

OCTOBER - 1968

*the  
Groundwave*



**OTTAWA OCTOBER 1968**

## OCTOBER MEETING

Place - National Research Council Auditorium  
Sussex Drive

Time - 8:00 pm (2000 hours)

Date - 2 October 1968

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### OLYMPIC GAMES - MEXICO CITY

The Olympic Games in Mexico City may be of some interest to Ottawa amateurs operating on 20 meters SSB phone and active in phone-patching or traffic handling.

The CBC has assigned a mobile crew to cover the games. This crew is composed of members from Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto.

The Mexican authorities have granted this group the privilege of operating during the games in Mexico and have assigned them two call signs XE Ø IK and XE Ø BA.

It is expected that the station will begin operating on the 15th of September 1968 working 20 meters on a frequency of about 14,135 MHz. They plan to operate between 1800 and 2200 hours Ottawa time.

VE3GFB has arranged to handle Ottawa traffic, however, these stations will be pleased to work other Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto hams who are willing to handle traffic. Harry Heywood, VE3GFB.

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President -	Robert Knapp	VE3CDG	Tel. 722-8808
V/President -	George Roach	VE3BNO	234-0885
Treasurer -	Gord Grant	VE3DY	733-4892
Secretary -	Larry Emerson	VE3GGA	728-7307
Directors -	L. Guy Eon	VE3LM	825-1707
	Chas. Grove	VE3CT	828-8419
	Ray James	VE3CUA	224-7243

PROGRAM NOTES

OCTOBER MEETING

By arrangement with Canadair Ltd., Montreal, our speaker this month will be STEVE OHISHOLM VE2ZM (a past president and honorary member of OARC, perhaps better known as VE3ATU). His subject:

Synchronous Communications Satellites (with reference to the Canadian domestic system, CANSAT).

Canadair is one of a consortium of companies concerned with technical studies for a Canadian communications satellite and is responsible for mechanical and airframe construction, power and other sub-systems.

If you think it is hard to swing your beam accurately, come and learn the problems of antenna beaming in space -- where not only is the guy you're trying to work moving, but your antenna support is turning somersaults at the same time. This will be one meeting you won't want to miss. Mark it on your calendar now.

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I would like to say "thank you" to the twenty or thirty members of the club who last year took part in putting on our monthly program. Without them the meetings would have been very dull indeed, but with them I believe we managed to find items which at some time provided interest for everyone.

It is hoped that this year there will be a number of meetings run by the special-interest groups in the club, such as VHF, Traffic, DX etc. This means that it should not be necessary for our monthly meetings to cover such specific topics and it will be possible for us to have more of the general interest topics. Some fifteen such general topics are being investigated at the moment and it is hoped that by next month a general plan for the club year will be available.

In the meantime, should any members of the club have suggestions for suitable topics, will they please get in touch with a member of the program committee so that they may be considered for fitting into a balanced program. Eric Ilott, VE3XE.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Your executive committee has approved and formed a number of committees to assist it in its endeavours. While these committees report only to the Executive, their chairmen will from time to time be called upon to brief the membership on their thoughts and activities.

Since the function of these committees is to advise the Executive, obtain its approval then to implement decisions made by the Executive on behalf of the club, the committees are a good starting point for members who would like their thoughts to be known and considered outside of a regular meeting.

Members are encouraged to meet with and present their views to the Chairmen or members of these committees providing it comes within their Terms of Reference.

At the September meeting the President gave a comprehensive talk on the reasons for these committees and their function. For those who were not at the meeting, the following is an abbreviated version of the terms of reference and the membership of these committees.

Crown Assets Purchase & Disposal Committee

The aim of this committee is to provide a service to OARC members by judicious selection and purchase of desirable Crown Assets materiel. Materiel so purchased is to be made available to the membership at cost plus overhead.

Chairman -	Roy Maskell	VE3ADM	Tel. 825-1334
Members -	W.J. Nottingham	VE3ARZ	828-8282
	Ken Willing	VE3CCV	733-9140

Interference Committee

Interference by amateurs can undo much of the favorable publicity that amateur radio obtains from its activities. A complete revamping of our approach to TVI/BCI problems of our members is essential.

The aim of this committee is to arrange for a service to be provided by qualified and willing members of the OARC to the members of the club who are alleged to be causing unnecessary interference to other radio amateurs and to the public.

Close collaboration with the local DOT field office should be maintained.

In addition this committee will be active in recommending changes in the Radio Act to better protect the interests of radio amateurs.

Chairman -	Syd Horne	VE3EGO	Tel. 828-5925
Members -	Jim McIntosh	VE3VI	825-2102
	John McWatters	VE3MC	233-2929

#### Membership Committee

The aim of this committee is to communicate with and enlist the support of licenced amateur radio operators in the Ottawa region, VE2's and VE3's, with a view to their becoming members of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club.

This committee will be responsible for the collection of dues, the issue of receipts and membership cards and to provide the Treasurer with an accounting of the funds received. These funds shall be turned over to the Treasurer.

An up to date list of members shall be maintained and made available as required.

Chairman -	John McWatters	VE3MC	Tel. 233-2929
Members -	Holland H Shepherd	VE3DV	733-0665
	Vern McCourt	VE3PY	722-6326

#### Program Committee

The aim of this committee is to prepare a program of activities and lectures which will take into consideration the varied interests of the club members.

Chairman -	Eric Ilott	VE3XE	Tel. 828-3242
Members -	Frank Lay	VE3ZN	722-8457
	Ian MacIntyre	VE3CZ	731-7617

#### Publicity Committee

The aim of this committee is to publicize the activities of OARC and of its individual members with a view to improving the public's support for radio amateur activities.

Chairman -	Jack Bassil	VE3YT	Tel. 722-8457
Member -	Cameron Howard	VE3GMH	829-2099

### Publishing Committee

The aim of this committee is to turn out a timely and comprehensive club bulletin, i.e. the GROUND WAVE, which is disseminated to OARC members.

Chairman -	Jack Bassil	VE3YT	Tel. 722-8457
Member -	William Ross	VE3GDW	746-4973

### The Constitution

A short briefing was given by L. Guy Eon VE3LM, the Chairman of the group charged with writing a constitution at the September 1968 meeting.

This constitution has gone through many drafts and is now in its final form, written in legal language, and approved by the Executive Committee.

Members are invited to read it carefully since a motion for approval of the constitution as it stands will be made at the October 1968 meeting.

Any voting member may submit an amendment, however, such amendments must be in writing in the form of a motion and be delivered to the Secretary of OARC before the beginning of the OCTOBER meeting.

A copy of the constitution is attached to the GROUND WAVE of each voting member.

### Incorporation

The same group charged to draft the constitution was also requested to examine incorporation of OARC.

A complete and thorough report was given by L. Guy Eon VE3LM to the OARC meeting in September 1968 which defined in detail the pros and cons of incorporation. The executive agreed with the report and none of the members present disagreed.

OARC will therefore not seek incorporation but will through the aegis of a suitable liability insurance policy protect the officers of the club when they are engaged on club business.

Formation of Groups Within OARC

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club has so many members with varied interests that your executive decided to sponsor the formation of groups with specialized interests.

This was discussed by your president, Bob Knapp, at the September meeting and it was obvious by the show of hands that this type of organization was favored by the majority of the members present.

The intention is that these groups will form and elect their own group leader. The groups will be autonomous. They will arrange their own program of activity, both social and technical. The club will support them to the best of its ability as they are an integral part of the OARC. Their activities will be reported regularly in the GROUND WAVE.

The following groups were formed at the September meeting: DX, Traffic, Construction, Contests, Field Day, Mobile, Emergency and VHF.

In order to get the groups going the following have agreed to act as convenors. They are expected to call their groups together at the earliest opportunity.

DX	VE3QTX	Roy Athey
TRAFFIC	VE3DV	Holland Shepherd
CONSTRUCTION	VE3FXG	Tony Vandenbelt
CONTEST	VE2EMH	M.R. Hindle
FIELD DAY	VE3DY	Gord Grant
MOBILE	VE3BOZ	Tony Bendall
EMERGENCY	VE3IMU	Gord Beaman
VHF	VE3CLW	Andre Pilon

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The Brantford Amateur Radio Club will host the first annual convention of the Radio Society of Ontario - Nov. 1, 2 and 3 at the Holiday Inn in Brantford.

For Registration Forms, write to:

Brantford Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 756, Brantford, Ont.

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For those who may wish to join the RSO - Radio Society of Ontario Inc., the fee is 4.00 annually. The fee covers a one year subscription to the RSO Journal "The Ontario Amateur".

Send your application to RSO Inc., Box 334, Toronto 18, Ont.

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THE TEMPTING TRAFFIC TRAP

S.I. COMACH VE3EU

Perhaps I am trespassing on territory belonging to Burt Coy, our traffic king, when I broach this subject, but in the interest of retaining amicable relations between the cognizant Government agency and our HAM fraternity I would draw to the attention of the gang to the important information listed on Page 82 of QST --- July 1968 regarding 'Third-Party Restrictions'.

Too often these days we are asked to pass messages to friends and relations from amateurs, or on behalf of their friends, in countries which do not have agreements with our Government. This applies both to c.w. and phone men, more especially the latter who are in possession of phone-patch equipment. I speak knowingly for I have fallen into the trap myself. Please be guided accordingly for your own licence sake... I quote from QST....

"Messages and other communications and then only if not important enough to justify use of the regular international communication facilities, may be handled by Canadian radio amateurs on behalf of third parties ONLY with amateurs in the following countries: Bolivia..CP, Chile..CE, Costa Rica..TI, El Salvador..YS, Honduras..HR, Israel..4X, Mexico..XA, Peru..OA, U.S.A..W/K, Venezuela..YV."

Note that this represents ten countries and that there are no prefixes from the Caribbean Islands or any of the Commonwealth countries, so don't be a good Joe and put your licence on the chopping block.

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TOPSTAR

Phone-patching our boys in the far north to their families and friends in and around Ottawa means that in the process of monitoring the patch we are exposed to quite a cross-section of human nature.

While it would be quite wrong to discuss an individual patch, it is fair to say that over the years we feel quite confident that we have managed to save a small number of marriages that were about to break-up. We know that we have regularly alleviated doubt and concern about families.

It seems that in the isolation of a northern post an individual is likely to have a day or two of depression which motivates him to write a letter home which is quite disparaging and brings deep concern and sorrow to the recipient. How often we have heard a man saying to his wife -- please dear, disregard my last letter -- I do love you very deeply indeed.

Of course there is the odd emergency, not always what we would call emergency, but to the party concerned, usually the wife, it is real indeed. Our telephone often rings late at night asking if we can get them an urgent patch to the North - In real emergencies we have often managed to do so within minutes. L. Guy Eon, VE3LM.

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TRADING POST

Send Articles for inclusion in this column directly to  
VE3YC 512 Sherbourne Road - Telephone - 722-7076.

FOR SALE

- Collins KWM2 with well designed linear, 728-8544 Jerry VE3LX  
separate VFO and power supplies - Must  
be sold as a package.
- SB200 Heathkit Linear in mint cond. 825-2102 Mac VE3VI
- Eico 753. Solid state VFO, Mic. Power 722-1057 Doc VE3BDO  
Sup. and extra set of tubes.
- KWM1, 516F-1 AC sup. 312B-1 Spkr. 2 extra 722-7076 Jack VE3YC  
Xtals 15 & 20 M. For details call VE3YC.  
Stark 20,000 ohm per volt VOM.  
8 ohm headset and boom, dynamic mic.  
Hybrid Phone Patch Heathkit HD 15.
- 5" Scope Heath OMI 733-4323 Albert Kapros  
Audio Osc.  
Sig. Generator  
Grip Dip Meter.  
VOM  
Collins 32V3

ITEMS WANTED

- SB 10 SSB Adaptor Laval, Que. Frank VE2BYS
- All Band Vertical Antenna Tom VE3ABC
- Triband Beam 826-2534 VE3GBD
- 2 Meter Mobile 749-4846 Kim Gunn  
749-1623 VE6AWQ
- 2 Meter Mobile 749-3943 Art Funk  
VE4GX

Items listed are obtained by direct contact with the  
individuals shown and the OARC bears no responsibility,  
implied or otherwise, as to condition or guarantee.

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DX TOPICS

R. JOHN ATHEY, VE3CTX

A question asked by many newcomers is "what are conditions like during the sunspot minimum?". Briefly 10 and 15 will be dead most of the time. DX activity is then confined to 20 meters, although after sunset propagation may be limited to ground wave. However the next sunspot low is about 5 years away and we should make the best of the present conditions.

A happy hunting ground for the DX man is the Pacific area with its myriad islands and exotic call signs.

There are two periods when this region is usually copied by the VE2 and 3's. Approximately 11:00 pm to 2:00 am, also between 7:00 to 9:00 am. local time.

At night the south pacific ZL's and VK's predominate. The following rarer stations have been worked recently on 20 SSB:

ZK1AA Cook Is.  
5W1AR Samoa  
F08AB Tahiti  
FK8BM New Caledonia

Reported active is VR6TC on Pitcairn Island. Tom Christian is a direct descendant of the "Mutiny on the Bounty" and a ham for many years.

If you wish to go after the American Possessions on side-band it is necessary to go up into the U.S. band. Spend half an hour on the band before breakfast. The west coast boys will still be in bed, so you should get through the "Aluminum Curtain". Some competition from early rising east coast W's is to be expected.

Those who prefer to stay below 14,200 can try their luck with:

VS5TJ Brunei  
CR8AH Portuguese Timor  
KR6KN Okinawa  
VK0JW Antartica

Recommended reading for DX'ers interested in confirming their QSO's is the article by VE3ACD in the "Ontario Amateur" July/August edition.

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SLOW SCAN TV

Syd Horne, VE3EEO

The purpose of this column is to create an awareness and (hopefully) an interest by amateurs in what is now commonly referred to as Slow Scan TV. SSTV is a method by which pictures may be transmitted over conventional SSB equipment.

This column will be used to describe the system, the standards, and to report on progress in the experimental work that is being carried out in this field by amateurs on this continent and elsewhere.

Like SSB, the basic principles of transmitting pictures by radio is almost as old as the science of radio itself. It is only in the last decade that advances in technology have made it technically possible to apply these principles to generate and display pictures on devices which are entirely electronic. SSTV employs principles that are similar to those employed in the transmission of pictures by facsimile.

To permit Canadian amateurs to experiment with this mode of transmission using present frequency allocations, the Radio Regulations had to be modified. This the DOT did in a relatively short time. This shows that DOT will act on behalf of the radio amateur when a well presented reasonable proposal is made to the Department.

Shortly after VE3EEO received permission to transmit and receive SSTV he worked SM Ø BUO in Sweden and exchanged pictures. This was the first two way SSTV contact across the Atlantic.

To date several radio amateurs have been granted permission to operate SSTV.

VE6RM, VE1JD, VE3AKZ, VE3CDG, VE3VI, VE3PW and VE3EEO.

VE3PW now has his Vidicon camera operational and is transmitting pictures. VE3CDG is actively building his equipment.

SSTV activity in the U.S. is increasing rapidly. Their SSTV net meets on 14230 at 1400 GMT. A Canadian net will begin shortly on 14180 and 3740 KHz.

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Then there was the dwarf who, as leader of one of the Czechoslovakian resistance movements, found that he had to get out of the country and lie low for a while. He slipped across the border, knocked at a door and said "Can you cache a small Czech".

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VE2CRA - A TECHNICAL HISTORY

By

George Roach - VE3BNO

Ottawa Amateur Repeater Station VE2CRA was licenced and activated at Camp Fortune, Quebec in December of 1966. It was sponsored by Rolly Brundle, VE3COW, on behalf of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club. The original repeater was an ancient RCA CT-5A/CR-3A base station and proved somewhat erratic in operation, for when the transmitter crystal was removed the RF carrier was not! In March of 1967 a new repeater based on Marconi DT-45 equipment replaced the RCA unit and has given reliable service. The efforts of some fifteen Ottawa area amateurs have supplied antennae, isolating cavities and continued maintenance for VE2CRA. Operating on the automatic standby power facilities of CFMO-FM, the repeater has had over 150 hours of "no hydro" operation and has operated under severe ice and wind conditions.

Present power output of the FM repeater is 18 watts on 146.940 mcs. and reception is on 146.460 mcs. at a repeater height of 1,150 feet above sea level. A timer is used to limit continuous transmissions to three minutes.

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The Canadian Amateur Radio Federation, CARF, has formed a National DOT Liaison Committee under the Chairmanship of Jim Strain, VE3BSG, past A/President of OARC.

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Clarification regarding the use of repeaters has been obtained by Jim Strain, VE3BSG, from the Radio Regulations Branch of the Department of Transport. They state that they have no objection to the following types of operation:

Mobile to mobile station, fixed to mobile and vice versa, fixed to fixed station, provided this operation is on the one repeater.

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A synonym is a word you use when you can't spell the other one.....

CARF NEWS

JIM STRAIN VE3BSG

CARF is in the process of obtaining briefs and recommendations from its member societies on the question of amateur licence fees. It is hoped to submit a paper consolidating these views at a meeting to be held shortly with the DOT.

The question of removing customs duties on amateur equipment is being reopened by CARF. Its executive is putting forth a strong request to the Department of Excise and Revenue to have the removal of duties on radio equipment entering Canada for the exclusive radio amateur use reconsidered.

It is proposed to hold an executive meeting of CARF at the RSO Ontario convention in Brantford in November. At this time it is hoped that the draft constitution of CARF will be adopted.

Watch for developments in CARF organization that will be of great interest to the Ottawa amateur.

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F L A S H

Ken Watkins, VE3CAL, has very kindly consented to act as Technical Adviser for another year. If you have a "BUG" in the rig, call him at 828-7688 - Interference problems should be referred to the Interference Committee.

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FALL AUCTION

Please note that a Fall Auction by OARC is in the planning stage. The date and place is yet to be set. It is expected to be in November, 1968.

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DOT REVISES 160 METER

To accommodate the expansion of the LORAN A radio-navigational service, DOT has drafted a new list of frequency assignments for 1.8 to 2.0 MHz. See July QST, Page 69.

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