Rambler

OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

President's Ramblings

Let it snow! I guess we all knew it was coming, but after it started, I began to wonder if it would ever stop. Then, just days later, another dump of snow landed on our door step. I'm glad I had the sense to tune up my snow blower this past summer. It is always a relief to have it start up on the first pull (if it doesn't, I simply cave in and use the electric start!). But I digress…..

I have posted a reminder on groups.io regarding the upcoming auction of a DMR portable package during the February meeting. This is a $400.00 package and bids will open at $225.00. Someone wanting to join in on the DMR experience may walk out with a deal on the combination package of radio and accessories. The bidding will start right after the presentation by Hugo, VE3KTN on FLDigi.

I have had the loan of a new IC 705 for the past few weeks as many of you know, so I decided to make a project out of the opportunity. This is a low power, portable radio, so I wanted to interface it to my HF through 6 M, 100 watt amplifier. I wanted to show how easily this can be achieved without first running out to the store to buy interface cables

to complete the task. See my article on the subject on page 6 of this Rambler where I discuss how I chose to proceed with the project. This is a carryon of the "home brewing" subject discussed last month. You can do it, as long as you proceed with caution. You will learn something about your equipment during the journey and save some money along the way. Win, win!

The monthly club Zoom meetings are turning out to be very popular with record attendance meeting after meeting. There was concern at the start that we may have difficulty attracting an audience, but that has proven not to be an issue. I'm sure this is because one meeting after another, we have been fortunate to have attracted a variety of excellent speakers and their topics of interest. This monthly meeting will continue the trend as Hugo, VE3KTN will discuss FLdigi. Perhaps this is something more of us should give a try since the club has the perfect environment to experiment with the program, namely the Sunday evening DEXnet, hosted by Hugo. Each week, different modes and capabilities of the package are explored on the air, currently on 2 M and soon, moving to 6 M. This will be a perfect opportunity to exercise the 6 M capability of the expensive radios a lot of us have invested in to further the diverse nature of our hobby. *(Continued on page 4)*

Calendar

Notice of Meeting

Wednesday Feb 17th 2021
via **Zoom**

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

Members and invited guests will be sent an email invitation several days before meeting date with login and password. Others not on our mailing list please contact Norm at: VE3LC@rac.ca for invitation.

Agenda:

- Call to Order at 7:15 by Barry VE3NA;
- Greetings to Guests and New Members;
- Acceptance of January meeting minutes;
- Chairperson Reports;
- Feature presentation by Hugo Kneve VE3KTN on "**Using FLDigi**";
- Feature Auction of **Anytone D878UV DMR Radio**;
- Other business;
- Meeting adjourned; and
- Post Meeting Q&A and Rag Chew for those interested.

OVMRC Executive and Officers 2020-2021

President:
Barry Allison,VE3NA
ve3na@rac.ca

Vice-President:
Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca

Treasurer & Membership Records:
Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ
nlboivin@sympatico.ca

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:
Barry Alison, VE3NA
ve3na@rac.ca

**Radio Course &
Accredited Examiner:**
Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca

Meeting Reception:
John McGowan, VA3JYK
john.mcgowan1314@gmail.com

Nets & Radio Operations:
Hugo Kneve, VE3KTN
ve3ktn@rac.ca
Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ
nlboivin@sympatico.ca

Rambler Newsletter Production:
Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
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Robert Cherry, VA3AOD
cw527@ncf.ca
Bill Hall, VA3WMH
bmhall@rogers.com

Club Web Site & Social Media:
Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ
ve3oij@amsat.org

VE3TWO Repeater Keeper:
Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca

Special Events:
Roger Egan, VA3EGY
va3egy@gmail.com
John McGowan, VA3JYK
john.mcgowan1314@gmail.com

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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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 and notices to:

Norm at ve3lc@rac.ca

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 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 – (123.0 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 7:30 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.

The club still has LMR 195 @ $0.80 / ft and LMR 400 @ $1.35 / ft, crimp on connectors @ $2.00 ea, SMA to BNC adapter kits @ $6.00 ea (5 kits left), and crimper tool kits @ $95.00 ea (2 left).

The agenda for the February meeting is the usual opening boiler plate, January meeting minutes approval (published in this issue of the Rambler), Hugo's FLdigi presentation, the DMR radio package auction, director reports, other business, and closing.

This just in: breaking news,

The Rambler has reached the elevated status of international readership with the recent comments arriving from Mahesh-VU2IIA, from Mumbai-India. He was commenting on the January 2020 Rambler article discussing use of the NanoVNA. Very cool! You never know who is listening.

One last note. I tuned in to the Contest University presentations on propagation, Saturday, January 23. There are a lot of very smart folks out there. Thanks to Pat VE3KJQ for alerting us to the presentation. OK, I admit I attended in part, no, a lot in part, because there was a draw at the end for an IC 705. – I didn't win…..

I had better stop rambling on here, at risk of causing that dozing off sensation in the readership. I will instead invite all to join in on the club February Zoom meeting Wednesday February 17. 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, stay home, stay on the air!
73
Barry, VE3NA

Notice of Fox Hunt Event for February 13th.

The ARDF Ottawa group is planning a tentative Fox Hunt event for Saturday February 13[th.] This will be a drive event with an optional on-foot component. All radio amateurs in the area are invited to participate. Because of the Covid situation and of course potential winter weather conditions, it may or may not take place or be modified on the way it is conducted.

For general information about ARDF Ottawa goto: https://ardfottawa.ca/

For registration and details and up-to-date information about the February 13th event goto:

https://ardfottawa.ca/index.php/Main/2021-02-13AmateurRadioTransmitterFindingEvent-Ottawa

Direct questions to Roger: VA3EGY@gmail.com

Feature Event at the February OVMRC Meeting

The Auction of an Anytone D878UV "Plus" DMR portable radio package

The Club has purchased at a discounted price an Anytone D878UV portable radio package from:DXCanada. DXCanada is a new Toronto based company selling a variety of imported amateur radio equipment.

This Anytone D878UV "Plus" radio and accessories package will be auctioned off at the February 17th on-line meeting of the OVMRC. Bidding is open to OVMRC members only. The Canadian retail value of this package including a microphone, adapters, shipping and tax is ~ $400. The reserve starting bid for the radio will be $225. The D878UV package for auction includes everything shown here:

This radio is a dual band (2m/70cm) DMR/Analogue-FM portable radio. It is capable of up to 7 watts RF power. This "Plus" model includes a built-in GPS receiver that is capable of sending your position beacon using conventional FM APRS on 144.39 MHz or using DMR digital signaling. The model also includes Bluetooth and a wireless PTT button for hands free operation while driving. The Anytone D878UV is probably the most popularly portable radio used by radio amateurs on the DMR networks worldwide. The Club will provide assistance to the lucky winner of the bid for configuring this radio for access to local DMR repeaters and the network.

DXCanada will be offering Club members $15 off the price of an order $200 or more. Upon check-out, apply the discount code "OVMRC".

Adding "Boots" to the ICOM "IC 705" Transceiver

By: Barry Allison, VE3NA

I had the opportunity to borrow a brand new IC705 QRP back-pack radio for a few weeks and of course jumped at the chance (thanks Marc, VE3BOE). This is a feature rich radio but I'll not touch on that here as the focus of this article is to interface the radio to an external power amplifier and there are countless other reviews of the radio published on-line and in publications such as the February issue of QST. Suffice it to say, to take advantage of all of the capabilities of this radio you will need to read the basic operating manual that comes with the radio and download the advanced operation manual from ICOM.

There is an interesting note for those wanting to get on the air right away, radio out of the box, you can do that! I did! However, if you want to take advantage of all the IC705 has to offer, you have some reading ahead of you which will be very rewarding as I found out digging deeper into the feature rich capabilities of the radio.

The purpose of this article is to show you how I worked through the steps involved to increase the power output of the radio to a typical home base station 100 watt set up to be on an equal basis with most at home base operations on HF and 6 M.

Disclaimer: this is not necessarily all that is required for every set up but rather how the procedure goes for this unique combination of equipment.

I started with the IC 705 and my Elecraft KXPA 100 external amplifier and the manuals for both pieces of equipment. There was a considerable amount of time spent reading the manuals to ensure keying capabilities of the two units were compatible. After researching the capabilities of both pieces of gear, it was no real surprise they were compatible, but since the IC705 was on loan, I didn't want to take any chances.

The next step was to make up a Tx keying cable to connect the IC 705 to the KXPA 100. The KXPA manual and IC705 manual specified the appropriate connectors and pin outs, so off we go and make a keying cable. The IC 705 requires a stereo 3.5 mm male connector and the KXPA 100 requires a phono plug. The IC 705 uses the tip of the 3.5 mm plug for keying and sleeve for ground. The ring terminal is reserved for an ALC line for some amplifiers Do not use a mono 3.5 mm plug for this connection as it would cause a short circuit on the ALC output line!

See Photo 1, KXPA rear connections, and Photo 2, IC 705 "send" connection location.

Photo 1

Photo 2
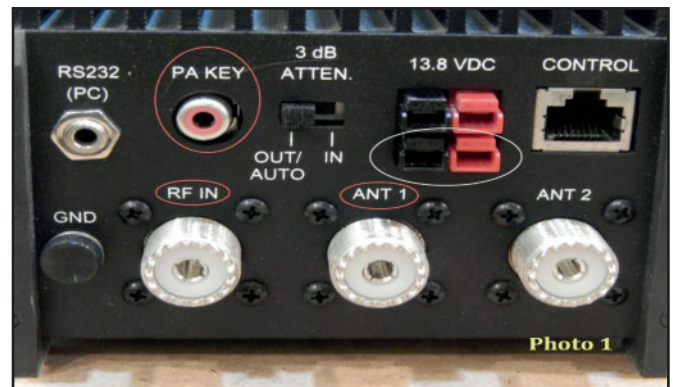
The KXPA 100 has an antenna tuner built into the amplifier that is very capable over a fairly large range and has an "AUTO" mode of operation, if you can put a carrier through at low power. They (Elecraft) thought this through and if you transmit a carrier to the amp it first checks SWR and if it needs adjusting, it uses the drive power to adjust the auto tuner.

ICOM recommends to put the radio into RTTY mode to make this happen because you can simply hit the PTT button on the MIC to exercise the operation of the tune procedure.

The next step was to connect everything together; keying line, RF in and out, power supply, and antenna. That was simple enough, so it is time to

power everything up and check it out. You are ready to go with 100 watts of RF power at your finger tip!

The KXPA 100 has a front panel (see Photo 3) so you can see what is going on at all times. The only thing you have to manage is power input to the amplifier from the IC 705 to avoid over driving the amplifier. Actually, it does check that for you if you forget, and if you overdrive the amplifier, it automatically kicks in a 3 dB attenuator. That attenuator does have its limits, so off to the IC 705 manual to find out how to turn the power output down to 2 watts. After some reading, it turns out setting the IC 705 power output is easily done, but once again, I chose the safe route for this to protect the radio and my amplifier.

Photo 3

The station is now in operation with the amplifier (see Photo 4).

Photo 4

The final step was to give 2 M some help. Photo 5 shows the addition of a 2 M, 100 watt linear amp connected with a different keying cable for compatibility. Note that some 2 M amplifiers have RF input sensing and do not require a keying line.

Photo 5

It seems no matter how hard you try, when experimenting with a proof of concept set up, you end up with a mess of cabling behind the radio. The next step is to make up appropriate exact length cables for the entire set up in order to tidy up the installation and make things easier to troubleshoot in the future should something malfunction. See Photo 6.
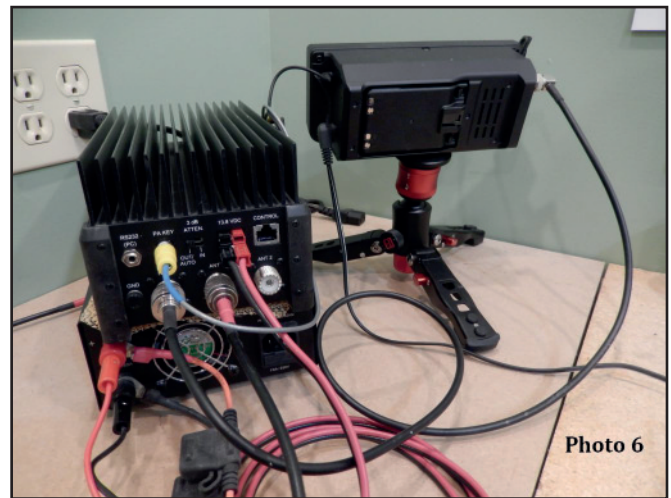

Photo 6

The only problem that is left to address is changing amps involves changing multiple cables. Care doing this is of the utmost importance to avoid making mistakes. I'm thinking part 2 of this project will involve Arduino control of everything to automate the process and avoid making any mistakes changing bands and cables.

Barry, VE3NA

Last Month "Droid-Star", This Month "Peanut"

In the last month's issue of the Rambler, I wrote an article about Droid-Star. This is an Android app you can put on your smart-phone or tablet that will allow you to select and connect to various host computers such as the Braidmeister Canada master server for DMR users, or various other host computer servers known as "Reflectors" . Droid-Star is multi-mode and does DMR, Yaesu Fusion C4FM, NXDN and other modes well but doesn't work well for D-Star because of its different vocoding technology from the rest.

Well there is another Android smart phone app you can try that provides similar connectivity; it's called "Peanut" and was created by David PA7LIM. Peanut is also available as an application you can run on your Windows 10 computer; it can be down loaded from: http://www.pa7lim.nl/peanut/

Peanut is available as an Android app from the "Play Store" as a free experimental download. It is not available on Apple IOS devices. Peanut can only be used by radio amateurs who must send a photo of your certificate by email for authentication. In my case, the Peanut administrator returned my "code" within 12 hours. The Peanut application works differently than Droid-Star in several ways:

- Whereas using the Droid-Star application, the user selects the digital voice mode of operation (DMR, YSF, NXDN or P25) and then depending on the mode selected, the user further selects a compatible host server or reflector directly from a worldwide listing of several hundred choices, the Peanut application connects solely to one of two Peanut master server computers, one for Japan and the other for the rest of the world. Compared to Droid-Star, the choice of connections to host reflectors is a limited list available and all communication from user app to host reflector is routed through the selected Peanut server. The digital mode of operation is dependent on which reflector is chosen by the user.

- Whereas the Droid-Star does not do connection to the D-Star well because a D-Star open-source software vocoder is not yet perfected, the Peanut application does work well on D-Star because the D-Star vocoding (transcoding) is done on the

"Peanut" server using the proper D-Star DVSI AMBE3000 chip set. This is the same way some XLX Reflector servers are configured to handle multi-mode connectivity including D-Star transcoding. This permits cross connection to some of the D-Star REF and XRF type reflectors.

- Because the Peanut user can connect through the Peanut server to host servers and reflectors that do D-Star and DMR, the user must have a D-Star registration and DMR ID.

- As opposed to Droid-Star, the "Peanut" application only connects directly with one or the other of its 2 master servers which in-turn extend the connection to other host Reflectors selected by the user of the Peanut app. Besides the Peanut servers providing extended connectivity to a worldwide infrastructure of existing Reflectors, they also provide users of the Peanut app a large number of communications "rooms" hosted directly on the Peanut server with names based on nationality and language spoken. These "rooms" use high quality voice digitization not limited by the low data rate vocoding used by over-the-air digital 2-way radios. These "rooms" of segregated conversation on the Peanut system are limited to computer to computer conversation over the internet and are not extended over the air waves.
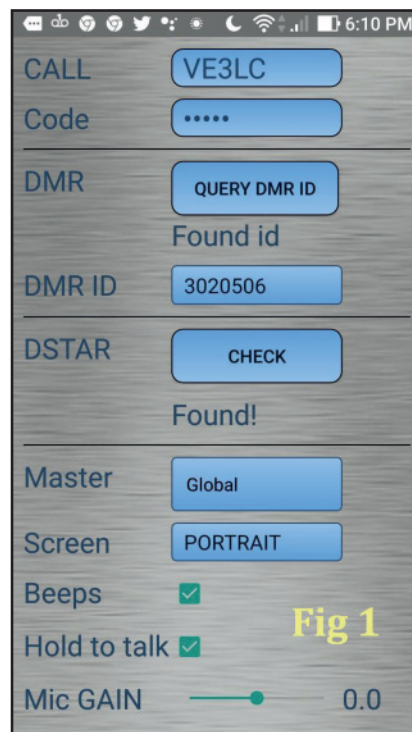

Fig 1: shows the Android the Peanut App Setup Page. After entering your call sign, the "Query DMR ID" button automatically fills in your DMR ID (if you have one) and the DStar check confirms your DStar USTrust registration if you are already registered.
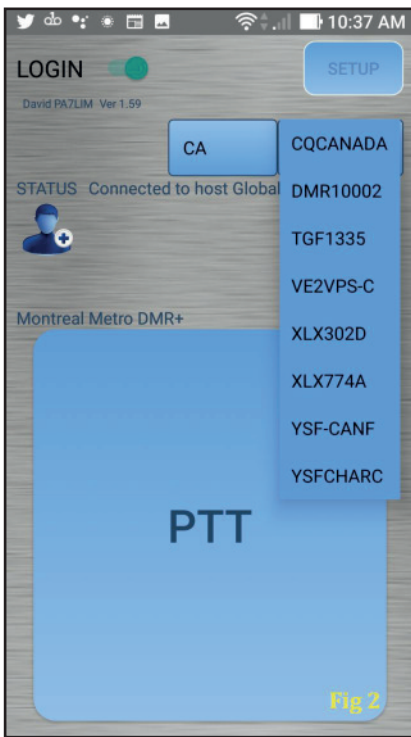
Fig 2: shows the Peanut Operating Page. The PTT button turns red when touched to transmit. The "CA" for Canada is from a list of many countries. The drop-down "Reflector" list is small to chose from for Canada. The "XLX302D" reflector shown on the list connects you to the Brandmeister TG 3023 for Ontario.
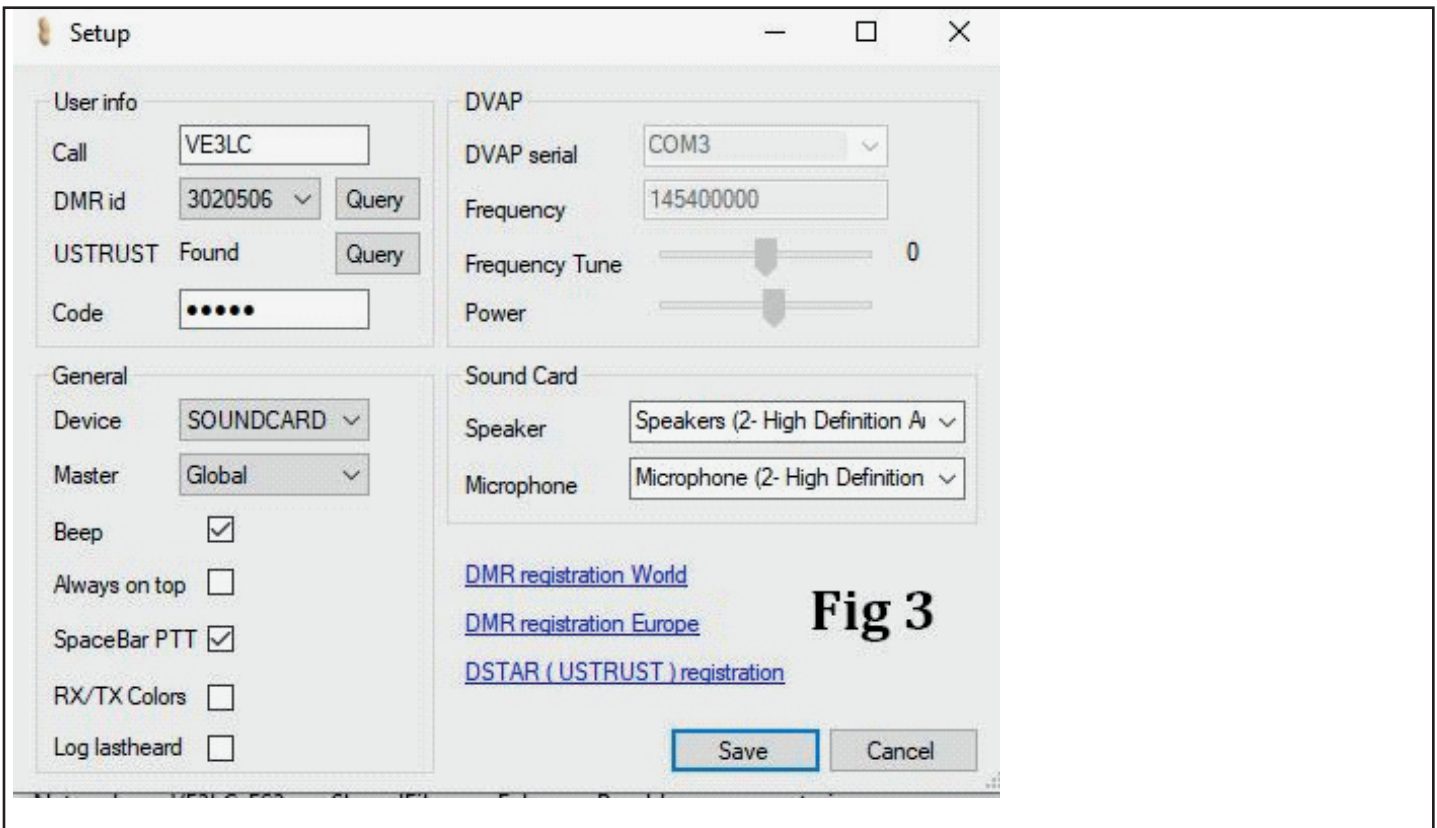

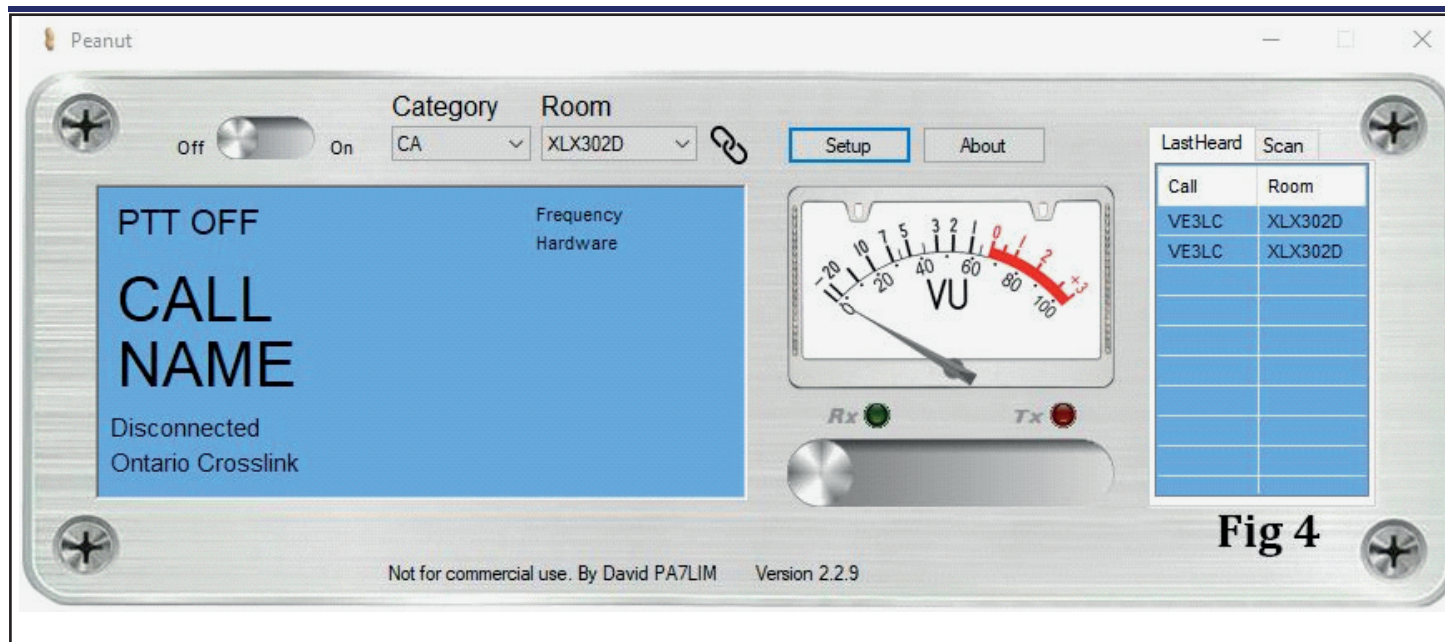*Fig 3:* shows the setup window for the Windows 10 version of Peanut

Fig 3: shows the setup window for the Windows 10 version of Peanut

Norm, VE3LC@rac.ca

The Rambler has an International Following

On January 24th I received this email:

> Dear Sir,
>
> I am Mahesh-VU2IIA, from Mumbai-India. I am trying to make a trap dipole for a 20/40m band. I want to use nanovna to measure resonance of the trap. I saw your article in Rambler-jan-2020, "NanoVNA used as a Dip Meter to show resonant frequency of an LC circuit". I am a bit confused about coupling coil to the VNA CH0 port, can you please give me details of your coupling coil and did you use any capacitor with it? any close up photo would be helpful.
>
> I am trying to make a trap for a 20m band, I need to measure and match both the traps to the same frequency.
>
> Thank you for your time,
>
> Regards Mahesh V.
>
> VU2IIA

The fellow from India was referring to the article I wrote about "Grid Drip Meters" in the January issue of the Rambler that was inspired by Claude, VA2ZCB bringing an old Millen GDO he had purchased at a flea market to a club meeting and asking me how it could be used. In that article, I also told how the NanoVNA could be used as a "Dip Meter" to check the resonant frequency of an "LC" circuit and showed this picture:

I replied to the fellow saying:

Hello Mahesh.. Very nice to meet you..

We didn't know our Rambler Newsletter was so well read around the world!

Yes, you should be able to use your NavoVNA with a coil attached to the CH0 port as dip meter; give it a try. The coil was wound using #22 insulted wire, 17 turns with about 1 cm diameter.   It was an experiment; the dimensions are not too critical. There is no capacitor across it. Any self resonance of the pick-up coil with its natural capacitance should be well above the frequency of resonance of the antenna traps you are trying to determine. Here is a close-up picture of the coil assembly used with the NanoVNA in our article.

I hope this helps.

Good luck with the making of your trap dipole antenna.

73 Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Minutes of January Meeting

Date / Time: Wednesday, January 20, 202119:15

Location: Via ZOOM on line meeting

1. Call to order:
President Barry Allison, VE3NA called the meeting to order at 19:19. There were 63 check ins including visitors/new hams Stephen Pally, VA3VH and Kevin Hamilton, VA3YHM and Patrick Mikolajczak, VE3PMM.

2. Approval of minutes from December 16, 2020.
MOTION TO ACCEPT: By Bill Henderson, VA3HWA and seconded by Douglas King, VE3YDK that the minutes of the meeting held Wednesday December 16, 2020 be accepted.

There were no objections.

3. Greetings:
Barry Allison, VE3NA began by wishing Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC a very Happy Birthday… spontaneous singing broke out to everyone's delight. Greetings were also extended to Members and guests.

4. Projects, Dues and Announcements:
1) **Haves and Wants** – Dave Scobie, VE3BOW is looking for a roller inductor antenna tuner, or even an SGC unit. If you have either or even parts, please email Dave at VE3BOW@rac.ca. On the 'Haves' side Allan Fricker, VE3KAE has an Alinco DXSR8T HF transceiver for sale. Asking $500.00. Contact Allan at VE3KAE@rac.ca

2) Paid up members are eligible for the year end draw prize. Membership dues outstanding as of now are considered delinquent and those members are not eligible for the draw. See the September 2020 Rambler, page 4 for instructions on paying using e-transfer.

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

5. Agenda, Meeting Content and Directors' Reports
Barry Allison, VE3NA outlined the agenda for the meeting which included:

• **Guest Presentation**: Satellite Operations with Chris Rochefort, VE2MW. Barry, VE3NA introduced Chris who shared an excellent presentation on FM and Linear Satellite Operations. The detailed presentation is available as a PDF file on groups.io here: https://ovmrc.groups.io/g/main/topic/presentation_on_satellite/8000 6783?p=,,,20,0,0,0::recentpostdate%2Fsticky,,,20,2,0,80006783

A listing of satellite resources is also posted on groups.io here:

main@ovmrc.groups.io | Satellite resources

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

• Next Month's Guest Speaker: Mike Kennedy, VA3TEC will present a review of what directional finding or 'finding your bearings' is all about. He will also demo his Kerberos SDR Directional Finding (KSDR) equipment.

(Ed Note: Due to a change of plans, Mike's presentation is delayed until a future date.)

• **BIG NEWS**: An auction for an AnytoneAT-D878UV Plus Analog FM + DMR Digital portable radio and accessory package is planned for February. The Canadian vendor is DX Canada. This package includes several accessories valued at $400.00. Bidding will open at $225.00. You can see the detailed description and a photo of the auction package on groups.io here: main@ovmrc.groups.io | OVMRC February Auction

DX Canada offers OVMRC Members a special coupon offer on purchases over $200. Use Coupon Code 'OVMRC" to get $15.00 off your purchase. Check out their website at: https://DXCanada.ca

• Year-end attendance prize: Paid up members earn a ticket for each Zoom meeting attended through June 2021.

• **Finance and Membership Report**: Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ reported there are now 104 members as of the meeting. Under the Financial Report, the Club has $9666.89 in the bank account, $37.00 in cash and $17,500 in GIC's maturing in February, 2021 for a total of $27,2023.89 in financial assets.

• **Name Tags**: Nicole, VE3GIQ has 7 name tags on hand, ready to be mailed to the members who ordered them previously. Another few tags have yet to be manufactured. These additional tags will likely run about $16.00 as the old pricing of $12.00 is no longer in effect. Going forward, name tags will be going up in

price, and members will be advised. John McGowan, VE3JYK is assisting Nicole in sourcing a new supplier for the club.

• **VE3KTN Nets Update**: Hugo Kneve, VE3KTN, shared the most recent Nets Summary which is available here: main@ovmrc.groups.io | Jan 2021 Mtg - Nets report. This Powerpoint report includes updated procedures for checking into the DEXNET digital experimental net and a note that the starting time is moving to 7:30 PM on Sundays effective February 7th. DEXNET may be moving to 6m from 2m subject to a final review this summer.

The full schedule of regional nets is available here:

https://www.ovmrc.on.ca/club-info/amateur-radio-info/amateur-nets-ottawa-area/

• **Fox Hunting/Transmitter Hunting Update**: Roger Egan, VA3EGY began by summarizing the two events held in December with the Scouts. Activity information is available on the ARDFOttawa.ca website. A tentative activity is planned for

Saturday, February 13th from 10 AM to 2 PM, subject to Covid restrictions. Licensed hams belonging to a club are invited to take part. The ARDF Ottawa activity will combine two events…mobile beacon finding and a walking fox hunt. Going forward, an event a month is contemplated between February and September, 2021. You can view Roger's report on groups.io here: https://ovmrc.groups.io/g/foxhunt/topic/amateur_radio_transmitter/80136147?p=,,,20,0,0,0::recentpostdate%2Fsticky,,,20,2,0,80136147

Contact Roger at VA3EGY@rogers.ca

• **Examiner's Report**: Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC acknowledged two hams who have recently written and passed their Advanced tests. Congratulations to Alan Hotte, VA3IAH and Marc Belanger, VE3BOE.

• **Miscellaneous**: Dave Scobie, VE3BOW advised members that some area repeaters are under tighter controls and will be off air at random periods due to interference and rogue operator

behaviour. This repeater condition is likely to continue and is being monitored.

6. *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://www.rac.ca/category/prog/contesting/

ARRL Members can log in and go here:

http://contests.arrl.org/

7. *Adjournment:*

The meeting adjourned at 22:02.

8. *Next meeting:*

The next virtual monthly meeting of the OVMRC will be held Wednesday, February 17, 2021 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.

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

Prepared by: Hugo Kneve VE3KTN

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

January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
VE3KTN - NCS	VE3KTN - NCS	VA3AUM - NCS	VE3KTN - NCS
New & Visitors	**New & Visitors**	**New & Visitors**	**New & Visitors**
	Sylvain – VE2WES	Matt - VA3KXA	
Check-ins	**Check-ins**	**Check-ins**	**Check-ins**
VE3ZZU	VE3ZZU	VE3ZZU	VE3ZZU
VE2MPP	VE3RUU	VE3RUU	VE3RUU
VE3RUU	VE3NA	VE3VHU	VE3NPO
VE3RKB	VE3LC	VE3SYZ	VE3OKD
VE3NA	VE3GIQ	VA3LUI	VE3UU
VE3GIQ	VE3LBU	VE3NA	VE3FNG
VE3LC	VE3KAE	VE3LC	VE3NA
VE3LBU	VE3RXH	VE3LBU	VA3EGY
VA3MPS	VA2EEK	VE3KAE	VE3LC
VA3DEF	VA3AUM	VA3EO	VE3LBU
VA3EO	VA3LUI	VE3BOE	VE3VIG
VE3OKD	VA3EO	VE3KTN	VE3YY
VA3BGO	VE3KJQ	VE3KJQ	VA3CSG
VE3VIG	VE3VIG	VE3NPO	VA3EO
VA2EEK	VE3YY	VE3RKB	VA3PSI
VE3KJQ	VA3IAH	VE2OCQ	VA3LUI
	VA3BGO	VA2EEK	VE3LEB
	VE3OKD	VE3LAF	VE3KAE
	VE3RKB		VE3KJQ
			VE3BOE
			VE3RXH

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

January 3 SFI:82 A:2	January 10 SFI:74 A:3	January 17 SFI:74 A:4	January 24 SFI:78 A:4	January 31 SFI:76 A:2
VE3XRA - NCS	VE3EJJ - NCS	VE3EJJ - NCS	VE3XRA - NCS	VE3EJJ - NCS
New & Visitors	**New & Visitors**	**New & Visitors**	**New & Visitors**	**New & Visitors**
Jean – VE2WAB John – KC2MBB Peter – VA3YOW		André - VA3AK		
Check-ins	**Check-ins**	**Check-ins**	**Check-ins**	**Check-ins**
VE3BAE VA3QV VE3EJJ VE3LC VE3NA VE3YY VE3QN VE3KTN VA2EEK VA3BGO VE3EKN VA3EO VE3WMB	VE3BAE VE3MKX VE3KTN VE3LC VE3YY VA3EO VA2EEK VE3EKN VE3QN VE3KAE VA3PSI VE3XRA VA3PCJ VE3NA	VA3BGO VE3BAE VE3QN VE3LC VA3PSI VE3NA VE3KAE VA3EO VA3QV VE3KTN VA2EEK VA3PCJ VA3IAH VE3NPO	VE3MKX VE3EJJ VE3LC VE3QN VE3NA VE3YY VE3KAE VA2EEK VE3EKN VA3PSI VA3EO VE3KTN	VA3BGO VE3BAE VE3LC VA3PSI VE3QN VE3KAE VE3YY VA3EO VE3XRA VA2EEK VE3NA VE3EKN VE3KTN VA3NAH VE3NPO VE3HOA VA3IAH

OVMRC Digital Experimental Net: 144.210 MHz. USB, V-pol Sundays <u>7:30 p.m.</u> local.

Net meets on PSK31 before proceeding to the mode-of-the-day.

Date	Mode	Config
2021-02-07	RTTY	45.45B/170Hz shift
2021-02-14	BPSK-63	
2021-02-21	QPSK-63	
2021-02-28	MFSK31	
2021-03-07	FSQ	FSQ4.5
2021-03-14	Olivia	16-1000
2021-03-21	Contestia	16-1000
2021-03-28	MT63	MT63-1000
2021-04-04	IFKP	1.0X
2021-04-11	DominoEX	DominoEX8
2021-04-18	Thor	THOR16
2021-04-25	Throb	THROBX4
2021-05-02	Hellschreiber	FELD HELL
2021-05-09	RTTY	45.45B/170Hz shift
2021-05-16	BPSK-31	
2021-05-23	QPSK-31	
2021-05-30	MFSK16	
2021-06-06	FSQ	FSQ4.5
2021-06-13	Olivia	8-1000
2021-06-20	Contestia	8-1000
2021-06-27	MT63	MT63-500