

FEB 84

THE GROUNDWAVE



Club Call VE3RC

Repeater VE2CRA



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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.

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.

DEADLINE FOR COPY is the first Wednesday of each month. **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.

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.

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 author and to the OARC, Inc.

SAFETY BELTS, TWO METRE RIG and an **ENGRAVING PENCIL** are available for loan to Club members. The two metre rig may be borrowed by members who are hospitalized and the engraving pencil (to mark valuables for positive identification in case of loss or theft) and safety belts with pole straps by any member. A \$100 refundable deposit is required for the belts. Contact the President for the two metre rig or the engraving pencil and Paul VE3ICV at 820-6643 (west-end) or Brian VE3JKZ at 523-1535 (east end) for the belts.

RADIO AMATEUR CALL BOOKS are available at many local libraries. Ask at the information desk.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc.
January 4th, 1984

The meeting was called to order at 2015 hours by the President. Jerry Wells VE3CDS was introduced as the speaker for the evening. After welcoming the visitors and congratulating hams who were new to the fraternity, he entertained those assembled with some words of wisdom. He reflected on the disconcerting signs of lack of enthusiasm and volunteers in the Club. The GROUNDWAVE, which started as a small bulletin, has seen scores of hard working volunteers. However, difficulties in publishing it will translate into difficulties in communicating with the membership.

Jerry touched upon some of the problems discussed on the Nets. One major problem is that faced by apartment dwellers wishing to erect antennas. It would be a good idea, he said, to invite one of our many members to volunteer his/her expertise on the subject. Other subjects mentioned were homebrew, Field Day, and the RSO Convention, where talent and service are placed in the limelight. In closing, Jerry recalled the "good old days" with Fred, Bill, Jerry and others. It was a lot of fun to learn about the hobby then. He hopes that it still is for those involved in it today, and will continue to be enjoyable for the newcomers.

George VE3BNO reported that the Ski Marathon will be held this year on February 9, 10 and 11. New blood is needed in the corps of volunteers to man the checkpoints. If you have a two metre rig capable of accessing VE2RM, VE2CRA or working simplex on 146.52 MHz and are willing to help out, contact George.

Gerry King VE3GK volunteered to print and collate the GROUNDWAVE this year. Ray Charbonneau received accolades and a plaque in recognition of his work over the past few years in collating, labelling and mailing the GROUNDWAVE. A beer stein was accepted by Ray on behalf of Ian Hamilton VE3AMK which was awarded to him in recognition of his invaluable support in printing the monthly Club Bulletin for the past eleven years.

According to Doug VE3CDC, reporting on behalf of CARF, the reports of contacts made by a ham in North Bay with respect to the Space Shuttle was revealed as a cruel hoax and as such should be put to rest. Doug also reported that with respect to a tower problem mentioned earlier, DOC is working on legislation that will definitely clarify the situation.

Volunteers are needed to man check points during the speed skating event on the Ottawa River to be held on Saturday February 11th. About fifteen operators will be needed for the whole day. Volunteers are also needed for the Gatineau 55 Cross Country Ski Race (formerly called the Rivière Rouge).

The Club Treasurer, Bruce VE3MJV, presented his annual report (published elsewhere in this issue). He introduced Camille Tremblay VE2DNO who performed the audit for the Club, free of charge. The annual general election was held. Since there were no new nominations, the candidates were confirmed by acclamation. The new officers are as listed on the back cover of the GROUNDWAVE.

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Incorporated
 Statement of Revenues and Expenditures for the Year Ended
 November 30, 1983

Revenues*

Memberships	\$1,528.00
Flea Market	\$ 554.28
Club Project (10m FM Conversion)	\$ 662.00
Interest	\$ 213.05
Directory Sales	\$ 10.75
Miscellaneous	\$ 43.03
	<u>\$3,011.11</u>

Expenditures

Groundwave	\$ 954.22
Flea Market	\$ 185.30
Club Project (10m FM Conversion)	\$ 839.86
Administration	\$ 355.14
Operating (Field Day, rental, etc.)	<u>\$ 161.94</u>
	\$2,496.46

Excess of Revenues over Expenditures
 for the Year Ended November 30, 1983 \$ 514.65

*Note: Revenues do not include \$4,354.00 collected from the sale of items donated to the Club from the Estate of Joe Norton VE3PN. These funds are placed in Trust and are omitted from this Statement. The Statement thus reflects more realistically the actual day-to-day operations of the Club.

PROFILE

Joan Powell VE3FV0 -- President, OARC, Inc.

Having always been interested in telecommunications, I studied for my commercial licence as a teenager. Not being old enough to write the exam, I accepted an offer by the chief engineer to work for CFBC in Saint John. This was followed by being assistant to the recording engineer at SW Caldwell Ltd. in Toronto and then in master control and recording studios of CFRB, Toronto, where a course in TV theory and operation was included. Later, I worked for an advertising agency in the print medium.

While raising my three children, I decided to try for my Amateur licence. This resulted in becoming involved for five years with the executive of the Nortown ARC in Toronto -- being president, vice-president and secretary, and taking part in the three Field Days. With The Ontario Trilliums, the office of vice-president was fulfilled along with helping on the QSL bureau. As secretary of the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation, I attended the first symposium on Amateur Radio and have since attended other symposia. I have been chairman of affiliated clubs and am presently part of the executive committee as manager of advertising for The Ontario Amateur.

I operate a Drake TR7 with, presently, an all-band vertical operating SSB on 20, 40 and 80 -- Two metres, sometimes.

Meet you on the airwaves!

WHAT NEXT?

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held on Wednesday February 1st, 1984 at 2000 hours in the National Research Council Auditorium, 100 Sussex Drive, Ottawa.

The main topic of discussion at the February meeting will be *The Characteristics and Care of NiCad Batteries.*

March will be *Homebrew Night.*

April will feature a talk on *Antennas -- Particularly for Beginners and those with Restricted Space.*

May--we will learn about *Developments in SSB Technology* (Amplitude Companded Sideband, etc.).

June will be devoted to *Field Day Planning.*

How about "signing-in" at each meeting? A clip board will be located at each side of the auditorium as you enter. Your name listed here gives you an opportunity to win the door prize and helps the Executive in future planning.

At each meeting, a "suggestion box" will be located at the back of the room. We would appreciate any ideas, criticisms, compliments, etc. Just drop in a note.

Remember our Club Bulletin Board at the front of the room. It is set up at about 1915 hours on meeting nights. Come early, and make use of it!

Enjoy talking with other members of the Club; enjoy the meetings--see you there!

THE WAY I SEE IT

by Joan Powell VE3FVO

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to President of the OARC, Inc. With all of us working together, 1984 should prove a good year for the club. (Mind you, Bob's shoes are rather difficult to fill!)

This issue, I'd like to write a rough outline on the organized structure of Amateur Radio.

We've chosen a hobby that can't really operate without regulation and constant concern about everything pertaining to it.

"Hobby?" you say. "Sounds more like work." Well, we are an ambitious group, aren't we? At any rate, we are a structured one.

Reading this says you already belong to the local club, one of approximately 250 in Canada. Hopefully, at this level, some guidance and further knowledge are obtained; perhaps even entertainment occasionally! Here too, we put forth our personal ideas, queries and concerns regarding our hobby. These, in turn, are dealt with by the Executive and acted upon where necessary. --Continued on p. 11

HELP WANTED

If you have never taken part in an amateur assisted community event, here is your chance to cut your teeth.

The OARC will supply radio assistance to the organizers of the "11 City" Speed Skating Event to be held on the Ottawa River, Saturday, February 11th. The 11 city designation comes from the normal 11 city route in Holland. The Dutch race has been dropped this year for lack of ice. However, the Ottawa organizers expect some 400 participants and spectators from Europe and another 200 from North America.

If you have a 2 metre hand-held available and would like a good day of operating, call VE3HVA-Rick Van Gastel at 737-0782 or 993-3800 EXT 126 during the work day.

SKI MARATHON

Operators are also required for the 55 km Cross Country Ski Marathon to be held Saturday, February 18th, the week following the big skating event. The ski marathon is hosted by the Canadian Ski Marathon Group and the National Capital Commission. The ski marathon will be held in the Gatineau Park. A few more volunteers are needed with 2M hand holds. VE3HVA, Rick will field calls, answer questions and welcome volunteers. Call Rick at the numbers listed above for the skating event. New amateurs, particularly, are encouraged to try their hand.

FROM CARF

At deadline time, we hear that DOC has received approval to raise the license fee this year to \$13.50, slightly below the \$13.65 anticipated. As a consequence of the AG's criticism that DOC is not recovering the costs of administration, we can expect to see further increases.

The great amateur space station event is over and has been judged a tremendous success in the PR field as well as in amateur circles. The event attracted the usual assortment of nuts and turkeys, including at least one mean practical joker pretending to be W5FL, the amateur in space. This led one Canadian operator to believe that he was the first to contact W5FL. The first contact did not come until the third day of the flight.

If you are going to the UK for a visit you will be glad to learn that reciprocal licensing arrangements will now take only a few days from receipt of a request. The speed up results from the procedures being returned to GPO from the UK Department of Communications.

FROM CRRL

Brad McCarter, VE3KQS, is operating an RTTY mailbox on 40 metres. Typed commands will yield OSCAR orbits, propagation forecasts, ARRL and CRRL bulletins, and messages left by other amateurs. For more information, contact Brad at 4 Cadillac Drive, Downsview, Ontario M3H 1R8.

And VP9AM is a pirate! Sorry!

In the December issue of Groundwave, mention was made of a very interesting and important letter from VE3EIM Robert Morden to LARC, the news bulletin of the London Amateur Radio Club. Here is the letter slightly reduced in the interests of available space.

106 Renny Crescent
London, Ontario N6E 2C5

Editor, LARC

In the March Bulletin mention was made of a new book now available to amateurs to carry on a conversation using CW in several foreign languages. The book, "C.W. INTO FOREIGN LANGUAGES", by Frank Salter VE3MGY and myself, Bob Morden VE3EIM was written about ten years ago. Originally it consisted of about 30 typewritten pages kept in a large brown envelope. Some of you may recall my column, "The World of DX", which ran for some three years in the LARC Bulletin. Part of the et ceteras in the column included communicating with DX amateurs using CW in their own languages including French, German, and Italian. Feedback from hams who tried this method was very encouraging and they almost demanded that I print a language book for them. However, I am ahead of my story.

Does anyone recall a book by M. Holubov VE2BAG entitled QSO PHRASE BOOK ? Its purpose was to teach you how to converse in Spanish, German, French, and Russian. I practised the Spanish section and when I felt confident, I swung the beam south ready to blast the South American hams in their own language. About six contacts later, I was batting zero.

Invariably, our South American brother hams repeated the same thing, "I am sorry Senor, but I did not understand!" The experience was very discouraging and somewhat embarrassing. I can't knock VE2BAG's book, it was just me! Oh well, back to CW!

Several minutes scanning the CW end of 20 metres brought forth the usual European brief RST 579, 73, QSL via the bureau type of QSO. I found myself muttering, there must be more to a DX contact than this. An extremely strong W4 calling CQ interrupted my thoughts; I casually changed frequency and the receiver dial stopped on the frequency of a weaker station also calling CQ; the station signed HK down in Columbia. "Hey. . .I wonder if I could make contact and send a few phrases from VE2BAG's book?" It was worth a try. Can you imagine my excitement when he came back in Spanish? The next few minutes were spent feverishly leafing through the Spanish section looking for some short suitable phrases to send. Hey, this is fun! I couldn't translate some of the conversation because of the limited nature of the book, not forgetting that the purpose of the book was to converse by voice, not using a morse key. I was elated and didn't realize until later that the contact had lasted for nearly half an hour! A whole new interest in CW was born. Realizing my vocabulary was extremely limited and to make contacts more interesting, an expansion of language was needed.

The beauty of the whole thing is the book is an instant process, you have absolutely nothing to learn; no accent; no dialect; nothing. To the operator at the other end, you are a native of the language, and for yourself, you have an instant command of the language as far as a typical CW QSO is concerned. If on occasion you feel you are in a bit of a corner, we have an escape phrase that requests the operator at the other end to please repeat in English.

As you no doubt have guessed, I can't speak any foreign language so to expand on what I had to date I made a few enquiries where I work and

(continued from page 6)

located a Spanish speaking person and in a matter of a few days I had a copy of a complete ham conversation in Spanish. A few months later, I followed this up with German, Dutch, French, etc., until I had a total of nine languages.

So here I was, talking away in nine different languages just like a native of the country, and I can't even fluently speak a complete sentence in any of those languages, HI! One thing is certain though, I sure was enjoying the new experience! What is even more amazing, it's now an exception for me to work DX CW using English!

Whichever language I choose to use at the time produces DX contacts from that country as though I were rare DX. They will patiently wait in line anxious to chat with someone using their own language. I have for example worked up to a dozen German stations in a row, they love it. On one such occasion I had just about exhausted all of the German phrases and sentences, I turned it back to the DJ2 I was chatting with; he came back in English and said, "Sorry old chap, I'm with the British Forces here in Germany, and didn't understand a word you said!" HI, HI.

Had it not been for Frank Salter VE3MGY, the book probably would still consist of about 30 typewritten pages in the large brown envelope. Frank is a linguistics expert and he put the finishing touches on the original and added Russian while he was at it. So this gave us a total of ten languages which we finally put in book form. The languages available are Spanish, German, Swedish, Dutch, Russian, Norwegian, French, Polish, Hungarian, and Yugoslavian. The book will keep most hams happily occupied for many, many hours.

Compiling the book, to me, was both a challenge and an educational experience. As you will quickly see, it is very easy to use and loads of fun. I haven't had a boring CW DX QSO for over ten years now. Borrowing a phrase I've heard somewhere, "Try it, You'll Like It..."

The price of the book is only \$5.00 postage paid. You may order direct from

C.W. PUBLICATIONS
P.O. BOX 2571
STATION "A" LONDON, ONTARIO
N6A 4G9

Yours sincerely

Robert Morden VE3EIM

GEOFGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Just received a copy of FEEDBACK, the bulletin of the Georgian Bay ARC. A note from Editor Rob Ludlow VE3AQT offers a regular exchange. GBARC is based in Grey and Bruce Counties and meets at 8 p.m. each third Thursday except July and August in the Grey-Bruce Tourist Information Centre at Springmount, just west of Owen Sound. The club repeater VE3OSR is open and operates on the same split as CRA.

OSR covers the area roughly from Collingwood to Southampton and from Durham to the Bruce Peninsula with autopatch facilities available.

The GBARC net meets every Sunday at 0930 local on 3.783 MHz with a rotating schedule of net controllers. Any amateur is invited to check in on phone or CW. Congrats to Georgian Bay ARC for a good looking and interesting club bulletin.

FLASHBACK NUMBER 3 -- by Gord Grant VE3DY

A short while back, I suggested that 1951 was a milestone for Ham Radio in Ottawa. The reason is that a television station was operating in Syracuse, N.Y., and very snowy pictures were being received in Ottawa. They were never good, and to get anything at all required a good location, a big antenna up as high as one dared, and mast mounted pre-amps. All this sensitivity, of course, invited interference from many sources, not the least being amateur transmitters.

Alf Sheffield, now VE7CB, was keen on TV and put on a demonstration at the January 1951 Club meeting of what to expect to see. We put on a bit of publicity and about 100 people turned out to view. There was a lot of legwork done beforehand too. Sid Sheard was instrumental in gathering all the materials for an antenna and mast and practically single-handedly put it up on the roof of St. Pats College. We used a larger room on the top floor to accommodate the expected larger crowd, and to be nearer the antenna.

From our point of view, it was a success, and I think that we even had some favourable reviews in the local Press. By today's standards it was pretty grim. But there were pictures! and snow! and sound! Of course some enthusiasts rushed out to buy a set in the next week or so, but many others decided that it had not quite arrived.

With the amateur rigs of that time, mostly unshielded and with much spurious emanations, TVI was to be common. For many Hams, it meant quiet hours and for some, it meant giving up entirely. The use of TV sets increased at a greater rate than the power of the transmitting stations. It was at least a year before a local transmitter was putting out enough signal to counteract local noise. There were still many fringe areas, and viewers often preferred stations in Montreal or Syracuse. Hams were still often in deep trouble.

So began the trend to better shielding and less spurious radiation. A lot of things can happen in thirty years. Incidentally, I mentioned that I had an almost complete set of the early GROUNDWAVES. The January 1951 issue is about the only one where we gave away all the good ones and I was left with the draft copy. If anyone would like to donate a copy of that issue, or a Xerox copy of it, a small reward would be in order.

Did you remember that First Class postage was all of \$0.03 that year? More next time.

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LOCAL NEWS UPDATE

Dayton Hamfest Trip. This trip, sponsored by the OVMRC, Inc., will be cancelled unless more people sign up for it before the end of February. Look for details in the December 1983 GROUNDWAVE or contact Mike VE3LAR at 523-1571.

Ski Marathon, Gatineau 55 & Speed Skating. If you have the time, try to help out by providing communications assistance to these events.

OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Incorporated
 Balance Sheet
 November 30, 1983

ASSETS

CASH

Current Account	\$ 1,341.98	
True Savings Account I	\$ 973.52	
True Savings Account II*	<u>\$ 6,601.01</u>	
	\$ 8,916.51	\$ 8,916.51
Advance to RSO Convention '84		\$ 1,000.00
Equipment		\$ 1.00
Incorporation Expense		<u>\$ 680.00</u>
		<u>\$10,597.51</u>

LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable		\$ 42.80
Prepaid Memberships		450.00
Trust Fund*		6,601.00
Surplus at Beginning of Year	\$ 3,198.01	
Add: Excess of Revenue over Expenditures	<u>\$ 514.65</u>	
	\$ 3,712.66	
Less: Adjustments		
- Accts Receivable '82	\$108.00	
- Int. to Trust Acct.	<u>100.96</u>	
	\$208.96	<u>\$ 208.96</u>
	\$3,503.70	<u>\$ 3,503.70</u>
		<u>\$10,597.51</u>

*Note: The True Savings Account II is an account expressly established to handle proceeds from the estate of Joe Norton, VE3PN. The funds are held In Trust by the Club.

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AUDITOR'S REPORT
 Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

I have examined the Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues and Expenditures of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Incorporated for the year ended November 30, 1983. I am of the opinion that these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Club as at November 30, 1983 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with generally-accepted accounting principles.

Ottawa, Ontario

December 31, 1983

C.P. Tremblay, C.G.A.

 The Way I See it -- continued

Clubs can approach their Provincial bodies with concerns, questions, etc. In Ontario, we have the RSO (Radio Society of Ontario Inc.) issuing TOA (The Ontario Amateur) six times per year, and the Ontario Trilliums (Ladies ARC) issuing ToT Topics. In other provinces, we have RAQI (Radio Amateur du Quebec Inc.); NBRA (New Brunswick Amateur Radio Association); SONRA (Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs); NSRA (Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association); PEIARA (Prince Edward Island Amateur Radio Association); ARLM (Amateur Radio League of Manitoba); SARL (Saskatchewan Amateur Radio League); ARLA (Amateur Radio League of Alberta); and BCARA (British Columbia Amateur Radio Association). An individual membership is available in your provincial society.

On the national level, looking after our interests from coast to coast, working with government and dealing in international relations, we have:

- (1) CARF (Canadian Amateur Radio Federation) issuing TCA (The Canadian Amateur) eleven times per year and holding the Annual Symposium on Amateur Radio in conjunction with the Department of Communications;
- (2) CRRL (Canadian Radio Relay League) -- the Canadian arm of the American Radio Relay League - with a page monthly in QST;
- (3) CLARA (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) publishing the Clarion. Again, individual membership in a national organization is of importance.

Internationally, we have the IARU (International Amateur Radio Union), where membership consists of one vote per country. CRRL represents Canada.

The ITU (International Telecommunications Union) rules on all frequency spectrum usage and allows IARU, upon application, attendance, but only as an observer.

Making local clubs, provincial and national bodies possible is accomplished by your membership, showing your interest and occasionally volunteering your services on various levelled committees. Then we can sit back and enjoy OUR HOBBY.

At least, that's the way I see it.

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THE EDITOR'S LAST WORD -- by Murray Strome VE3PY

This issue of the GROUNDWAVE marks a change in publishing staff, a change in format and a new method of printing. I would again like to say thanks to Ian and Ray for their tremendous support over the past years. I would like to welcome aboard the new publishers: Gerry, Ernie and Archie. Next month, look forward to a PROFILE on Brett Dalmage and perhaps other members of the new Executive, as well as the usual features, including the new column "The Way I See it" by your President, Joan Powell. We will be starting a series of articles on operations on the various bands. The first is the 220 MHz band, by Brett Dalmage VE3JLG.

It has been reported that George VE3BNO has received confirmation of his contact with Dr. Owen Garriott aboard the Space Shuttle last Fall. Congratulations, George! Any one else?

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