

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

P.O. Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1G 3J2

October 2017

CLUB EXECUTIVE

President

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA
613-523-4333
ve3xra@rac.ca

Past President

Dave Green, VE3TLY
613-728-8606
ve3tly@rac.ca

Vice-President

Tyler Tidman, VA3DGN
va3dgn@rac.ca

Secretary

Arthur Smith, VA3BIT
613-795-1154
va3bit@rac.ca

Treasurer

Margaret Tidman VA3VXN
va3vxn@rac.ca

Directors

Dave Scobie, VA3AE

Greg Danylchenko,
VE3Ytz
613-236-9291
greg.danylchenko@gmail.com

Ed Sich, VE3WGO
uhf_tv@yahoo.ca

October's speaker is Jeremy Jones, VA3ZTF. His presentation is entitled "Grounding and Bonding".

The November *Groundwave* will likely be published late. At the present time the November speaker has not been determined. The December meeting will be a Holiday Party Night.

See you at the meeting,

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor



Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

**Next Meeting 7:30 pm, Wednesday, October 11th
in the Colonel By Room at Ottawa City Hall**

In This Issue....

Club Information	2	2017 Rally of the Tall Pines	5
Minutes	3	Portable Station Demo Report	6
Dates to Remember	3	Joe Norton Award	8
mk's Words	4	New Membership Form	9

Membership
 Greg Danylchenko, VE3Y TZ
 613-236-9291
 greg.danylchenko@gmail.com

Groundwave Editor
 Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
 613-837-7393
 ve3igj@rac.ca

Delegated Examiner
 Mike Kelly, VE3FFK
 613-322-0669
 ve3ffk@rac.ca

Historian
 George Roach, VE3BNO
 613-234-0885
 ve3bno@rac.ca

Webmaster
 Dianne Bruce, VA3DB
 613-225-9920
 va3db@rac.ca

IRLP
 Cary Honeywell, VE3EV
 ve3ev@rac.ca

Repeater
 Harrie Jones, VE3HYS
 613-978-1557
 harriej59@gmail.com



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

Articles may be submitted for use in this publication provided that they portray events or activities that promote Amateur Radio. Letters and comments are also welcome. Submissions may be made by mail addressed to the Editor care of the OARC, or by e-mail to "ve3igj@rac.ca". Deadline for submissions occurs three days after the regular monthly meeting of the OARC.

Please support your local radio organisations. They support you!

Club Information

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. is an association of Radio Amateurs devoted to the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communications in the National Capital Area and to the advancement and achievement of club members.

Regular Meetings of the OARC Inc. are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in the Colonel By Room which is on the second floor of Ottawa City Hall, formerly Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton Headquarters, on Lisgar Street. Meetings commence at approximately 19:30 local. Further details about each meeting are noted elsewhere in this publication.

Executive Meetings of the OARC Inc. are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 19:30 local. Contact the President to confirm the date, time and place of the next meeting.

The CAPITAL CITY FM Net meets every Monday (except some holidays) at 20:00 local on the club repeater VE2CRA (146.940-, 100 Hz) to pass traffic and to make announcements of interest to amateurs in the National Capital Region.

The Rubber Boot Net runs week days at 07:30 local on VE3MPC (147.150+, no tone) hosted by Mike, VA3TJP. The Rubber Boot net has been running since the early 1980's and is popular for the early risers and the go to work crowd.

The POT-HOLE Net is a SSB/HF net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club and is conducted every Sunday at 10:00 hours on 3.760 MHz. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

The POT-LID CW Net is an informal slow-speed CW net that meets every Sunday, except during July and August, at 11:00 hours on 3.620 MHz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedures.

The QCWA CHAPTER 70 Net meets every Monday evening at 19:30 local on repeater VE3MPC (147.150+, no tone) You do not have to be a QCWA member to participate.

The Ottawa Valley VHF/UHF SSB Net is sponsored by the West Carleton ARC. Look for it every Tuesday night (except the first Tuesday of the month) around 21:00 local on 144.250, (roll calls after net on 50.150, 432.150, 222.150, and 1296.100.) Horizontal polarization is preferred.

The Phoenix Net meets Tuesday evenings at 20:00 local on VE3MPC (147.150+, no tone).

The regular **OVMRC net** meets Thursday evenings at 20:00 local on VE3TWO (147.300+, 100 Hz) analogue FM.

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club bulletin "Groundwave" is published and distributed to club members. Publication dates may vary but it is hoped that the bulletin arrives at its destination before the events listed in it have expired. The bulletin is not published for July and August when meetings do not occur. Every effort is made to provide accurate information in the bulletin, however we are all human and mistakes can be made. The OARC accepts no responsibility for any damages that may result from this. The opinions expressed in this bulletin are those of the author.

Voice (VHF) 146.940/146.340 100Hz CTCSS required
 (UHF) 443.300/448.300 100Hz CTCSS required

VE3TVA Amateur Fast Scan Television Repeater
 Currently off the air and looking for a new home.

IRLP Node 2040 146.940/146.340 (VE2CRA/VE3RC)
 (Code 411 for info) (Code 204 for activity)
 (Code 88 for time)

For further information please contact the Repeater Chair.

Note: The IRLP link is not connected to ECHOLINK. Please do not try to connect using the alpha keys on your keypad. It just confuses the operator.

Note: The IRLP link is disabled during the Monday night Capital City FM Net from 20:00 to about 21:45.

VE3TEN
 Tuning in the beacon so that it makes sense requires you tune to **28.175** on CW and read the tone that is there. The spaces between the elements are the higher tone. If that doesn't work, tune to **28.175.28** on lower sideband for better results.



September Minutes

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
Monthly General Meeting held in the Colonel By Room
at Ottawa City Hall

September 13, 2017

19:33 Meeting started by Glenn VE3XRA

Guests

Don VA2EEK

Keith (No call, but passed test at Hamfest on Saturday)

Membership (Greg VE3Y TZ)

Greg is taking renewals. Policy change regarding badges for new memberships. For new hams, badges will no longer be free.

Field Day (Greg VE3Y TZ, Norm VE3LC)

Greg: Joint Field Day with OVMRC. Norm did a fantastic job organizing. Beautiful location at RCMP site on Rideau River. 75 contacts on 6m

(2nd best ever). Norm: FD was a fun affair. We operated 2A with a six metre and GOTA stations,

Used a special call: CF3RAC. Call was unusual and got lots of repeat requests. GOTA station used VE3JW.

There were 408 contacts on CW with an unknown number of phone contacts. Hard drive crash after the event meant that phone contacts were lost and not submitted. Thus, our score is lower than it should be. We had an information table for visitors. Trailer (provided by Marc VE3BOE) worked out great and provided space for both HF stations plus the 6m station. Marc VA3DRV showed his video of Field Day, taken from a drone, including its final moments crashing into a tree.

Lap the Gats for Parkinsons (Mike VE3FFK)

Pretty good event; had enough volunteers. Although the event conflicted with Field Day, our FD event did not seem to suffer from lack of participation.

MS Bike Tour (Peter VE3XEM)

Some communication difficulties. Some bad coax. Some lessons learned. A successful year, but hope to have even more participation next year.

Hamfest (Ed VE3WGO)

Phenomenal year. 475 attendees (20% more than usual, probably at least partly due to RAC AGM in the afternoon), 32 OARC volunteers, 61 vendors (52 private, 9 commercial),

Dates to Remember

2017

- Sep. 9 OARC Hamfest
- Sep. 16 Portable Demo Day
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewals Due
- Nov. 1 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 30 RAC Winter Contest

2018

- Feb. 9-11 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 11 Homebrew Night
- May 18-20 Dayton Hamvention
- Jun. 13 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 23-24 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest

9 Clubs and public service organizations, 8 licence test candidates including 4 passes and 3 upgrades. Huge numbers of door prizes, including an IC-T70A from Icom. Food: Lobby coffee shop was very busy; Pub upstairs was used for the RAC AGM RAC AGM had attendance about 70, twice as many as expected. Continuous improvement for 2018: Traffic management during vendor arrival & departure; Vendor admission policies: time and cost. Perhaps we should start Hamfest earlier. Janice: Suggestion on behalf of Rick & herself for premium admissions prior to general admission. VA3DRV: Need to improve traffic flow inside the arena.

RAC AGM (Glenn VE3XRA)

Three interesting presentations: DXpedition to Vimy 100, WSPR transitter installation on MV Polar Prince, a former Canadian Coast Guard ice breaker travelling through the Northwest Passage, and repeater installation on a mountain in the Yukon.

Portable Station Demo this coming Saturday, Sep 16 (Greg VE3Y TZ) New location: Walter Baker Park in Kanata. 8am: Breakfast at Rockin Johnny's: no reservations required
9am: Setup, 10-12: On air, 12-1pm: tear down.

NVIS (Mike VE3FFK) Last year's experiment is being repeated on Sunday, September 24 from 1-6pm. Sponsored by OARC and Peel ARC

(Continued on page 4)



mk's Word

Busy times these days.

First there was the hamfest. Set up went like clockwork, probably because the clock had so many experienced hands. Once again I didn't see much of the actual hamfest. There were so many exams to conduct that I was busy from 9 to around 11 AM, even with VA3ZTF helping out. There were some who wrote just the Basic. Some added Morse or Advanced to their qualifications. More new hams, more with new qualifications. Yea team. Although I wasn't there for it, I hear the RAC AGM was a big busy success as well. Congrats to the gang who put that together too.

It was nice to see so many back around the room at the first OARC meeting of the year. It seems I renewed my membership twice. Got that straightened out. Glad to hear that the exec is looking around for another field trip destination. They have always been a good time.

Right after the meeting it seems, was the portable station demo day. I was skeptical about the new venue at first, since it was so far away from my place, but on checking it out, I began to see possibilities for the place. It turned out to be great, and we got better weather than we could ever expect for that date in September. I made a few contest style contacts, plus a long ragchew with KA4KSB. It seems I was in his log somewhen in the past, but I can't find him in mine. Anyway, it was a nice chat on a pleasant summer(!) morning.

A day later and it was off on another adventure, acting as sherpa for VE3FN and crew (VA3CDD, VE3LGQ, VE3XRA) up to Mont Tremblant for a microwave contest. I've read about these things of course, but haven't used microwaves outside of labs or ovens. Fun stuff. The 2m rig used for coordination was always busy, unlike a VHF contest from home. Signals on 10GHz were good to excellent. Contacts on 24 and 47GHz, unfortunately, didn't happen. I did get to make a CW QSO with VE3SMA on 10GHz, using CDD's station and call. The drift in the system made the QSO sound like a satellite contact, where it was necessary to keep

tuning the receiver to keep the signal in the 'phones. Like I said, fun stuff.

Right after that it was another radio adventure. John, VE3NJ gives me a shout and says Ron, VE3VN could use a hand or four south of town to work on his new tower. I'm sure we were at least a little help to him. Nobody got hurt, nothing got damaged and some progress was made. It's a monster, even if it doesn't have mast, rotor, or antennas yet. When a contest comes along, you can be sure he will be heard wherever he wants to be.

Now if the weather will just hold out for a little bit longer, the Ontario NVIS "event" is coming up. Last year some of the interested parties went out to Corkery while VE3ZTU and I went to Petrie Island (and got drenched by the rain). Still fun, but in a field day kind of way. If you haven't tried NVIS, give it a look. It occurs to me that it would be an excellent way to operate the Ontario QSO party. At least, one could toss a temporary antenna onto the back yard fence or lawn and grab a mitt full of contacts. I think the gang is planning to use the Walter Baker site if it isn't raining, and Corkery if it is. Meanwhile, I hope to head east again to play. If it rains, we'll set up in the car this time.

Once that is out of the way, maybe there will be a few days for yard work and prep for that other season -maybe. On the other hand, maybe there's something interesting on the HF rig- gotta go check it out now.

73 mk, VE3FFK

(Continued from page 3)

Joe Norton Award (Glenn VE3XRA) Annual award to hams licensed within the past three years who have been active and have promoted ham radio. Deadline for submissions: Nov 1. Written submissions invited from any eligible ham. Rules are posted on the OARC website.

Club Project (Glenn VE3XRA) Discussions have taken place, and a project is being planned.

Club history and records (Glenn VE3XRA)

(Continued on page 8)



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

October 2017

2017 Rally of the Tall Pines

Please be sure to mark the November 24-26 weekend on your calendar. That is the weekend for the 2017 Rally of the Tall Pines. The Tall Pines committee has been hard at work and it's time to get the volunteers signed up.

As the Pines keeps growing and adding exciting new features, our needs for volunteers are greater than ever. So please pass this message on to others.

Check out the Pines website at www.tallpinesrally.com for details.

While on the website, if you have not already registered for 2017, please go to the worker section and register. We have tried to keep the process very straightforward for you. So whether you registered as a worker previously or are a first-time registrant, go to the Worker tab on the website, then click on 'Register' and follow the cues from there to either update your profile or to create a new profile. If that doesn't work, use 'Worker Registration'. Note – be sure to answer at the top 'Yes' to "I am registering as a worker for the Rally of the Tall Pines 2017." If you are stuck, email the registration team at worker_registration@tallpinesrally.com for assistance. When you have completed your registration or update, **click on 'Submit' at the bottom of the page**. We need all of you, including committee, stewards etc. to register, as we work extensively with the database to make plans. Note – our volunteer needs on Thursday are very specific and mostly require experienced help. Contact us directly about Thursday tasks.

As in the past we are assisting volunteers with subsidized accommodations. See Accommodations' in the Worker section for full details and for online payment. Subsidized accommodations will be provided once again at Elmer's Hunt Camp, at Limerick Lake Lodge and at some cottages. If you stay two nights, you pay for the first night and the rally pays for the second. Anyone staying three nights should first check with Ross re subsidy. To assist workers in the Registration process and in finding accommodations at the Pines we have Trish Groom waiting to assist you re accommodations and Greg McGrath re other Registration questions. If you have questions, one of us will be sure to reply. You can contact Trish directly at accommodations@tallpinesrally.com or Greg at

greg.mcgrath@tallpinesrally.com In addition there are many other volunteer perks including free Tall Pines merchandise and a free post-rally dinner.

With a super compact Route Plan and Schedule, we are able to squeeze two passes of recce for all stages into Friday, so we will need helpers to supervise that all day. Meanwhile we will be doing the usual final route preparation, so we will need just a few helpers on Thursday and lots of helpers on Friday. In addition Shakedown is scheduled on Friday evening. The rally runs all day Saturday as usual, finishing with the Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, at the Bancroft Fish & Game Club.

Rally Headquarters will be at the Dungannon Rec Centre on Hwy. 62 south. Almost all activities except the Banquet will take place there. Note also that Technical Inspection of the competitors' cars will take place at M & M Parts & Service (the big building behind M & M ESSO on Hwy 62 S) on Friday afternoon and evening. The official **VOLUNTEERS' MEETING will be held at Rally HQ at 9 P.M. on Friday evening**.

We also need lots of help on the **WORK DAY on SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21**. Please advise if you can attend then by e mailing Ross Wood directly at ross@tallpinesrally.com Anyone who assists on the Work Day will receive a \$10 subsidy on the RallyCross on Sunday. Note – competitors are invited to assist on the Work Day. This not only offers them an opportunity to contribute to the event, but also affords a chance to preview the stages.

Note – we will again be using the RallySport Ontario electronic timing equipment. If you already have experience with the equipment and would like to work with it at the Pines, be sure to indicate specifically what you would like to do on your Registration form.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or Trish or Greg.

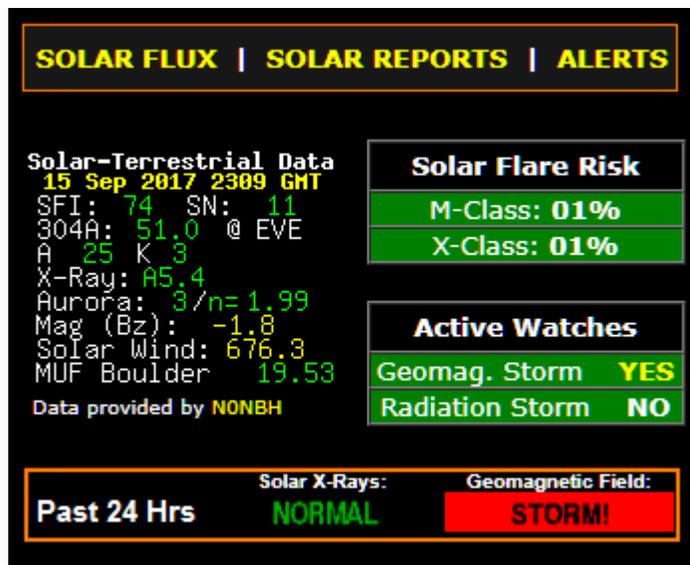
Ross Wood, Clerk of the Course ross@tallpinesrally.com

Trish Groom & Greg McGrath, Assistants for Volunteer Registration & Recruitment

OARC Portable Demo Day

This year we held our event on Saturday, September 16 at Walter Baker Park where the weather was perfect and the HF noise floor was extremely low. The Sun Spot number was 11 with the K index of 3 but 40,30 and 20 m were reasonable for us. Don't worry, we will motor through the solar cycle like we always do and have just as much fun.

We all enjoyed the park which is very spacious. Several radio stations blend into the park and are hardly noticed. The RF noise floor was very low compared to other parks that we have visited in the past years. Walter Baker Park is hard to beat. Greg organized the event as usual and we thank him for undertaking this task: booking and checking out the park, sending out notices and other necessary details.



<http://www.solarham.net/> VE3EN

Thirty three of us met this year including a few visitors who were very impressed to see such an enthusiastic group having fun which is always partly radio and partly social.

Liliana brought coffee and Margaret baked a great

banana cake for us. It disappeared very quickly. Thanks Margaret and Liliana. One little boy about nine years old was very curious about our radio stuff and his mother told him to ask us about it. He approached Liliana who quickly referred him to a radio expert who spent some time with the boy going over the basics of what we do. Thanks to the amateur who helped out. Chris?

Some of us operated HF radio while others were more interested in VHF hardware and others had deep discussions about radio theory and things like the Brewster angle which is the magic angle of arrival of a radio signal where all of the energy will disappear (under certain but common conditions) into a lake or ocean never to be heard. Some talked about books that they have currently read.

We had several visitors this year and a potential new club member. It is always nice to see that visitors and new Hams come to these events.

When we arrived at the park, the weather was warm and sunny. Of course, Mike, VE3FFK, was already there and set up for the event. He was stationed across the pond where nobody could see his station without going for a short walk. He found a great spot for CW operation with a very low noise floor. Our Dipoles, verticals, loops, rigs, batteries and all of the gear started being assembled. Pretty soon we could hear CW and SSB signals with operators working or listening to DX and local stations.

The rigs this year were a mix of QRP and QRO radios as usual. Jean, VE3DNI, brought the components for a K1POO OCF dipole which has an unusual feed point position of 17% instead of the "normal" 33 % for a Windom. He proceeded to build the antenna on site after building the 4:1 Balun at home. This antenna is advertised to work on 40,20,15,10 m. He erected the antenna and tested it successfully on 40 and 20m.

Greg and Janice were active and enjoyed working some DX stations with friends that joined them. Here is a quote from Greg:

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

"I did not spend too much time on the air but did make a few contacts, most notably 9Y4NG in Trinidad and TI8II in Costa Rica. I also made a few contacts in Canada and the US. All were on phone. Our friends got on the air and they both made their first radio contacts and they were very excited. Stephanie spoke to the Costa Rican station while Sumava spoke to N7KE. They used Janice's call VA3PAX. I could hear A61FK very loudly, but I could not break the pile up."

Doug, VE3XK, brought a very interesting loop antenna along with his new QRO HF rig which he purchased this year. His set up attracted a lot of attention and spawned all sorts of discussions about "how things work". I tried to work Doug but we had our modes mixed up so I just went over and talked with him.

Welcome back Arthur. As many of you know, Arthur was away for most of the summer looking after his family. Of course, he took part in our event using a 40,20,10 m QRP antenna.

I tested my new home brew experimental antenna designed to work on 40,30 and 20 m. (a very difficult design challenge because 30 m is not harmonically related to 40 or 20 m).I had a few difficulties with a broken connector that Wayne fixed for me. The antenna is capable of working QRP right now but I hope to change some components for QRO shortly. I designed this antenna for portable operation on those band as we approach the Solar minimum. Hope to have it running QRO shortly.

A special thanks to all of those who attended. I was not able to comment on all the stations that were used. I apologize for this omission. It would be quite interesting if you submit some feedback to the Groundwave on your activities during this event. We are all interested in hearing from you and your activities.

Shown below is a collection of photographs taken by Margaret and Wayne. Diane also posted her photographs on the OARC [Web-site](#).

Vy 73 Dave VE3KL



Contact Sport—Book Review

Contact Sport: A Story of Champions, Airwaves, and a One-Day Race around the World by J.K. George, N3BB

In the woods of Massachusetts, pairs of contestants huddle in tents filled with communications equipment. Their voices soar through the air, riding waves into the atmosphere, as they comb through static and noise for a response from the other side of the world. They're searching for loot—in the form of other voices in the sky. The rarer their contact, the more valuable their treasure.

Joining them in their quest is author J.K. George, an experienced radio operator himself, who guides you through the exciting world of amateur radio competition and the intriguing characters of the 2014 World Radiosport Team Championship. The competitors hail from across the planet—from youthful challengers to veterans with decades of radiosporting experience. You will meet fascinating personalities not only among the teams themselves but also among their “widows”—spouses left behind for the allure of the airwaves.

They battle computer malfunctions, getting lost, and staying at the top of their game for 24 hours in a hot, stuffy tent. The final scores bring surprises, disappointments, even a recount, and decades-long friendships will be stressed in the fight for the crown of amateur radio—the ultimate “contact” sport.

Joe Norton Award

Each year the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. makes available an award of five hundred dollars along with a commemorative wall plaque. The award honours individuals new to the hobby who demonstrate participation and leadership in ham radio activities and a vision for their future initiatives. This would include technical contributions,

communication activities, club involvement, public service communication events, or assistance to others. The award is open to any amateur in the national capital area licensed within the last three years. The individual is free to do as they wish with the award.

For details see the OARC web site:

<http://www.oarc.net/pages/awards-1/joe-norton-award/>

(Continued from page 4)

George VE3BNO is moving QTH's. The records he has been archiving over many decades have been scanned, transferred to CD's and given to Ottawa Archives for storage.

Club Fieldtrip (Glenn VE3XRA)
Being discussed by executive. Would probably happen in October or November.

Haves & Wants

Harrie VE3HYS: I received a card from KC1FTJ looking for confirmation that he had worked VE3RC on Canada Day.

Dave VA3AE: Power connector needed for a new ham's transceiver.

OVMRC 2017 Ham Radio Course (Norm VE3LC)
Forty people signed up. Course is pretty much full, but could take 2-3 more.

Aaron's Butterfly Run (Norm VE3LC)
To be held Saturday, October 14 at Brewer Park in Ottawa. Amateur radio contingent being organized by Luc VA3LDC. Contact Luc if interested in participating.

Presentation by Paul VE3ICV Vector Network Analyzers: What are they and how to use them

VHF/UHF Contest (Glenn VE3XRA)
Glenn is looking for participants for this coming weekend. On Saturday, the destination is Gatineau Park. On Sunday, the destination is Mont Tremblant. Each day will start at about 8am. Saturday requires hiking a trail in Gatineau Park. Sunday will involve a gondola ride to the top of Mont Tremblant.

Meeting ended at 21:40.
Due to lack of time, no 50/50 was held.

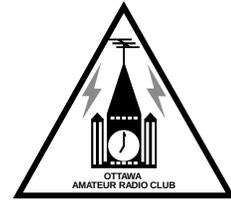
Minutes taken by VA3BIT.

2017-2018 OARC Membership/Renewal Form

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, ON, K1G 3J2

- Single \$25 (\$20 after February 1)
- Family \$30
- Junior \$15 (under 18 years of age)
- New Ham \$0 (licensed in current membership year)

- Emailed Newsletter \$0 Mailed Newsletter \$10



Name	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Callsign(s)	<input type="text"/>	Year Licensed	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> Honours	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Morse <input type="checkbox"/> RAC Member
Email Address	<input type="text"/>		

Name	<input type="text"/>	Phone	<input type="text"/>
Callsign(s)	<input type="text"/>	Year Licensed	<input type="text"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Basic	<input type="checkbox"/> Honours	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced	<input type="checkbox"/> Morse <input type="checkbox"/> RAC Member
Email Address	<input type="text"/>		

Postal Address

Membership year is September 1 through August 31, inclusive. All members who are in good standing on or before the December General Meeting will be eligible for a free one-time name badge. Members who wish a second or replacement badge may purchase one at the club price (approx. \$7.50 plus tax). Ordered badges will be available in January.

First Name on badge Callsign on badge

First Name on badge Callsign on badge

Notes