Rambler

Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated



Apr 2017 Edition 61 Page: 1

President's Ramblings

Ithough April is the month for April's fools, our program for this month is no fooling around for the OVMRC. We will be hosting on **Monday**,

April 10th another workshop this year to test the performance of your VHF / UHF portable radios. The tests we are able to perform include Transmit RF power, Receiver sensitivity, FM modulation, out of band spurious emissions, CTCSS operation etc.. We will also have available a laptop computer with the "Chirp" software which handles channel programming of most common portable and mobile radio used by amateurs. Even if you don't have a radio you want to test, come along to the session; it will be a good opportunity to get together and have an eye-ball QSO with fellow OVMRC members.

For our general monthly meeting Wednesday April 19th, we have invited Dave Conn, VE3KL to give a presentation on Simple and Practical HF Antennas. This talk should be particularly informative for the new amateurs in the Club who are waiting for the warmer weather to choose and install their first HF antenna. Dave Conn's knowledge of the workings of antennas is legendary. He is a fellow who knows not only the practical aspects of antenna design and installation, but can also

explain antenna design and analysis using software such as 4nec2. Dave wrote for many years a regular column for TCA magazine on antennas and transmission lines. Dave received his PhD degree in Electrical Engineering from Queens University in 1970 and had several subsequent career and employment positions in industry and academia until his retirement as Chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at McMaster University in 2000. Dave is a very effective and entertaining presenter and I expect his lecture at the Club meeting on HF antennas will be very enjoyable and tutorial.

Dave Conn introduced recently the 4nec2 software to a group of hams at the OARC. I have just started exploring its capabilities. Look for my brief article in this issue of Rambler about using 4nec2 which is available for free download; it may stimulate your interest in the software.

We have another new radio amateur that joined the OVMRC since our last meeting. At our regular Friday morning breakfast gathering at McDonalds in Orleans, a fellow from Rockland attended after making an appointment with me to write the Basic Exam following self study. I am now very happy to report that Gary Rousseau obtained his Basic (Continued on page 3)

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Meeting Dates

Club Meetings:

Monday, Apr 10th

<u>Workshop</u>

Aviation Museum

Classroom

Bring your VHF/UHF portable/mobile to test Tx RF power, Rx Sensitivity, CTCSS tones, Modulation, and Tx out-of band spurious emissions. A channel programming computer will be available.

Wednesday, Apr 19th

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Speaker: Dave Conn, VE3KL

Subject: Simple Practical HF Antennas for your Home Station

OVMRC Executive 2015-2016

President:: Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC

ve3lc@rac.ca

Vice-President: Barry Allison, VE3NJK

ve3njk@rac.ca

Treasurer: Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ

ovmrc.treasurer@gmail.com,

Secretary: Frank Fullum, VE2KOI

VE2KOI@rac.ca

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Amateur Radio Training & Accredited Examiner:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC

ve3lc@rac.ca

Membership:

Tom Mercer, VE3LJS VA3LJS@rac.ca

Radio Operations:

Ken Evans, VE3EKN

ve3ekn@gmail.com,

Newsletter Editor:

Robert Cherry, VA3AOD cw527@ncf.ca

Newsletter Publisher:

Bill Hall, VA3WMH bmhall@rogers.com

Webmaster:

Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ

ve3oij@amsat.org

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: <u>peppersradio@videotron.ca</u>
Web site: <u>www.peppersradio.net</u>

RADIOWORLD TORONTO

Web site: www.radioworld.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 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 temporally 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

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated

PO Box 41145

Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9

www.ovmrc.on.ca

(Continued from <u>page 1</u>) with Honours qualification and is now VE3URA. Congratulations Gary! Give him a warm welcome when you meet him on-air or at our Club meetings. His FT-450 should get him on the HF bands soon.

As of this writing, we are still looking for a Field Day site for our Canada 150 combined FD event this year with the OARC and WCARC and the Manotick AR Group. The Aviation Museum is

not available and neither are the grounds of the Museum of Science and Technology due to construction and renovations. The Agriculture Museum site has also been deemed unsuitable by Museum officials.

I have included a promotion in this newsletter for the long and venerable "Pot Lid Slow Speed CW Net" that is conducted on 3620 kHz every Sunday Morning at 11 am by Roger Rose, VE3XRR. It may be a go-to-Church time for some, but

believe me, it can also be a religious experience checking into the Pot Lid Net and you may even hear a chirpy CW signal from my born again vintage Viking Ranger tube transmitter. So rusty or not with code, give it a try and join a very exclusive group; it is guaranteed to improve your Morse code proficiency.

73 de Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC ve3lc@rac.ca

Iroquois ARC Flea Market, April 1st

This event has already happened! It was a small affair, but very friendly and has started again another season of amateur radio flea markets and hamfests in the area. Besides the local hams selling their surplus stuff, commercial vendors Durham Radio and H.C. MacFarlane were there making many hams happy with brand new toys.

Below is a snap photo of Barry Allison, VE3NJK (our current Vice President) and Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ (foreground of the photo) looking at things to buy from Durham Radio at Iroquois. Some may not know, but Patrick was very involved with the OVMRC many years ago developing and teaching the radio course. According to OVMRC records, he was also Club president during the 1984-85 season. We would love to see Patrick involved with the Club again.



Upcoming Hamfests and Flea Markets:

41st Annual Durham Hamfest

North Shore ARC and South Pickering ARC Starts on Saturday, April 29, 2017 Pickering, ON

durhamhamfest.com/

3rd Annual Simcoe County Hamfest

Barrie Amateur Radio Club Inc. Starts on Saturday, May 6, 2017 Barrie Ontario

facebook.com/events/768478633296622

33rd Annual Smiths Falls Flea Market

Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club Starts on Saturday, May 13, 2017 Smiths Falls, Ontario

 $\frac{allevents.in/smiths\%20 falls/hamfest-smiths-}{falls/738843512945029}$

Other OVMRC Events to put on your Calendar:

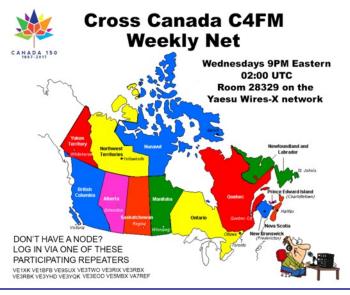
- Monday, May 8th, 7:00 pm, Aviation Museum, Planning and Participation workshop for May 27th Transmitter Hunt Event.
- Wednesday, May 17, 7:00 pm, Aviation Museum, General meeting, Presentation to be determined.
- Saturday May 27th, 10:30 am, OVMRC transmitter hunt and picnic, gathering location TBD.
- Monday, June 12th, 7:00 pm, Aviation Museum, Planning and Participation workshop for June 24th-25th Field Day.
- Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 23-25, Annual Field Day event, location TBD
- Wednesday, June 21st, 7 pm, Aviation Museum, Annual General Meeting.

OVMRC Repeater VE3TWO:

147.300 MHz +600 kHz, 100 Hz Tone and Yaesu C4FM Digital Voice

VE3TWO Scheduled Nets:

- Wednesday Evenings, 9 PM, Across Canada Net, C4FM Digital Voice facilitated by Denis VE3BF.
- Thursday Evenings, 8 PM, Club Net on Analogue FM conducted by Ken VE3EKN.
- **Sunday Evenings, 8 PM**, Ottawa Digital Voice C4FM Net conducted by Denis VE3BF.



Contest Calendar

For all contest information goto: hornucopia.com/contestcal/

April 15-16, Ontario QSO Party, va3cco.com/oqp/rules.htm

April 16, ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB, arrl.org/rookie-roundup

(this contest is for new hams licenced in the last three years)

April 15-16, Worked all Provinces of China DX Contest, mulandxc.org/438

(this should be an interesting contest and provide the rare opportunity to work Chinese hams)

Other Local 2 Metre Repeater Nets: (all check-ins welcome)

- **Rubber Boot Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 + work day mornings at 7:30 am conducted by Mike Parris, VA3TJP
- QCWA Chapter 70 Net, VE3MPC 147.150 + Monday evening at 7:30 pm conducted by John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV
- Capital City FM Net, VE2CRA 146.340 – (100 Hz tone), Monday evenings at 8 pm
- Champlain Mini Net, VE3STP 147.060 (114.8 Hz tone), every evening at 6:45 pm

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday, Mar 15, 2017, 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 23 in attendance.

2. Greetings:

Guests and visiting amateurs: Richard Ferch, VE3KI Wayne Stacey, VE3QO Ron Smith, VE3LBG Harold Hamilton, VE3UNK

3. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Moved by Dave Scott, VE3ZZU and seconded by Steve Middleton, VE3RUU that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. CARRIED.

4. Announcements and News:

Field Dav:

The president, Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC spoke briefly about the upcoming Field Day. The OVMRC is in discussion with other Ottawa area amateur radio clubs regarding a joint field day event. Unfortunately the grounds of the Aviation Museum are not available this year. The clubs continue to work together in an effort to find a suitable location to hold a joint event.

Club Meetings in April:

There will be a workshop, Monday April 10. Bring your portable radios and get them tested and tunedup by Norm VE3LC, and Barry VE3NJK.

The next general meeting will be, Wednesday April 19. The feature presentation will be given by Dave Conn, VE3KL. Dave will be presenting: Simple and practical antennas for HF.

CN Cycle for CHEO:

Harold Hamilton, VE3UNK called for volunteers to participate in the CN Cycle for CHEO event to be held Sunday May 7. The CN Cycle for CHEO is a fun, noncompetitive event that offers a wide range of cycling and walking routes for people of all ages and abilities. The event takes place in the morning between 08:30 and 12:00. Amateur radio operators help with the event by participating in a 2m FM net over local repeaters. For more information on the event see: http://cncycle.ca/en/. If you wish to volunteer as a radio operator, you can contact Harold Hamilton AT: VE3UNK@rac.ca.

5. Upcoming Contests:

For information on upcoming contests, see the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal

6. Feature Presentation:

Richard Ferch, VE3KI gave a presentation on Remote control of HF Radios over the Internet.

7. Prizes and Draws:

Prizes were won by the following lucky individuals: John McGowan, VA3JYK Allan Fricker Peter Cars, VE3XEM Dave Scott, VE3ZZU Frank Fullum, VE2KOI Nicole Boivin,

VE3GIQ

Jocelyn Tremblay, VE3JCT Luc Cousineau,

VA3LDC

The 50/50 draw was won by Tim Baily, VE3TXB

8. Executive and Chair Reports:

8.1. Treasurer - Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ: Nicole reported that the Club has assets of \$25,855. \$ 10,855 in cash deposit and \$15,000 in GICs.

8.2. Club Project - Barry Allison, VE3NJK: Barry reports that all of the 2M JPole antenna kits have been sold.

8.3. Radio Course - Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC: Norm reports that 16 students of the Radio course have graduated, from a total of 35 who were enrolled.

8.4. Repeater - Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC:

The Club's repeater, VE3TWO has been inspected and is working well. There had been a minor issue that the repeater's LCD screen was left on, and someone inadvertently touched it causing the repeater's mode to change. In addition, when the repeater was installed its output power was set to 50W, but the unit is not rated at 50W continuous power. The unit was swapped with a spare repeater and this time the output power has been set to 20W. The unit that was swapped out has been inspected and found to be in perfect operating condition, and is now the spare.

9. Adjournment:

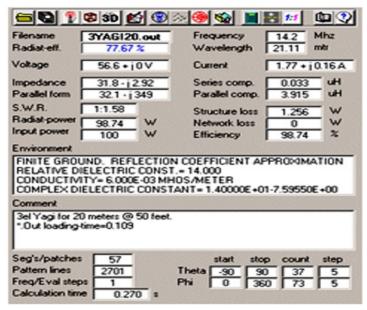
MOTION: Moved by Tim Baily, VE3TXB and seconded by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN that the meeting be adjourned. CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:40.

Minutes recorded by Frank Fullum, VE2KOI **OVMRC Secretary**

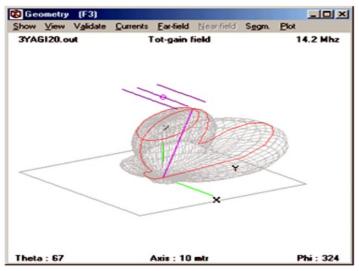
4nec2 Antenna Design, Analysis and Performance Prediction Software

Dave Conn, VE3KL recently introduced an OARC group to an absolutely free and downloadable Windows NEC based Antenna Modeling and Optimzer software called 4nec2. Learning and becoming proficient in the use of this software package would be a great benefit to radio amateurs designing and

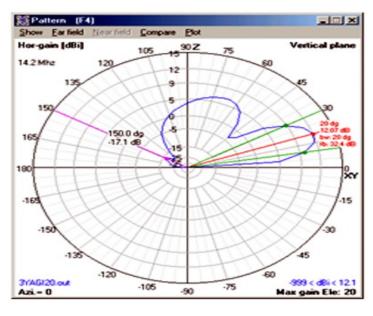


Main Window

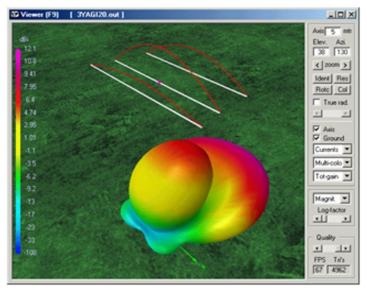
installing simple antenna systems for best performance and optimization for HF operations. 4nec2 can also handle complex antenna designs such as multi-element yagis and loop antenna arrays. It can provide answers to a lot of "what if" questions especially relevant when antenna installations must conform to the limited space available to suburban and urban dwellers. All this can be modelled and performance predicted by the 4nec2 software before final design and installation take place. Here are a few screen shots of using 4nce2:



Overview of Radiation Pattern of HF beam

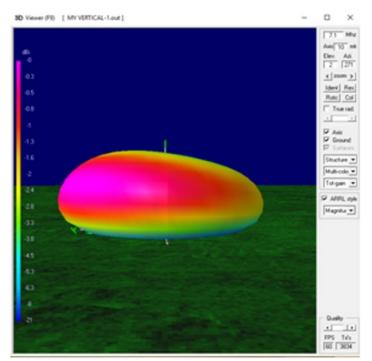


The Vertical pattern above the horizon

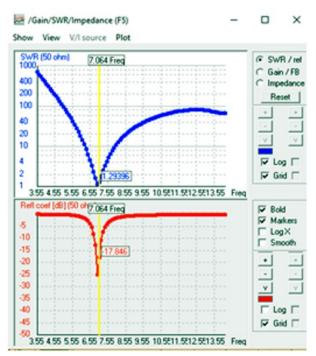


3D view of radiation pattern of 3 element beam

I have been using for some time a ¼ wavelength (33 feet tall) vertical for the 40 metre band mounted in the south-east corner of our small residential backyard. The antenna is fed directly at the base with 50 ohm coaxial cable. For an antenna counterpoise, I use two ¼ wavelength wire radials run from the feed point along the back wooden fence and the other along the



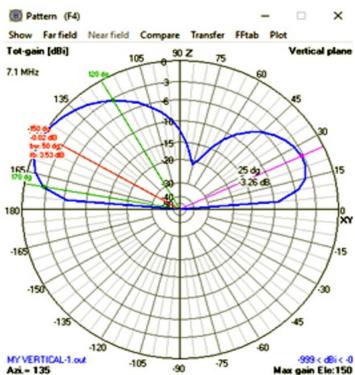
3D view of pattern and gain.



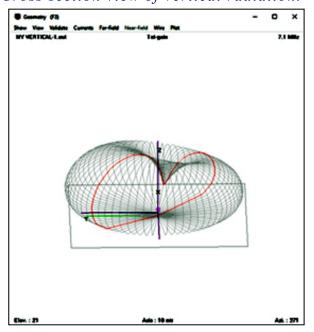
Frequency vs SWR Sweep

side wooden fence. The radials and the antenna feed point are about 2 feet above the ground. The antenna seems to perform well and has a good SWR over most of the 40 metre band. I don't try to use the antenna on other bands.

I modelled this antenna using 4nec2 and these are the output graphic results:



Cross section view of vertical radiation.



Geometry of the radiation pattern.

As can be seen by the sweeps and plots generated by 4nec2, the pattern of my ½ wave vertical is distorted from a uniform omni-directional. I never knew the degree of distortion before, which in my case, amounts to about 3 dB difference in horizontal directivity due to not having several more radials spread at equal angular distance around the base of the antenna. Even for simple dipole antennas, 4nec2 will tell you the best height for the desired pattern, be it your desire to have straight up radiation for close-in NVIS propagation or maximum on-the-horizon radiation for DX.

So download 4nec2 at http://www.qsl.net/4nec2/. There are lots of tutorial and practice files available with the software package. I have on my dropbox account a series of 5 video tutorials available. Send me an email and I will provide you link to download.

Have fun with 4nec2, it will keep your mind active and busy for weeks and guaranteed to stem the progress of dementia for us older hams.

Norm VE3LC ve3lc@rac.ca

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.dvndns.org/:

West Carleton Amateur Radio Club

www.wcarc.on.ca

VE3ORF/3730 Group

www.ve3orf.com/

CRAO Club Radio Amateur Outaouais (CRAO)

POT LID Slow Speed CW NET, 3620 kHz, Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM

Although not an official OVMRC net, it was started and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX (SK), one of the founding members of the OVMRC and promoter on use and proficiency of CW. It always followed the Pot Hole phone net Sunday mornings. The Pot Lid CW Net still remains a tradition and Sunday morning ritual for several old time operators but new members are required to keep it going well into the future and all new participants are very much welcome. The CW speed is kept slow to encourage new comers to participate and practice the Morse code. If you are just learning code or are a bit rusty, don't be shy and don't just tune in, check-in!

The Pot Lid CW Net still continues thanks to faithful lead of Net Control Station, Roger Rose, VE3XRR.

Mike Kelly, VE3FFK is a regular participant of the Pot Lid Net and forwarded his following transcript of the April 2nd net proceedings; note the abbreviations and prosigns and Q codes used.

CQ CQ CQ POT LID SLOW SPEED NET PLN DE VE3XRR=

ROLL CALL FOLLOWED BY QNI? =

PLN DE VE3XRR=

VE3ZBB K

DE VE3ZBB GM ROGER K

GM BETTY AS

VE3LC K

VE3FFK K

DE VE3FFK GM ROGER

GM MIKE AS

VE3VCF K

DE VE3VCF GM ROGER K

GM GUY AS

VE3DTI K

VE3XL K

VE3QN K

PLN DE VE3XRR QNI? K

DE VE3QN

VE3QN GM BRYAN AS

QNI? K

VE3LC K

VE3LC GM NORM AS

QNI? K

VE3DY K

VE3DY GM GORD AS

QNI? K

NIL HRD SO WITH A VRY NOISY BAND IT THIS MORNING GA VE3ZBB K

DE VE3ZBB GM ALL = AFTER OUR SNOW SURPRISE THIS WX IS MORE LIKE IT HI=

ENJOY IT ALL ES THE WK AHEAD ES CUL 73 DE VE3ZBB K

FB BETTY ES THATS THE GUD THING WE DONT HAVE TO SHOVEL SUNSHINE HI =

VE3LC GA K

DE VE3LC GM ROGER ES ALL ON FREQ THIS SUNNY MORNING=

OF COURSE USING THE CHIRPY RANGER THIS MORNING=

SRI CALLING IN AT FIRST CUZ RIG TUNED OFF FREQ=

SO FOLKS SAY 73 ES HVE A GUD WK 73 VA DE VE3LC K

FB NORM ES I WUD NEVER HVE GUESSED HEE =

VE3FFK K

IN ADDITION TO FB WX ITS ALSO OPENING DAY OF BASEBALL ES ALL TEAMS TIED= ENJOY THE DAY ES 73 ALL DE VE3FFK K

ALL GAMES ARE TIDE ZERO ZERO

VE3VCF K

DE VE3VCF GM ALL =

GESS CANT COMPAIN ABT WX HEE WILL ENJOY THE FINE WX TODAY=

HVE GUD WK 73 DE VE3VCF K

FB GUY ES YOU CAN COMPLAIN BUT NO ONE LISTENS HI =

VE3QN GA K

DE VE3QN=

GM ALL=

ALMOST MISSED THE NET THIS MORNING =

BUSY WEEK=

IT SEEMS LIKE A WONDERFUL DAY

OH YES BASEBALL =

2 GAMES BY BLUE JAYS PAST WEEK IN MONTREAL AT OLYMPIC STADIUM WITH 95 K ATTENDEES=

HAVE A GR8 WEEK ALL ES 73 DE VE3QN K

FB BRYAN ES BURRIS WAS PLAYIN BASE BALL AS AN APRIL FOOL JOKE HI =

VE3DY K

GM ROGER=

A GREAT DAY =

73 TO ALL =

VE3DY K

FB GORD ES ALL IS WELL WITH YOU =

PLN DE VE3XRR

QNI? K

NIL HRD

WELL FOLKS GO ES ENJOY THE DAY ES TNX FOR UR PARTICIPATION ES HVE A GUD WK =

PLN QNF DE VE3XRR 73 ES 88 GM

11:28 Apr/02/2017

Questions about participating and checking into the POT LID Slow Speed CW Net, be in touch by email.

73 de Norm VE3LC

ve3lc@rac.ca

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

February 26	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
VE3NPO	VE3BF	VA3PCJ	VE3LC	VE3LC
VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3EJJ	VE3BAE
VE3BF	VA3PCJ	VE3EJJ	VE3BF	VA3PCJ
VA3BGO	VE3XRA	VE3BF	VE3EKN	VE3BF
VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VA3PCJ	VE3EKN
VE3EJJ	VA3BGO	VE3NPO	VE3XRA	VE3EJJ
VA3PCJ	VE3NPO	VE3BOE		
VE3XRA	VE3EJJ	VE3XRA		

OVMRC 2 METRE NET Report -

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

March 2	March 9	March 16	March 23	March 30
VA3MPS	VE3LC	VE3LC	VA3ZTF	VE3LC
VE3RUU	VE3GIQ	VE2OCQ	VE3APL	VE3BF
VE3LC	VE3DHE	VE3RUU	VE3RUU	VE3GIQ
VE3BF	VA3ORL	VE3TXB	VE2OCQ VA2EEK	VE3LBU
VA2EEK	VE3LBU	VA3HWA	VAZEEK VE3BF	VE3NJK
VE3LBU	VE2OCQ	VE3GIQ	VA3LS	VE3ZZU
VE3ZZU	VE3ZZU	VA2EEK	VE3TXB	VA3RLA
VE3DHE VA3HWA	VA3ZTF	VE3BF	VE3GIQ	VE3DHE
VA3HVVA VA3ZTF	VE3NPO	VE3LBU	VE3LBU	VA3ZTF
VA3AOD	VE3BF	VA3JYK	VE3KLT VA3ORL	VA3HWA
VE2OCQ	VA3HWA	VA3AOD	VE3ZZU	VA3AOD
VE3NPO	VE3RUU	VE3KLT	VE3NJK	VE3KLT
VA3ORL	VA3AOD	VE3DHE	VA3AOD	VE3RUU
VA3BGO	VE3EKN	VA3ORL	VE2BZQ	VA3BGO
VE3RNM		VE3NJK	VE3LC	VE3EKN
VE3YCB		VE3EKN	VA3JYK VE3EKN	
VE3EKN			VESERIN	

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	UPDAT	TE/CHANGE
	Pl€	ease print legibly	
Call Sign	Surname	AV	Perferred first name
Street			Apartment
City		Province	Postal Code
Home/primary phone	Work/other phone	E-mail address	12-
Are you a member of F	Radio Amateurs of Canada Expiry (YYYY-MM		
Do you wish to order	an OVMRC name tag?	(+\$12.00) Yes	No 🗆
Callsign for name tag		Name for name tag	
Full Membership (Not Full Membership (RAI Associate Membershi	C Member) \$	25.00/yr 🔲 \$_	ount Enclosed heque / Cash
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	Initial	By initialing this box, I confirm that I consent to receiving e-m messages from the Club.