the Groundwave

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SEPTEMBER MEETING:

5 Sept. 1973, at NRC Sussex Dr.,

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, AN ASSOCIATION OF RADIO AMATEURS DEVOTED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO IN THE OTTAWA REGIONAL AREA.

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CLUB NET "THE CAPITAL CITY NET". AT 2000 HRS. LOCAL TIME ON CLUB REPEATER VE2CRA, INPUT 146.460 OUTPUT 146.940. VE2CRA IS MONITORED DURING BUSINESS HOURS BY VE3CGO, DOREEN MORGAN.

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 8873, Ottawa, Ont.

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OARC PICNIC -- 8 July '73

The first picnic in many years was considered a success with about 70 people attending, at Vincent Massey Park. There was a good treasure hunt as well as other games for the children. Many thanks go to Mike Thompson for his help in running the games. There was lots of time for everyone to yak about - what else - Ham Radio. Arrangements were made by Cy, VE3CVK, who with Mike and Jerry, VE3CNJ, also did a bang-up job of cooking the hotdogs and brewing the coffee. Ice cream was provided and it went particularily well on one of the hottest days of the season. The kites and Frisbees donated by CFRA/CFMO were also much appreciated.

RSO CONVENTION -- 17-19 August, 73

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club will be the host this time for the RSO Convention. Starting Friday 17 Aug. with a buffet and time for rag-chew in the evening, registration will open at 17:30 hrs. Registration will be open on Saturday at 08:30 with a full day of technical sessions and discussions with a banquet on Saturday night. Victoria Hall at Queens University is the location with ample free parking nearby. Full details are in the Ontario Amateur but may also be obtained from KARC, PO Box 1402, Kingston, Ont., K7L 5C6.

Registration before 8 Aug. is $4.00 (RSO Members), $6.00 others. X(YL)s $3.00. After 8 Aug. costs are $5.50(RSO) , $7.50, and $4.50. Friday night buffet is $1.75. Sat. banquet is $6.50. Accommodation is available at Victoria Hall at $7.50 per person but better apply soon.

Since there was not enough interest in chartering a bus to go down for one day, those wishing to go by car-pool should get in touch with Marj Zuba at 521-5074 . . This Convention is as close as it is going to be until we are the host club in 1975. It is a good chance to see what makes a good Convention, get some ideas for ours, and have a good time. Good camping facilities are available around Kingston for those with a trailer or tent. Hope to CU Thr.

MONTREAL HAMFEST - 5 August, 1973.

Sponsored by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club and the Western Quebec VHF/UHF Radio Club, this Hamfest will be on 5 August 1973 from 09:00 to 18:00 hrs at MacDonald College, Ste Anne de Belleview. Prizes, gigantic Flea Market, Tug-o-War, Bingo, picnic, prizes are featured. From the West, exit at Ste Anne de Bellview from Trans-Canada and follow MacDonald College direction signs.

Admission .50 under 12; $2.50 each for most of us. Talk-in on VE2RM, 146.40/147.18, VE2ZO 146.46/147.06, and 146.46 direct. Refreshments will be available but bring your own if you wish. Equipment will be on hand to adjust your 2-metre rig.

SILENT KEY

On 23 July 1973, R. G. (Gil) Stevens, VE3BBQ, became a Silent Key. Gill attended the CARF meeting in Ottawa recently and was at the time Editor of CARF News. He was previously editor of the Ontario Amateur for the RSO.

VE2CRA REPEATER

The Lenkurt 450 MHz rig is now in service: 443.3 in:448.3 out. Word from Deep River is that their repeater will be in service in the near future; frequencies will be same as VE2CRA. They are agreeable to a shift if the National Plan is adopted. VE3STP members have decided not to shift frequencies at the present time but will reconsider if the National Plan is adopted.

CNIB News

Every month there are more Whitecaners on the air. Due to the efforts of a few devoted and helpful hams these people are taking a new lease on life in many cases, and discovering a world of fellowship. The RSO Whitecaner program is one to be admired with volunteers like Bill Choat, VE3CO, and Dave Lloyd, VE3AW, for guidance and inspiration. In April eight more blind hams received their licences. The total number of Whitecaners licenced in Canada now exceeds 190, with something over 225 expected by the end of the year. Training is going on in a dozen cities and Sponsors are always needed. Have you sponsored someone recently ?.

CNIB Memorial fund.

To date the CNIB A.R.C. has received over $6000. in donations in memory of its silent keys, both blind and sighted. As a result a special memorial fund has been set up and monies from it will be used to make the ham radio program available where local finances cannot meet the costs. (Equipment is provided to the blind ham on long-term loan or easy pay-back schedule).

Quebec

On the efforts of Walter Dolphin of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, a blind ham radio program has been launched in Montreal. As of this Spring 10 trainees either had their ticket or were ready to try.

THE VALUE OF FIELDDAY -- Editorial

Do we really learn any useful things from Fieldday?. The usually touted reason for the exercise is to be prepared for eventualities such as fire, pestillance, flood, or other disaster. It is supposed to equip us mentally and physically to endure the stress of QRM, the torture of mosquitoes, the test of extreme heat of day and cold of night, a hard and unforgiving ground beneath a deflated air-mattress, and the cheers or jeers of great boo-boos. But does it actually do so? Perhaps not, but a recent occurance pointed out that the sublimation of all these Fieldday experiences can sometimes provide a feeling of confidance to attack a particular problem.

The problem was to keep a skedwith no rig, no transportation to one, and 1½ hrs to sked time. The old Fieldday inspired confidance made itself felt. An unfamiliar rig was borrowed, coax found, an unused antenna pressed into service, the manual read as the set warmed up, and the rig tested on the air with 10 minutes to spare. A check (on 40) to a W4- suggested that all was GO and the sked time was met. Of course the other fellow didn't show but that was beside the point: the sked was operational. Maybe all those years of Fieldday have just looked like fun(to the XYL) and misery to others, but the confidance of knowing that something will work every time, will pay off. This then we feel is the real value of Fieldday. It is difficult to asess as a value or quantity, because it is priceless. And it is always with you. Fieldday anyone ?.

EXECUTIVE MEETING

Tuesday 14 August, 73 at CFRA, 20:00 hrs.

QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL QSL

The Ontario QSL Bureau is located in Toronto and is operated by a team of dedicated amateurs headed up by:

Ross Buckley, VE3UW
20 Almont Road
Downsview, Ontario

They have thousands of QSL's in their files for Ottawa area hams. Please send Ross a couple of stamped, self-addressed envelopes with your call marked in the upper left-hand corner so they can send you your cards. The envelopes should be business size envelopes. If you do not want your cards, please send in an envelope anyway so the volunteers in the bureau can reduce their workload.

Several hundred QSL cards have been accumulated from the old Ottawa QSL bureau and from the dead letter department of the post office. These cards are available from:

Gord Grant, VE3DY
2050 Balharrie Street
Ottawa, Ontario 733-4892

QSL's are available for the following calls:
VE3AK ALM AMQ ANH AP API AQJ BES BPV BY CAZ CBO CDS CDU CDW CGS CHG CIJ CJR CLZ CNO COM COU CPM CQJ CQP CRJ CT CTB CWE CZO CZR DAR DCE DEN DF DH DKB DMV DOS DTM DV DWB DXV DYV DZ EU EUI EV FB FCW FYO GBD GBG GGH GHZ GJU GJW GKM HG KH KN LH LM MS MV ME NR NT QCI PN PQ PS PY RZ SX VI XE XM YT ZN VE2ADZ

Many of these cards are juicy dx and are cards that you have probably been waiting for.

P.S. Gord has so much stuff in his basement that he has to get rid of the cards before they get lost. (So true: Ed)

Dave, 3GSA

"QRRR"

On the whole, amateur radio operators are pretty good about monitoring and supervising their own bands. However, we in Canada have a rather peculiar problem. What to do if we hear someone or something (who) that violates the rules. The otherday, I heard an SOS in CW on 40 metres, at about 7179 KHz, late in theafternoon. There were other stations around, and they cleared the frequency. After some time, it became apparent that the SOS was a fake. Someone was having a little fun. I called Art, VE3ZS, and asked him to notify the DOC monitoring station. He did so, but the station had, by this time, gone off the air. The next day, I heard the same station on the same frequency calling SOS. This time I could not immediately get hold of anyone. By chance, Doug, VE3CDC, happened along, and Art VE3ZS who retired from DOC recently came on and gave me the telephone number of the DOC monitoring station. Previous to this, I had exhausted my list of DOC phone numbers trying to pass on the information. Unfortunately, the authorities were notified after the fact and they could not hear or do very much.

Unlike our U.S. neighbors, DOC has not publicized the phone numbers of the monitoring stations to Canadian Amateurs. FCC gives out their phone numbers so that violations can be reported. It is a good idea and we should follow suit. If you hear any violations, even on the local repeater, itis to our advantage to report it immediately. Some violations need to be dealt with immediately and if possible notifications to DOC should be instantaneous with the infraction if possiple. This is the only effective way.

I personally would like to thank those in the Ottawa DOC and the Almonte monitoring station with whom I eventually got in touch with and who co-operated with my report. I would also like to thank Art, VE3ZS, and Doug, VE3CDC, the CARF/DOC liason officer.

Cary VE3ARS

The Just in Case You Were Wondering Dept:

Groundwave now has two Editors who may take turn-about at producing it. Having two of course does not mean that things are going to be twice as good. In fact it may mean that the confusion will simply be twice as Bad. Gord, VE3DY and Dave, VE3GBA will try to carry on since Cary, VE3ARS, has his time committed by studies. At this time we would like to move a hearty vote of thanks to Cary for Editing GW this past season.

This and the next issues may not be any better, but they are sure to be different. (Complete with typing errors. We leave them in for a reason: better to get the thing done than spent all the time correcting).

Deadline for the September issue will be 20 August. (Sept. meeting will be 5 Sept.). Short articles - one-half page, more or less, are in constant demand. Any aspect of Amateur Radio is ok. We will try to have a list of things to research and report on if you are at a loss to find one. Give a call and try your hand at reporting.

ARCOVERS

Marj Zuba now has her call-- VE3HAL -...- XYL of Wally Johnstone, ex VE3LX, passed away recently -...- From SARC News we learn that the RSO Bulletins are broadcast weakly over 16 different nets. QRP nets no doubt! -...- RSO QSL Cards are supposed to be available to RSO Members at $17. per thousand -...- Dave Halliday, VE3GPY, has had some delay in his proposed Safari of South America. His wife is recovering from an illness and he has just returned from a shake-down safari to Newfoundland. The long one is now rescheduled for Nov. or Dec. this year. -...- Eli, VE3PI, has an antenna farm of 9 acres near Vars and is getting two 50' towers up this week -...-

73 Gord and Dave.