

RAMBLER

MARCH 2024



VOL. 66 ISSUE 7

NEWSLETTER OF THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED (OVMRC.CA)

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2 MEETING AGENDA
- 3 OVMRC EXECUTIVE
- 4 NETS AND EVENTS
- 5 PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS
- 7 FEBRUARY MINUTES
- 14 VA3SPV (SK)
- 15 VE3JW RETURNS
- 16 OVMRC NET ACTIVITY
- 18 LINKS & EDITOR'S NOTE

CHECK-IN TIME 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@MYRAC.CA FOR INVITATION.

MEETING:

WEDNESDAY MARCH 20
IBEW LOCAL 586, 1178 RAINBOW ST.,
GLOUCESTER, 7:00PM IN PERSON
AND 7:15 PM VIA ZOOM

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS OF THE OVMRC SINCE JANUARY 1, 2024

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------|
| • CHRIS PATTEN** | VA3CJO |
| • SERGIO SLOBORDIAN | VE3KSM |
| • ROBERT RADBURN** | VE3YRK |
| • GEORGE-ANDRÉ CHANDRON | VE2VAB |
| • MICHAEL CARIGNAN** | VA3CMG |
| • DON MCCALLAN | VE3GFD |
| • CHARLES GUERIN** | VA3CGF |

** NEW AMATEUR THIS YEAR

OVMRC AFFILIATIONS





MARCH 20, 2024 - MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Greetings, welcoming guests and new members of the Club**
- 2. Acceptance of February meeting minutes.**
- 3. Door prizes**
- 4. Chair reports**
- 5. Feature presentation: Craig Delmage VE3OP on ARRL Headquarters complex and W1AW Station. Followed by a presentation on the progress of RAC HQ renovation and VE3RHQ Station.**
- 6. Report on the on-the-air event celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the VE3JW exhibit station.**
- 7. Amateur Radio Booth at the Canada Wide Science Fair - May 25 to June 1 - Carleton University**
- 8. Other business that may arise.**
- 9. Adjournment of formal meeting followed by ragchew**

**As usual, coffee and donuts will be available at the meeting.
807s extra.**



OVMRC EXECUTIVE AND OFFICERS 2023-2024

DIRECTORS

President:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@myrac.ca

Vice-President:

Rob Haddow, VE3RXH
vicepresident@ovmrc.ca

Treasurer &

Membership Records:

Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ
ve3giq@myrac.ca

Corporate Secretary:

Alan Fricker, VE3KAE
alanfricker@yahoo.ca

STANDING

COMMITTEES

Club Projects & Bulk

Orders: Barry Alison,
VE3NA ve3na@myrac.ca

Radio Course &

Accredited Examiner:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@myrac.ca

Meeting Reception: John

McGowan, VA3JYK
john.mcgowan1314@
gmail.com

Nets & Radio

Operations: Hugo Kneve,
VE3KTN
ve3ktn@myrac.ca

Rambler Newsletter

Editor and Production:

Alan Hotte, VA3IAH
editor@ovmrc.ca

OVMRC.CA & Social

Media: Adam Bird,
VA3IRD web@ovmrc.ca

OVMRC Repeater

Keeper: Norm Rashleigh,
VE3LC ve3lc@myrac.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>; All radio
amateur members and
non-members are
welcome

Ottawa Valley Mobile

Radio Club Inc.,

**PO Box 41145 Ottawa, ON
K1G 5K9**

OVMRC Life Members:

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM
Doug Carswell, VE3ATY
Bill Hall, VA3WMH
Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ
Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO
Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN
Maurice-André Vigneault,
VE3VIG

OVMRC Repeaters:

- **VE3RAM** Limited coverage to Orleans and East Ottawa 443.700 MHz (+) DMR CC1 & D-Star Network connected to Brandmeister
- **VE3TWO** Limited coverage to East and South Ottawa 147.300 MHz. +, PL 100.0 Hz. Analogue FM and C4FM

Special Event & Field

Day Call Sign VE3JW



LOCAL WEEKLY NETS (ALL CHECK-INS WELCOME)

- **Rubber Boot Net**, VE3OCE 146.880 MHz (-)136.5 Hz tone weekday mornings at 7:30 AM conducted by Roger, VE3NPO
- **Pot Hole SSB Net**, 3760 kHz, every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM conducted by Ernie, VE3EJJ, or Glenn, VE3XRA.
- **Pot Lid Net**, Sunday night, 7:30 PM, 50.090 MHz., horizontal polarization. Join controllers Hugo (VE3KTN), Norm (VE3LC), Mike VE3FFK and Ante VA2BBW for accomplished and budding CW operators alike.
- **QCWA Chapter 70 Net**, VE3OCE 146.880 MHz (-) 136.5 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 STP Net**, VE3STP 147.060 MHz -, (114.8 Hz tone), held Monday through Saturday at 7:00 PM.
- **Phoenix Net**, VE3OCE 146.880 MHz (-) 136.5 Hz tone, Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM conducted by Pete, VE3XEM
- **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.
- **Almonte ARC's D-Star Net** Tuesday evenings at 8:40 p.m. carried on XLX197 and everything connected to it. Dale VE3XZT presides.
- **OVMRC 2-Metre Net**, Thursday Evenings, 8:00 PM, Club Net on FM will be held through VE3OCE 146.880 MHz (-)136.5 Hz tone conducted by Hugo, VE3KTN.
- **Weekend Allstar Nets**, on an ad hoc basis the EMV_E repeater will be linked temporarily to the Allstar Canada Hub for weekend nets.
 - <https://thecanadahub.ca/>
 - http://www.emrg.ca/repeater_s.htm

INFORMAL AMATEUR RADIO RESTAURANT GATHERINGS

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| • QCWA Chapter 70 Breakfast gathering every Tuesday morning at 7:30 to 10:00 AM, Summerhays Grill, 1972 Baseline Rd., Nepean - Restarted | • Orleans Coffee gathering every Friday morning at 9:00 AM, McDonald's 1890 Innes Rd., Ottawa, K1B 3K5 | • QRP Group Dinner meeting, (on hold) , Second Wednesday every month, 5:00 PM, Newport Restaurant, 322 Churchill Ave N., Ottawa | • Phoenix Net monthly Breakfast gathering (on hold) , usually the second Saturday every month at 9:00 AM, Check with Pete ve3xem@myrac.ca |
|--|---|--|---|



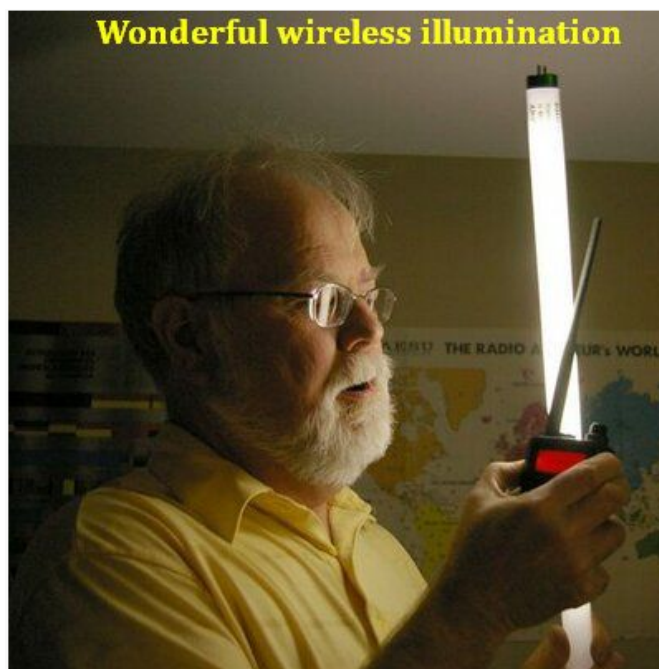
President's Ramblings

I hope you all enjoyed the February meeting. Nicole VE3GIQ has reported our combined in-person and Zoom attendance was 54.

After another club executive committee meeting prior to the February meeting, we decided to modify and defer a motion to donate funding to Radio Amateurs of Canada for their initiative to establish a RAC HQ amateur radio station at their Belfast Road Ottawa premises that are undergoing considerable expansion and extensive renovations. In order that the OVMRC membership better know what this entails, we have invited

Craig Delmage, VE3OP, RAC Director for Ontario North/East to provide a fulsome presentation at the March meeting on the project. Craig's RAC project presentation will be preceded with what I believe will be a very interesting presentation he has put together following his visit to ARRL Headquarters and W1AW station complex in Newington, CT. His visit there, I'm sure, has inspired him to press for a very impressive and functional station at the RAC HQ premises which will be open for use by local radio amateurs. We will formulate another OVMRC funding contribution motion for this RAC station project; this will be published in the next Rambler for consideration by the membership with a vote at the April meeting.

On February 28th, I met in-person with Mr. Jared Smith in-charge of Community Engagement and Special Events at the Aviation and Space Museum to again seek access to the grounds of the Museum as a venue for the OVMRC June Field Day operations. I made available to him references to our past Rambler newsletter articles highlighting the narrative and pictures of OVMRC Field Day exercises conducted there in the past years of 2016, 2018 and 2019. Mr. Smith seemed enthusiastic about us using the site this year; however, he said he will have to take our request to higher authority at the Museum. I said we will need confirmation of this request in a timely fashion. We will be pressing for a firm answer so we can make plans otherwise, if necessary. Once confirmation is obtained for using the Museum grounds, our plans for Field Day operations is to go Green running no more than 5 watts using exclusively battery/solar for all



VE3LC



stations. This way, each contact has a 5 times multiplier and if the contacts are also CW or FT8/FT4 data, those contacts will provide another 2 times multiplier for a total points multiplier of 10 for each contact. Rob VE3RXH has volunteered to take the lead on organizing Field-Day this year.

March 19th marks the 50th Anniversary of the official opening of the VE3JW exhibit station established in 1974 at the Museum of Science and Technology. This station unfortunately discontinued operations when the Museum closed in September of 2014 due to serious mold contamination. This resulted in several years of extensive renovations at the facility which included plans for modernization and the re-make all the exhibits. Unfortunately, due to the firm decisions of the Museum management at the time, these changes would no longer include space for the VE3JW amateur radio as an exhibit. Although we challenged the decision at the time, we could not convince the Museum officials otherwise.

Nevertheless, to commemorate the official establishment and opening of the VE3JW station in March of 1974 by way of the great efforts of Ed Morgan VE3GX (SK in 2013), the OVMRC will again activate the VE3JW call sign from March 14 - 19, this will include the popular 2 m FM OVMRC Thursday evening net hosted by Hugo, VE3KTN on repeater VE3OCE, the Sunday morning Pot Hole net on 3760 kHz and the Pot Lid CW net on 50.090 MHz on Sunday evening. Look for the complete schedule published elsewhere in this issue of the Rambler. For those making contact with local stations authorized to use the VE3JW according to the schedule, you will receive a special VE3JW commemorative QSL or Certificate issued by the Club.

That concludes my message for this month. I hope to see you all at the next OVMRC meeting at the IBEW Local 586 premises, the evening of March 20th. For those that attend in-person, you will be eligible to win 1 of 5 doors prizes.

73 all,

Norm VE3LC



OVMRC General Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 7:15 PM

Location: IBEW, 1178 Rainbow Street, Ottawa, ON, and via ZOOM on-line meeting

1. Call to Order

OVMRC President Norm Rashleigh VE3LC called the meeting to order at 7:17 PM. There were 54 total attendees present at the meeting this evening.

2. Agenda and Meeting Content

OVMRC President Norm Rashleigh VE3LC outlined the agenda for tonight's meeting that includes:

- Greetings and special welcoming of new hams and new members of the OVMRC, and guests.
- Door prizes draw.
- Acceptance of the January meeting minutes.
- Norm VE3LC – Status of OVMRC donation to RAC HQ Refurbishment Initiative.
- A report from Nicole VE3GIQ on preparations for the 2024 MS Bike Tour event.
- A feature presentation by Cal VA3ZLA on integrating a SDR with his Kenwood TS-480 transceiver.
- A show and tell/demo on outfitting old VE3MPC RF gear for AllStarLink operation.
- A presentation by Vice President Rob VE3RXH regarding event planning to celebrate 50th anniversary of the VE3JW exhibit station.
- Executive and Chairperson reports and other business.
- Formal adjournment followed by a test session for portable radios including power output, modulation, sensitivity and harmonic output.

3. Welcome and Guest Greetings

Norm VE3LC opened the meeting by extending a welcome to guests, visitors, and new hams who were present for the meeting. Guests tonight include Chris VA3CWS who is attending his first OVMRC meeting. Chris says he listens to the Thursday nets and has been a new ham since January 23, 2024. Also we have Don McCallan VE3GFD. Don is not a new ham, but he recently joined the club. Also present was a new ham who was recently examined – Charles VA3CGF who is attending via Zoom.

Norm then posted a slide that listed the new hams that joined the club since January 2024.



4. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

MOTION: Moved by Peter VE3XEM and seconded by Rylan VE3RVQ that the minutes of the OVMRC meeting held Wednesday, January 17, 2024 be approved.

VOTE: No Objections.

CARRIED.

5. RAC HQ Refurbishment Initiative - Norm VE3LC

Norm VE3LC briefly referred to the meeting motion that was planned for this evening, and informed the membership that it will be deferred to a future date. For more details, please contact Norm directly.

6. Nicole VE3GIQ - Update on the 2024 MS Bike Tour and OVMRC Financial Update

Nicole VE3GIQ informed that the club has a current bank balance of \$8056.00. Nicole mentioned she has recently paid the RAC insurance of \$711.00 and we are slightly under budget at this time. Currently the club has 135 members.

Nicole mentioned that some people may have received more than one invitation to tonight's meeting due to technical problems with @gmail.com due to a recent change of business rules, and also a secondary technical problem. This issue has been resolved and should not happen again.

Ernie VE3EJJ mentioned that he has received an additional email and not via Gmail. Nicole says it came about from a resend of the original email and should not happen again.

Nicole reminded the members that she is making a first call for volunteers for the 2024 MS Bike event, and once again she is the organizer. The event will be held on August 17/18 2024. The route is 109 kms and communication will be via a single repeater and the event will run from Kars to Brockville, ON. She then briefly described the duties of the volunteers for the event. She mentioned that for the first time last year there was an accident resulting from a collision of two riders, and it required EMS involvement. In another incident, a rider got lost and was helped back on track by amateur volunteers.

Nicole says she will be conducting a training session for the volunteers prior to the event. As there are monthly meetings, Nicole will keep the club up to date as planning progresses. Those interested in volunteering may contact Nicole at ve3giq@myrac.ca.



Roger VA3EGY reminded the new hams that getting out on public service events is fantastic experience, and spoke in general to the various benefits for doing so. He suggested that anyone interested, make a commitment and contact Nicole as soon as possible.

Kathleen VA3WEX wanted to know about the time commitment for the event. Nicole informed that it is a two day event, but volunteers can attend on one day if they wish. Volunteers are generally on station at 8 AM but this depends on the needs of the individual station. The event usually ends by 4 pm. Norm VE3LC added that on the last day there is a barbecue with possibly T-shirts to be given out to participants and all volunteers.

7. Norm VE3LC and Hugo VE3KTN - Update On VE3JW Scanned Paper Logs.

Hugo VE3KTN provided a brief update regarding the old VE3JW logs that have been scanned and uploaded to LOTW. There were approximately 10,000 records that Norm VE3LC has uploaded to LOTW. Out of those records uploaded, LOTW confirmed 204 QSLs and 39 DXCCs so far which is very exciting as some of the QSL records go back to 1974. Hugo mentioned that he had noticed a gap in the paper records between the years 1996 and 2000 and asked that if anyone has those logs to please contact him.

8. Feature Presentation by Cal VA3ZLA - Integrated Parallel SDR Receiver

Norm VE3LC introduced Cal VA3ZLA who described his experience in integrating an inexpensive SDR with his Kenwood TS-480 transceiver. Cal purchased an RTL SDR dongle last year. This dongle is inexpensive, is configurable, and integrates with a variety of SDR software. It covers 500 kHz to 1.75 GHz. It also provides a waterfall display of spectrum. The disadvantage is that it does not transmit and depending on the antenna used, can have problems with interference from strong out of band signals. Cal says, if you enjoy computer control rather than just using your typical radio, it is a useful device; however, he cautioned that those who dislike finicky computer programs may not enjoy this project.

Cal's goals with the project included integrating a basic SDR receiver with his Kenwood TS-480 transceiver to allow for integrated tuning and synchronization while leaving the transmit function to the transceiver. He had looked at building a pan-adaptor version however it did not have the ability to tune along with the transceiver.

Through research he discovered the availability of RF "sensing" TX/RX antenna switches, however his research also indicated to him that direct SDR TX/RX switching from the transceiver PTT as a better solution.



Cal then outlined his physical setup as well as the control software integration in his slide presentation. The Kenwood transceiver is controlled via Ham Radio Deluxe software and the SDR is managed by SDR Console software via a virtual com port. A virtual audio cable using free VoiceMeeter software provides audio integration for the system.

At this point Roger VA3EGY asked about who was the manufacture of the TX/RX switch? Cal says there are a number of these available from different suppliers such as MFJ and that there are “no name” versions available as well, and those cost about \$30.00 from Amazon. The Ham Radio Deluxe software offers an additional benefit as it adds the flexibility to use various digital modes. Cal says there are a lot of software options for the SDR. He is using SDR# and SDR Console to facilitate tuning synchronization and he has used SDRuno as well.

Cal then played a short video clip that demonstrated his signal graphic display. The point being is that it does receive very well with a good s/n ratio. The result of his setup is that the waterfall and tuning work seamlessly with the transceiver and its transmit function. He indicated he has made many contacts with the setup. There are some negatives including ghost interference, and the additional cost of purchasing the Ham Radio Deluxe software.

Norm VE3LC asked about how fast the TX switch operates and is there any fear of RF getting into the receiver. Cal says it has been of no concern to him as the switching is instantaneous. Cal was also asked to briefly describe more about SDRuno software.

As there were no further questions, Norm VE3LC thanked Cal VA3ZLA for his very interesting presentation.

9.Show and Tell - WSPR - Norm VE3LC and Chris Patten VA3CJO

Norm VE3LC introduced Chris Patten VA3CJO who had brought a WSPR “box” made by a ZakTek who manufacture various RF products. Chris says his big challenge for now is to figure out how to best operate it from his downtown balcony. He indicated his best receive acknowledgement so far was a research ice breaking vessel operating in the Antarctic while transmitting at 200 mW. of power. Chris says he is excited about what he can do from his balcony.

Norm VE3LC thanked Chris for bringing in his WSPR transmitter.



Norm mentioned he has experimented with WSPR over the years. Norm wanted to see how low he could go with transmit power and still be heard. Norm's setup included a Raspberry Pi-2 running appropriate software, a low pass filter connected to the GPIO output pins, and the transmitter frequency set to the WSPR allocation of the 20 meter band. His measurements with a spectrum analyzer indicated an output of about +10 dBm. The output of the Raspberry Pi transmitter and low pass harmonic filter was then connected a 10 dB attenuator further reducing the transmit signal to 0 dBm or 1 mW before connecting to his 3 element 20m beam antenna. Norm showed his reception report taken from the WSPRNet.org site: - 4 stations in Europe had received his 1 mW WSPR transmissions.

Craig VE3OP asked how you would know how to avoid frequency "collisions? And also, what information is being transmitted with WSPR? Norm indicated the software is set up to send a call sign, location by Grid Square and power in dBm. Frequencies are also chosen within the application on the Raspberry Pi and collisions are not a really a concern as so little power and bandwidth are being used.

10. VE3MPC Repeater Renewal - Norm VE3LC

Norm VE3LC gave a brief presentation about plans to re-establish the old VE3MPC repeater equipment as a network connected AllStarLink repeater. The equipment from the VE3MPC repeater has now been reconfigured to work with the AllStarLink system. Norm brought the equipment in this evening for display and demonstration. The VE3MPC call sign is now (as of today) an official call sign of the OVMRC. The club now has 4 call signs allocated to it.

The repeater is a Daniel Electronics MT-3 repeater from about 1995. The repeater has a 30 watt amplifier and when installed at a suitable location it will be connected to a single antenna using a Sinclair duplexer. The repeater now has a Raspberry Pi 3A board mounted inside it along with a special USB/audio device interface board to provide transmit and receiver audio and PTT/COS signals to and from the Daniel repeater. The Raspberry Pi 3A has WiFi provides the necessary network access for AllStarLink system operation. The repeater will operate on 147.150 MHz (+600 offset and 100 Hz. Tone) and will eventually be located at a suitable site.

Norm then conducted a short demonstration and accessed the repeater using a hand held transceiver and contacted Adam VA3IRD who was using a Shari Node. Norm mentioned the system will allow access to the Canada hub and future plans include linking the system to other repeaters in the Ottawa area.



11. Events Planned for 2024 - Rob VE3RXH

OVMRC Vice President Rob VE3RXH outlined the schedule of OVMRC events planned for the rest of the 2024 season. These include the following events.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the VE3JW station (March 16-17), the club will put the VE3JW call sign on the air with various weekend activities. More details will follow.

- A POTA activation and fox hunt will be held on April 20 at Vincent Massey Park VE-6204.
- On May 25 there will be a mobile foxhunt and a gathering at the IBEW facility to check out vehicle mobile installations and/or go kits.
- May is also the 65th anniversary of the Pothole Net. Details to follow but considering special certificates for the event.
- The ARRL VHF contest is on June 8-9. The club plans to issue a special certificate for the OVMRC member with the highest score.
- ARRL Field Day is on June 22-23. Planning is underway and the location of the event is yet to be established.
- The RAC Canada Day contest is on July 1st. As usual, RAC will publish details of the event. This event is a great opportunity to get some Canadian stations in the log.
- And finally, the OVMRC will have a picnic on July 20 with a foxhunt and POTA event.

Rob says we are always looking for suggestions or activities which may be posted to the club executive.

Norm VE3LC reminded that OVMRC Field Day operations this year will be at QRP power levels, and noted that each contact will have a 5x multiplier. CW and digital contacts also have extra multipliers to help rack up a good score.

Norm VE3LC thanked Rob for covering the planned events for the season.

12. Call for Moment of Silence for SK Stéphane Vermette VA3SPV

Norm VE3LC then called for a minute of silence for Stéphane Vermette VA3SPV, who recently passed away. Stéphane was a graduate from the OVMRC course in 2016.

13. Door Prize Draw - Winners Choice

The door prize draws were then conducted and the winners were as follows:

- Roger VA3EGY, Alex VA3OYO, Ante VA2BBW



14. Chair Reports:

There were no official chair reports this evening.

15. Adjournment:

As there was no further business, Norm VE3LC then asked for a call to adjourn the meeting.

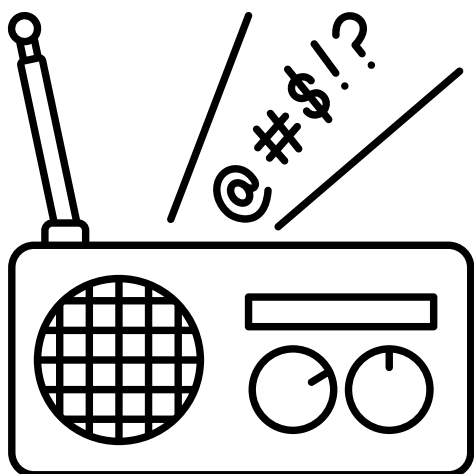
MOTION: Moved by Claude VA2ZCB to adjourn the business meeting at 8:45 PM.

After the official business meeting concluded, the evening continued with a test session for portable radios including power output, modulation, and harmonic output.

Next Meeting:

The next monthly meeting of the OVMRC will be held on March 20, 2024, at the IBEW facility, 1178 Rainbow Street, Ottawa, ON. The meeting will also be available on-line via Zoom.

Minutes recorded and prepared by Secretary, Alan Fricker VE3KAE.



Code of Ethics by Bill Wilson, VE3NR (SK):

The thoughtful Radio Amateur is:

- **Responsible** - using courteous operating practice, complying with regulations and accepted technical standards;
- **Progressive** - striving to develop and improve operating and technical skills;
- **Helpful** - offering assistance, support and encouragement to other Amateurs, especially beginners; and
- **Public Spirited** - offering use of station, knowledge and skills as a public service whenever possible.

<https://www.rac.ca/operating/guidelines/>



Stephane Vermette, VA3SPV (Silent Key)

On February 14th, 2024 the Ottawa Amateur Radio community lost one of our own.

Stephane passed away from a short but fierce battle with Cancer. Stephane was a newly licensed ham (2016), achieving basic with honours qualification. You could often find Stephane volunteering with the OVMRC and OARC events as well as social gatherings and field day. He was also interested in digital communications (YSF, DMR, etc) and started experimenting with HF.



A loving Father of three boys, Stephane would often bring his boys to various Amateur Radio Events that he volunteered for.

Stephane was a man of Faith. A long standing member of the Living Waters Christian Assembly in Ottawa, Stephane contributed to the live musical events as a keyboardist and technical stage hand for many years. In addition to playing keyboards, he was a producer, mixer and mastering engineer. He formed his own group “Verm Project” and released several albums & singles throughout the years.

If you could define Stephane in one word, it would be “Tech”. He lived and breathed computers, networking, & programming. As an alumni of BNR/Nortel, Stephane remained in High Tech working as a Software Engineer for DXC right up until his illness.

Stephane’s obituary may be found here:

<https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/stephane-vermette-1089387151>

Silent Key Submission Guidelines

<https://www.rac.ca/silent-keys/>

..also please inform ISED

<https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/amateur-radio-operator-certificate-services/en/contact-us>



VE3JW Returns to The Air!

Hello to all OVMRC members:

In the last month or so, exec has been turning over a few ideas on having an event or events to mark the 50th anniversary of establishing the VE3JW exhibit station at the Canadian Museum of Science and Technology, that date being March 19, 1974. With that in mind, a number of activities are now scheduled spanning March 14 - 19:

Thursday, March 14 - The OVMRC 2 m. net will run as it normally does at 8 p.m. only with me operating net control as VE3JW instead of my personal call sign.

Saturday, March 16 - Fred, VE3LAF, has offered to be on the air from his QTH operating as VE3JW on 2 m. simplex, 146.520 MHz. Fred's home is rather high in elevation and we anticipate he should have good coverage across the National Capital. The actual hours when Fred would be on the air hasn't been established yet, it's largely up to him and will depend on his own schedule but we're glad to have him offer some time to this initiative.

Sunday, March 17 - I will be on 80 metres, 3760 kHz., at around 0800 and run as VE3JW until noon. At 1000 EDT, VE3JW (me) will take net control of the Pot Hole Net and the PHN will run as it usually does except with VE3JW as the NCS. Following that, the Pot Lid CW net will be called to order by VE3JW during its time slot at 7:30 p.m. on 50.090 MHz.

Tuesday, March 19 - Maurice-André Vigneault (VE3VIG) will call CQ from VE3JW starting at 0900

- On the hour: phone (SSB) at (or around) 14.214 MHz.
- On the half-hour: CW Morse code at (or around) 14.014 MHz.
- Once 20m fades, Maurice-André will try 80m CW at 3.535 MHz

In all cases, the operators running as VE3JW will be keeping logs of QSOs made. It is our intention to send a commemorative QSL card to all stations communicating with VE3JW during the anniversary period. That's still in the works.

73 to all,
Hugo, VE3KTN
OVMRC Nets & Radio Ops.



OVMRC Net Activity, Check-ins for February, 2024

Prepared by: Hugo Kneve VE3KTN

OVMRC 2 Metre Net: VE3OCE 146.880- 136.5 Hz. tone,
Thursdays 8 p.m. local.

| February 1 | February 8 | February 15 | February 22 | February 29 |
|--|---|--|---|--|
| VE3KTN - NCS | VE3KTN - NCS | VE3KTN - NCS | VE3KTN - NCS | VE3KTN - NCS |
| New & Visitors | New & Visitors | New & Visitors | New & Visitors | New & Visitors |
| | Charles - VA3CGF Wayne - VE3QO | | Doug - VA3DKA | Carleton U - VA3CUA |
| Check-ins | Check-ins | Check-ins | Check-ins | Check-ins |
| VE3RUU VE3OTW VE3LC VA3IAH VE3VIG VE3NA VA3PSI VE3RVV VE3OKD VE3RXN VA2BBW VA3LMA VE3ZZU VA3HBL VE3HAB | VE3RUU VE3OTW VE3LAF VE3LC VE3KAE VA3IAH VA3EO VE3NA VA3PSI VA2EV VA2OJD VE3CWM ¹ VA3CJO VE3VIG VA3LMA VE3ZZU VE3RRB | VE3RUU VE3OTW VE3LC VE3KAE VA3EO VA3GFY VE3NA VA3PSI VA3ODW VA3CGF VA2BBW VE3NPP VE3ZZU VA3LMA VA3CJO VE3YY VE3RRB VA3HJR VE3VIG | VE3RUU VE3OTW VA3CGF VE3LC VE3KAE VE3ZZU VE3NA VA3PSI VE3CWM ¹ VA2BBW VA3EO VE3RRB VE3NPO VE3YY VE3OKD VE3VIG VA3LMA VA3HJR | VE3RUU VE3OTW VE3VHU VA3AIH VE3LC VE3KAE VA3IAH VA3CGF VA3CJO VE3NA VA3PSI VE3NPP VE3LAF VA3ODW VA2BBW VA2EV VE3KJQ VE3ZZU VA3EO VE3VIG VE3RRB |

Notes:

VE3CWM is the "Diefenbunker" Cold War Museum station operated by volunteer Ottawa radio amateurs.

Notes:

1 - Norman, VE3NPP at the mic.



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

| February 4 SFI:156 A:3 | February 11 SFI:194 A:5 | February 18 SFI:170 A:4 | February 25 SFI:179 A:7 |
|---|---|--|---|
| VE3EJJ - NCS | VE3EJJ - NCS | VE3EJJ - NCS | VE3EJJ - NCS |
| New & Visitors | New & Visitors | New & Visitors | New & Visitors |
| | | | |
| Check-ins | Check-ins | Check-ins | Check-ins |
| VE3LC VA3ZLA VA3PSI VA3EO VA3BGO VA3IAH VE3KTN VA3NAH VE3CWM ¹ VA3GFY | VE3LC VA3EO VA3BGO VA3PSI VA3ZLA VE3CWM ¹ VE3KTN | VE3KAE VE3LC VA3EO VA3BGO VA3PSI VE3YY VE3EKN VE3BQ VE3KTN VA3ZLA | VA3EO VA3ZLA VA3BGO VA3PSI VE3YY VE3KTN VE3BQ VE3LC VE3CWM ¹ VE3SYZ VA3GFY |

Notes:

VE3CWM is the "Diefenbunker" Cold War Museum station operated by volunteer Ottawa radio amateurs.

Notes:

1 - Fred, VE3LAF at the mic.

The "SFI" and "A" values are the Solar Flux Index and Geomagnetic A-Index respectively as reported on the NONBH Space Weather web site: <https://www.hamqsl.com/solar.html>. Values are taken within 30 minutes prior to net start time.



General Links of Interest:

ARDF Ottawa



Go t-hunting with ARDF
(Amateur Radio Direction
Finding) Ottawa

RCJ



Volunteer radio ops help
scouts on the Rideau
Challenge Journey

New Hams Ottawa



Information for new hams with
an Ottawa focus

Editor's Note:

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: Alan at editor@ovmrc.ca
73, Alan VA3IAH

FOR DMR RADIOS, HOTSPOTS, ANTENNAS, QRP HF RADIOS AND MORE



Your Canadian Hamshack!

\$15 DISCOUNT TO OVMRC MEMBERS ON \$300 OR MORE