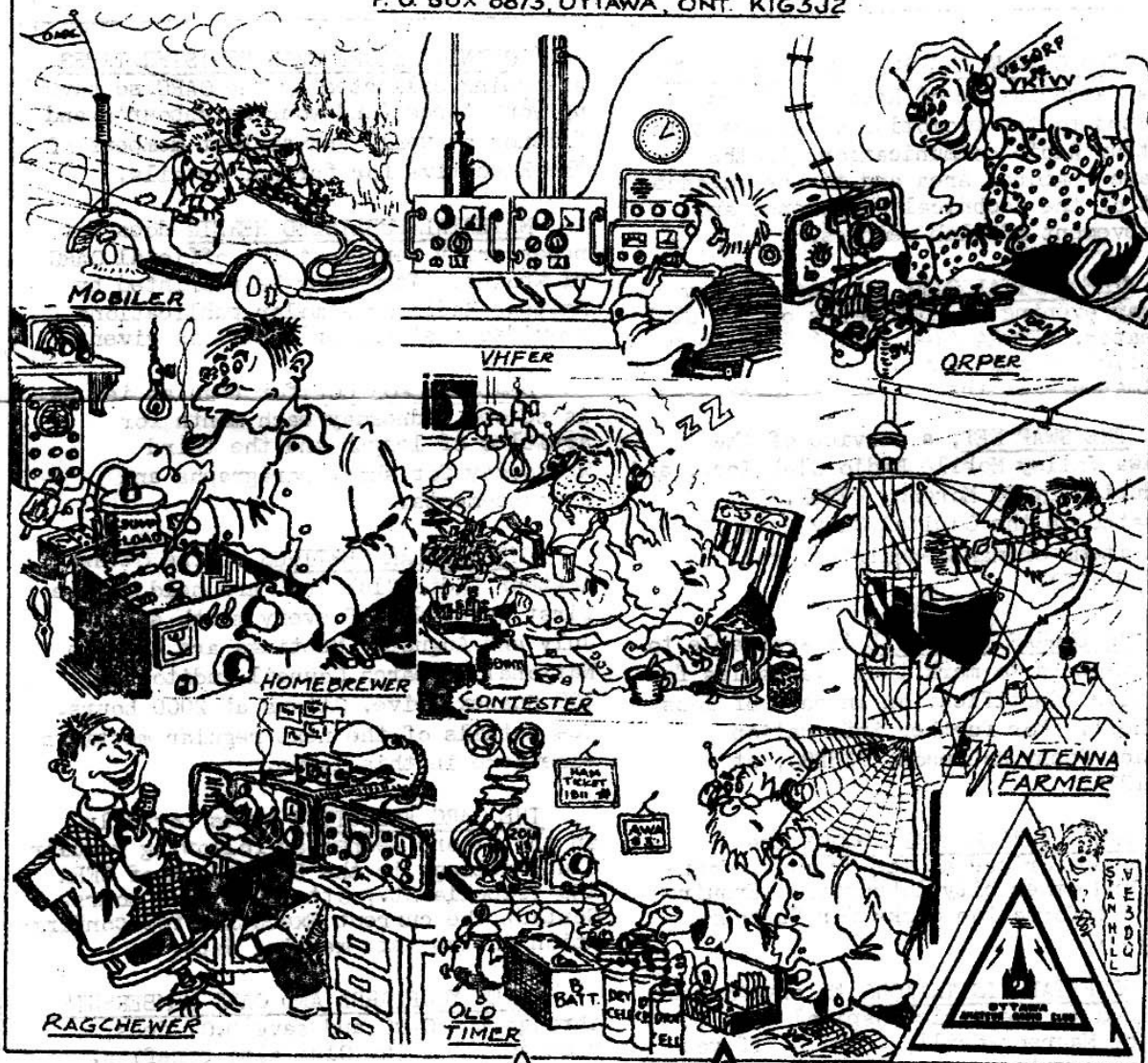




THE GROUNDWAVE

THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
 P. O. BOX 8873, OTTAWA, ONT. K1G3J2



AMSAT

Club Call VE3RC



Repeater VE2CRA

CA★RF

--- THE GROUNDWAVE --- OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. ---

Editor	Murray Strome	30 Brisbane Rd., Ottawa	226-5764
	VE3JSO	Ontario, K2E 5X2	995-1210
Ass't Editors	Brice Wightman	505 St. Laurent Blvd., Ajt. 2204	745-1192
	VE3EDR	Ottawa, Ont., K1K 3X4	
	Bob Palmer	7 Hatton Place, Nepean	224-2131
	VE3AAK	Ontario K2G 3E1	731-3111
Publishers	Ian Hamilton	215 Lees Ave., Ottawa	232-9110
	VE3AMK	Ontario K1N 8P1	
	Ray Charbonneau	3007 Rankin St., Ottawa	731-4981
	VE3JRX	Ontario, K1V 8L2	
	Bill Nottingham	17 Cedarbank Ave., Nepean	828-8282
	VE3ARZ	Ontario, K2H 7Y1	

THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. is an association of Radio Amateurs devoted to the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communications in the Ottawa regional area and to the advancement of the technical competence and achievement of Club members.

THE CAPITAL CITY NET meets every Monday evening at 2000 hours on the Club repeater, VE2CRA (146.34/146.94), to pass traffic and make announcements of interest to Amateurs in the Ottawa regional area.

THE SWAP NET, a service of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc., and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX, is repeated on the Capital City Net. To list items or make enquiries, call Ed at 733-1721.

AN ENGRAVING PENCIL is available to OARC members to mark their valuables for positive identification in case of loss or theft. For further information contact Penny Robinson, VE3ERO, at 225-1276.

RADIO AMATEUR CALL BOOKS are available for use at the Orleans, downtown and other city libraries. Enquire at the information desks for further details.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS to any Amateur confined to the Civic Hospital will be made by Maureen Neill, VE3FZY. If you know of any Amateur confined there who would appreciate a visit, call Maureen at 725-4748 (233-9941 after 5:30)

SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT!!! -- in National and International publications. Write an article to be published in THE GROUNDWAVE and then watch it travel! Many local articles have been reprinted in Club bulletins. all across North America.

DOMINION STORE CASH REGISTER TAPES are being collected by the OARC so save up your tapes (and your neighbour's and friends as well) and contact members of the Executive for further details.

MATERIAL PUBLISHED HEREIN does not necessarily represent the official OARC viewpoint. Items may be reprinted by Amateur Radio or similar publications provided that proper credit is given.

DEADLINE FOR COPY for regular issues is second Wednesday each month for articles of length and the third Wednesday for short paragraphs and announcements.

THE REGULAR MEETINGS of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. are held on the first Wednesday of every month except July and August. Meetings are held in National Research Council Auditorium, 100 Sussex Drive, Ottawa at 2000 hours. See details of the next regular meetings elsewhere in this issue.

THE OARC EXECUTIVE meets normally on the second Wednesday following regular Club meetings in the Board Room of CFRA 150 Isabella St., Ottawa at 2000 hours. Contact the current Executive for confirmation of the next meeting date.

RENEW YOUR ARRL AND CARF MEMBERSHIP through the OARC and save M.O. fees, postage, etc. The Club also benefits. Contact Brian Barsalou, VE3IBX, at 829-7340, for further details or remittance forms.

MINUTES OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR
RADIO CLUB, INC. 5 November 1980

Paul VE3ICV, President, called the meeting to order at 2000 hours and welcomed the five visitors who attended the meeting. The minutes of the September meeting were adopted as printed in the Groundwave.

Sidney VE3GVI reported that the club made a profit of \$352.82 at the fall auction held in October.

Graham VE3BYT presented the report of the nominating committee. The proposed slate of nominees for office (to be elected at the January meeting) is as follows:

President: Brian Summers,
VE3JKZ

Vice-President: Bill Nottingham,
VE3ARZ

Secretary: Ray Charbonneau,
VE3JRX

Treasurer: Lloyd Reed,
VE3AYE

Directors (three to be elected):
Graham Ide, VE3BYT
George Schutte, VE3DMC
Joe Courtemanche, VE2DZT
Jim Hayward, VE3MJH
John Mitchel, VE3DYJ

John Gilbert VE3CXL and Fred Green VE3IO were also proposed by the nominating committee. However both of these nominees, who are currently on the executive, felt that in view of the excellent slate of candidates proposed, they would prefer to give some new people the opportunity to serve the club on the executive. For this reason, Fred and John have both withdrawn their nominations. Fred will continue to serve as chairman of the Interference committee, and John will continue to serve the club and the new executive in any way he can.

Ray VE3JRX reported that the club membership is now 266.

Fred VE3IO reported that the EMI committee has had six calls for assistance in solving interference recently.

Paul VE3ICV announced that Dave Conn VE3LAO has agreed to look after the coffee for the monthly meetings.

Bill Wilson VE3NR advised the club that the tariff on amateur equipment entering Canada has been removed, thus reducing the cost of certain items by approximately 14% as of October 30th.

Paul VE3ICV informed the members that John Gilbert VE3CXL has been awarded the five band DXCC.

Brian VE3JKZ presented the technical achievement award for 1980 to Wayne Getchell VE3CZO for his UHF work.

The monthly raffle was won by Bill Nottingham VE3ARZ. The prize was a "power bar"

The featured speakers for the evening were George Roach, Sandy Cameron and Graham Patterson who gave very informative talks on the subject of Radio Frequency Interference.

Since there was no further business, Paul VE3ICV adjourned the meeting at 2200 hours.

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APOLOGIES TO ED KIPP VE3KLP!

The minutes of the September meeting of the OARC Inc. as printed in the October issue of the Groundwave erroneously stated that Paul VE3JLP was responsible for producing the 1980 Club Directory. In fact, it was Ed VE3KLP whom we should thank for the excellent work. The error was the editor's; please accept our apologies! -- Murray, VE3JSO

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held on Wednesday December 3rd, 1980 in the Auditorium of the National Research Council, 100 Sussex Dr., Ottawa, at 2000 hours.

The featured event of the evening will be a demonstration of a station designed for operation by a "white-caner". Jim Swail VE3KF will demonstrate his station and explain its operation.

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REMOVAL OF DUTY

From the CARF News Service,
Bulletin Number 35

Whatever the rest of Canadians thought of the federal budget, 20,000 Amateurs found a good word for one item in it. The lifting of duty on major Amateur items is now a reality due to the persistent of CARF and other radio organizations. The 14.3 to 16.6 percent rates formerly applied on various equipments from the U.K., the U.S.A., Japan and other countries in the category of Most Favoured Nations has been dropped in favour of free entry, effective the 29th of October. The following equipment under Tariff Item 44534-2 is affected: transmitters, receivers, transceivers and transverters, assembled or in kit form, designed for use only on the Amateur bands of the radio frequency spectrum as defined by regulations made pursuant to the Radio Act; linear amplifiers, variable frequency oscillators and power supplies designed for use with the foregoing; parts of all of the foregoing. One fly in the ointment is that, according to a source in the Department of National Revenue head office, rigs with the new bands of 10, 18 and 24 MHz will still be dutiable, as these frequencies have not yet been officially added to the frequency schedules. CARF has already written to DOC to ask for ammendments to the Radio Regulations frequency tables to include these bands, to be effective

at an appropriate date to be determined by the Department. According to a National Revenue spokesman, equipment which include a capability to receive the two time stations JJY and WWV would probably not exclude them from duty-free status. Microphones, antennae and other accessories are still dutiable.

Technically, the new tariff rules are a legislative matter to be dealt with by Parliament, however, it is customary to make the changes effective immediately for retroactive approval.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

1306 Warwick Ct.
Sun City Center
Florida, U.S.A.
11 November 1980

The Editor, Groundwave:

Perhaps this is unfair now that the snowflakes are blowing around your ankles and the cold breezes are a grim reminder of cooler things to come, but Greetings from the South.

You will notice that I didn't say "Sunny South", because there is a tropical storm in the Gulf that has clouded things here for three days. However, it isn't cold; in fact, it is warm enough to enjoy swimming outdoors. We're not trying to rub it in, of course, even though for several weeks prior to leaving, we were wished a good winter on all sides.

With a little planning, the weather was kind to us on the way down. Dry roads, not too much traffic and lots of gas, even if it wasn't cheap! And U.S. dollars aren't cheap either! We made it on schedule, although it will probably take us a few days to get acclimatized. We are gradually getting all the bugs swept up from the various crannies into which they had crept over the very hot summer. And although almost everything we see has been wiped clean of that almost

--continued on p. 8

TO MY NEIGHBORS

Notice concerning alleged TV interference from this transmitter:

- (1) You have called to my attention the fact that transmissions from my station are causing interference to your TV reception.
- (2) Interference such as you describe is not caused by HAM operations, as HAM stations cannot and do not cause TV interference. Nor is this interference the result of any malfunction of my equipment or poor operating habits, for my station is not a HAM station.
- (3) Be advised that your government is placing a \$500 per year tax on all TV receivers. Because it is difficult at this late date to obtain a listing of TV set owners for taxation purposes, our government has established a vast network of TV jamming installations with the goal that TV set owners will make themselves known to these jamming stations so that their names can be added to the tax rolls. This station is just such an installation.
- (4) Your government greatly appreciates you turning yourself in. You will be one of the first taxed. You have also verified that this first TV jamming equipment is functioning properly.
- (5) We have also made note of the time and channel you reported this jamming. This information will be given to several TV program rating services.
- (6) You have therefore provided a valuable service to the entertainment industry and to your government.
- (7) So that you will not be the only one taxed, please be patient as we continue our TV jamming operation.

de Worldradio/Boulder ARC

POMONA HONOURS AMATEURS

The City of Pomona, California, presented a proclamation honouring Amateur Radio to the Tri-County Amateur Radio Association, one of the oldest radio clubs in Southern California, dating back to World War I. The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS Amateur Radio began shortly after Marconi successfully received radio signals in Newfoundland from across the Atlantic Ocean in 1901 and 1912 there were so many radio stations on the air that a law became necessary to prevent interference; and

WHEREAS during World War I, thousands of "hams" served as radio operators in the armed forces and to this day governments have a thorough appreciation of the value of amateur radio as a source of skilled radio personnel in time of war; and

WHEREAS during World War II, thousands of skilled amateurs contributed their knowledge to the development of secret radio devices; and the pre-war technical progress by amateurs provided the keystone for the development of modern military communications equipment; and

WHEREAS an Amateur Radio operator in Pittsburgh in 1920 used his station to play phonograph records for the entertainment of neighbors listening on small crystal sets which led to commercial radio broadcasting and

WHEREAS the public service record of the amateur is a brilliant tribute to his work; Amateur Radio has been the principle, and in many cases the only, means of outside communication in storm, flood, fire and earthquake emergencies; and

WHEREAS Field Day, just one of many public service operations, is an annual event occurring every June when amateurs take their equipment into the great outdoors and test it for use in case of disaster:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Pomona City Council, do hereby declare

the week of June 22-28, 1980, as "AMATEUR RADIO WEEK" and encourage the public to become acquainted with Amateur Radio operators' activities as they participate in Field Day, June 28-29, 1980.
de Worldradio

FOREIGN RAG CREWS - FRIEND OR FOE?

Remember Guyana? Could it happen again? Could one of us Amateurs get involved in some international plot just because we want to show our kindness and goodwill to a foreign amateur? This letter from KA6GVI gives us something to think about:

"This morning I was listening to Felipe, a radio amateur in Bogota, Colombia. He asked every station he contacted in the US to send him a Callbook. A station in Illinois said he would mail him one. The con job was that Felipe claimed he could otherwise not afford to pay money for the Callbook.

"It is generally known that terrorists around the world make use of Amateur Radio equipment for their communications. Not knowing who Felipe is, and with all the unrest and strife in Bogota, do you think it is right for American amateurs to start to send things automatically to an area rampant with terrorism? I don't. I also know that amateurs exchange QSL cards with each other. These cards often give the home address and list items of equipment owned by the amateur. What if a list of these addresses and equipment is being made up by a terrorist group?

"I am concerned that if these groups should infiltrate, or have contacts in the US, they can use these lists to steal amateur equipment for their cause. Recently, members of the underground group called FALN were caught breaking into various properties and stealing a van within two miles of my home. Could they also have been after some amateur gear?

"I propose that the US department

of State consider a ban on amateur communications between US and countries experiencing civil strife due to terrorists. I would also like to see a ban on amateur communications with USSR along with other boycotts requested by the president."

This is an excerpt from a letter sent to the US Department of State by Lawrence Cotariu KA6WVI. There is some good meat here. Couldn't we get just as much credit from our DX contacts without the "brag list" on our QSL's? Couldn't we just put our city as our home address, since most QSL's come through a third party. Shouldn't we be a bit more cautious when we play "good guy" and pack up expensive gifts to send to a fellow amateur?

de Worldradio/ARNS Bulletin

PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Cable TV companies are cooking up a method of allowing customers to use newly developed two-way speech facilities on their cables to open up a type of random access personal communications resembling on-the-air CB. It would not, of course, require a licence. Further planning would hook up CB repeaters and thus individual CB sets to this system which would extend the range of CB communications. A trial of the idea is being held in the Brockville, Ont., cable system. The addition of a means of discrete addressing would provide some interesting sort of competition with the telephone companies.

de The Canadian Amateur

DID YOU KNOW?

- That Prince Albert amateurs broadcast code practice on cable TV?
 - That Regina amateurs air ARRL films on cable TV?
 - That saskatchewan amateurs claim they have more repeaters per square amateur than any other province in Canada?
- de CRRR Newsletter

LETTER - continued from p. 5

almost invisible film of mold that builds up over the summer, just running your hand over a surface will turn up something that has been missed!

Of course, it was nice and warm when we arrived. Shorts weather as I call it. So warm, in fact, that we broke with our Spartan ways and turned the air-conditioner, A/C for short. After it had been on for half an hour, it felt cooler outdoors than inside! Wouldn't you know it: no cooling. The next morning, a climb to the roof for an inspection revealed the cause--a disconnected capacitor on the compressor preventing it from starting. No problem? Ha! The terminal of the capacitor had rusted off! A visit to the local repair shop was an eye-opener: capacitors which cost \$18.00 three years ago are now \$32.00. Inflation--
HUMBUG!

Well, at least we're on the air. Sched time of 11:30 on 29.250 was answered by old reliable VE3OJ, who handled our arrival traffic. This is a daily schedule for several of us Snowbirds, and it would be nice to hear our old friends on the air. Young friends are welcome too! Look for us. Until next time,

73,
Gord, VE3DY/W4

-----Thanks for the letter, Gord; it is the FIRST letter to the editor I have received since taking on this job a year ago! Perhaps it might inspire others to write!??? Season's greetings from your snow-bound Ottawa friends, and enjoy your stay in the South. 73, Murray, VE3JSO

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A CHALLENGE FROM VE3JLP

-by Paul D. Cooper, VE3JLP

I'm not really a competitive fellow--at least I thought I wasn't until I got my ticket three years ago when things suddenly changed. Mostly, it was DXing, the kick of

working that illusive station on the other side of the world, the feeling of satisfaction as I filled in the log and chalked up another country on my modest but growing DXCC list.

During the first few months, I used to tell the family of my successes...extraordinary how quickly they lost interest in the whole business:

"Hey, Mary, I've just worked station in the Falkland Islands!"

"Well that's nice, dear; did you know that Mrs. Cameron's cow got into my garden again last night?"

Mrs. Cameron's cow?! Talk about going from the sublime to the ridiculous.

Then, I joined the OARC. At last, I thought, I can find an interested audience to tell about my DXploits. And so I did, but it did not turn out quite the way I had expected:

"Evening, Joe, did you hear that 5W1 on 20 last night? I finally broke the pile-up after calling for two hours. That's another country for me; I've worked 112 now!"

"Oh yes, I heard him. Of course I worked 5W1 three years ago from my old QTH when I only had a vertical and 50 watts. Last night, I gave him one call and he came straight back, no problem. By the way, the night before, I worked him on 10 and 15, both CW and phone....DXCC? Oh well, I'm up to 280 confirmed now. Keep up the good work, Paul, you'll get there eventually."

Talk about having the wind taken out of your sails! The deflated feeling usually lasted right through to the coffee session.

--continued p. 9

Challenge -- continued

Six months ago, I finally bought a two metre mobile rig and joined the various groups chatting back and forth through the traffic jams on their way to work. I soon found a group that liked to talk DX; what was on and what they had worked the night before. They are a pleasant bunch, and we've had some fine round tables on every aspect of DX, but I'm still having my problems!

"Morning, Steve, did you hear that VK9N last night? Nobody else seemed to hear him. He gave me a 579. I've never heard one of them on the band before. I suppose they're fairly rare?"

"Hmmm...VK9N eh? Was his suffix November Alpha or November Foxtrot?"

What on earth does it matter, I think as I desperately dredge out the balance of the call sign from the recesses of my mind.

"I think it was November Foxtrot, Steve."

"Oh well, that's Charlie Jones. He used to operate from 9M1 and HKØ. He's a Canadian, you know. I used to have a regular sked with him every Sunday night. Last week I worked him on 40 and 80 CW too."

What can you say in reply to that as you sit behind the wheel feeling completely crushed--AGAIN!

After all these discouraging experiences, I was beginning to feel that my competitive streak had been permanently dented. It seemed clear to me that there was no aspect of Amateur Radio in which I could really excel; there would always be someone to top my story, to "one-up" my modest successes.

Then one evening, as I sat brooding in the shack listening to the background noise that was the only response to my second CQ that hour, it came to me in a flash--there was one side of Amateur Radio where I was almost sure I had a winner! After I'd thought it through, I decided that I should issue a challenge to all comers--a "Top this one, if you can" statement from VE3JLP. This is the sort of universal challenge which can be picked up by not only the DXers, but also the Rag-Chewers, traffic men, VHFers and if fact, anyone who is ever on the air!

Have I whetted your appetite? Well here is the challenge: I believe that I have the smallest shack in our part of the country! Now when I say small, I mean *really* small. Our house is small to begin with, and we have five children. When I first got my ticket, I had a long and not always harmonious discussion with the XYL on where we should put the shack. Eventually, we agreed that I should use a corner of a clothes closet. I actually have the back quarter, which measures 2' 6" wide by 3' 6" deep from the back of my chair to the wall behind the rig. The height under a sloping roof varies from 5' 4" to 6' 10".

Visitors to the shack are actually sitting out in the adjacent portion of the closet--there is only room for the operator in the shack itself! If I lean back to stretch, I find that I'm knocking towels off the shelf behind me, while the poor visitor's shoulders are half buried in a row of summer dresses which hang over his chair.

Well, there it is. Get those tape measures out and see if you can match my cramped quarters. I may even offer a small prize in the unlikely event that anyone manages to beat my record! To ensure fair play, I'll ask our club president to act as an adjudicator. In case of dispute, his decision will be final...so let's hear from you! 73, Paul, VE3JLP

FROM THE EDITOR

It has been nearly a year now since I offered to take on the job as Editor of the Groundwave from Carl, VE3BYX. For me, it has been an interesting experience and I am enjoying the work which is made considerably easier by the assistance I receive from the assistant editors, Brice VE3EDR and Bob VE3AAK and the publishers Ian VE3AMK, Ray VE3JRX and Bill VE3ARZ. I have also enjoyed very much working with your club executive who have provided encouragement, support and assistance. And perhaps most important of all, the Groundwave wouldn't exist at all if it were not for the contributions of the members. I am especially pleased to see the variety in the types of articles which have been received over the past two months, and I appreciate the balance achieved this month between contributions from representatives of the "regular" and "new" authors.

Because of the great interest shown by the club members at the November meeting in the subject of Radio Frequency Interference, with the help of Fred Green VE3IO and the members of his EMI Committee (and any others who are willing to contribute), we will be trying to put together a series of articles on this topic. We hope to be able to present material which will help any member having problems with interference in his neighbour's television or audio equipment to find a solution.

There are a number of excellent publications available on the subject of interference. A good starting point is the booklet available at no charge from the Department of Communications entitled "How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems".

Two other excellent sources of information are the "Consumer Electronics Service Technician Interference Handbooks" on "Audio Rectification" and "Television Interference" published by the Consumer

Electronics Group, Electronic Industries Association. Copies can be obtained by writing to:

Mrs. Sally Brown,
Division of Government and
Consumer Affairs,
Consumer Electronics Group
Electronics Industries
Association
2001 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
20006

Mrs. Brown was most helpful and cooperative when I contacted her to ask permission to extract material from the EIA booklets for the Groundwave. She also stated that over the past few years, all the major consumer electronics companies have become most cooperative when asked for assistance in solving RFI problems. Since the sale of linear amplifiers capable of use on the CB bands has been stopped in the U.S., the number of rfi complaints has fallen dramatically. She also said that the EIA receives very few complaints of interference by amateurs. The most difficult ones to solve are usually those involving audio rectification.

The booklets have a nominal cost of \$1.00 each (U.S. FUNDS).

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families all the best for the Holiday Season and for 1981. Why not make a New Year's resolution to write at least one article or letter to the editor for the Groundwave next year?!?!?

73,

Murray, VE3JSO

CONTEST: It has been suggested that we ought to consider a change for the cover of the Groundwave, perhaps something a bit simpler. Thus, we would like your suggestions for a new cover. Submit your entries to the Editor by January 10th, 1981. The new executive will judge the entries, and the winner will be awarded a suitable prize.

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 9873, Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 3J2

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1981
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\$7.00 Family

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ACTIVITIES (PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE ITEMS)

BANDS

- SSB _____
- AM _____
- VHF/FM _____
- CW _____
- RTTY _____
- SSTV _____
- VHF _____

PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE ITEMS:

I AM A: MEMBER APPOINTEE OFFICIAL
ARRL _____
RSO _____
CARF _____
RAQI _____

I HAVE A GAS/DIESEL GENERATOR yes/no I HAVE A 2-METRE HAND CARRIED yes/no

MY MAIN INTEREST IN AMATEUR RADIO IS: () HF () VHF OTHER _____

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE OARC DO/NOT DO NEXT YEAR?

(Applicant to complete at same time as above)

OARC MEMBERSHIP - 1981

RECEIVED FROM..... AMOUNT OF \$

SIGNATURE
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

DATE

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P.O. Box 8873, OTTAWA, Ontario, Canada
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: President Paul Coverdale 16 Longwood Ave., OTTAWA 820-4143 :
: VE3ICV Ontario, K2H 6G2 596-5412 :
: V/President Brian Summers 2231 Hillary Ave., OTTAWA 523-1535 :
: VE3JKZ Ontario, K1H 7H7 993-2931 :
: Secretary Dave Parks Apt. 809, 1725 Riverside Dr. 733-6494 :
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: Treasurer John Gilbert 714 Highland Ave., OTTAWA, 729-2282 :
: VE3CXL Ontario, K2A 2K7 995-2128 :
: Directors Fred Green 118 Riverdale Ave., OTTAWA, 232-5920 :
: VE3IO Ontario, K1S 1R2 596-9359 :
: Dave Hilborn 1231 Shillington Ave., OTTAWA, 722-9811 :
: VE3JBX Ontario, K1Z 7Z9 225-1980 :
: Jim Swail 18 Kilbarry Cr., OTTAWA, 746-1437 :
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: Chairman VE3JRX Ontario, K1V 8N2 993-2482 :
: Custodian & Gerry Martin 1771 Hutton Ave., OTTAWA 731-3220 :
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: Net MGR. & Ken Kendall 777B Springland Dr., OTTAWA 731-0892 :
: Emerg. Coord. VE3IHX Ontario, K1V 6L9 :
