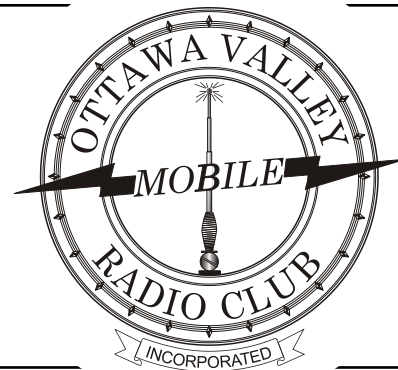


Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Mar 2018

Edition 55

Page: 1

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary Season of Continuous Service to Ottawa

President's Ramblings

Welcome back to the Science and Technology Museum on St. Laurent! Arriving for the February meeting, we were greeted by the Museum Event Coordinator, Luc-André Guibord, who directed us through the main exhibit area to "Studio 2" where we conducted our meeting. Thanks to Luc-André for ensuring we were setup properly with enough chairs and a working AV system before he left for the evening. Our attendance of 36 members and guests made for tight seating, however; this should not be a repeat situation for the March as the larger "Studio 5" meeting room is now ready for us to occupy and is now outfitted with a big screen TV for our presentations. This room has a seating capacity for at least 50 folks.

Ski Marathon Report

Our February meeting featured Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA (president of Radio Amateurs of Canada) giving a report on communications support for the Canadian Ski Marathon. Amateur Radio volunteers using their own amateur equipment and local area repeaters have provided communications for this event for over 40 years. This year, however; the organizers contracted with a

commercial communications company for equipment and UHF infrastructure to provide mobile and inter-checkpoint communications and declared communications using amateur radio spectrum was not required. However they still required volunteer "communicators" to operate the commercial radios! Several OARC and OVMRC amateurs answered the call and participated including our Club secretary, Frank Fullum, VE2KOI. Glenn revealed during his presentation that performance of the commercial radio system was less than ideal as there were coverage issues at some of the venues. Anticipating there may be problems, several of the amateur volunteers came equipped with their own radios and these were pressed into service and got the message through when some of the commercial UHF radio paths failed.

Transmitter Hunt Report

At the February meeting, we awarded certificates to 8 of the 9 winners of the January Transmitter Hunt Exercise. We invited participants to tell their story of tracking down the elusive 2 metre signal from the Club's 15 mW transmitter hidden on the 10th floor apartment balcony of VA3AOD's QTH on *(Continued on page 3)*

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Meeting Date

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

***A Wire to the
New World***

*The Transatlantic
Telegraph Cable*

Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN

Science and Technology Museum
Studio 5

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

- **KENWOOD ELECTRONICS CANADA INC.**,
Mississauga, ON
- **MAPLE LEAF COMMUNICATIONS**
Web site: mapleleafcom.com/
- **METAL PROS**,
"The Small Quantity Metal Shop"
Ottawa, ON
Web site: www.metalpros.com
- **RADIOWORLD TORONTO**
Web site: www.radioworld.ca

Visit the OVMRC Store

at

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

**Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club, Incorporated**
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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](mailto:Robert.Cherry.VA3AOD@ncf.ca)
cw527@ncf.ca

OVMRC Affiliations

(Continued from [page 1](#)) Kilborn Ave. We've included a group picture of Certificate recipients in this issue of the Rambler.

Operating CW and the Morse Code Course

Attending the meeting was Mike, VE3FFK, who was given the floor to announce his upcoming Morse course he will be conducting starting on February 25th at Algonquin College; it will run six sessions through to April 8. Mike invited those interested in taking his code course to sign up at the meeting. The details on the course and schedule of on-air practice sessions through repeaters VE2CRA and VE3TWO are included in this issue of the Rambler.

We concluded the February meeting with Norm, VE3LC, presenting the conclusion of his talk from last month on Operating CW Contests using the USB WinKeyer and compatible contest specific N3FJP logging software. A short video showing this in action making a few contacts was shown of the recent ARRL International DX contest CW with Morse decoding using CWGet and the technique demonstrating proficiency in Morse is helpful, but not necessary.

What's up for our March Meeting

Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN will be giving the feature presentation at our March meeting entitled "A

Wire to the New World". This will be the story of the attempts, failures and then success of laying the first TransAtlantic Telegraph Cable in the middle of the 19th Century. I've seen this presentation before when Bryan gave it to the QCWA Chapter 70 group last year. This will be a story you don't want to miss; Bryan has done a lot of research on this subject and will be describing many of technical details and issues of this engineering and naval feat linking Europe and North America with rapid communications for the first time in history.

March Break promotion table at the Aviation and Space Museum

We've been asked to put on a display at the Aviation and Space Museum for the week of March 12th to tell a story of communications in Space. This theme is well told by amateur satellite communications and the AMSAT and ARISS programs. We have asked RAC to be involved using some of their promotional material on the subject. As well, as an eye catcher, we will be assembling for display an amateur satellite antenna system used by Clare, VE3NPC for satellite contacts during our 2015 Field Day operations. The Royal Astronomical Society will also have a display showing telescopes from their members. If interested helping out, contact me at my email address shown below.

April Mini Swap Meet

For our April meeting, we are planning a Mini Club Flea Market event so gather up your surplus equipment, accessories and books to sell or swap.

Field Day 2018

Thinking ahead to June, we requested to conduct our Field Day on the front yard grounds of the Science and Technology Museum. Unfortunately, we were advised this is not possible for this year due to the ongoing construction of the Conservation Building on the north side of the Museum property. As an alternate, we again approached the folks at the Aviation and Space Museum to use their grounds where we conducted our Field Day operations in 2015 and 2016. As I write this, March 5, the person in charge of Special Events, Gillian, has confirmed the OVMRC is now booked-in to use the Aviation Museum grounds for the Field Day event on the June 23rd-24th weekend. In my opinion, this is an ideal site for our Field Day as it is adjacent to and in plain view from the bicycle paths and walking route into the Museum entrance allowing us to easily promote Amateur Radio and the OVMRC and claim 100 contest bonus points for operating in a public area.

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

73 de Norm
VE3LC@rac.ca

Contest Calendar

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

March 10-11 — RSGB Commonwealth Contest,
rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2018/rberu.shtml

March 24-25 — CQ World Wide WPX Contest SSB,
cqwp.com/rules.htm

April 15 — ARRL Rookie Roundup SSB Contest,
arrrl.org/rookie-roundup

April 21-22 — Ontario QSO Party,
va3cco.com/oqp/rules.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.

Cross Canada C4FM Weekly Net

Wednesdays 9PM Eastern
 02:00 UTC
 Room 28329 on the
 Yaesu Wires-X network

DON'T HAVE A NODE?
 LOG IN VIA ONE OF THESE
 PARTICIPATING REPEATERS
 VE1XK VE1FB VE1SLX VE2TWO VE3RXX VE3RXX
 VE3RXX VE3YHD VE3YQK VE3EOD VE5MBX VA7RF

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 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

Winners of the Great January Transmitter Hunt



Seven of the 9 Successful folks that found the location of the Hidden Transmitter in the Great January OVMRC Hidden Transmitter Exercise.

Left to Right: Jeffery VA3PEW, Dave VE3TLY, Steve VE3RUU, Tim VE3TXB, Jocelyn VE3JCT, Stephane VA3SPV, and Robert VE3RXH -- Missing from the photo were Hunter VE3HVB and Denis VE3BF

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, **2nd 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)

Morse Code Course

Several OARC and OVMRC Club members are learning Morse Code under the direction of Mike Kelly, VE3FFK. This course is scheduled for six Sunday afternoon sessions that started February 25th conducted at Algonquin College with on-air code copy sessions during weekday evenings on repeaters VE2CRA and VE3TWO.

The Algonquin College sessions have been scheduled for Sundays, Feb 25 and March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 8 all at Noon to 3 PM in Room T117. Any new folks not initially registered should first contact Mike by email at ve3ffk@gmail.com



Mike Kelly, VE3FFK shows the group various keys at the opening session of the Morse Code Course

The on-air Morse schedule is:

- Mondays 19:00 VE3TWO
- Tuesdays 19:30 VE2CRA
- Thursdays 19:00 VE3TWO
- Fridays 19:30 VE2CRA

Canadian Special Event Call Signs to Look for in 2018

<u>Event Call Sign</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Event</u>
VE3FIRE	Oct 7	Oct 13	Fire Prevention Week
XM3X	Oct 1	Oct 31	200 th anniversary of publishing Mary Shelley novel Frankenstein
XL75A	June 6	July 2	75 th anniversary of WW2 Italian Campaign
VE3FOCW	May 5	May 31	80 th anniversary of First Class CW Operator's Club
VE2FOCW	May 5	May 31	80 th anniversary of First Class CW Operator's Club
VD1BOOM	Apr 1	Apr 30	40 Years since Bell Island "Boom"
VE2DION	Mar 29	Apr 2	50 Years of Céline Dion
VC3J	Mar 24	May 27	CQ WPX SSB & CW Contests
VC6R	Mar 24	May 27	CQ WPX SSB & CW Contests
VB3T	Mar 24	May 27	CQ WPX SSB & CW Contests
VB2Z	Mar 24	May 27	CQ WPX SSB et CW Contests
VC2A	Mar 24	May 27	CQ WPX SSB & CW Contests
VX3X	Mar 1	Mar 31	100 th Anniversary of Armistice
XL3A	Feb 17	Mar 18	The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada – 150 th Anniversary

The above Special Event Call Signs are from: [apc-cap.ic.gc.ca/pls/apc_anon/query_spev\\$.startup](http://apc-cap.ic.gc.ca/pls/apc_anon/query_spev$.startup)

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

January 25	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22
VE3RUU	VE3GIQ	VE3KAE	VE3XEM	VE3GIQ
VE3BF	VE3LC	VE3VIG	VE3BF	VE3BOE
VE3LC	VE3YDK	VA2EEK	VA3ZTF	VE3RUU
VA3ZTF	VE2OCQ	VE3LBU	VE3NA	VE3LC
VE3NA	VA3HWA	VE3SGG	VE3LC	VE3RXH
VE3LBU	VE3KTN	VE3KTN	VE3DHE	VA3ORL
VA3QV	VE3OKD	VE3ZZU	VE3LBU	VE3TXB
VA2EEK	VE3LBU	VE3LC	VA3RLA	VA2EEK
VE3RXH	VE3VIG	VE2BJZ	VE2EEK	VE3NA
VA3ORL	VE3ZZU	VE3TXB	VA3ORL	VA3SPV
VE3ZZU	VA3SPV	VE3NA	VE3KTN	VE3DHE
VA3SPV	VA2EEK	VE3KLT	VE3GIQ	VE3ZZU
VE3KAE	VE3BOE	VA3BGO	VE3KAE	VA3RLA
VA3MPS	VA3ZTF	VE3EKN	VE3ZZU	VE3SMF
VA3RLA	VE3RUU	VA3SPV NCS	VA3HWA	VA3AOD
VE3XQQ	VE3KLT	Thank you	VE3SGG	VE3XQQ
VE3VIG	VA3RLA	Stephane!	VE3VIG	VE3KAE
VA3AOD	VE3NA		VA3AOD	VE3SGG
VE3BOE	VE3LEB		VE3BOE	VE3BF
VE3OKD	VE3HAZ		VE3RXH	VE3EKN
VE3KLT	VA3AOD		VE2OCQ	
VA3LJS	VA3JPX		VE3EKN	
VE3EKN	VA3ORL			
	VE3EJJ			
	VE3EKN			

OVMRC POT HOLE NET – Check-ins last month

3760 kHz SSB Sunday mornings at 10 am local

January 28	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
VA3YJC	VA3ZTF	VA3BGO	VA3BGO	VA3BGO
VE3XRA	VE3LC	VA3ZTF	VE3EJJ	VE3BAE
VE3LC	VE3KTN	VE3XRA	VE3LC	VE3XRA
VE3BF	VA3BGO	VE3LC	VA3PCJ	VE3LC
VA3QV	VE3EJJ	VA3PCJ	VA3QV	VE3BF
VA3ZTF	VA3QV	VA3AE	VE3EKN	VA3PCJ
VE3EKN	VE3LBU	VE3EKN	VA3AE	VE3EKN
VE3BOE	VE3BFU	VE3KTN	VE3BF	VE3NA
VE3LBU	VE3US	VE3EJJ	VA3ZTF	VE3EJJ
VA3BGO	VE3MHP		VE3KTN	
VE3KTN	VE3XRA		VE3LBU	
VE2HOG			VE3XRA	
VE3VGI				
VE3EJJ				

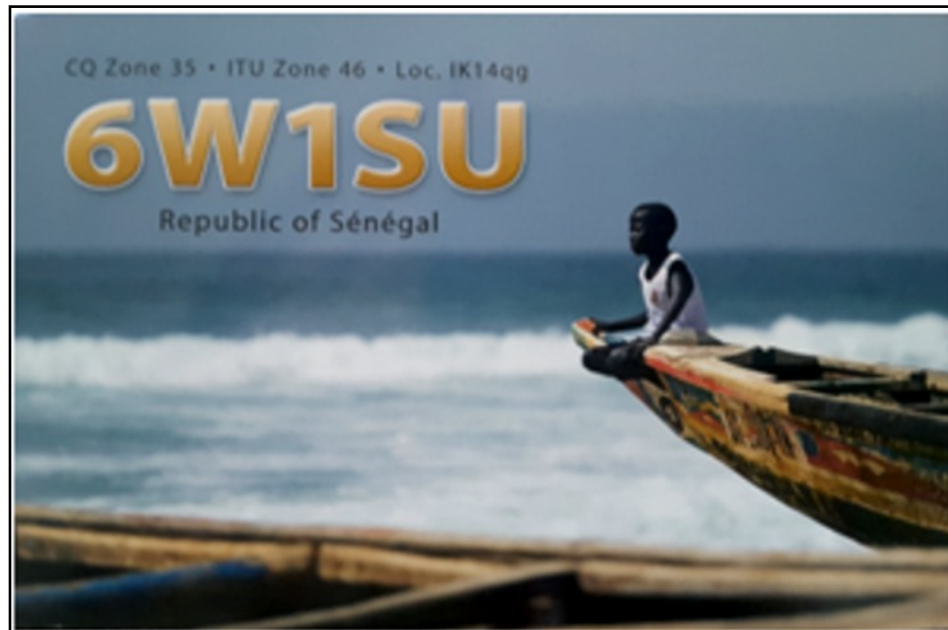
Ron VE3REV takes his Advanced Qualification Test at OVMRC Meeting

We congratulate Ronald Vadeboncoeur, VE3REV, for obtaining his Advanced qualification; Ron made arrangements with me to come early to our February meeting and take his test and stayed to tell his story about operating in “6 Whiskey-Land”. Ron, who is a retired public servant, accompanied his wife on her diplomatic posting to Dakar, Sénégal in 2016. While there, he made obtained permission from the Sénégalaise government to operate his amateur radio station using the call sign “6W1SU”. By now, Ron should be back in Senegal after his short stay back home in Canada. Look for Ron during all the popular DX contests; I’m sure he will be giving preference to Canadian stations during the pileups of folks trying to contact this relatively rare DXCC entity. Look also for Ron’s article in the current RAC TCA magazine about “Adventures in “6 Whiskey-Land”.

- de Norm VE3LC



Ron at his 6W1SU station in Dakar.



Ron's QSL Card

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday, February 21, 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 41 in attendance.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

MOTION: Moved by Norm Rashleigh VE3LC, seconded by Tim Bailey VE3TXB that the minutes of the previous meeting held Wednesday, January 17, 2018 be approved, with corrections submitted by Don Booker VE2EEK.

VOTE: All in favour.

CARRIED.

3. Greetings:

Guests and visiting amateurs:

Ronald Vadeboncoeur VE3REV

Mike Kelly VE3FFK

Arthur Smith VA3BIT

Allan MacPhee VE3ZTU

Stuart Fedak VE3SMF

Robert Baillargeon VE3MPG

4. Norm VE3LC congratulated Ron VE3REV for his success writing his Advanced qualification exam just before the meeting. Ron is returning soon to Sénégal where he and his wife are living on a diplomatic posting. Ron is active in Sénégal using the call sign 6W1SU.

5. Show and Tell

Robert Haddow VE3RXH showed us his completed build of the club project 2M Slim-Jim antenna. Stephane Vermette VE3SPV showed us a tape measure 2M Yagi antenna he built and used for the city-wide transmitter hunt.

Bryan Rawlings VE3QN worked Z60A, a station in Kosovo. The station was activated as part of Kosovo's 10th independence anniversary celebrations on Sunday, February, 18 2018

6. Announcements and events:

Canada-Wide Science Fair

Glenn MacDonell VE3XRA, gave a short talk about the Canada Wide Science Fair held in Regina in May of 2017, and the upcoming event to be held in Ottawa May 16 – 18 2018. The event brings together 500 of Canada's top young scientists showcasing their real-world solutions while competing for nearly \$1,000,000 in awards, prizes and scholarships. The OARC and OVMRC will cooperate in a booth at the event showcasing amateur radio. Glenn is looking for volunteers to work the booth. Contact ve3xra@rac.ca (Glenn) or ve3lc@rac.ca (Norm) if you are available to help out.

7. Upcoming contests:

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

8. Canadian Ski Marathon – post event report, Glenn MacDonell VE3XRA

Glenn MacDonell VE3XRA gave us a slide presentation and update on the involvement of amateur radio at the Canadian Ski Marathon, held February 9 and 10.

Meeting Minutes (Continued)

9. City-wide transmitter hunt – post event report, Norm Rashleigh VE3LC

A beacon transmitter was hidden somewhere in the city of Ottawa. The objective was to determine and report the address or approximate location of the beacon transmitter. Many of the Ottawa area amateurs participated in the hunt, and many were successful in locating the approximate location of the transmitter. The transmitter was hidden at the QTH of Robert Cherry, VA3AOD. The 9 folks that were awarded a certificate for finding the hidden transmitter location were: Robert VE3RXH, Stephane VA3SPV, Dave VE3TLY, Jocelyn VE3JCT, Hunter VE3HVB, Denis VE3BF, Jeffery VA3PEW, Tim VE3TXB and Steve VE3RUU.

10. Net Operations, Ken Evans VE3EKN

Ken reported that Stephane Vermette VE3SPV was the net control operator of the OVMRC 2-metre net Thursday February 15.

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.

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

This month, club president Norm Rashleigh VE3LC concluded his presentation on tools and techniques for learning Morse Code and a short video showing these techniques in operation on the ARRL DX contest CW this past weekend.

12. Prizes and draws:

The winner of this month's 50/50 draw was Brian Rawlings VE3QN.

13. Next meeting:

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

14. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 22:10.

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 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>
_____	_____		