

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Dec 2016

Edition 61

Page: 1

President's Ramblings

Season's Greetings Folks!
'Tis the season for merriment, good cheer, and climbing up the tower to repair that broken feed line in spite of a blustery and cold winter day. 'Tis also the season for giving and especially for receiving that nice new amateur radio transceiver from Santa. But have you all been good girls and boys?

First of all, no General meeting for December; instead, we are having a Club Holiday Dinner Gathering at the former Louis Steak House on Cryville Road; it's now called Verona's Pizza House but they are putting on a buffet dinner spread for us folks in their banquet room. According to Sandy VE3HAZ, we are expecting a good turnout of 30 + members and family of the OVMRC. Contact Sandy at VE3HAZ@rac.ca if you haven't already done so; I'm sure we can accommodate a few more.

Our November meeting was well attended and featured was a presentation from our venerable member, Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN on "Confirming Contacts". Bryan's talk showed the evolution of QSL'ing from mailing QSL cards directly, bulk mailing and distribution of QSL cards via QSL bureaus, e-QSL'ing by the internet and electronic logging and confirming contacts through Log

Book of the World. Bryan also talked about the function and purpose of "QSL Managers". Thanks Bryan for a wonderful and interesting presentation. It was particularly à propos for our new hams in the Club just getting into HF radio and working DX.

Peter Carss, VE3XEM also provided a short show-and-tell presentation at our November meeting about his newly constructed QRP Labs "Ultimate3 QRSS/WSPR" kit for sending WSPR beacons on 30 metres. Look for Pete's beacon being received world wide on www.wspnet.org. For the complete happenings at the November meeting, refer to Frank's, VE2KOI, minutes in this issue of the Rambler.

I also want to thank OVMRC member Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA and current president of Radio Amateurs of Canada for giving a brief report on the Canadian Ski Marathon and amateur radio communications for the event February 10-12, 2017. It seems the role amateur radio communicators has not been fully established yet. We hope to have something more to report at the January meeting.

The Radio Course has concluded for another season. The pace of the course has left some in bewilderment while others seemed to grasp the *(Continued on [page 3](#))*

INSIDE

President's Ramblings.....	1,3
Christmas Dinner	3
Meeting Minutes.....	4-5
What's Happening Elsewhere.....	5
Contest Calendar.....	5
WSPR Transmitter & GPS Kit.....	6
Net Activity Report.....	7
Membership Form.....	8

Meeting Dates

Club Meetings:

Wednesday, Dec 21st
6:00 P.M.

OVMRC Christmas Dinner

Verona Pizza House

1682 Cryville Road
Ottawa

Confirm attendance with
Sandy, VE3HAZ@rac.ca



Wednesday, Jan 18th
7:30 P.M.

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Feature Presentation or activity TBD

OVMRC Executive**2015-2016****President:** Norm Rashleigh, VE3LCve3lc@rac.ca**Vice-President:** Barry Allison, VE3NJKve3njk@rac.ca**Treasurer:** Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQovmrc.treasurer@gmail.com,**Secretary:** Frank Fullum, VE2KOIVE2KOI@rac.ca**Standing Committee
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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:

**• KENWOOD ELECTRONICS
CANADA INC.,**

Mississauga, ON

• METAL PROS,*"The Small Quantity Metal Shop"*

Ottawa, ON

Web site: www.metalpros.com**• PEPPERS RADIO SALES,**

Rockland, ON

Email: peppersradio@videotron.caWeb site: www.peppersradio.net**• RADIOWORLD TORONTO**Web site: www.radioworld.ca**OVMRC Life Members**

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

OVMRC Repeater

VE3TWO

147.300 Mhz (+) 100 Hz tone
FM & Yaesu System Fusion Digital
Operation

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*

Visit the OVMRC Store

at

<http://www.cafepress.ca/ovmrc>

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)

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated**PO Box 41145****Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9****www.ovmrc.on.ca**

(Continued from [page 1](#)) required knowledge well. At the time of this writing, all topics have been covered and we will be conducting the exam session Dec 12th. One student has already taken the exam and I am happy to report that Matthew Graves got his Basic with Honours qualification and now has the call sign VA3FSB.

Congratulations Matthew! Those that don't believe they will be ready or available for the Dec 12th exam can make arrangements with myself, Norm VE3LC@rac.ca to write the test in the new year. If there are sufficient numbers, we may schedule another group examination session early in the new year. I will be reporting about our new amateurs in the next Rambler.

Barry Allison reports most of the 35 J-pole antenna kits have now been sold. Most of the antenna kits were purchased by students on the

radio course. There may be one or two left; check with Barry at VE3NJK@rac.ca if you still want one. We owe the success of this project to Barry VE3NJK and Pete VE3XEM for their considerable effort obtaining materials, cutting, drilling and machining the rods and brackets and packaging the kits ready for sale to OVMRC members. Bravo and thanks guys

At the November dinner meeting of the Ottawa Chapter of the QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) I gave a presentation about "Teaching the OVMRC Amateur Radio Course" Most of the QCWA members got into amateur radio in their teens, myself included. Indeed, for most senior hams, amateur radio paved the way into radio, electronics and technical careers. In my presentation about the course, I went through the various topics and knowledge base that candidates need to know

nowadays for the Basic exam. This seemed of great interest to my audience many of whom have not kept abreast of the examination regime since the days they tried the test in the 1950's, 60's, and 70's. Because of the evolution of technology, digital transmission modes, sharing of radio spectrum, new amateur radio bands and all the conventions, rules and policy that now apply, it is my belief the amount of material that now must be learned by the amateur radio student is much more than years ago; albeit, Morse code proficiency is no longer required.

To all OVMRC members, family and friends

Happy Holidays and Season's Greetings

de Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca

OVMRC CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday Dec 21st at 6 PM

Verona Pizza House

1682 Cyrville Road, Ottawa

confirm attendance with

Sandy, VE3HAZ@rac.ca



Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday,
November 16, 2016, 19:30

Location: Canada Aviation and
Space Museum

1. Call to Order:

The President, Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, called the meeting to order at 19:30. There were 24 in attendance.

2. Greetings:

Guests and visiting amateurs:

Steve Petruska, radio course student.

3. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Moved by Ron Smith, VE3LBU and seconded by Tim Bailey, VE3TXB that the minutes of the last meeting be approved.

CARRIED.

4. Announcements and News:

Club member and RAC president, Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA gave a short talk about the participation of amateur radio in the Canadian Ski Marathon. The Canadian Ski Marathon, or CSM, takes place in February on a trail that is only groomed once per year between Lachute and Gatineau. The CSM is a two-day, 160 km ski event that is divided into 5 sections each day, with an average of 16 km per section. Amateur radio operators have assisted the CSM by providing a communications net for over forty years, and there is always a need for additional volunteers. Additional information regarding the CSM will be provided at the OVMRC Club meeting in January.

5. Show and Tell:

Peter, VE3XEM showed a 200 mW WSPR Transmitter and GPS kit that he recently built and put on-the-air. The kit which transmits on 30 metres was obtained from QRP Labs.

For more information on WSPR, see:

physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wspr.html, and wsprnet.org

6. OVMRC Antenna Project:

Barry, VE3NJK announced that 17 kits had been delivered to students of the radio course on Monday November 13. There were 9 kits available for sale to members at break time.

7. CW Reverse Beacon Network:

Norm, VE3LC, gave a short talk and presentation about the CW Reverse Beacon Network. It is based on a network of broad-band HF SDR receiving stations and the CW Skimmer software developed by Alex Shovkopyas, VE3NEA.

For more information on the CW Reverse Beacon Network see reversebeacon.net

8. Next Month's Meeting:

There will be no General Meeting of the OVMRC in December, in favour of a Christmas dinner gathering planned for Wednesday, December 21 at 6pm. The location is the Verona Pizza House, which was formerly the Louis Steak House.

Verona Pizza House
1682 Cyrville Rd, Gloucester,
ON K1B 3L8.

To view the menu, see

veronapizzahouse.ca/dine-in.html

9. Upcoming Contests:

ARRL Sweepstakes SSB, Nov 19 – 21

ARRL EME Contest, Nov 19 – 20

CQ World Wide DX CW, Nov 26 – 27

ARRL 160 Metre Contest, Dec 2 – 4

ARRL 10 Metre Contest, Dec 10 – 11

** RAC Winter Contest, Dec 19 **

For other contests, see the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at

hornucopia.com/contestcal

10. Feature Presentation:

Club member, Brian Rawlings, VE3QN, gave a presentation on Confirming Contacts.

11. Prizes and Draws:

Prizes were won by Frank Fullum VE2KOI, John McGowan VA3JYK, Bill Henderson VA3HWA, Steve Petruska (radio course student), Ernie Jury VE3EJJ, Peter Carss VE3XEM, and Glenn MacDonell VE3XRA. The 50/50 draw was won by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN.

12. Executive and Chair Reports:

12.1. Repeater - Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC:

Norm reports the repeater is running well and providing good coverage, all the way out to Smiths Falls.

12.2. Membership - Tom Mercer, VE3LJS:

Tom reminded members in attendance to renew their membership, if they had not already done so.

12.3. Treasurer - Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ:

Nicole reports that the Club has \$ 27,500 on deposit.

13. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 21:35.

*Minutes recorded by Frank Fullum, VE2KOI
OVMRC Secretary*

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:

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 :

Contest Calendar**All Contests**

hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Nov 5-7

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW,
arrl.org/sweepstakes

Dec 17

RAC Winter Contest,
wp.rac.ca/rac-canada-winter-contest-rules/

Jan 16

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest
qrptest.com/pigrun/

Jan 21-23

ARRL January VHF Contest,
arrl.org/january-vhf

At 5:00 P.M. 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.

Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC)

ve3rlr.dyndns.org/:

West Carleton Amateur Radio Club

www.wcarc.on.ca

VE3ORF/3730 Group

www.ve3orf.com/

CRAO Club Radio Amateur Outaouais (CRAO)

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC giving a Presentation to the Ottawa Chapter of the QCWA at their November Dinner Meeting on the topic

"Teaching the Amateur Radio Course at the OVMRC"

Peter Carss, VE3XEM Show-and-Tell presentation at the November Meeting

QRP LABS WSPR Transmitter & GPS Kit

What is WSPR?

- WSPR (Weak Signal Propagation Reporter)
- Is a QRP transmitter/receiver system
- Transmitters automatically send precisely timed digital reports indicating location & power, usually <1 watt.
- Receivers decode signals received and send data via the Internet to a central server, which assembles a display showing the paths.

Map of 30M activity Nov 15 12:55



Kit description

- Many options ... NO surface mount components!
- Mine included main unit, one filter, & GPS
- Multiple filters available, unit is frequency agile, covers 2200M (136KHz) to 6M (90-293 MHz)
- Filters can also be relay selected, but not recommended due to harmonic problems.
- GPS provides very precise timing and location information for inclusion in the transmitted packet.

How does it work?

- Signals are transmitted at precise intervals, usually 10 minutes.
- Signal includes grid square, call sign, & signal power level.
- Signal is very robust, capable of decoding down to the noise floor.
- Server is capable of sorting by band, and call sign.

For further information ...

- Ultimate 3S Beacon kit
 - <http://qrp-labs.com/ultimate3/s3s.html>
- QLG1 GPS receiver
 - <http://qrp-labs.com/qlg1.html>
- Low Pass filter kit
 - <http://qrp-labs.com/lpf/kit.html>
- WSPR users guide
 - http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/WSPR_2.0_User.pdf

The End ...

OVMRC Net Activity, Check-in during the last month

Prepared by: Ken Evans, VE3EKN

OVMRC POT HOLE NET Report – 3760 kHz SSB Sundays at 10 AM local time

November 6	November 13	November 20	November 27	December 4
VE3NPO	VE3EJJ	VE3XRA	VE3LLX	VE3EJJ
VE3BAE	VE3BAE	VA3PCJ	VA3PCJ	VE3DRE
VE3LC	VE3LLX	VA3QV	VE3EKN	VE3EKN
VE3LLX	VE3DRE	VE3EKN	VE3LC	VA3PCJ
VA3PCJ	VE3NPO	VA3ZTF	VE3XRA	VE3LC
VE3EKN	VE3LC	VE3PM	VE3EJJ	VE3XRA
VE3XRA	VE3XRA	VE3NPO		
VA3BGO		VE3EJJ		
VE3EJJ				

OVMRC 2 METER NET Report -

VE3TWO repeater 147.300 MHz + 100 Hz tone, Thursdays 8 PM local time.

November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24	December 1
VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC
VE3NPO	VE3RUU	VE3NPO	VE3LLX	VE3KLT
VE3LBU	VA3ZTF	VE3LBU	VE3RUU	VE3DRE
VE3GIQ	VE3NJK	VE3DRE	VA3ZTF	VE3RUU
VA3RLA	VE3DRE	VA3RLA	VE3NJK	VE3RNM
VE3OTB	VE3TXB	VE3NJK	VE3ZZU	VE3OTB
VE3NJK	VE3LBU	VE3GIQ	VE3OTB	VA3ZTF
VA3ZTF	VA3RLA	VA3ZTF	VE3DRE	VE3ZZU
VE3TXB	VE3ZZU	VE3TXB	VE3NPO	VA3PCJ
VE3RUU	VE3YDK	VE3RUU	VA3AOD	VA3QV
VE3DRE	VA3PCJ	VE3SJM	VE3SJM	VE3NJK
VA3AOD	VE3NPO	VA3LJS	VE3KLT	VE3TXB
VE3RNM	VA3LJS	VA3AOD	VA3BIT	VE3LBU
VE2BJZ	VE3EKN	VA3JYK	VE3EKN	VA3AOD
VE3EKN		VE3ZZU		VA3RLA
		VA3PCJ		VE3VHU
		VE3EKN		VE3SJM
				VA3BGO
				VE3EKN

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated
 PO Box 41145
 Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9

- ✓ *The membership year starts 1 September, and runs until 31 August of the following year.*
- ✓ *Regular membership is open to licensed amateurs.*
- ✓ *Associate membership is open to all unlicensed radio enthusiasts.*
- ✓ *Membership includes a digital subscription to the club newsletter, the OVMRC Rambler.*

NEW RENEWAL UPDATE/CHANGE

Please print legibly

Call Sign	Surname	Perferred first name
Street		Apartment
City	Province	Postal Code
Home/primary phone	Work/other phone	E-mail address
Are you a member of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)? Yes / No		
RAC ID: _____ Expiry (YYYY-MM-DD): _____		

Do you wish to order an OVMRC name tag? (+\$12.00) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Callsign for name tag	Name for name tag	

Full Membership (Not a Member of RAC)	\$35.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Cheque / Cash
Full Membership (RAC Member)	\$25.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	
Associate Membership (Unlicensed)	\$25.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	

Circle your interests			
Bands Microwave UHF VHF HF LF and below	Modes CW Digital Phone EME Satellite Experimental	Building RX TX Antennas Test equipment Other	Other Teaching Speaking/Presenting DF/Fox hunting Contesting DXing Computers/IT Other

Signature	Date	Initials	<i>By initialing this box, I confirm that I consent to receiving e-mail messages from the Club.</i>
_____	_____		