

MAR 85



# GROUNDWAVE



Club Call VE3RC

Repeater VE2CRA

VE3XXM

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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 at 2000 hours on the Club repeater VE2CRA (146.34/.94) to pass traffic and to make announcements of interest to Amateurs in the Ottawa regional area.

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

An ENGRAVING PENCIL is available to Club Members to mark their valuables for positive identification in case of loss or theft. For further information, contact Penny Robinson VE3ERQ at 225-1276.

The OARC EXECUTIVE normally meets on the second Wednesday of each month in the Board Room of CFRA, 150 Isabella St., Ottawa at 1930 hours. Contact the President to confirm the date of the next meeting.

RENEW YOUR CARF AND CRRL MEMBERSHIP directly with these organizations, as the Club no longer provides this service to members.

DEADLINE FOR COPY is the first Wednesday of each month.

REGULAR MEETINGS of the OARC, Inc. are held on the first Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at the National Research Council Auditorium, 100 Sussex Drive, Ottawa at 2000 hours. A bulletin board is available for posting notices of interest to other members at about 1915 hours. For further details about the next meeting, see Page 5.

SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT! -- in National and International publications. Write an article for the GROUNDWAVE and watch it travel! Many local articles have been reprinted in Club bulletins across North America.

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

SAFETY BELTS and TWO METRE RIG are available for loan to Club Members. The 2 metre rig may be borrowed by members who are hospitalized and the safety belts and pole straps by any member (\$100 refundable deposit is required for the latter). For the belts, contact Paul VE3ICV 820-6643 (west end) or Brian VE3JKZ (east end) at 523-1535. Contact the President for the two metre rig.

RADIO AMATEUR CALL BOOKS are available for the use of area amateurs at many of the libraries throughout the region, including downtown and other city libraries, Orleans and Nepean. Enquire at the information desk of your local library for details.

MINUTES OF THE OTTAWAAMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc

February 2nd, 1983

The meeting was called to order by Bob VE3MPG, President, at 2000 hours. One new member, Carl Raskin VE3JRZ, was welcomed to the meeting, along with visitors Ted Jewell G4ELM and Derek Baker G3XMD.

Ken Kendall VE3IHX, the guest speaker for the evening, gave an interesting presentation concerning the role and function of the Amateur Radio Group of the Emergency Measures Organization. He outlined the present organization of the Amateur Radio Group, the equipment at their disposal and the sort of emergencies one might foresee in the Ottawa area.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed in the GROUNDWAVE on a motion by Doug VE3CDC seconded by Ray VE3JRX, subject to the following corrections:

1. Page 3: John Henry VE2VQ used a ZX-81, not a ZX-80 as stated.
2. Page 3: John Rodger's call is VE3KYT, not VE3GHO.
3. Page 4: The CARF Report stated that the DOC fee increases would be 6% and 5%, NOT the CARF fees.

George VE3BNO reported that the Ski Marathon needs only a few more volunteers as back up personell. George also reported on behalf of the RSO Convention Committee that arrangements have made to hold the 1984 RSO Convention at the new Weston Hotel in the Rideau Centre, Ottawa.

Doug VE3CDC, reporting on behalf of CARF, stated that he had been advised by Bill VE3NR that DOC has issued a new bulletin, DGTR-021-82, proposing regulations on rf noise generated by power lines. More details are given elsewhere in this issue of the GROUNDWAVE.

The Club needs a Vice-President and a Treasurer. Bob VE3MPG, President called for volunteers or nominations from the floor, but because of the small turnout, none were forthcoming.

The Gatineau 55 km Ski Marathon still needs about eight volunteers to assist with communications. Contact Rick VE3HVA if you wish to help.

Mike VE3LAR announced that the next meeting of the OVMRC would be on Thursday February 17th at 2000 hours in the National Museum of Science and Technology.

The guest speaker for the next meeting of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be Harry Splett VE3GVV. The subject will be Communications for Field Parties in the Arctic.

The April meeting will be Home Brew Night.

The President thanked the 27 attendees who turned out on the worst evening of the winter. The meeting adjourned at 2200 on a motion by Mike VE3LAR seconded by Sydney VE3GVI.

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REPORT FROM CARF

Thanks to Doug VE3CDC

On January 28th, 1983 the DOC approved the use of special prefixes for the period May 17th to July 17th, 1983. During this period, amateurs in Newfoundland may use the prefix CI, those in the Yukon the prefix CK and all VE's may use the prefix CY.

From a recent issue of the Canada Gazette, it was noted that the DOC has proposed new radio noise regulations covering power transmission and distribution lines as well as substations using voltages from 1 kv to 700 kv. The first regulations of this kind ever adopted in Canada, they are designed to protect am broadcasting, but they will obviously benefit amateurs. The regulations are complex, and special measuring equipment is needed. See Notice DGTR-021-82.

## THE MANITOBA AMATEUR

Congratulations to the Amateur Radio League of Manitoba and to Ed Robbins VE4YE for the bright and newsy magazine, "The Manitoba Amateur." Obviously amateur radio is alive and well in the keystone province.

An editorial insert reported that Harold VE1AAF was heard to comment on the air how he had asked his chemistry class, "What is the most important thing to remember in Chemistry?"

One of his smarter boys replied, "Never lick the spoon."

## IS YOUR BEAM DROOPING?

I was happy to see my new beam, a three element tri-bander atop of the mast after it had been carefully assembled and clamped together. That was two years ago. Over the last twelve months the ends have drooped more than a little until it looked like a tired duck, then one of the end sections complete with trap fell to the ground. The reception on the top band, 20 metres, was poor and contacts difficult. The early fall was perfect weather for antenna maintenance.

What a shock to see close up the condition of the boom and element clamps; many were loose or broken. A high wind would have caused the antenna to fall apart and rain down on the roof of the house from 60 feet high. The bolts in the major clamps holding the elements to the boom had been securely tightened during the initial assembly, but the clamps themselves had distorted slightly, in effect relieving the clamping load on the bolts and loosening the whole clamp assembly. Several of the small bolts on element sections holding the element sections together had broken, causing the elements to droop.

All of the original element circular clamps were discarded and were replaced with stainless steel automotive hose clamps. These have a superior clamping action. It was assumed that the beam clamps had

"bedded down" and would not change and the clamp bolts were re-tightened. The original tuning on all bands had been good and the final dimensions of the elements were checked.

The antenna is now structurally better than the original and it's good to hear those clear signals on "20" again.

My recommendation, to those putting up a new tri-beam or repairing an old one, is to use stainless steel hose clamps, .75¢ to \$1.00 each from CTC or the local hardware store, and to use split steel lock washers, not standard ones, on the boom clamps.

de Roy VE3LUC via  
NORTOPICS  
Nortown ARC

## FOR ALL YOU RADIO CONTROL TYPES...

Last April, at the request of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, Inc. (AMA), the FCC proposed to provide additional channels for radio control of models. . . . additional frequencies were needed to cope with the anticipated expansion of model activities in future years and to compensate for diminished use of six existing 27 MHz freq's. . . . because of interference from the Citizens Band Radio Service. . . . .FCC proposed 80 new channels be made available—50 for aircraft models and 30 for surface models—in the 72-76 MHz band with no spectrum to be taken from the Amateur Radio Service.

The new rules provide for an additional 50 r/c channels for "model aircraft devices" spaced every 20 KHz between 72.01 and 72.99 MHz and 30 channels for model surface devices every 20 KHz between 75.41 and 75.99 MHz. The existing 72 MHz R/C channels will be withdrawn in 1987. (Bonne idée, n'est-ce pas?)

de W5YI report via  
Windsor ARC

Young Hams Beware: the difference between dashing and dotage is shorter than you think!

\* \* \*



## USE TYPEWRITER WHEN COPYING!

A prominent, dedicated, long-time traffic handler writes that he declined to serve as liaison between several high-ranking traffic nets, because he "could not copy code on a typewriter." Some years ago he retired from a busy office where he regularly used a typewriter, touch-typing letters. He continues writing letters, using a typewriter, but must use a "stick" (pencil) to copy radiograms. Although he can head-copy at rather fast code speeds, his problem remains. Perhaps there are many others who must make their initial CW copy by "stick," even if they have touch typed for years. Is there a quick cure for such a problem?

My memory flashes back to various articles, over many years, covering such a problem! I think back to my seemingly useless attempts in articles or columns to put across this point: touch typing is merely a skill, and so is copying code on a typewriter. You learn a skill by practice! So don't expect "quick" or "effective" results if you leave your typewriter in a case, closet or any remote place. Set it up as part of your radio station, and use it as such! Build a stand for your typewriter if you don't have one that is compact—do whatever is necessary to have it always ready for action!

Use your typewriter in QSO, for all letters—everything possible; even keep your log sheet rolled up on the platen. Use your typewriter to the extent that you learn to reach for it rather than the "stick!" Copy WIAW daily, or other stations on regular schedules. Sooner than you may now realize, your present inability to copy code on a typewriter will evaporate quickly if you follow this formula.

de Armond Brattland, K6EA/0  
Worldradio via  
St. PaulMN Groundwave

\* \* \* \*

In these days of computer literacy, keyboard skills are no longer a frill but a necessity.

## ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT HAMMING' BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHO TO ASK

CONTESTING — What is it?

Well it's another way of QSO'ing only not on quite so personal a level as a regular QSO. The whole idea is to work as many stations as possible in an allotted time frame.

The usual format is to exchange an RST report and provide a sequential number for the exchange. At this point, most contests differ. Some go on to include in the exchange such things as QTH, ITU Zone or the operator's name, age, or even year first licensed. Most contests are designed to aid the operator to achieve some goal, whether a DXCC certificate or just to finish ~~TOP-OF-THE-HEAP~~ in band worked or area worked from. Many fine awards and trophies are available for the top entries in most contests.

Operating skills are refined during a contest and the thrill of pulling in a rare DX station who may only come on the bands during a "TEST" has to be experienced to be appreciated.

The pro's are many but the con's are also there. Contesting does usually occur on weekends when most of us have our free time and like to rag chew. As a result, tempers can flair when a good deal of the band is appropriated by the C'testers and the QRM is 20 over 9 across the band. Thankfully, contests such as those only occur about once a month throughout the fall to spring months, and are usually worldwide affairs where jumping in and joining the gang can reap more joy than sitting on the sideline and gnashing one's teeth.

Next month I will outline some of the popular contests and perhaps give you a gentle push towards working your first CONTEST.

de Tom VE3KZE in the  
South Pickering  
SPARC GAP

(We have Tom's second installment and we'll run it in the next issue of Groundwave ...Ed.)



JIM SWAIL, VE3KF (THE KINGFISH) RECENTLY WAS HONOURED BY ARRL/CRRL FOR HIS ARTICLE IN QST ON A DIGITAL READOUT FOR THE BLIND. HERE RAY PERRIN, VE3FN OF CRRL PRESENTS JIM WITH HIS AWARD PLAQUE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

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 CANADIAN SKI MARATHON::::::::::TENTH ANNIVERSARY  
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ON FEBRUARY 11 AND 12 THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE VE2RM REPEATER CLUB PROVIDED THE COMMUNICATIONS FOR THE 17 TH CANADIAN SKI MARATHON. AS BEFITTING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF RADIO AMATEURS HANDLING THE EVENT WE DID OURSELVES PROUD. SO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED ALL YOU AMATEURS WHO GAVE FREELY OF YOUR TALENTS AND TIME. AND THANKS TO THE AMATEURS WHO CO-OPERATED IN KEEPING THE VE2RM AND VE2CRA REPEATERS FREE FOR THE MARATHON COMMUNICATIONS. A LOOK BACK OVER THE RECORDS SHOW AN ASTONISHING AMOUNT

OF TIME AND LABOUR DONATED BY MANY RADIO AMATEURS. THE FOLLOWING LIST RECORDS THE AMATEURS INVOLVED OVER THE YEARS, THE NUMBER OF YEARS EACH WORKED ON THE MAIN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK AND IF ASTERISKED, THOSE WHO WORKED ON THE MARATHON NET THIS YEAR.

- VE2'S APT(10)\*, ARL(1), ARP(3),
- BFH(2), BOQ(1), BSQ(2), BTQ(1), DEAC(4),
- DNW(1), DZE(3), FSA(5)\*, FFS(2), VQ(1)\*,
- WM(1), ZA(2).

CANADIAN SKI MARATHON-CONT'D

VE3'S AHN(2),AMK(8),AMN(6),  
 AOE(2),ARJ(4),AUM(3),AYE(2)\*,  
 BGG(1),BGS(1),BNA(1)\*,BNO(10)\*,  
 BR(1),BYO(1),BYT(3),BYX(10)\*,  
 CIJ(5),CNJ(1),CRX(9)\*,CUZ(1),  
 CUG(1),CXL(2),CYM(3),CZO(1),  
 DEP(8),DMC(1),DOE(2),DWL(2),  
 DYD(1),EBE(1),ECJ(1),EHO(1),  
 EKS(1),ELQ(1),EOF(1)\*,EQE(1),  
 EQH(2),EPK(1),FKC(4),FMM(1),  
 FNG(2),FXZ(1),GFI(2)\*,GFY(4),  
 GIR(3),GOJ(3),GPR(7)\*,GRJ(1),  
 GSA(7),GST(3),GVI(4),GWY(3),  
 GYZ(1),GZS(2),HAT(3),HCA(1)\*,  
 HJV(1),HKG(9)\*,HLU(3),HVA(8)\*,  
 HWN(1),HXP(3),HYS(4),IAY(1),  
 ICF(1),IHX(3),IHW(1),IHZ(2),  
 JBB(2),JBQ(5),JBX(2)\*,JDB(2)\*,  
 JDC(1),JDZ(1),JKZ(2)\*,JLI(2),  
 JPC(1)\*,JRL(1),JRX(1),JSJ(6)\*,  
 KEB(2)\*,KIH(2)\*,KIZ(1),KLN(2),  
 KME(2),KMV(3)\*,LAR(1)\*,LJ(8),  
 MJC(1)\*,MPF(1),MPG(2)\*,MPX(1)\*,  
 NJN(1)\*,NPP(1)\*,PF(1),QB(1),  
 SAX(1),UD(3), ZS(10)\*./2AGW(1).

COUNT THEM, 114 AMATEURS  
 AND A MINIMUM OF 201 OCCASIONS.  
 I SAY A MINIMUM BECAUSE ON SOME  
 OCCASIONS THE AMATEUR WAS OUT FOR  
 TWO OR TWO AND A HALF DAYS. SO  
 AMATEURS TIMES OCCASIONS EQUALS  
 22,914 DAYS OF VOLUNTEERED TIME  
 BY OTTAWA AMATEURS TO THE CANAD-  
 IAN SKI MARATHON. IT TAKES AT LEAST  
 A DAY TO PREPARE THE EQUIPMENT AND  
 GET TO THE CHECKPOINTS AND BACK,  
 SPREAD OVER 100 MILES OF SKI TRACK.

AND THE ABOVE LIST OF AMAT-  
 EURS DOES NOT TELL ALL THE STORY.  
 IN ADDITION TO THE AMATEURS OPERAT-  
 ING ON THE MAIN NET THERE WERE OTHER  
 AMATEURS WORKING FOR "MARATHON  
 SAFETY". THESE ARE AMATEURS WHO SKI  
 THE TRAILS CARRYING PACK RADIOS, AND  
 WHO DO NOT APPEAR ON THE ABOVE LIST.  
 NEXT WEEK I WILL HAVE A LIST OF THE-  
 SE RADIO AMATEURS TO ADD TO THE ABO-  
 VE FIGURES. SHOULD BE "INTERESTING"-  
 AS ANYONE WHO HAS OPERATED ON THE  
 MARATHON WILL AGREE .....

SO A VERY SPECIAL THANKS  
 FROM THE CLUB AND ITS MEMBERS TO ALL  
 YOU GUYS AND GALS WHO ARE UPHOLDING  
 THE REAL SPIRIT OF AMATEUR RADIO.

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR ON THE  
 MARATHON.....

TEN METRE SATELLITE DOWNLINK

AT A RECENT MEETING OF THE  
 OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB EXECUTIVE,  
 CLUB PROJECTS WERE BEING DISCUSSED FOR  
 PRESENTATION TO THE MEMBERSHIP. ONE OF  
 THE PROJECTS WAS A SIMPLE CONVERSION OF  
 GRS 11 METRE GEAR FOR OPERATION ON THE  
 TEN METRE BAND. THE FREQUENCIES BEING  
 MENTIONED SOUNDED FAMILIAR AND ON  
 CHECKING SEVERAL MAGAZINE ARTICLES I  
 FIND THAT CHANELLIZED 10 METRE OPERAT-  
 ION HAS BECOME QUITE POPULAR IN THE  
 29.3-29.7 MHZ PORTION OF THE BAND. THE  
 RECENT RUSSIAN LAUNCHED SATELLITES  
 WHICH UPLINK ON TWO METRES TRANSMIT  
 BACK TO EARTH BETWEEN 29.3 AND 29.5  
 MHZ. THIS IS AN OBVIOUS CONFLICT, WHICH  
 WILL EXIST UNTIL THE PRESENT SATELLITES  
 DIE. IF OPERATION IS CONTEMPLATED IN  
 THIS PORTION OF THE BAND TRY AND OPERATE  
 THE TOP CHANNELS ABOVE 29.5 MHZ, OR STICK  
 TO THE LOWEST CHANNELS AROUND 29.3 MHZ  
 WHERE SATELLITE ACTIVITY IS MINIMUM.

GEORGE..... VE3BNO

40 METRE WIAW CODE PRACTICE

FOR MANY YEARS WIAW HAS BEEN  
 TRANSMITTING CODE PRACTICE FOR BEGINNING  
 AMATEURS ON 7.070 MHZ. SINCE THE OPENING  
 OF 7.050 TO 7.100 TO CANADIAN SINGLE  
 SIDEBAND TRANSMISSIONS THERE HAS BEEN  
 INTERFERENCE TO THESE CODE PRACTICE  
 SESSIONS BY CANADIAN OPERATORS WHO FOR  
 ONE REASON OR ANOTHER DO NOT UNDERSTAND  
 WHAT IS BEING TRANSMITTED ON 7070. MOST  
 AMATEURS HAVE RECEIVERS THAT WILL REC-  
 EIVE THE CW THROUGH SSB INTERFERENCE BUT  
 THE BEGINNING AMATEUR OR AMATEUR TO BE  
 WHO IS LISTENING WITH AN OLD HALLICRAFT-  
 ERS S-38 OR RADIO SHACK SHORT WAVE RECE-  
 IVER HASN'T A CHANCE. IF YOU OPERATE IN  
 THIS BAND ON PHONE OR CW TRY AND AVOID  
 7.070 MHZ.

GEORGE.....VE3BNO



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc., P.O. Box 8873, OTTAWA, Ontario K1G 3J2  
SURNAME \_\_\_\_\_ Common Name \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Names/  
Calls (Family Membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street/City/Province) \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Telephone CLASS Associate( )  
(home) : \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) : \_\_\_\_\_ Amateur( ) Advanced Amateur( )

ACTIVITIES (List bands worked)

CW \_\_\_\_\_ AM \_\_\_\_\_  
SSB \_\_\_\_\_ RTTY \_\_\_\_\_  
SSTV \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
VHF/FM \_\_\_\_\_ PACKET RADIO \_\_\_\_\_

I am a: MEMBER APPOINTEE OFFICIAL ; I have a gas/diesel generator  
of: ARRL ( ) ( ) ( ) ; Yes( ) No( )  
CARF ( ) ( ) ( ) : I have a two metre hand carried  
RSO ( ) ( ) ( ) : portable rig; Yes( ) No( )  
RAQI ( ) ( ) ( ) :

MY MAIN INTEREST IN AMATEUR RADIO IS: ( ) HF ( ) VHF ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Fees: Individual -- \$8.00 Family \$10.00  
(Except student & over 65--contact a member of executive)

I would like to see the OARC, Inc. do/not do the following next year:

I would be willing to help organize the following as a Club Activity:

(Applicant to complete at same time as above)

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc. Membership 198 \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED FROM.....The Amount\$.....

Signature of Membership Chairman

Date

THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 8873  
 OTTAWA, Ontario, Canada  
 K1G 3J2



FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL

To G. MARTIN, OARC ARCHIVES  
 1771 HUTTON AVE  
 OTTAWA ONT  
 K1G 1M1

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THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc. Box 8873, OTTAWA, Ont. Canada K1G 3J2

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	VE3ARZ	Ontario, K2H 6E9	
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	VE3CV	Ontario, KOA 1L0	
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	VE3GPR	Ontario, KOA 2N0	(ext 230)770-0055
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Chairman	VE3BNO	Ontario, K1S 1X6	233-6241
Custodian &	Gerry Martin	1771 Hutton Avenue, OTTAWA	731-3220
Archivist	VE3CNJ	Ontario, K1G 1M1	
Net Mgr. &	Ken Kendall	777B Springland Drive, OTTAWA	731-0892
Emrg Coord	VE3IHX	Ontario, K1V 6L9	
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