

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Jan 2017

Edition 61

Page: 1

President's Ramblings

Welcome to 2017. The winter solstice has passed and the days are now getting longer. As the late Leonard Cohen sang "Hallelujah"! We can now start thinking about spring and summer time radio events such as transmitter hunts and field day and erecting new antennas systems higher and better.

The OVMRC radio course has been another success. We've had examination sessions on Dec 12 and January 9. From the Dec 12 session, 12 students in the course have joined the ranks of full fledged radio amateurs due to our efforts. A full report will be given at the January 18th Club meeting.

Our January meeting will feature a presentation by Ray Perrin, VE3FN about Amateur Radio Microwave Communications. Ray is one of the very few folks in the area that specializes in this part of the hobby that involves seeking out high geographic elevations to set up equipment for "scheds" to work other hams doing the same thing trying for point-to-point distance records on the GigaHertz amateur bands. This typically involves using high gain dish antennas and specialized transverting equipment assemblies. One recent accomplishment by Ray along with René Barbeau, VE2UG was setting a new

Canada/US distance record of 215 kilometres on 47 GHz, June 30th, 2016. Ray and René were on Mont-Tremblant, QC and contacted Mike Seguin N1JEZ and Harry Ingwersen, KT1J set up on Whiteface Mountain, NY.



Ray Perrin, VE3FN with his microwave equipment on Mont-Tremblant

Join us January 18th for what I'm sure will be a very tutorial presentation by Ray about this fascinating aspect of the hobby.

A so called "Room" (*Yaesu's term for a multi-party conference on the Wires X network*) has been established to conduct an Across Canada Net. Denis Rule, VE3DRE provided a demonstration of this Jan 1st afternoon and linked it through VE3TWO for folks in Ottawa to participate using their Yaesu Digital System Fusion radios. Word got around and we had the following folks checking to the Wires X conference: VE3DRE Ottawa, VE1LV Truro, NS, VE3LC Orleans, VE3NJK Greely, VE3EKN Carleton Place, VE3RNM Orleans, VE3KMOV Ottawa, (Continued on [page 3](#))

INSIDE

President's Ramblings.....	1,3
Canadian Ski Marathon	3
2016 Field Day Results.....	4
What's Happening Elsewhere.....	4
Non Amateur Intrusion.....	5
Christmas Dinner Photos.....	6
Net Activity Report.....	7
Trans Canada Yaesu Net.....	8
Fox Hunt Beacon Transmitter.....	8
Contest Calendar.....	8
New RIC-3.....	9
Canada 150 Special Call Signs.....	9
Membership Form.....	10

Meeting Dates

Club Meetings:

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

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Speaker: Ray Perrin, VE3FN

Subject: Microwave DX



Wednesday, Feb 15th
7:30 P.M.

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Speaker: Denis Rule, VE3DRE

Subject: Yaesu Wires X Networking

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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](#))

CG7LE Richmond, BC, VE1HUL Truro, NS, CG9CAS Sussex, NB, VE3LLX Orleans, and VA3MPS Orleans. This was the first Wires-X networking experience for most of us in the Ottawa area. During the networked QSO engaging VE3TWO into the Wires-X network, plans quickly took shape to conduct a regular Trans Canada Net; see the details in this issue of the Rambler. To provide further information on Wires X

technology, we have asked Denis, VE3DRE to provide a presentation at the February meeting.

We have included in the Rambler pictures from our Club Christmas dinner party thanks to Dave Scott, VE3ZZU and his wonderful Blackberry phone that takes pretty good photos. We have also included in this issue commentary about intruders on the 2 metre band and our results from Field Day relative to other Clubs in the Ontario East section. Also, pay

attention to the call for volunteer radio operators for the Canadian Ski Marathon event in February. Included as well is information about RIC-3, participation in Club nets and notice of Special Prefixes authorized by ISED in celebration of Canada's 150 year anniversary.

I hope to see you all at the January 18th meeting of the OVMRC

de Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca



Canadian Ski Marathon Initial Call for Amateur Radio Operators.

This message originated January 1st by email from Harold, VE3UNK, Communications Coordinator, CSM

Amateur radio will be back providing communications for the CSM again. Our role this year is to provide communications for the checkpoints and designated fixed locations.

CSM 2017 will be run on the weekend of February 11-12, 2017 and we hope to see you again this year. This year will be the 44th year we have been providing communication support for the event.

Radio operations will be there to support Admin2 - checkpoints and designated fixed locations. Safety

is being handled by another organization.

We would appreciate you updating your volunteer record indicating your availability this year.

The volunteer list page is found at: db.radio-1.ca/volunteer_list.php.

Please find your Volunteer Record and update it. Use the comment field to indicate your availability for the this CSM

The radio web site can be found at: radio-1.ca.

The course will run from Lachute to Montebello on Saturday and then from Montebello to Buckingham on Sunday. The assignments will at various fixed locations each day and in a few mobiles.

Redeployment during the weekend is always a possibility so those who are prepared to be redeployed during weekend let me know. This could mean going to another fixed location or going mobile. The heads up is so that you can prepare for such a possibility.

Assignments and additional information will become available

as we get closer to the CSM weekend in February. If you are not available, we can always use spare equipment so perhaps you would consider loaning a radio or antenna to someone who needs it. If you have any questions, contact Harold at va3unk@rac.ca

OVMRC Members are encouraged to volunteer.

Field Day 2016 - How VE3JW did compared with other Clubs in the ONE Section

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	VE3RB	5,734	4A	1,554	2	VE3KRG	ONE	35	Peterborough ARC
2	VE3ORF	4,414	2A	1,062	2	VE3FDS	ONE	25	3730 Group
3	VE3RC	3,618	2A	696	2	VE3NCR	ONE	30	Ottawa ARC
4	VE3JW	2,446	2A	453	2	VE3RAM	ONE	27	Ottawa Valley Mobile RC
5	VA3LNZ	2,132	3A	602	2		ONE	13	Victoria-Haliburton ARA
6	VE3RL	2,050	3A	543	2		ONE	15	Quinte ARC/Prince Edward RC
7	VE3AIR	1,422	2A	194	2		ONE	4	Manotick Amateur Radio Group
8	VE3VSW	932	2A	194	2		ONE	14	Seaway Valley ARC
9	VA3NRR	908	1A	279	2		ONE	17	Renfrew Cty ARC
10	VE3KBR	748	3A	99	2		ONE	24	Kingston ARC

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 :

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)

Non Amateur Intrusion on the 2 metre band

Local area radio amateur, Dave Harris, VE3KMOV reports he has heard on a few occasions non amateur radio communications happening on 145.000 MHz. The type of activity heard suggested it was associated with a snow clearing operation.

As radio amateurs should be aware, the 2 metre band, 144 to 148 MHz is an exclusive allocation to the amateur service in Canada and is not shared with any other radio service. So is the 222 to 225 MHz band. The 70 cm band 430 to 450 MHz is shared spectrum with radio location services and the Department has licenced many transportable stations associated with differential GPS for surveying apparatus using brief data transmissions; however, these are rarely heard in the Ottawa area. Much of the intrusion nowadays can be attributed to the availability of very inexpensive portable VHF/UHF marketed on-line and by local vendors that can readily be purchased by the general public.

As a matter of background, it is believed the sale of these radios is pervasive in Canada to not only radio amateurs, but also non amateur customers since these products can also receive and transmit throughout the VHF and UHF bands used for the VHF/UHF

Land Mobile service, Maritime VHF service and UHF FRS/GMRS channels. Although frequency band and FM modulation compatible, legally, such equipment can not be offered for sale and used for VHF and UHF services outside the amateur service unless tested and certified compliant with the appropriate Canadian Radio Standard Specification (RSS)-119 for the Land Mobile Service, RSS-210 for FRS/GMRS radios, and RSS-182 for the VHF Maritime service, all issued by Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED).

Therefore, such equipment should only be sold to radio amateurs for use within the amateur bands for which certification is not required.

Users of such equipment on the VHF Maritime and FRS/GMRS channels will likely not be obvious to other radio users providing the purpose of communications is consistent with the service and since these are licence exempt channel allocations where call signs are not assigned. This can also apply to the Land Mobile service providing the frequency of operation is an assigned channel by the Department to a specific customer for which interoperable communications by the user is expected. Notwithstanding, all equipment in the land mobile service must be individually or fleet licenced using only RSS-119

certified equipment. These inexpensive Chinese products are typically not RSS-119 compliant or certified.

All this being said, it is not surprising nowadays to see the intrusion in the amateur VHF and UHF allocations by illicit non amateur communications. If you hear any non-amateur transmissions, don't engage in any communications with the parties; instead, record the time, date and frequency and nature of communications and send an observation report to Norm at VE3LC@rac.ca .

- Norm VE3LC

References:

RSS-119:
ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01063.html

RSS-182:
ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01737.html

RSS-210:
ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01320.html

Certified Radio Equipment Search:

sms-sgs.ic.gc.ca/equipmentSearch/searchRadioEquipments?execution=e1s1&lang=en

OVMRC Christmas Dinner

The Club hosted a Holiday Dinner Party December 21st in lieu of a regular meeting. We had 38 members, family and friends attending at the Verona Steak House on Cryville Road. Thanks to Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ for making all the arrangements. Pictures by Dave Scott, VE3ZZU. Thanks Dave



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

December 4	December 11	December 18	December 25	January 1
VE3EJJ	VE3BAE	VE3BAE	No Net	VE3LC
VE3DRE	VE3LC	VE3EJJ	Merry Christmas	VE3DRE
VE3EKN	VE3XRA	VE2HOG		VE3EKN
VA3PCJ	VE3LLX	VE3DRE		VA3BGO
VE3LC	VA3BGO	VE3LC		VE2HOG
VE3XRA	VE3EKN	VA3PCJ		VE3LLX
	VA3PCJ	VE3EKN		VE3EJJ
	VE3DRE	VA3BGO		
	VE3VHU	VE3BLB		
	VE3EJJ	VE3XRA		

OVMRC 2 METRE NET Report -

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

December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC
VE3KLT	VE3LBU	VE3YDK	VA3JYK	VE3GIQ
VE3DRE	VE3RUU	VE3DRE	VA3ZTF	VE3RUU
VE3RUU	VE3DRE	VA3QV	VE3NJK	VA3ZTF
VE3RNM	VA3ZTF	VE3DHE	VA3QV	VA3MPS
VE3OTB	VE3YDK	VE3ZZU	VE3LBU	VE3ZZU
VA3ZTF	VE3VHU	VE3NJK	VE3ZZU	VA3QV
VE3ZZU	VE3TXB	VA3ZTF	VA3RLA	VE3NJK
VA3PCJ	VA3RLA	VE3LBU	VA3BGO	VA3PCJ
VA3QV	VA3PCJ	VE3GIQ	VE3TXB	VE3LBU
VE3NJK	VE3GIQ	VA3PCJ	VE3GIQ	VE3DRE
VE3TXB	VA3QV	VA3AOD	VA3PCJ	VE2OCQ
VE3LBU	VE3NJK	VE3OTB	VE2TFX	VA3AOD
VA3AOD	VE3ZZU	VE3SJN	VA3ORL	VE2BJZ
VA3RLA	VE2BJZ	VE3RUU	VE3EJJ	VE3KLT
VE3VHU	VA3AOD	VE3EKN	VE3NPO	VE3TXB
VE3SJN	VE3OCQ		VE3RUU	VA3BGO
VA3BGO	VE3EKN		VA3MPS	VA3JYK
VE3EKN			VE3EKN	VE3EKN

Trans Canada Yaesu C4FM Net on VE3TWO

OMVRC member Denis Rule, VE3DRE recently purchased a Yaesu Wires X box for world-wide inter-networking of Yaesu Digital System Fusion radios. Through Denis's station equipment, he plans on facilitating connection of our Club's System Fusion Repeater,

VE3TWO, to a newly established Canada C4FM Weekly Net which will be conducted Wednesday evenings at 9 pm local time. The NCS will be CG7LE in Surrey, BC. Check-ins will be conducted by time zones starting in the far east of Canada.

Denis will also have VE3TWO engaged on the Wires X system on

Sunday evenings at 8 pm for Ottawa folks to try.

To participate, you will need to use a Yaesu C4FM Digital Voice radio and tune into VE3TWO.

Analogue FM users should be able to gain access to the same nets through VE3RIX, 145.450 – 600, 151.4 Hz tone.

OVMRC Purchases a Fox Hunt Beacon Transmitter

As authorized in the budget, we have ordered on behalf of the OVMRC, a "Micro-Fox 15" beacon transmitter available from Byonics <https://www.byonics.com/mf>. This will be used to stage another Club Fox Hunt event this year. The

Micro-Fox 15 is a 15 mW 2-metre transmitter that will identify with FM tone (Morse code) modulation. If the device works as advertised, we plan to purchase another one for double the fun. The beacon transmitter is frequency agile and programmable by a USB cable and PC software. The cost to the Club is \$130 US per unit.



Contest Calendar

All Contests

hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Jan 16

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

Jan 21-23

ARRL January VHF Contest arrl.org/january-vhf

Jan 27-29

CQ 160 Metre Contest CW cq160.com/rules.htm

Feb 4-5

10-10 Int. Winter Contest SSB
ten-ten.org/

Feb 11-12

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest,
cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm

Feb 18-19

ARRL Inter' DX Contest CW arrl.org/arrl-dx

Feb 24-26

CQ 160 Metre Contest SSB cq160.com/rules.htm

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) releases a new issue of RIC-3 “Information on the Amateur Radio Service”

In December 2016, ISED (new name for IC) updated and released Issue 4 of the RIC-3. The

information in this Issue is the first update of this document since July 2005.

The main change in the document has to do with Canadian Certificate qualification required for equivalency to the CEPT amateur licence according to Recommendation T/R 61-01 for operating in European countries. The changes in equivalency now requires Canadians applying for a

CEPT licence to have an Advanced qualification.

The new version of RIC-3 can be found at:

ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf01008.html#s4.4

- Norm VE3LC



Radio Amateurs of Canada has secured permission for all Canadian Radio Amateurs to use special call sign prefixes to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada's Confederation.



National, regional and local events will take place throughout 2017 to celebrate the anniversary and Canadian Amateurs will let their counterparts around the world know of our celebration by using the following special prefixes:

- Amateurs and clubs whose regular call signs start with **VA** will be able to use the **CF** prefix instead of VA (for example, VA3RAC will be authorized to use the CF3RAC call sign).
- Amateurs and clubs whose regular call signs start with **VE** will be able to use the **CG** prefix instead of VE (e.g., VE4RAC will be authorized to use CG4RAC).
- Amateurs and clubs whose regular call signs start with **VO** will be able to use the **CH** prefix instead of VO (e.g., VO1RAC will be authorized to use CH1RAC).
- Amateurs and clubs whose regular call signs start with **VY** will be able to use the **CI** prefix instead of VY (e.g., VY2RAC will be authorized to use CI2RAC).

These special prefixes are optional and Amateurs can choose if and when to use the special prefix vs their normal prefix at any time during the year.

For more information on Canada150 visit canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1342792785740.

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>
_____	_____		