPFFerm Consulting Email: ve2gpf@rac.ca
- J. **CD: OVMRC** Ramblers Jan 1997 – Apr 2002 (compiled by: VA3WMH)
- K. **Cassette tape**: labeled “VE2CCC Repeater 1967, with picture VE3CLW André Pilon, builder and operator, with photocopies of QSL cards; 1st repeater in Ottawa area, circa 1965, CFRA Camp Fortune
- L. Letter from Bill Wilson, VE3NR, reflecting Steve Middleton's, VE3RUU contribution to OVMRC
- M. Pictures: field Day June 1961, VE3CXL photos by John Gilbert, VE3CXL
- N. “Welcome Mat Net” check-in list; Date: June 5, 2002; Net controller: Larry VE3WEH; Net Manager; Patrick VE3CMD
- O. Talk to Santa Picture: Pat Rowan, VA3PUR and Don Raymond, VE3DRO
- P. “Whereabouts list of OVMRC members” by Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ
- Q. Radio course class picture “The Class of 2002”
- R. Article: OVMRC History by Ed Morgan, VE3GX, 28th March 2002
- S. Letter: from Privy Council Office November 17, 1961 acknowledging an Emergency Measures exercise, Nov 13, 1961
- T. 40th anniversary congratulation Email from Mitch Powell, 26 Mar 2002
- U. Badges of various OVMRC events from Patricia Rowan, VA3PUR
- V. QSL Cards from: VE3MOG (Susan Morgensen); VE3BBY (J. Erland, OVMRC's 1st president); VE3LOW (Russ Lowe)
- W. History on QSL Cards for Jake Guertin/VE2TXQ/VA3TQX from the following stations:
 1. VE3RAM with picture of Rick/VE3IHI, Dan/VE3XDD, Jake/VE2TXQ, Larry/VE3WEH
 2. W2HAG/ Robert McNett, Syracuse N.Y.
 3. VE3JW
 4. VE3VIG 27th June 1995
 5. VE3MNO/Marcel Tremblay
 6. VE3SHQ/National Scout Headquarters
 7. KC4YPX/Jim Gaylord, Alabama, USA
- X. OVMRC 40th anniversary mug
- Y. OVMRC executive name badges VE3MUD/Ian, VE2TXQ/Jake

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Hello everyone.

September 1st marks the beginning of the Club fiscal year. Membership fees are due this month. Fees for Full Members who belong to RAC are \$25.00, fees for Full Members who do not belong to RAC are \$35.00 and fees for all unlicensed radio enthusiasts are \$15.00.

The Club membership form was revised during the summer. The current version of that form is available in the back of the Rambler. If you cannot attend the first meeting, please consider mailing your cheque to the Club address as shown below.

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated
P.O. Box 41145
Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 5K9

I look forward to welcoming all returning members and all new members at the membership table prior to our October meeting.

Joe VE3EUS, Membership Chairman

OVMRC Meetings

General Meeting Thursday, January 15th at 19:30 hrs will have Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN, speaking on “**The Quest for Sixty Metres**” with all its international intrigue and coexistence competition within the 60 metre band.

Location: Canada Aviation and Space Museum:
[MAP](#)

11 Aviation Parkway

Ottawa, ON K1K 2X5

General meeting: Start time 19:30 hrs.
Access: via the front entrance. See map.

Meeting Room: Classroom A

Looking forward to seeing you there.

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.

2015 Meeting Dates	What's Happening Elsewhere!	Rambler Deadlines
<p>January 15 "The Quest for Sixty Metres" by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN</p> <p>February 19 Flea Market</p> <p>March 19 TBD</p> <p>April 16 Home Brew</p> <p>May 21 Show & Tell</p> <p>June 19 Annual General Meeting Elections.</p>	<p>Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC) www.oarc.net/blog/</p> <p>Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC) ve3rlr.dyndns.org/</p> <p>West Carleton Amateur Radio Club www.wcarc.on.ca</p> <p>VE3ORF/3730 Group www.ve3orf.com/</p> <p><i>Check it out; let us know what's going on in your club.</i></p>	<p>Meeting date minus 13 days</p> <p>Feb 06 Mar 06 Apr 03 May 08 Jun 05</p> <p>Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor:</p> <p>Robert Cherry</p> <p>No later than the deadline for the desired edition.</p> <p>January Rambler submission deadline is:</p> <p>Friday, 6th Feb 2015</p>

Have you checked your antenna?

The warm weather and the following rain turning to freezing rain left a beautiful crystal image on all of our trees. I enjoyed the scenery as I walked around our neighbourhood. Until this morning when I looked out the window and noticed my LDG S9v43 was leaning too much in the gentle breeze.

That's when I saw the shining crystal covering on one side of the S9v43 fibre glass pole. Over one half of the vertical was iced. Fix it or lose it was my immediate thought. Now if you are following the weather in Ottawa to day the morning temp was around -15C and falling steadily to -31C tonight with increasing wind. It was not going to get better, the winter thaw has come and gone, spring is months away and if it breaks now it's time, dollars and no radio for a while, maybe until Spring. It was too risky to not try fixing it now.

So it was out into the cold to lower the pole. Sounds straight forward however we had installed a new gazebo frame in front of where I usually (not often) lowered the 43 foot mast. This made the space to 'lower' the antenna to about 6 inches between the frozen cedar hedge and the gazebo frame. The fibre glass pole is light but its length makes it difficult to hold, especially in breezy conditions. Next off with the ground wire, loosen the spare coils of coax, raise the pole 20 inches off it's in the ground base pole and lower it slowly at first through the narrow opening. The slowly at first changed to quickly as the vertical angle changed to horizontal until it

accelerated to the ground sideswiping the clothesline and other gazebo frame followed by a "soft" landing in the snow.

However the lowering exercise was not without its excitement and near misses. The cramped base position required me to straddle the pole as I lowered it. If you have a fundamental knowledge of a levers, long end/short end over the fulcrum, well the short end came up faster than I imagined and the next words can be yours: _____, tears freeze fast in cold conditions.

To my surprise and thankfulness it took only a light taping of a hammer and the ice peeled off nicely.

Getting the pole back up was easier than lowering it because I was able to start lifting it in the middle and walk it into the vertical position before placing it back on its ground post. Putting, more like fumbling, the ground wire connected in -19C temperature was a humbling/bumbling experience. I really now appreciate the physical effort/endurance of those service personnel who have to work in extreme (cold) conditions.

Now I am more aware of my radio infrastructure and its continuing maintenance.

How did you fare with the ICE?

Enjoy:

Sandy, VE3HAZ
Jan 7, 2015





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.

PLEASE PRINT

RENEWAL NEW CHANGE OVMRC NAME TAG (COST \$12.00) 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Full Membership (Member of RAC) | \$25.00/year | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Associate Membership (Unlicensed) | \$15.00/year | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Amount Enclosed

\$ _____

Cheque Cash

My Interests are:

<input type="checkbox"/> Satellite	<input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF Digital	<input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF CW
	<input type="checkbox"/> HF Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> HF Digital	<input type="checkbox"/> HF CW

Current Occupation or Former Occupation:
Skills: *(Please list them all)*

COMMENTS:

Signature	Date	Initials	By initialing this box, I confirm that I consent to receiving e-mail messages from the Club
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OVMRC NAME TAG – ORDER DETAILS

First Name:

Call Sign: