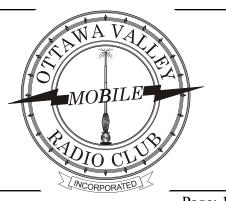
Rambler

Newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated



Feb 2018 Edition 55 Page: 1

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary Season of Continuous Service to Ottawa

President's Ramblings

or our February 21st meeting, the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club returns to the Canada Science and Technology Museum (CSTM) on St. Laurent. This may be the first chance many of our club members will see the renovations to the building and all the new exhibits. Unfortunately, as many already know, an amateur radio exhibit station is no longer on display at the Museum and there are no immediate plans by the Museum curator(s) to re-establish one. However: we do have some ideas to construct a mobile operating cabinet with shelving and an operating table surface to house and set up the Club's equipment that will allow us to assemble an operational HF and VHF station at the Museum for demonstration and instructional purposes. We envision this cabinet will have doors that can be locked and secured and fashioned with wheels that will permit moving it around within the Museum premises for ease of storage and operation of radio equipment for on-air activities. The cabinet can perhaps be kept in the room where we conduct our meetings and amateur radio course and where we install a cable entrance and patch panel to facilitate connection of outside

antennas. We hope that VE3JW can live again in this way. We may put together a working committee to pursue this project.

As well, preliminary discussions with officials at the CSTM have indicated they would like from time to time for the Club to provide volunteers and lead weekend or summertime "maker" activities for youngsters to promote their interest in science and communications technology. Projects may include sessions on building a crystal radio set or other simple electronic projects. We will see what develops with this idea.

For our February meeting, I plan to continue my talk on Operating CW which I didn't have time to complete at the busy January meeting. For folks attending, you will have to come into the Museum building through the rear entrance door where the security reception in now located. The meeting room will be "Studio 5" on the south side of the complex. Look for the interior map we've included in the Rambler as a guide through the exhibit hall to our meeting room.

On the topic of operating CW, we are looking at arranging a 6 weekend session (that is a 3 hour class on Saturdays or Sundays TBD) at the CSTM to introduce folks to (Continued on page 3)

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Meeting Date

Wednesday, Jan 21st 7:00 P.M.

Continuation



Operating CW

What you should know besides Morse code

Norm, VE3LC

Science and Technology Museum

Studio 5

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ve3lc@rac.ca

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Sponsors

The OVMRC acknowledges the following organizations for their support of our activities:

• KENWOOD ELECTRONICS CANADA INC., Mississauga, ON

• MAPLE LEAF COMMUNICATIONS
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Visit the OVMRC Store

at

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

www.ovmrc.on.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

OVMRC Call Signs VE3JW VE3RAM

The Rambler is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated and is published 10 times a year (monthly, except for July and August). 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 cw527@ncf.ca

OVMRC Affiliations









(Continued from page 1) copying and sending Morse hopefully to the level necessary to pass the ISED 5 WPM Morse test. We will see at the February meeting how many would be interested attending. This is being planned in conjunction with folks from the OARC.

We had good participation in the mobile transmitter hunt exercise we staged between January 24th to 31st. Eight folks were able to find the location where the Club's little 15 mW beacon transmitter was hidden on the balcony of the 10th floor apartment QTH of Robert VA3AOD. Thanks Robert for

your cooperation! We will be awarding certificates at the February meeting to the 8 folks that zeroed in and found the site. We will call these folks to tell their story on finding the beacon.

Marc VE3BOE contributed an article we feature in this issue of the Rambler about designing and making a cab top bracket for his new F-150 aluminium bodied truck to accommodate a mag-mount antenna. The bracket attachment is elegant and allows the truck to be easily restored for trade in.

Last but not least, I've included in this issue of the Rambler, an introduction to Tim Orange, VA3ZZW, Major (retired) of the Canadian Armed Forces who now depends on a powered chair for his mobility. Tim was a graduate of the OVMRC 2014 radio course. Tim is now set up to operate his VHF portable radio and we are hoping to hear him often checking into the OVMRC Thursday evening net on VE3TWO.

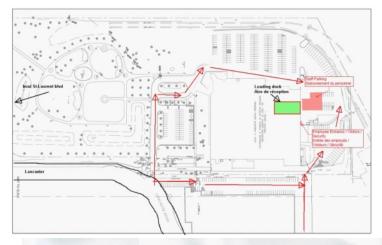
That's it for this issue. See you all at the February meeting of the OVMRC.

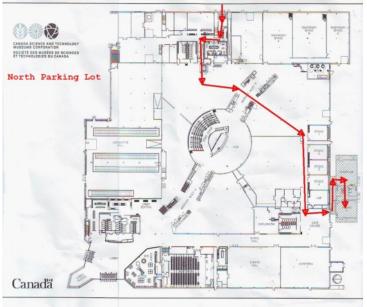
73 de Norm VE3LC@rac.ca

The OVMRC Returns to the Science and Technology Museum.

As mentioned in my Ramblings, the OVMRC returns to the Canada Science and Technology Museum (CSTM) for our monthly meetings after an absence of almost 4 years while it underwent \$90 million of mandatory renovations. We have extended our thanks to the folks of the Museum Corporation for accommodating us in the meantime at the first class facilities of the Aviation and Space Museum; this included using the grounds for the June Field Day exercise in 2015 and 2016.

When entering the CSTM building for our February 21 evening meeting, folks must enter through the rear entrance (east side) door where the security is now located. Please park in the back parking lot. Our meeting room will be designated "Studio 5." The maps to the right will provide guidance:





Contest Calendar

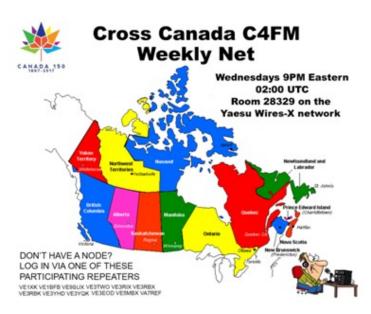
For all contest information goto: hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Feb 23 – 25 — CQ World Wide 160 Metre SSB Contest,

cq160.com/rules.htm

March 24-25 — CQ World Wide WPX Contest SSB.

cqwpx.com/rules.htm



Emergency Measures Radio Group: (EMRG)

Monthly Repeater Tests are conducted by Dave VE3KMV on the first Wednesday of each month at 8 pm on VE3OCE 146.880 MHz – (136.5 Hz tone). From initial contact on VE3OCE, you'll be asked to test VE3EMV/East 146.985 MHz – (100 Hz tone), VE3EMV/West 145.210 MHz – (123 Hz tone), VE3OFS 146.670 MHz – (123 Hz tone) and VE3OCE 443.8000 MHz + (136.5 Hz tone). It is advisable that all the EMRG frequencies be programmed into your radio. All check ins are welcome. emrg.ca/repeaters.htm

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 FM conducted by Ken, VE3EKN.
- Sunday Evenings, 8 PM, Ottawa C4FM Digital Voice Round Table Net.

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

- **Rubber Boot Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 +, work day mornings at 7:30 AM conducted by Mike, VA3TJP
- **Phoenix Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 + (now with 100 Hz tone), Tuesday evenings at 8 PM conducted by Pete, VE3XEM
- QCWA Chapter 70 Net, VE3MPC 147.150 + (now with 100 Hz tone), Monday evening at 7:30 PM conducted by John, VE3ZOV
- Capital City FM Net, VE2CRA 146.940 Mhz, (100 Hz tone), Monday evenings at 8 PM
- Champlain Mini Net, VE3STP 147.060 (114.8 Hz tone), every evening at 6:45 PM
- Upper Frequency Net, Simplex 144.250 MHz using USB, Tuesdays evenings at 9 PM conducted by Glenn VE3XRA. Following check in on 2 m you can check your radios on 6 m at 50.150 MHz and 70 cm on 432.150 MHz as well using USB. All check ins are welcome.

OVMRC HF Nets

- Pot Hole SSB Net, 3760 kHz, every Sunday morning at 10 AM conducted by Ernie VE3EJJ or Glenn VE3XRA
- Pot Lid Slow Speed CW Net, 3620 kHz, every Sunday morning at 11 AM conducted by Roger VE3XRR

Tim Orange, VA3ZZW

I want to introduce Major (retired) Tim Orange,



Tim, VA3ZZW is thumbs up to get back on the air.

VA3ZZW to the membership of the OVMRC. Tim graduated with his Basic + Honours qualification from our 2014 course but except for some occasional check-in activity on our local repeater nets using EchoLink and his VHF portable radio, had not yet become fully engaged in amateur radio while he was involved with contract work following his 42 year career in the Canadian Armed Forces. Folks may recall Tim was responsible for arranging a visit of Andrew Leslie, MP for Orleans, to our 2016 OVMRC Field Day site at the Aviation Museum which gave us 100

additional bonus points for a visiting elected official.

Tim was looking forward to setting up his newly acquired Kenwood HF radio when he began to develop weakness that was ultimately diagnosed as a rare blood disorder that among other symptoms, affects the nervous system and therefore the ability to walk and strength and control in his arms and hands. His treatment included a stem cell transplant and currently Tim is on a program of physiotherapy with a good prognosis. However, Tim currently relies on an electric power chair for mobility. His home, in Orleans, where he lives with his wife and two daughters has now been modified to accommodate his living on the ground floor and entry and exit with his chair.

Since Tim is now back home, he is anxious to get on the air. We set him up with a headset and easy to actuate PTT control box for his Baofeng portable radio. He is again able to check into our OVMRC Thursday evening net. He is in close range to VE3TWO and VE3MPC and expect him to be active on both these repeaters from now on. Welcome him back on the air waves. In the spring, we want to assemble a work party to help Tim set up outside antennas for his HF station; I may be calling for volunteers to help out.

de Norm ve3lc@rac.ca

OVMRC Mobile FOX Hunt Winners Staged January 24th to 31st





The following folks identified the location of the hidden transmitter within the criteria of 500 metres:

First to Find......RobertVE3RXH...January 25th @ 7:39 PM

Second to Find...Stephane ..VA3SPV...January 27th @ 2:18 PM

Third to Find.....DaveVE3TLY...January 27th @ 4:29 PM

Forth to Find.....Jocelyn....VE3JCT....January 28th @ 1:13 PM

Fifth to Find.....Hunter.....VE3HVB...January 28th @ 7:01 PM

Sixth to Find.....Denis.....VE3BF.....January 29th @ 3:20 PM

Seventh to Find...Jeffrey......VA3PEW..January 30th @ 6:27 PM

Eighth to Find....Steve......VE3RUU...January 31st @ 3:52 PM

Others that were out looking for the hidden transmitter but didn't identify the location included:

Sylvain VE3SGG, Marc VE3BOE, Maurice-André VE3VIG, Ernie VE3EJJ, Ken VE3EKN, and Clayton VE3IRR

Informal Amateur Radio Restaurant Gatherings (All are welcome)

- QCWA Chapter 70 breakfast gathering every **Tuesday** morning at 7:30 to 10 am, Summerhays Grill, 1972 Baseline Rd., Nepean
- Orleans Coffee gathering every **Friday** morning at 9 AM, McDonalds, 2643 St. Joseph Blvd, Orleans
- QRP Group Dinner meeting, **2**nd **Wednesday** every month, 5 PM, Newport Restaurant, 322 Churchill Ave N., Ottawa
- Phoenix Net monthly Breakfast gathering, usually the **second Saturday** every month at 9 AM, T-Basil Restaurant, 2440 St Joseph Blvd, Orleans. (get on Pete VE3XEM's mailing@ list for monthly reminder)

Antenna Mounting Plate for Aluminum Bodied Ford F150 Pickup Trucks.

By Marc Bélanger, VE3BOE

How do you install a mobile magnetic mount antenna if you have an aluminum bodied vehicle? This brief article, along with a few pictures, will show you how I solved this problem for my 2018 Ford F1 50 aluminum bodied pickup truck.

After performing the usual net searches, I came upon an idea that I thought was a good one. A big thank you and credit to those internet people who are much smarter than I am. The design uses the upper rear cab brake light area as an attachment point for a composite roof plate (aluminum and steel), that will provide a compatible surface for the magnetic antenna base. The main roof plate is made of aluminum sheet stock and the top plate is made of steel.

Here is a picture of the final product with the antenna attached. Note how a steel plate is riveted to the top surface of the aluminum mount, and note the rubber front edge molding that prevents damage to the roof.



The first step was to temporarily remove the rear brake light and make a cardboard template for the aluminum roof plate. Using the cardboard template, the aluminum roof plate was cut to shape using a jigsaw, a drill, and various drill bits. A steel plate was then cut to an appropriate size and would be riveted to the aluminum roof plate after final finishing. The pieces were all fabricated using existing metal stock in my workshop and common hand tools and power tools. While I did use a sheet metal brake to bend the aluminum, this bend could be accomplished using a good solid work bench edge, some scrap wood, and a few good clamps or a large vise. I chose to do the final finish by powder coating the two pieces in a flat black wrinkle finish. A can of Tremclad in the color of your choice would do the job.

Below is a picture of the fabricated main aluminum plate as well as the steel plate that will provide the magnetic surface to mount the antenna. This picture was taken just before the powder coating process.



The whole assembly is mounted to the cab using four M5 SS countersunk head machine screws and threaded inserts (rivnuts) that were installed in the truck cab body behind the mount plate. Below is a picture of the mount being installed and secured to the truck cab before reinstalling the brake light. Quality all-weather silicon sealant was applied behind the plate to ensure a weatherproof seal between the plate and the truck cab. The brake light has its own seal.



The completed product fits very well and looks great. I have tested the magnetic mount on bumpy roads and at highway speeds without any issue whatsoever. The magnetic bond is very strong.



Feel free to contact me at VE3BOE@rac.ca if you have any questions.

OVMRC Net Activity, Check-ins during the last month

Prepared by: Ken Evans, VE3EKN

OVMRC 2 Metre Net, VE3TWO 147.300+ 100 Hz tone, Thursdays 8 pm local

December 28	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
VE3RUU	VE3RUU	VE3RUU	VE3GIQ	VE3RUU
VE3LC	VE3DHE	VE3GIQ	VE3LBU	VE3BF
VE3XZT	VA3ZTF	VE3VIG	VE3KAE	VE3LC
VA3ZTF	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3RUU	VA3ZTF
VE3LBU	VE3VIG	VA3QV	VE3LC	VE3NA
VA3SPV	VE3KAE	VE3TSC	VE3TXB	VE3LBU
VE3ZZU	VE3NA	VA3ORL	VA3QV	VA3QV
VE3NA	VE3ZZU	VE3KTN	VA3RLA	VA2EEK
VE3KAE	VA3ORL	VE3LBU	VE3DHE	VE3RXH
VA3JPX	VE3LBU	VE3ZZU	VE3NA	VA3ORL
VE3KLT	VA3QV	VE3NA	VA2EEK	VE3ZZU
VA3BGO	VE2OCQ	VA2EEK	VE3ZZU	VA3SPV
VE3VIG	VE3OKD	VE3BOE	VE3BOE	VE3KAE
VE3EKN	VA3BGO	VE3RXH	VE3OKD	VA3MPS
	VE3BF	VA3SPV	VA3CHH	VA3RLA
	VE2BJZ	VE3BF	VA3ORL	VE3XQQ
	VE3EKN	VE3DHE	VE3LEB	VE3VIG
		VE3KAE	VE3VIG	VA3AOD
		VE3SGG	VE3RXH	VE3BOE
		VE3LBG	VA3AOD	VE3OKD
		VA3ZTF	VE3SGG	VE3KLT
		VE3XEM	VE3BF	VA3LJS
		VA3AOD	VE3RMJ	VE3EKN
		VE3XQQ	VE3EKN	
		VE3LJS		
		VA2LOJ		
		VE3EKN		

OVMRC POT HOLE NET – Check-ins last month 3760 kHz SSB Sunday mornings at 10 am local

December 31	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
VA3BGO	VA3ZTF	VE3BAE	VE3BAE	VA3YJC
VA3UW	VE3BF	VE3EJJ	VA3BGO	VE3XRA
VE3LC	VE3EJJ	VE3LC	VA3ZTF	VE3LC
VE3BF	VA3QV	VE3BF	VE3BF	VE3BF
VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VA3ZTF	VE3LC	VA3QV
VE3BOE	VE3LC	VA3QV	VA3QV	VA3ZTF
VE3KTN	VA3BGO	VA3PCJ	VE3BOE	VE3EKN
VE3HOG	VA3AE	VE3EKN	VE3EJJ	VE3BOE
VE3EJJ	VA3PCJ	VA3BGO		VE3LBU
	VA3KS	VA3AE		VA3BGO
	VE3XRA	VE3XRA		VE3KTN
				VE2HOG
				VE3VGI
				VE3EJJ

Maurice-André Vigneault VE3VIG / VA2MA is Recovering Well.



Maurice-André VE3VIG with his arm in a sling recovering at the Beacon Heights Residence

am happy to report that Maurice-André VE3VIG (OVMRC life member) is recovering well from a fall he suffered the other week while dinning out with his good friend Joe Lemieux VE3EUS. Unfortunately, Maurice-André suffered a broken shoulder and a few cracked ribs when he tripped over a loose carpet in the restaurant. A doctor was at the

scene when the accident

happened and attended to Maurice-André until the ambulance arrived. After treatment at the hospital, Maurice-André is now convalescing with assisted living at the Beacon Heights Residence on Montreal Road where he is expected to stay 6 weeks. Maurice-André has his portable radio with him so wish him well when you hear him checking into our local repeater nets.

de Norm ve3lc

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday, January 17, 2018, 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 39 in attendance.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

MOTION: Moved by Frank Fullum VE2KOI, and seconded by Steve Middleton VE3RUU that the minutes of the previous meeting held Wednesday, November 15, 2017 be approved. VOTE: All in favour. CARRIED.

3. Greetings:

Guests and visiting amateurs: Harrie Jones VE3HYS Bob Sharpe VA3QV Dave Scobie VA3AE

4. Club meetings to resume at the Museum of Science and Technology

Norm announced to all club members that this is the last general meeting held at the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum. The next general meeting will be at the Canadian Science and Technology Museum, 1867 St Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON K1G 5A3.

See the announcement in the Rambler and the club website for details. https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/2018/02/february-2018-meeting-announcement/

5. Announcements and events:

Canadian Ski Marathon

Harrie Jones, VE3HYS gave an update on the participation of amateur radio at the Canadian Ski Marathon (CSM) in February. Amateur radio has played a key role in providing a radio communications network at the CSM in the past. This will be the second year the organizers of the CSM have contracted a private safety company to provide safety services, and contracted a private company to provide commercial radio. While commercial radio equipment will be used, the CSM still needs qualified radio operators to run the communications net. To meet this requirement, they have reached out to the amateur radio community to ask for participation of amateur radio operators to assist

If interested in participating, contact Harrie Jones VE3HYS at harrie59@gmail.com.

6. Upcoming contests:

ARRL January VHF Contest, Jan 20 - 21 CQ World Wide 160 M CW Contest, Jan 26 -28 CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest, Feb 10 -11 ARRL International DX CW Contest, Feb 18 - 18 CQ World Wide 160 M SSB Contest, Feb 25 - 26

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

7. Club Project, Barry Allison VE3NA:

Here are the highlights of Barry's update:

- New instructions for the assembly of the 2M slim-Jim antenna have been posted on the Club's website
- A 500-foot roll of coax was ordered in the fall and it is now sold out to Club members.

Meeting Minutes Continued

- Barry asked the members present if there was any interest in obtaining more coax and the answer was – yes!
- Barry indicated he will proceed with another bulk purchase of 500 feet coax and 250 feet twin lead. Members wishing to purchase lengths of the coax or twin lead should contact Barry via email – <u>VE3NA@rac.ca</u>

8. Net Operations, Ken Evans VE3EKN

Ken reported that participation is up on club nets with many new amateurs participating in the 2-metre net. Activity on the pot-hole net is picking up with as many as 10 check-ins.

Ken would like to have some help with net control (new operators) for the Thursday 2M net.

The OVMRC 2-metre net is held every Thursday evening at 20:00 on the VE3TWO repeater 147.300 MHz. The pot-hole net is held every Sunday morning at 10:00 on 3760 kHz.

Comments and suggestions regarding the Club's net operations can be sent to Ken Evans VE3EKN, Ernie Jury VE3EJJ or Norm Rashleigh VE3LC.

9. City-wide hidden transmitter event, Norm Rashleigh VE3LC:

A 15mW beacon transmitter will be hidden somewhere in the city of Ottawa. The frequency will be set to 147.585 MHz, FM modulation and MCW ID.

The objective will be to determine and report the address or approximate location of the beacon transmitter.

The transmitter will be on the air between January 24 and January 31.

If you think you found the location of the transmitter, send your report via email to VE3LC@rac.ca.

10. Feature presentation, So you want to learn Morse Code, Norm Rashleigh VE3LC:

Club president Norm Rashleigh VE3LC gave a presentation on tools and techniques for learning Morse Code. Norm also presented various computer programs that can be used send, and interpret received Morse code, allowing operators to make contacts without knowing the code. There was not enough time to complete Norm's presentation and he will continue this at the February meeting.

11. Prizes and draws:

The winner of this month's 50/50 draw was Bob Sharpe VA3QV.

12. Next meeting:

Next meeting will be Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 19:30. Reminder to all club members that the meeting will be at the Canadian Science and Technology Museum, 1867 St Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, ON K1G 5A3.

13. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 22:15.

Minutes recorded by Frank Fullum, VE2KOI, OVMRC Secretary

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	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.