

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Apr 2015

Edition 59

Page: 1

2014 Course Graduates



2014 OVMRC course graduates, 9 of the 13 in total that gathered for the April 16th certificate presentation and photo op. Back row left to right: John MCGowan VA3YJK, Jennifer O'Neil VA3KNX, Eric Burgin VE3EZE, Leo Yull VE3YYL, Yuri Query VA3QHQ, Front Row left to right: Tim Orange VA3ZZW, Kelly Walsh VE3LLX, Norm Rashleigh VE3LC (instructor), Kim Campbell VE3KMY and Ezekiel Ruddy VE3EKE

President's Rambling



The OVMRC is settling into its new home at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum. The closure of the Science and

Technology museum until 2017 allows us the time to focus on how we can enjoy our new environment. Change has and will create many opportunities for us as a club to show our skills and love of our

hobby. We have cleaned out our excesses and are regrouping and refocusing the club. This means your ideas need to be stated for the June 6th planning session. See this link for your input:

ovmrc.on.ca/forum/index.php?topic=587.0

Note, you have to be a member and login to the Forum to access the planning meeting discussion topic.

OVMRC asset retrieval status: the museum is cleaned out, We have all of our 'stuff' that the

INSIDE

President's Rambling.....	1,3
Meeting Minutes.....	3-4
Left Over.....	5
Notice of Elections.....	5
Surplus Equipment for Sale.....	6
Soldering Course Report.....	7
Broadband-Hamnet Project.....	7-8
From the Time Capsule.....	8
What's Happening Elsewhere.....	9
Rambler Deadlines.....	9
Meeting Dates.....	9
April 16th Meeting.....	10
Technical Information.....	10
OVMRC needs YOU.....	10
OVMRC Meetings.....	10
OVMRC Repeaters.....	10
Elections are Coming.....	10
Membership Form.....	11

Meeting Date

Club Meeting:

May 21st
Thursday

"Paul Labbé, VE3NJS, power generation using solar panels"

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

Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ

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

Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB

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

Beth Webster, VA3CEW

ovmrc.treasurer@gmail.com**Secretary:**

OPEN

**Standing Committee
Chairpersons****Amateur Radio Exhibit:**

Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ

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

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC

ve3lc@rac.ca**Membership:**

Joe Lemieux, VE3EUS

ve3eus@rac.ca**Technical:**

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

VACANT

Newsletter Editor:

Robert Cherry, VA3AOD

cw527@ncf.ca**Webmaster:**

Chris Wiesner, VA3SM

va3sm@yahoo.ca

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

*Is temporarily off the air due to the closure of
the Canada Science and 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@ncf.ca)
cw527@ncf.ca*

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museum staff retrieved for us. Some minor items are missing however due to the conditions under which they worked we are comfortable with what we received. We acknowledge the professional support that we received from Cédric St. Amour, Ms. Linda Talbot, and Tom Dillabough the museum staff and their team.

Antenna retrieval status: All the easy accessible antennas were retrieved however the big one, the TH7DX HyGain antenna its T2X rotor and "support structure" aka the tower was another problem. We received an Email on Friday May 1st indicating that Wednesday May 6th they would have a crane available to remove the last antenna and an OVMRC team was required. See Maurice-André's article for a more complete review of the TH7DX retrieval. All's well that ends well when we pull together.

April meeting presentation

summary: Bertrand Zauhar/VE2ZAZ Broadband Ham Net mesh Network presentation is in such a demand that he created a video presentation on the subject. Norm, VE3LC, coordinated the presentation with the support of several Broadband Ham Net mesh Network guests, Tyler Tidman, VA3DGN, Ying Hum, VA3YH, and Margaret Tidman VA3VXN. The presentation content was support by the enthusiasm of our guests and Maurice-André, VE3VIG's practical experience of getting his site on the Broadband Ham Net mesh Network without any problems. It is an amateur radio chunk of the radio frequency spectrum so why not use it and enjoy the challenges it presents.

Field Day Participation: Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, will outline our participation requirements for the upcoming ARRL June 27-28th field day at our June 18th meeting . The field day activities will take place on the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum. Participation in events like this is a learning and fun experience so sign up and come out and enjoy the experience and even visit the aviation museum. Let Norm know that you are interested, Email him at: VE3LC@rac.ca

This June meeting is important to you as OVMRC members so please consider submitting your name for the executive positions. Feel free to inquire about the responsibilities from any member or executive person.

73 Sandy VE3HAZ

OVMRC Planning Meeting, Saturday, June 6, 2015

A Forum discussion area for the June 6th Planning meeting, "2015 June 6 - OVMRC Planning Meeting "

has been created:

ovmrc.on.ca/forum/index.php?topic=587.0

You can also find it by navigating to the following location:

ovmrc.on.ca

OVMRC Forum > Announcements > General Discussion > 2015 June 6 - OVMRC Planning Meeting

If you have a topic you want discussed, please add it to the discussion.

73

Beth, VA3CEW

OVMRC Meetings

General Meeting Thursday, May 21st at 19:30hrs.

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 or B

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Kit Building

I built my first kit when I was 10 or 11 in 1959 or 1960. It was a Heathkit crystal set, the CR-1. I was a gift from my brother-in-law who had been a navigator in World War II.

I built several other Heathkits in the following years. They all worked except the Q-Multiplier. I returned it to Heathkit, they repaired it and sent me a note saying that it had many cold solder joints. I did not know what a cold solder joint was!

About ten years ago, I needed some Fahnstock clips for a simple circuit I was building. Online, I discovered that the Borden Radio Company in Texas sold them along with crystal sets, a one tube radio, parts and literature about their products. I sent an email to the owner, Lance Borden, WB5REX. He said he would mail me the clips

immediately, before receiving my payment. Although the amount was small, I appreciated his trust in me, a total stranger and fellow amateur.

A few words about Lance. He was, until recently, one of the many engineers who were responsible for the avionics systems on the NASA Space Shuttle. He retired after the last Shuttle came back to Earth.

A few years ago, I decided to buy Lance's Armstrong one tube radio kit. It reminded me of the Heathkit two tube regenerative radio I built when I was an adolescent. Lance describes it as "the distillation of many circuits for one tube sets that have appeared since Edwin Armstrong invented the regenerative circuit in 1912."

The instructions to build the kit were not always easy to understand and all of the parts were not easy to see in the drawings. My Elmer

worked on it but, in the time he had, was not able to repair all of my mistakes. I wrote to Lance to tell him about my difficulties. He apologized for the lack of clarity and asked me to mail the kit to him at my expense. He offered to repair it at his expense and return it to me at his expense. The radio works! Lance recently informed me that he is in the process of re-writing the instructions and drawings. The new kits will also include photographs.

To me, Lance is a good example for the kind of amateurs I have met since I got my amateur licence in 2005. The vast majority of my fellow amateurs are honest, helpful and try to do the right thing.

In the near future, when I get a better antenna, Lance and I will attempt a QSO on 40m.

Robert, VA3AOD

Field Day 2015

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

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.



Proposed site of OVMRC Field Day Event, weekend of June 27, 28 on the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum grounds.

Lap the Gats



Lap the Gats for Parkinson's is a cycling event in Gatineau Park on Saturday May 30.

We (area hams, via VE3FFK and VE3XRA) have once again received a request from an organizer of Lap the Gats for assistance from radio amateurs for the event again this year.

We operated an amateur radio network and other Lap the Gats volunteers used FRS radios for communications at various sites.

The communications arrangements have been a bit unclear to us this year until recently.

We had earlier heard that the organization decided to rent commercial radios to provide communications around the circuit and understood they wouldn't need radio amateurs.

It now appears that the commercial radios would be used both by the radio amateurs and other volunteers (likely key people such as team leaders at the various stations).

In this case we as radio amateurs will be providing our expertise in how to communicate rather than providing hardware and spectrum.

Similar communications arrangements have been made in the past such as at air shows.

Because the other volunteers may be new to radio communications

they will likely look to us for advice or assistance. To help prepare for the event, I have agreed to take the lead on amateur radio activities, will participate in planning meetings for the event and recap radio protocols with Lap the Gats team leaders.

The event requires commitment of a Saturday morning (May 30). The traffic was not too heavy last year and if we are lucky enough to have the kind of weather we did last year it's a great way to spend a Saturday morning.

Please contact me if you are able to help out.

Thanks

73 Mike Kelly, VE3FFK
ve3ffk@gmail.com, or
146.880-

lapthegats.org/en/index.html

YOUR CLUB ELECTIONS ARE COMING!



Step right up and nominate someone for the OVMRC Executive. We are looking for Amateur Radio Enthusiasts who want to grow the hobby and the club. If you or someone you know would like to be nominated, please let Joe, VE3EUS, our Membership man-of-action, know. ve3eus@rac.ca

OVMRC needs YOU

The OVMRC needs a Club Secretary to record details of club events. If you would like to help out, please let Beth know.

73

Beth Webster, VA3CEW
ovmrc.treasurer@gmail.com



VE3JW TOWER AND HF BEAM TAKEDOWN

By Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

The end of an era for the VE3JW station at the Canada Science and Technology Museum was reached on May 6. Since the closing of the Museum for extensive repairs, all of the VE3JW equipment and antennas had been removed from the site except for the 48ft tower and HF beam which stood adjacent to the South wall of the Museum. We had been notified that it too would have to come down, but no date was set.



4 MAY 2015

On Monday, May 4, we were advised that a crane would be

available for the takedown on Wednesday, May 6, at 10:00am. We only had a day or so to get our act together and proceed with the task.

Our OVMRC club president, Sandy, VE3HAZ, immediately called for volunteers via the executive list email roster. Joe, VE3EUS, made himself available. Our rotor doctor and antenna specialist, Greg, VA3ITB, was contacted, also via email, for possible help.

In the meantime, I checked in on the Capital City Net (OARC) at 8pm in order to let the Amateur community know about the removal of our antenna and invite them to offer help if interested. Although the VE3JW station had been sponsored by the OVMRC, all amateurs in the region had always been welcome to participate in its evolution and operation.

5 MAY 2015

Early on the 5th, Greg stated his conditions. The CSTM took responsibility for the burden of removal since it had been their decision to close and clear the Museum. Nevertheless, it was not clear if the Museum would cover the cost of extra help in order to insure proper dismantling of our antenna and rotor. Greg and Sandy had a talk on the telephone later that day and it was decided that the crane operators could do the job.

We were still looking for volunteers, as the list was very short, so I checked into the Gatineau club net (CRAO) at 7:30pm and got a couple of 'maybe' participants. At 8pm, I checked in to the Phoenix Net in order to recruit some more volunteers. Peter, VE3XEM, said he would be available.

6 MAY 2015

Wednesday morning, we arrived at the Science Museum at around 10am. OVMRC volunteers included Sandy, VE3HAZ, Ernie, VE3EJJ, Joe, VE3EUS, Peter, VE3XEM, and Isabelle, VA2ZIO from the CRAO club in Gatineau, and yours truly, a total of six.



The crane was not completely installed then, and before they could proceed with the removal of our beam and tower, they had to remove two periscopes from the roof. That took some time and it was not until around 2:30pm when they could start on our antenna. Meantime, we sat and watched the periscopes come down, went to lunch, and waited some more. So I took this opportunity to do some CW contacts from my mobile. Just a nostalgic hangup to show that we could still operate from the Science Museum.

The crane was moved to the grounds near the antenna and work started on the top section of the tower. The idea was to loosen the

top section of the tower and lower it, with boom and beam, to the ground where we had access without having to climb and remove each part, guy wire, boom and beam, rotor shaft, bearing and rotor.

Everything went well and we did not break or lose any parts. The tower sections and extended rotor shaft were stored in the outside compound at the back of the Museum. Sandy took all the beam sections and rotor to his home where he tape-marked all the sections according to a summary marking done on site. These will be stored in the rented OVMRC storage bin on Canotek Road.

A big tip of the hat and thank you goes to Isabelle, VA2ZIO, who helped with the take down of the beam elements and took pictures of the operation, a fine example of interclub co-operation. Thank you CRAO.

Thank you to Peter, VE3XEM, who had brought his climbing gear and was ready to climb if need be.

For me, and others perhaps, it was a sad sight to see our club mainstay antenna come down and disappear from the roof of the Museum where it had been assembled and mounted more than 20 years ago by a Jerry Wells, VE3CDS(sk) crew which included Ernie, VE3EJJ and myself.

The antenna appears to be in good shape, after all these years, and it is with great expectation and anxious hope that we will once again see it in service at a future date.

What's Happening Elsewhere!

Check it out; let us know what's going on in your club.

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC)

www.oarc.net/blog/:

Ottawa Valley QRP Society:

<http://www.qsl.net/va3ovq/VA3OVQ/Welcome.html>

The Ottawa Valley QRP Society is a group of Amateur (Ham) Radio operators in the Canadian National Capitol Region with an interest in QRP (low-power) operating, equipment homebrewing and antenna experimentation. The group holds the Amateur Radio call sign VA3OVQ. Membership is free and open to anyone in the National Capitol region with an interest in low power Amateur Radio.

Our monthly dinner meetings are :

At 5:00pm on the second Wednesday of each month at Donna's Express Restaurant at the corner of Churchill and Scott Streets in Ottawa.

We have an **online discussion group** on Yahoo Groups called ov-qrp.

See:

groups.yahoo.com/group/ov-qrp/ for details or email [va3ovq at qsl.net](mailto:va3ovq@qsl.net).

Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC)

ve3rlr.dyndns.org/:

West Carleton Amateur Radio Club

www.wcarc.on.ca

VE3ORF/3730 Group

www.ve3orf.com/

2015 Meeting Dates

May 21

Paul Labbé, VE3NJS will talk on his experience with power generation using solar panels.

June 18

Annual General Meeting, Elections, followed by ARRL Field Day preparation and information session by Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC.

We need your participation.

Rambler Deadline

Meeting date minus 13 days

Jun 05

Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor:

[Robert Cherry](mailto:Robert.Cherry@qsl.net)

No later than the deadline for the desired edition.

May Rambler submission deadline is:

Friday, 5th June 2015

OVMRC ELECTION SLATE, 2015-16

The members listed below have volunteered to act as directors or chairs of committees for the Club fiscal year that begins on September 1, 2015 and ends on August 31, 2016.

Additional volunteers are required, notably for the position of President, Vice President, Secretary and Chair of Radio Operations.

Elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting that will be held on June 18th.

DIRECTORS

President:	OPEN
Vice-President:	OPEN
Secretary:	OPEN
Treasurer:	Beth VA3CEW

CHAIRS

Amateur Radio Exhibit:	Darin, VE3OIJ
Amateur Radio Training:	Norm, VE3LC
Membership:	Joe, VE3EUS
Newsletter Editor:	Robert, VA3AOD
Newsletter Publisher:	Bill, VA3WMH
Radio Operations:	OPEN
Technical:	Paul, VE3NJS
Webmaster:	Chris, VA3SM
Past President:	Sandy VE3HAZ

Signed "Joe VE3EUS, Membership Chairman"

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

The Club is selling a variety of amateur radio and audio visual equipment surplus to its foreseeable needs. Anyone anywhere can bid for this equipment.

Inquiries, appointments to examine the equipment and bids should be submitted to Sandy, VE3HAZ@RAC.ca

NO	DESCRIPTION	BRAND	MODEL	ASKING	COMMENTS
3	AMPLIFIER, PAGING (COMMERCIAL)	BIAMP	PRECEDENCE CMA-60	\$300	MIC OR IN-LINE INPUT
4	DVD VIDEO PLAYER	TOSHIBA	SD 750	\$20	MP3, CD-R, CD-RW
6	PRESENTATION SYSTEM	SMART	SYMPODIUM TL 150	\$300	NEW, IN BOX
7	PRINTER, NETWORK CAPABLE	XEROX	PHASER 3600 N	\$100	2008 MODEL- USB, PARALLEL OR NETWORK-TWO TRAYS, BYPASS FEEDER
8	RECORDER, SOLID STATE (PROFESSIONAL)	MARANTZ	PMD 670 / UIB	\$150	NEW, IN BOX
9	SCANNER SYSTEM, MOBILE	WASP	850L, 1000II, 1000II-DC, WWS-800 CR	OFFERS	SOFTWARE, SCANNERS, CRADLES, CHARGERS
11	TRANSCEIVER	ICOM	IC 725	\$300	HF, HM 12 MICROPHONE INCLUDED
14	TRANSCEIVER AND EXTERNAL SPEAKER	YEASU	FT 757 GX	\$300	HF, ALL MODE, CAT SYSTEM, EXTERNAL SPEAKER SP 767, MANUAL INCLUDED
15	VOLTMETER	HEWLETT PACKARD	400 D	\$65	1960s VINTAGE, VACUUM TUBE, COLLECTOR'S ITEM



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
 Full Membership (Member of RAC) \$25.00/year
 Associate Membership (Unlicensed) \$15.00/year

Amount Enclosed

\$ _____

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My Interests are: VHF/UHF Phone VHF/UHF Digital VHF/UHF CW
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Skills: *(Please list them all)*

COMMENTS:

 Signature Date Initials

**By initialing this box, I confirm that
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from the Club**

OVMRC NAME TAG – ORDER DETAILS

First Name:

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