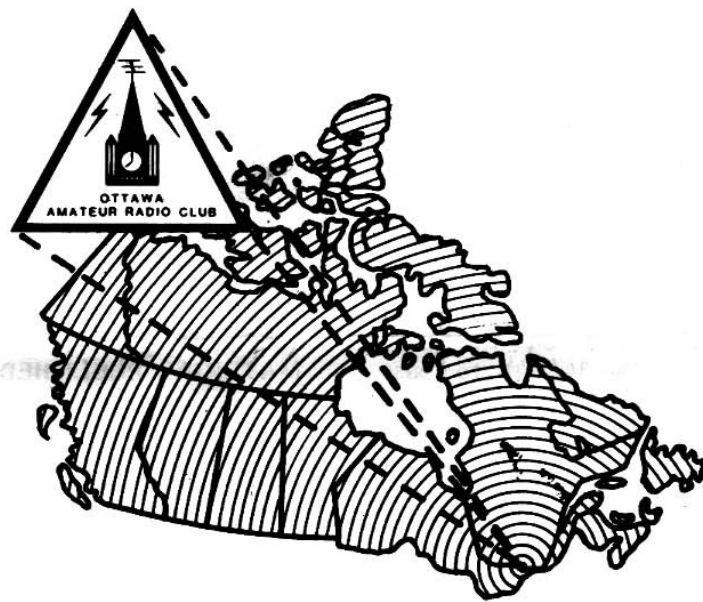


THE GROUNDWAVE



Club Call VE3RC

Repeater VE2CRA



THE GROUNDWAVE

Official Bulletin of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc.

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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 National Capital Region; 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 National Capital Region.

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 about 1915 hours. For further details about the meeting, see page 5.

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

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

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

MINUTES OF MEETING, OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, Inc.
September 5, 1984

The meeting was called to order at 2015 hours by the President. After correction of the CARF symposium date to October 27, the minutes were adopted. The President reported that Field Day went well. She thanked Bob Brown and everybody else who took part. Thanks went to Murray Strome, former Editor of the Groundwave. Now, a new editor is urgently needed.

Ken, VE3IHX, spoke about the event of the year where public service comes to Amateur Radio for help, giving proof that there is confidence that we can meet the emergency. He was referring to the Papal Visit and the ceremonies at Lebreton Flats where 1/4 million people would be expected. The appeal was for 100 volunteers for 12-15 hours. Appropriate forms were distributed by Mailes, VE3AP (formerly BCO); and further clarifications were provided by Joe MacPherson, VE3CAT.

Visitors were recognized by Wally, VE3CBE, director of the club. VE3MVE and BNH were welcomed back. New faces to the audience were VE3's NPZ, OSY, JIL and his XYL, MOZ. JSJ introduced Father Patrick Kelly, EI5DA from Dublin, who had the distinguished honor of playing the organ at a mass during the papal visit in Ireland. He was accompanied by his brother Owen, EI6BX. More new faces were Keith Ballinger, VE3IMT and Mark Farey from Kanata, who hopes to get his call soon.

The following motion was put forward by Mailes, VE3AP, seconded by Brett, VE3JLG:
That the fiscal year, membership year and the executive term run concurrently from September 1 to August 31; and further, to accomodate 1985, that the fiscal year run from December 1, 1984 to August 31, 1985; the membership year run January 1 to August 31, 1985..

Carried unanimously.

George. BNO reminded the audience that during the RSO Convention VE3NCR will be active. Certificates will be given to hams who make contact 10 times or more. He asked for volunteers for the Information table on Friday and the Craft table on Saturday.

Bill Deacon, formerly VE3BDO, is now VE3UD. Harry Mitchell needs help badly. He is on crutches and can't manage his antenna. If you can help, give him a call at 226-6246.

The door prize was won by VE3NPZ. Winning ticket holders for the raffle were CBK and OMU.

John Henry gave an informative presentation on satellite communication and equipment, followed by a demonstration outside the NRC Building.

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NOTICE OF MOTION:

Notice is hereby served that a motion will be presented at the October meeting of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in regard to Membership dues. This is a result of our changing the year to run September to August (refer to minutes, September meeting). An unanimous vote by your Board of Directors asks that the membership set a fee of \$8.00 from January 1 to August 31, 1985 for membership in OARC.

Editor's Musings

I know that we are all very sorry that Murray Strome has left the hallowed confines of the OARC, not to mention the thrill of driving the Queensway during this intolerably long construction period. However, Murray has gone on to greater things somewhere in the home of the Blue Jays, Argonauts, Bill Davis's sideshow, 45th floor barons and other banes of our existence. We all hope very much that Murray achieves all his goals; and also that we may find evidence of his editorial "smarts" in some publication in the Toronto area.

Meanwhile, the presence of yours truly has been foisted upon you in an act of desperation on the part of "the management" to find someone naive enough to take on the task of putting this formerly scintillating publication to press. So be it - we will do our best, however inadequate that may be. Just be gentle.

It is very kind of Joan to pass on her warm words of welcome; and I thank her very much. In return, I must mention what most of you likely know: - that Joan has taken on the onerous task of presiding over the continued well-being of CARF, and, hopefully, its further expansion from sea to sea and Pole to borderland, as the old Anthem goes. Joan has served the Amateur community well; and she now faces even greater challenges, which, I think, is what Joan really thrives on. We all wish her great success and achievements in the days to come.

Having this column provides me with an excellent opportunity to voice my opinion on various matters relative to ham radio; and I now seize that opportunity to give vent to one of my pet peeves: net routines.

Why, oh why is it necessary for some stations checking in on an informal net to announce in profound tones "I have no traffic"? This extends the total net check-in routine needlessly; and on one like our Capital City Net, we don't have time to waste. Those having announcements, generals, or wanting another station normally state their needs when checking in. Those who don't have "traffic" need only announce their call-signs. Using the briefer routine helps to keep more stations on the net to the end, so that stations whose announcements are delayed until near the end of session are less likely to lose a significant amount of their potential audience.

Another peeve is with the boys who are compelled to drive linear amplifiers with more than adequate drive, as if a 10% increase in power were going to make some substantial difference in S meter reading at the DX point. What it does achieve is a horrible level of splatter some 50 or 60 Khz either side of their signal, to the anguish of, in particular, their local fellow Amateurs. The same goes for those who are convinced that maximum compression with their processors really "churns out the joy", as the RAF boys used to say about full throttle on an RR Merlin engine. If only they knew in what low regard they place themselves with the victims of their thoughtless act. Oh well, this blurb will do little to secure any easing of the problem; but it's good to get this opportunity to let off a little steam about it.

If anyone has any supportive or adverse comments to make on those two peeves, I hope they will write a "letter to the Editor" rather than personally contacting me. That way, everyone will be in on the act; and I will have more material for this poor man's Playboy.

From the President's Desk:

The Groundwave, the link to OARC's membership, has been well served by Murray, VE3PY, as Editor. Living in Toronto, as Murray now is, makes it rather inconvenient to continue. Thus, we say "Thank you Murray for the hours and expertise you have donated to OARC and, in particular, the Groundwave. We wish you well in your new endeavours. Keep in touch."

Now, it's my pleasure to introduce our new Editor, Bill Deacon, VE3UD. Bill's been with the Club many years. You'll find him at most meetings. He has written for other publications - is well versed in Amateur affairs and known by practically everyone. He graciously accepted my proposal: that the Editor of the Groundwave be VE3UD. I trust we will all give him the support he deserves as Editor. Welcome aboard Bill!

Convention Committee/84, under chairmanship of Ken, VE3GIR, has certainly put in many hours working towards, we hope, the best RSO Convention yet. To them, on behalf of the membership, I say, "Thank you. The Club appreciates your ability and dedication."

Another project of fair magnitude was the undertaking of producing the National Capital Region Directory. To Ed, VE3KLP, and his committee also a "Thank you".

Bob, VE3JDB, and his Field Day team, they, too, did a good job for OARC. And to others, whose efforts make the Club successful, and to those members who have taken part in communication coverage of public service events, we present a bouquet.

The Executive? From my point of view, they are a most helpful, cooperative group - a personal "Many thanks" to each of you. We still have a few months in office but nomination time has come. Give some consideration to being a Club official. It's interesting being part of the team.

All these things are important to the Club! You are important! We look forward to seeing you on the first Wednesday of each month, and having OARC known as a friendly, progressive Amateur Radio Club.

Joan Powell, VE3FVO
President.

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Transmission via Long Path:

I breathed a song into the air;
That little song of beauty rare
Is flying still, for all I know,
Around the world by Radio.

-Arthur Guiterman in "Radiolatry"

COMING EVENTS * * * COMING EVENTS * * * COMING EVENTS * * * COMING EVENTS

- Oct 3 Ottawa Amateur Radio Club meeting. The OARC meets the first Wednesday of each month in the auditorium of the National Research Council, 100 Sussex Drive, unless another location has been announced for a special meeting. The bulletin board is posted at 1930 hours and the meeting commences at 2000 hours. Visitors are always welcome.
- Oct 5 Registration and festivities commence at the Radio Society of Ontario convention to be held at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa from October 5 through October 7.
- Oct 6 For those unable to be in Ottawa for the RSO convention, the Second Annual Hamilton ARC Flea Market from 0830 onward is a alternative at \$2.00 admission. Talk-in will be from VE3NCF transmitting on 146.76 MHz and receiving on 146.16 MHz.
- Nov 7 OARC meeting, 100 Sussex Drive, at 2000 hours.
- Nov 10 The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual Flea Market on Saturday November 10th at the Canterbury High School. There will not be an auction this year, so the Flea Market tables will receive undivided attention this time. Talk in will, as in the past, be provided via VE2CRA (149.94/34) and on 146.52 simplex. Listen to our Monday night net at 20:00 for further information on procedure for securing a table.

Capital City FM Net, sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, meets every Monday night at 2000 hours. Look for it on the club repeater VE2CRA on 146.94 out and 146.34 in. Part of the evenings activities is devoted to the Swap Net run by Ed, VE3GX. Ed can be reached at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

Code Practice can be found Wednesday and Friday evenings on VE3TWO, the relay station of The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, at 1900 hours on 147.30/147.90. Speeds Wednesday of 18, 15, 13, 10, and 7 wpm. On Friday speeds of 40, 30, 25, 20, 18, 15, and 13 wpm are transmitted. Sender is Dave, VE3KLX

COMPUTER OWNERS — TAKE HEART

The Information Technology section of Canadian Business, September edition, carries an interesting account of one man's attempts at analyzing the durability of information on ordinary double sided floppy diskettes. Author Howard A. Karten, an American writer specializing on computer matters, subjected two boxes of IBM diskettes to a horrendous selection of hazards to determine which hazards might scramble the bit order and make the diskettes unreadable. First a master disk was prepared carrying 18 files, each file consisting of a single letter repeated many times to make it easy to spot a break or change error during a readout. Twenty copies of the master were made and these subjected to various tests including corrosive gases, x-rays, humidity, thermal shock, welding cable, magnets, telephone receivers, et cetera.

The results were surprising. It would appear that your diskettes are relatively free from problems so long as you don't cook them in the

microwave oven or set permanent magnets down on top of them. Obviously, a device for erasing magnetically stored information will make your diskettes hard to read if they come anywhere near a strong magnetic field. However direct contact with television receivers, telephones, fluorescent lights, x-ray machines, and airport security x-ray devices are unlikely to cause a loss of information. Physical distortion of the diskette through heat, thermal shock, bending, folding, or breaking, will do it in. It was the heat in the microwave oven that ruined a good diskette, not the microwave field. After all, ninety seconds with controls set for a well-done hot dog is a bit much. That particular microwave oven heats up in normal use. A similar test on a cool running oven left another diskette unscathed in spite of comparable microwave fields being directed on the diskette.

Mr. Karten concludes that while his work was not really definitive, the average floppy diskette is a fairly reliable device when used within the temperature and humidity ranges recommended by the manufacturers and the American National Standards, 10°C to 51.7°C and 8% to 80% respectively.

While Mr. Karten doesn't mention them, there are a few other hazards that bear watching: examples, careless omission of read-only stickers, leaving a diskette out in the sun on a car ledge or a patio table, and large dogs that can't tell the difference between a diskette and a Frisbee.

EXCHANGE PUBLICATIONS

Groundwave has been carrying a couple of pages of bits and pieces culled from the publications of other ham papers. We receive a large number of Canadian ham club papers and a few from across the border. We copy from them and they copy from us. All of which helps the sense of community with other hams and other clubs. Sometimes we wonder just what we should pick up and what we should pass by. Lacking any other direction, we look for interesting how-to pieces, unusual club activities, ham humour, and individual feats.

When Groundwave is through with the exchange papers, they are placed on the front table at the meeting for anyone to take on a first come, first served, basis. By all means, take them. But if the exchange papers are less than a year old, please return them to the table for someone else to pick up...and pass on.

The Ottawa ARC comprises representatives from many professions and vocations. Individually, the members of the club scan many journals and papers not directed to the ham community but which carry items from time to time having considerable interest to hams. When you see such an item, would you drop us a note about the article, or make a photo-copy that we could review, or pass along the original if it's a throw-away. Needless to say, your contributions will be appreciated and credited.

. . . and from Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club magazine, FEEDLINE this succinct bit of wisdom —

"One man's "SIMPLE" is another man's "HUH?""

COPPER BASED CONDUCTIVE EPOXIES

VE3LBH, Sylvester, has passed along some correspondence that "should be of interest to people who are trying to cut down on RF leakage from computers."

Key Polymer Corporation, whose main interest in life is coatings and adhesives, offer the complete text of a paper delivered to the National Electronic Packaging and Production Conference by Dr. David Marshall and co-authored by Anthony J. Riso, both of Key Polymer Corp. Here is the Abstract.

"The technology involving the use of copper flake as a conductive medium is discussed, including the treatments necessary to obtain conductivity in copper flake filled composites, and maintaining their stability over extended periods of time,

Three basic categories of application are presented wherein the conductive properties and EMI reflective properties of the incorporated copper metallic flake are utilized.

Specific uses are discussed under the titles:- I. Electrical, II Thermally Conductive Adhesives, and III EMI and RF shielding.

Information is given for various metal filled polymer systems on electrical conductivity as well as thermal conductivity. Fillers include both metallic and inorganic varieties in the case of thermal conductivity.

The excellent EMI shielding effectiveness of copper filled epoxy due to the copper metal's inherent high reflectivity to electromagnetic radiation and the good electrical conductive nature of these systems is presented."

Inquiries and requests for the subject paper should be addressed to Mr. Anthony J. Riso, Sales Manager, Key Polymer Corporation, Jacob's Way, Lawrence Industrial Park, Lawrence, Mass., 01842

VOLUNTEERS

Many will be shocked to find when the day of
judgement nears
That there's a special place in heaven set aside
for volunteers.
Furnished with big recliners, satin couches and
footstools
Where there is no Committee Chairman, no
Group Leaders, or Car Pools.
No eager team that needs a coach, no bazaar
and no bake sale.
There will be nothing to staple, not one thing to
fold or mail.
Telephone lists will be outlawed, but a finger-
snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners, and rare treats
fit for a King.
You ask, who'll serve these privileged few, and
work for all they're worth?
Why all those who reaped the benefits and not
once volunteered on earth.

de "SPLATTER" the magazine of
the York Region Amateur Radio Club

 continued from page 4:

Now, I want to show you an interesting little summary of sign-in sheets, that Peter, VE3LBW put together from an analysis of the sign-in book:

Who attends OARC general meetings?
Statistics gathered from sign-in sheets

	Feb.	March	April	May	June	Sept
Ottawa	50	46	34	36	29	29
Nepean	10	13	9	9	1	15
Hull	3			3		1
Gloucester	2	3	1	2		2
Metcalfe	1	1			1	
Gatineau	1	1	1			1
Osgoode	2	1	2			1
Orleans	1	1	1	3	1	1
Cumberland	1					
Luskville		1		1		1
Limoges		1		1		1
Vars	1					
Kanata		1	1	2	1	3
Finch			1	1	1	1
Carp				2		1
Aylmer					1	3
Oxford Mills					1	1
Barrie				1		
Kemptville					1	
India				1		
Victoria, BC	<u>1</u>			<u>1</u>		
ATTENDANCE	72	70	51	63	36	62

Someone Make a Boo-Boo:

On page 7 of our September issue, we printed a list of 10-metre beacons, provided through the courtesy of Skyhook at Toronto. Through an oversight, our own Ottawa beacon was omitted. Please add, at the top of the list:

28.175 VE3TEN Ottawa

Just as an additional bit of information, VE3TEN will, at some future date, change its frequency to 28.275 Mhz. Not yet, though.

73, Bill, VE3UD

What's next???

Here we are into the Fall season and back to a regular routine. We hope that everyone managed to get through the summer without too much sun, and all the other hazards of vacations, etc.

What's coming up this Fall with the Radio Club??

Your RSO Committee has the organization of the Convention well in hand. Be sure and reserve the week-end of October 5, 6 and 7 to be at the Westin Hotel to partake of the many activities lined up for you - - many seminars to choose from; commercial displays; eye-ball QSO's with your out-of-town friends; excellent prizes. Be sure to be there.

Also, at our regular October meeting to be held just prior to Convention, on October 3rd at the NRC Auditorium, we will have a guest speaker in the person of Joe Lackner. Joe is a recognized authority on batteries, both lead-acid and NiCads, and other types as well. His experience and knowledge should prove to be most informative.

Mark the date: Nov. 10th. That's the date for our annual Fall Flea Market to be held at Canterbury High School. Tables will be available on an advance basis. More details at the October meeting and in the next issue of The Groundwave.

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PRANCPacket Radio Association of the National Capital

Late last May, a small group of fearless Radio Amateurs from the National Capital Region met in Ottawa to discuss a common interest - packet radio. As a result, PRANC - The Packet Radio Association of the National Capital was formed to promote activity and disseminate information about this quickly growing facet of the hobby.

Members of the group now operate personal packet radio stations on 2 and 1.25 metres; operate a digipeater (single frequency digital repeater) and BBS (bulletin board system) on 145.005 Mhz, where users can leave messages for each other; operate portable stations from cars; and are investigating linking to other cities by HF and OSCAR satellite packet radio "gateways". The group holds an informal discussion on VE2CRA, 146.34/94 Mhz, Tuesday nights at 2100.

Packet radio communications are usable by amateurs of all classes - amateur, advanced and digital. Members of PRANC will be present at the RSO convention to demonstrate packet radio and answer questions. They invite you to drop by and see how you can set up your own packet radio station.

VE3PAK

Paul Revere (Modern radio sponsors' version):

One if by land and two if by sea -
And I will be loaded with Vitamin B,
Ready to ride and spread the alarm;
Wheaties will see that I'm kept from harm.

Effective Writing - Courtesy Nortopics, Nortown ARC:

Sentences taken from actual letters received by the Toronto Welfare Dep't from applications for aid and assistance.

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and six children. I have seven, but one died and was baptized on a half sheet of paper.

I am writing to the Welfare Department to say that my baby was born two years old. When do I get the money?

Mrs Jones has not had any clothes for a year and has been visited regularly by the clergy.

I cannot get sick pay. I have six children, can you tell me why?

I am glad to report that my husband who was reported missing is dead.

This is my eighth child what are you going to do about it?

Please find for certain if my husband is dead. The man I am living with can't eat or do anything till he finds out.

I am very annoyed to find that you have branded my son illiterate, as this is a lie. I was married to this father a week before he was born.

In answer to your letter I have given birth to a boy weighing 10 lbs. I hope this is satisfactory.

I am forwarding my marriage certificate and my three children, one of which was a mistake as you will see.

My husband got his project cut off two weeks ago, and I haven't had any relief since. Unless I get my husband's money pretty soon, I will be forced to lead an immortal life.

You have changed my little boy to a little girl. Will this make any difference?

I haven't any children yet as my husband is a bus driver and works day and night.

In accordance with your instructions I have given birth to twins in the enclosed envelope.

I want money as quick as I can get it. I have been in bed with the doctor for two weeks and he doesn't do me any good. If things don't improve, I will have to send for another doctor.

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



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: Chairman	VE3HJI	OTTAWA, Ontario, K1V 8L2	993-9740:
