

President's Ramblings

This certainly is a changed world we live in these days but, I am pleased to see the club membership engaging in net activity, participating in online discussions and generally helping members to cope (perhaps unknowingly) by just meeting on the air, chatting sometimes about other hobbies and volunteering to help out with sharing net duties for instance. Even contesting, Field Day in particular, had an outstanding individual participation with their own isolated stations, and this by some who have never operated Field Day alone as well as other seasoned operators. I can hardly wait to see the results in the December QST. I must say, well done by all. This is not to say that other clubs are not thriving as well but it shows the hobby is a contributing factor in the well being of all of us.

Membership is up thanks Nicole, VE3GIQ our treasurer for setting up the Interac e-transfer process), meeting attendance is up (thanks Norm, VE3LC for being our Zoom custodian), net attendance is up and our club net coordinator has not stopped innovating by introducing the new "DEXNET" (digital experimental net) thanks Hugo, VE3KTN. Check out

Hugo's post of dates and mode usage on groups.io and this issue of the Rambler. I could go on but this serves to show how we are moving ahead as a club despite the ongoing difficulties we are undergoing these days.

Our speaker this month is Rob, VE3RXH who will be talking about what's new in Winlink these days. Rob is relatively new to the hobby but has embraced more and different modes in the hobby than even some seasoned members. This is a real testament to the broad scope of the hobby and all it has to offer and keep us busy. Thanks Rob, we are looking forward to your presentation!

There will also be an on-line auction this month for a Morse straight key donated to the club. Norm posted a photo in the November Rambler. The idea of an auction instead of a draw was to ensure the key went to a home where it will see use. Now a key of this vintage and shape would go for \$50.00 ++ ish dollars at a flea market but we are going to open bidding at \$25.00. The funds raised will go to the club account.

Also this month, time permitting, Norm, VE3LC will talk about a program that came to our attention from Marc, VE3BOE. The program graphically displays FT8 activity by showing grid squares on a world map along with other information overlays, *(Continued on page 4)*

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Calendar

Notice of Meeting

Wednesday Nov 18th 2020
via **Zoom**

Check-in Time 6:45 to 7:15 P.M.

Members and invited guests will be sent an invitation email several days before meeting date with login and password.

Agenda:

- Welcome by President Barry VE3NA
- Chairperson Reports
- Auction of Morse Straight Key
- Presentation by Rob Haddow, VE3RXH about WinLink Express and new data modes
- Show and Tell of GridTracker by Norm VE3LC

OVMRC Executive and Officers 2020-2021

President:

Barry Allison, VE3NA
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Vice-President:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
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Treasurer & Membership Records:

Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ
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Corporate Secretary:

Ron Smith, VE3LBU
rjs3.smith@gmail.com

The above four positions are "Directors" and officers in charge of running the Corporate affairs of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.

Standing Committees

Club Projects & Bulk Orders:

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Accredited Examiner:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
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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 and notices to:

Norm at ve3lc@rac.ca

OVMRC Groups.io

Ongoing discussion Group at:
<https://ovmrc.groups.io/g/main/topics>; if you are not a member please subscribe. All radio amateurs are welcome.

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Radio Club, Incorporated**
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OVMRC Affiliations



The Wednesday evening Cross Canada Weekly C4FM is again hosted on VE3TWO

OVMRC members can again check into the Wednesday evening Cross Canada C4FM net on Club repeater VE3TWO 147.300 (+ offset) thanks to a remote Wires X connection provided by Steve VA3MPS. Steve will be engaging his node station onto the repeater Wednesday Evenings at 9:00 PM. All check-ins are welcome using the Yaesu C4FM digital voice mode.

Emergency Measures Radio Group: (EMRG)

Monthly Repeater Tests are conducted by Dave VE3KMY 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 – (123.0 Hz tone), VE3OFS 146.670 MHz – (136.5 Hz tone), VE3OCE 443.8000 MHz + 5 (136.5 Hz tone) and VE3EMU 444.9500 + 5 (136.5 Hz tone). It is advisable that all the EMRG frequencies be programmed into your radio. All check ins are welcome.

See: <http://www.emrg.ca/repeaters.htm>

Informal Amateur Radio Restaurant Gatherings

(All Cancelled until Further Notice)

- **QCWA Chapter 70** breakfast gathering every **Tuesday** morning at 7:30 to 10:00 AM, Summerhays Grill, 1972 Baseline Rd., Nepean
- **Orleans Coffee gathering** every **Friday** morning at 9:00 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 VE3XEM@RAC.CA)

OVMRC Repeater VE3TWO :

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

OVMRC VE3TWO Weekly Net:

- **Thursday Evenings, 8 PM**, Club Net on FM conducted by Hugo, VE3KTN.

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

- **Rubber Boot Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 ++, (100 Hz tone) mornings at 7:30 AM conducted by Roger, VE3NPO
- **Phoenix Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 Mhz +, (100 Hz tone), Tuesday evenings at 8:00 PM conducted by Pete, VE3XEM
- **QCWA Chapter 70 Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 MHz +(100 Hz tone), Monday evenings at 7:30 PM conducted by John, VE3ZOV
- **Capital City FM Net**, VE2CRA 146.940 MHz -, (100 Hz tone), Monday evenings at 8:00 PM.
- **Champlain Mini Net**, VE3STP 147.060 MHz -, (114.8 Hz tone), every evening at 6:45 PM.
- **Upper Frequency Net**, Simplex 144.250 MHz using USB, Tuesday evenings at 9:00 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.
- **DEXNET (Digital Experimental Net)**, Simplex 144.210 MHz, USB, vertical polarization. Check the schedule on groups.io for digital mode used each week.

OVMRC HF Nets

- **Pot Hole SSB Net**, 3760 kHz, every Sunday morning at 10:00 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.

(Continued from page 1)

while using WSJT. It is a free download.

The executive is planning some sort of rag chew for the December Zoom meeting. Maybe something like a video tour of your shack, or other ideas to supplement what would have been our annual Christmas dinner. Oh yes, there will be door prizes handed out throughout the meeting utilizing

Auction of Speed-X Straight Key.

As a special feature of the November Meeting, we will be auctioning off a Morse Straight Key. This key was made by the Wm. M. Nye Company. The E.F. Johnson Company sold its Speed-X division to Wm. Nye (Nye-Viking) in the fall of 1972. In the agreement, the tooling for straight keys, low pass filters, matchboxes, and sounders was included but the tooling to build semi-automatic bugs was not in

Nicole's one arm bandit program and maybe a short presentation topic as well. Stay tuned and we hope many members will be able to attend. No, it will not be like past years where we had a great time eyeball meeting and enjoying a great restaurant catered meal, but we will carry on, make the best of it, and keep spirits high for the holiday season.

Whew! Enough Ramblings for this month! The next club Zoom

the deal according to Bill Nye Jr. (WB7TNN). The Wm. Nye Co. started in 1972 in Bellevue, Washington but later moved to Priest River, Idaho on May 1st, 1995. The Speed-X name is still in use today by Nye-Viking.

The key shown below for Auction is solid, fully adjustable, with a nice "Navy" knob. It is mounted on a nice wooden base and comes complete with a shielded cable and ¼ inch jack ready to use. I used it on the Pot Lid CW net on Sunday

meeting is Wednesday November 18. Check in will start at ~ 6:45 PM with a planned start time as close to 7:15 PM as practical. Anyone not receiving the check in credentials can do so by sending an email to Norm (Zoom custodian) VE3LC@rac.ca.

Stay safe!

73

Barry, VE3NA

morning, November 1st and it worked very well.

The key was donated to the club by a lady in Ottawa that found it in a locker and wanted it to go to a good cause. The proceeds of the sale will go to the OVMRC.

The reserve bid for this very nice key is \$25.

Norm VE3LC@rac.ca



GridTracker it's a free download

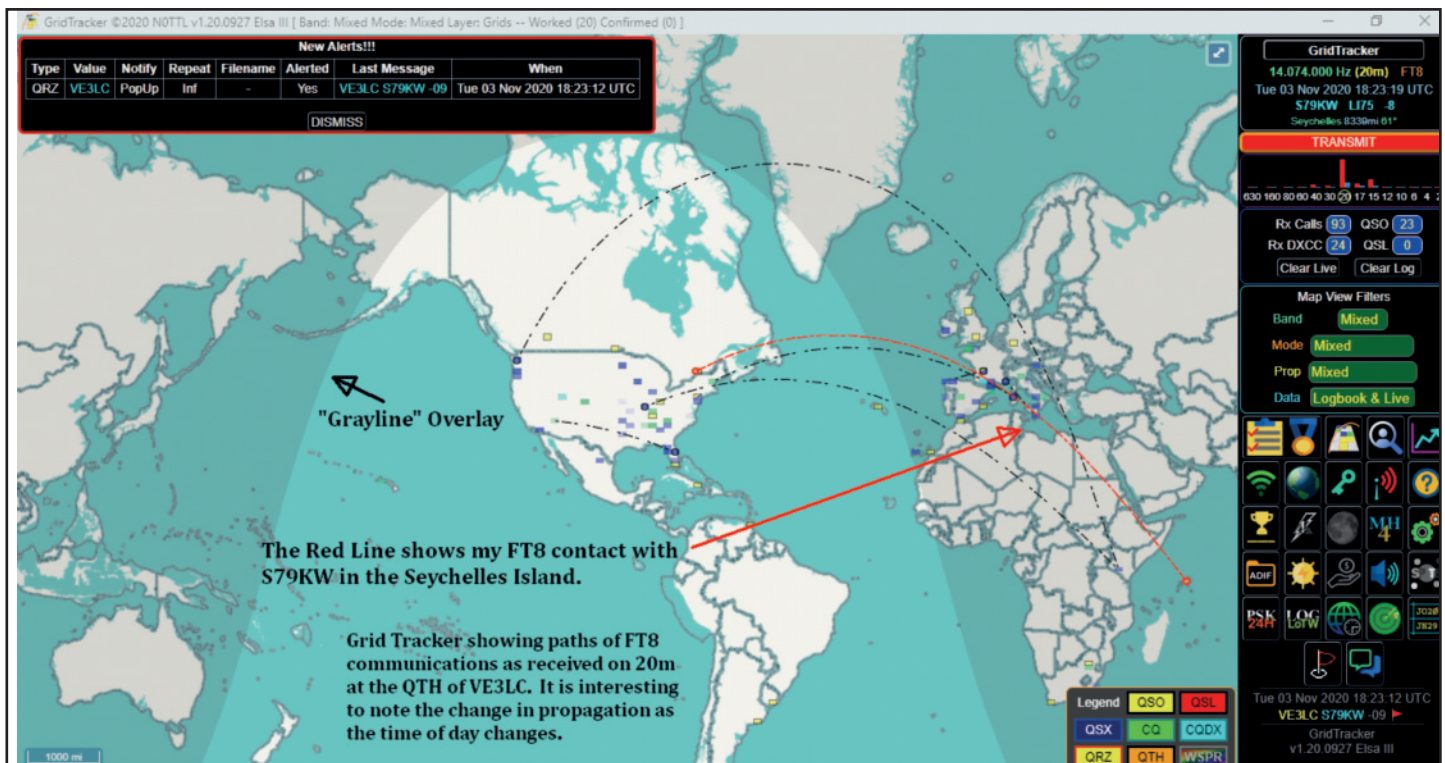
Here's a software application that was brought to my attention by Marc VE3BOE. It's called "Grid Tracker" and works with FT8 and the other 2-way digital modes of operation in WSJT-X and the derivative software called JTDX popular with some radio amateurs. The GridTracker app communicates with WSJT-X software (or JTDX) to show traffic on a world map that is being received in real time. Geo placement of stations on the map display is based on the Maidenhead grid square designator that is part of every WSJT-X data transmission. Besides displaying live traffic decodes, GridTracker is a warehouse of amateur radio information that includes real-time spot reports, weather and lightning strikes, current solar conditions and more.

The GridTracker map display can be zoomed in and out for more or less detail. The software also provides the user to turn on and off border outlines and overlays showing:

- The part of the earth in day light and the "Gray Line" boundary
- The DXCC countries and entities; there are currently 340. A minimum of 100 must be worked and confirmed you're the ARRL DXCC certificate award
- ITU Zones; there are currently 85. These zones are used as part of the exchange in the IARU Championship Contest
- CQ Zones; there are 40. All 40 must be worked and confirmed for the CQ WAZ certificate. These zones are part of the exchange for the CQ Worldwide CW, SSB and

RTTY contests.

- USA State boundaries. All 50 must be worked and confirmed for the ARRL WAS certificate.



GridTracker ©2020 N0TTL v1.20.0927 Elsa III [Band: Mixed Mode: Mixed Layer: CQ Zones -- Worked (8) Confirmed (0) Needed (32)]

CQ Zone
Western Zone of Europe
14

Worked	
15m	(3)
20m	(1)
40m	(1)
60m	(1)
Band	
Mode	FT8 (6)

Clicking on a Zone will show your QSL Status based on Log lookup. For this, Grid Tracker can log into your on line Logger sites such as LOTW.

This view shows the CQ Zones. We here in Ottawa are in CQ Zone 4.

Legend: QSO, QSL, QSX, CQ, CQDX, QRZ, QTH, WSPR

GridTracker v1.20.0927 Elsa III

GridTracker ©2020 N0TTL v1.20.0927 Elsa III [Band: Mixed Mode: Mixed Layer: Grids -- Worked (21) Confirmed (0)]

I clicked on our FN25 Grid Square and it showed who all is active on FT8 at the time.

FN25										
Canada (Ontario / Québec), United States (New York)										
Call	Freq	Sent	Rcvd	Station	Mode	Band	Last Msg	DXCC	Time	LoTW
VE3LC	-	-	-	Self	FT8	20m	FN25FK	Canada (VE)	4s	✓
VE3EUS	1284	-7	-	CQ	FT8	20m	CQ VE3EUS FN25	Canada (VE)	34s	✓
VA3CSG	2250	-22	-	2M1BDX	FT8	20m	2M1BDX VA3CSG FN25	Canada (VE)	Tue 03 Nov 2020 18:50:30 UTC	✓

Legend: QSO, QSL, QSX, CQ, CQDX, QRZ, QTH, WSPR

GridTracker v1.20.0927 Elsa III

Another wonderful feature of GridTracker is the ability to interface with your logging software on your computer or even your ARRL “Log Book of the World” account; this by recording in GridTracker your LOTW login

and password account and it will download and reference your entire log file and use it to show your logged information on a Grid Square basis of stations worked and confirmed. Each grid square appearing on the world map

(shown on page 7) contains at least one station contact that you have worked and logged or is active at the time through the WSJT-X application. Place your mouse cursor on a grid square and a box

will pop up showing all the stations confirmed in the grid square. What a wonderful quick reference graphic tool.

For this example, pointing on a Grid Square in Japan shows all the log entries I have in LOTW in the grid square involved.

Call	Freq	Sent	Rcvd	Station	Mode	Band	QSL	Last Msg	DXCC	Time	LoTW
JR1NHD	-			VE3LC	FT8	20m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Mon 11 Mar 2019 22:18:45 UTC	✓
JL1TZQ	-			VE3LC	FT8	20m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Fri 03 Nov 2017 22:46:45 UTC	✓
JE1FQV	-			VE3LC	SSB	15m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Sun 25 Oct 2015 22:41:48 UTC	✓
JH1GBZ	-			VE3LC	SSB	10m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Sun 30 Mar 2014 21:57:00 UTC	✓
JH1RNI	-			VE3LC	CW	15m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Sat 24 Nov 2012 22:40:00 UTC	✓
JE1CCKA	-			VE3LC	SSB	10m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Sun 30 Oct 2011 23:01:00 UTC	✓
JL1SAM	-			VE3LC	SSB	10m	✓	-	Japan (JA)	Sun 30 Oct 2011 22:46:00 UTC	✓

Because GridTracker is best seen on a computer screen by itself, ideally folks running this application should have a computer with more than one screen.

For more on this software and download, visit the GridTracker web site at: <https://gridtracker.org/> Also refer to the many “YouTube” videos on the topic. Use

GridTracker and you will be amazed!

73 Norm VE3LC@rac.ca

Introducing DEXNET

by Hugo Kneve, VE3KTN

Many readers will know by now that there is a new OVMRC weekly net destined to begin on Sunday, November 8: the Digital Experimental Net “DEXNET”. The purpose of this net is to encourage those who have had a passing interest in operating the new, and some old, digital modes being heard on HF to revisit getting their gear on the air and providing a forum for testing some of the newer digital text-based communication modes.

Of course, we know the popularity of WSJT-X and FT8, but there are several digital modes that allow for a more traditional QSO where one can hold an ad-hoc and leisurely conversation with another operator. Some of these modes are augmented with significant error correction which may permit QSOs that are also QRP and DX under rather poor band conditions. I will make note that W1AW bulletins are being sent using RTTY (very old tech), PSK31 (not that old tech), and MSK16 (quite recent tech). Apart from keeping up to date with ARRL bulletins, the different modes also give an

idea of differences in their effectiveness.

So, all radio amateurs in Ottawa-Outaouais are invited to join in this net on Sunday evenings, 8 P.M. Ottawa time; the details of frequency and schedule are included in this issue of Rambler and will be regular features in the future. A word about this net being on 2 metres; there was some interest in holding this net on 6 metres but there were pros and cons to using either band so a poll was run on groups.io and the result was clearly to do it on 2 metres. I realize this may be problematic for people between Central Ottawa

and the West End as I, as Net Control, am at the extreme east boundary of City of Ottawa and don't have a particularly good antenna situation, so I apologize for this to those who want to participate but don't have the reach. Trying to look on the bright side, maybe those marginal

stations will be able to get through better on nights when we're using error correcting codes.

There have already been a couple of rehearsing runs involving me, Rob, VE3RXH (Orleans), and Terry, VE3DIJ (Nepean) and Barry, VE3NA has reported hearing our QSOs clearly in

Greely, so the expectation is that reasonable coverage can be had between my QTH and much of Centre and East Ottawa.

The next step is Show Time, and I look forward to reading your print!

73,
Hugo, VE3KTN.

OVMRC Digital Experimental Net (DEXNET):

144.210MHz. USB, Vertical Polarization, Sunday evenings at 8p.m. local.

Operating Schedule

Date	CODEC	Configuration	Approx WPM
2020-11-08	RTTY	45.45B/170Hz shift	30
2020-11-15	BPSK-31		50
2020-11-22	QPSK-31		50
2020-11-29	MFSK16		42
2020-12-06	Olivia	4/500	39
2020-12-13	Contestia	4/500	78
2020-12-20	MT63	MT63-500	50
2020-12-27	IFKP	1.0X	37
2021-01-03	DominoEX	DominoEX4	29
2021-01-10	Thor	THOR11	40
2021-01-17	THROB	THROB4	40
2021-01-24	Hellschreiber	FELD HELL	25
2021-01-31	RTTY	45.45B/170Hz shift	30
2021-02-07	BPSK-31		50
2021-02-14	QPSK-31		50
2021-02-21	MFSK16		42
2021-02-28	Olivia	16/1000	39
2021-03-07	Contestia	16/1000	156
2021-03-14	MT63	MT63-500	50
2021-03-21	IFKP	1.0X	37
2021-03-28	DominoEX	DominoEX4	29
2021-04-04	Thor	THOR11	40
2021-04-11	THROB	THROB4	40
2021-04-18	Hellschreiber	FELD HELL	25
2021-04-25	RTTY	45.45B/170Hz shift	30
2021-05-02	BPSK-31		50
2021-05-09	QPSK-31		50
2021-05-16	MFSK16		42
2021-05-23	Olivia	16/1000	39
2021-05-30	Contestia	16/1000	156
2021-06-06	MT63	MT63-500	50
2021-06-13	IFKP	1.0X	37
2021-06-20	DominoEX	DominoEX4	29
2021-06-27	Thor	THOR11	40

OVMRC Net Activity, Check-ins for October, 2020.

Prepared by: Hugo Kneve VE3KTN

OVMRC 2 Metre Net: VE3TWO 147.300+ 100 Hz. tone, Thursdays 8 p.m. local.

October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
VE3KTN - NCS	VE3KTN - NCS	VA3AUM - NCS	VE3KTN - NCS	VE3KTN - NCS
General Check-ins	General Check-ins	General Check-ins	General Check-ins	General Check-ins
VA3ZZW VE3OKD VA3HJR VE3ZZU VE3LAF VE3RUU VA3EO VE3NA VE3LC VE3LBU VE3NPO VE3YY VE3BOE VA3RLA VA3DEF VE3GIQ VE3RXH VA3AUM VA3HBL VA3BIT VE3KJQ VA3WTZ VA3IAH	VE3RUU VE3ZZU VE3NPO VA3BGO VE3NA VE3LBU VE3GIQ VE3LC VE3OKD VA3HBL VE3YY VA3RLA VA3PSI VA2EEK VA3WTZ VA3EO VE3RXH VA3TEC VA3AUM VE3BOE VA3VGR	VE3NA VE3LC VE3LBU VE3GIQ VE2OCQ VA3ZZW VE3WMB VE3BOE VA3PSI VA3IAH VE3ZZU VA2EEK VE3RXH VE3KTN VA3RLA VE3NPO VA3HJR VE3LAF VE3YY VA3EO	VE3RUU VE3TSC VE3LAF VE3NA VE3GIQ VE3LBU VA3BIT VE3YY VA3AUM VA3DEF VA3EO VA3RLA VE3OKD VA3IAH VE3KJQ VE3RXH VA3WTZ VA3BGO VA2EEK	VA3ZZW VE3OKD VE3NPO VA3EO VE3YY VA3JYK VA3WTZ VE3ZZU VE3RUU VE3NA VE3LC VE3LBU VE3KAE VA3RLA VA3AUM VE3BOE VE3RXH VE3KJQ VA3BGO

OVMRC Pothole Net: 3760 kHz. LSB Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. local

October 4 SFI:71 A:6	October 11 SFI:73 A:2	October 18 SFI:74 A:5	October 25 SFI:72 A:17
VE3EJJ - NCS	VE3EJJ - NCS	VE3XRA - NCS	VE3EJJ - NCS
General Check-ins	General Check-ins	General Check-ins	General Check-ins
VE3BAE VE3BOW VE3LC VE3YY VA3PCJ VA3PSI VE3KAE VA3BGO VE3KTN VE3EKN VE3NA VA3BIT VE3XRA	VA3BIT VE3BAE VE3LC VE3NA VA3YYF VE3XRA VE3KTN VA3PSI VE3EKN VE3YY VE3HHS VA3NAH VE3KAE	VE3EJJ VE3LC VE3NA VE3BOW VE3EKN VA3BGO VE3KTN VE3YY VA2EEK	VA3NAH VE3BAE VE3NA VE3LC VE3NPO VE3YY VE3BOW VA3BGO VE3XRA VE3KTN VE3KAE VE3EKN

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday,
October 21, 2020

Location: Via ZOOM on-line meeting

1. Call to order:

President, Barry Allison, VE3NA called the meeting to order at 19:17. There were 61 check ins including guests Dave Green, VE3TLY and new ham and member of the Club, Martin Rogers, VA3DFR.

2. Approval of minutes from September 16, 2020.

MOTION: Moved by Fred Crowe, VE3LAF, and seconded by Patrick Warner VA3LTN, that the minutes of the meeting held Wednesday September 16, 2020 be approved.

VOTE: All in favour.

CARRIED.

3. Greetings:

Barry, VE3NA extended greetings to Members and Guests.

4. Presentation:

Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN

Barry, VE3NA introduced Bryan who shared an in-depth presentation on “**WHO INVENTED TELEVISION?**”. The presentation traced the history and involvement of nine inventors from countries around the world who each claim a stake in the development and introduction of television.

If you would like to review this presentation, it is now available on the club website under the Presentations and Projects menu item on the left side of the home

page. Or, you can view the PDF static version (no embedded media) by clicking on the following link here:

<https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Presentations/WhoInventedTelevision.pdf>

If you would prefer to view the Powerpoint presentation with the media included, follow this link:

<https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Presentations/WhoInventedTelevision.pptx>

Barry, VE3NA thanked Bryan on behalf of the club. When appropriate, a club mug will be presented to Bryan, VE3QN for his outstanding presentation.

5. Projects, Dues and Announcements:

1) Haves and Wants will continue this year and members are encouraged to share with everyone during the monthly meeting.

2) Paid up members are eligible for the year end draw prize. Membership dues are due now and membership is valid for the September to August period. Check with Nicole, VE3GIQ to ensure you are current with your dues. See the September 2020 Rambler, page 4 for instructions on paying using e-transfer.

<https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Archive/Ram2020-09.pdf>

3) Barry, VE3NA advised that further to considering the suggested By-Law change from Richard, VA3RLA, the Executive will consider all proposed changes or updates at the normal time prior to the June Annual General Meeting. Barry thanked Richard for his suggestion on electronic meetings.

4) The Christmas Zoom meeting in December will feature Door Prizes for those attending.

5) There will be a year-end prize of value. Paid up members earn a ticket for each Zoom meeting attended through June 2021.

6) An auction will occur at some point during the membership year, with a prize of a DMR HT radio.

7) The November meeting will also feature an auction of a Morse straight key. The key was shown to members. It is a classic key of considerable value that was donated to the club. There is a reserve bid of \$25.00. The key description was provided by Norm, VE3LC in a recent post on groups.io. Login and view it here: <https://ovmrc.groups.io/g/main/topic/77900538>

6. Agenda and Meeting Content:

Barry, VE3NA outlined the agenda for the meeting which included:

- **DMR Repeater:** Norm shared the details of the east end MMDVM Pi-Star DMR Repeater now installed at his home QTH. The Yaesu repeater call sign is VE3RAM on a TX frequency of 443.700 and RX frequency of 448.700. The antenna is currently at 35 feet using a ground plane antenna with approximately 3 dBd gain. Users should note the repeater is linked to Talk Group 6 (TG6) locally on Time Slot 2 (TS2). Accessing any one of the other Ottawa area repeaters linked on TG 6 will allow contact through VE3RAM for those living inside RAM’s coverage area. You will find a copy of Norm’s repeater update in the October Rambler,

page 4, here:

<https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Archive/Ram2020-10.pdf>

- **VE3KTN Nets Update:**

Hugo, VE3KTN, presented the Nets Operating Summary with slides, and introduced the concept of a DEXNET digital experimental net for members. His full summary can be found on the main page of the OVMRC website here:

<https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/2020/10/ovmrc-nets-update/>

Feedback is requested to Hugo at VE3KTN@rac.ca. There was much discussion on the DEXNET concept to determine interest on what modes and what bands would be preferred.

- **2020-2021 Budget Proposal and Acceptance:**

Nicole, VE3GIQ noted one change to the draft budget (posted in the Rambler), that being the 'Donations' line. Further to questions on the club donation to

the transmitter group, Barry, VE3NA noted the club is committing \$350. Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA made note of the increase coming to the RAC insurance premiums. Barry, VE3NA explained to the membership the two primary lines of insurance that the club carries.

There were no further questions or discussion on the proposed budget for 2020-2021.

Barry, VE3NA asked if there were any objections to the proposed budget. There being none, Patrick, VA3LTN, moved to accept. Norm, VE3LC seconded. The budget motion was voted upon approved and Carried.

The Budget as proposed is available in the September Rambler on page 22, here: <https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Archive/Ram2020-09.pdf>

7. Upcoming contests:

For more detailed information on upcoming contests, see the WA7BNM contest calendar:

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/>

RAC Members can login and go here:

<https://wp.rac.ca/amateur-radio-contest-calendars/>

ARRL Members can log in and go here:

<http://contests.arrl.org/>

8. Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Neil Herber, VE3PUE to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 PM.

9. Next meeting:

The next virtual monthly meeting of the OVMRC will be held Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7:15 PM using ZOOM meeting. Please watch for your email meeting invitation and link to Zoom.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Secretary Ron Smith, VE3LBU.

Congratulations

Special Congratulations to the following New Hams by self-study examined this year:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| • April 8 th | Sana Abou-Shaabab | VA3SXA |
| • May 6 th | Scott Waller | VE3OCB |
| • June 1 st | Daniel Boulet | VA3GLB |
| • Sept 9 th | Jean Pichette | VA2KEI |
| • Oct 7 th | Martin Rogers | VA3DFR |

Also, congratulations to the following OVMRC Class of 2019 having obtained their Advanced Qualification:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|--------|
| • June 17 th | Walter Szyz | VE3SYZ |
| • Nov 3 rd | Jeff Robb | VE3MDC |

Please welcome all new amateurs when you hear them on the air.

Norm VE3LC@rac.ca