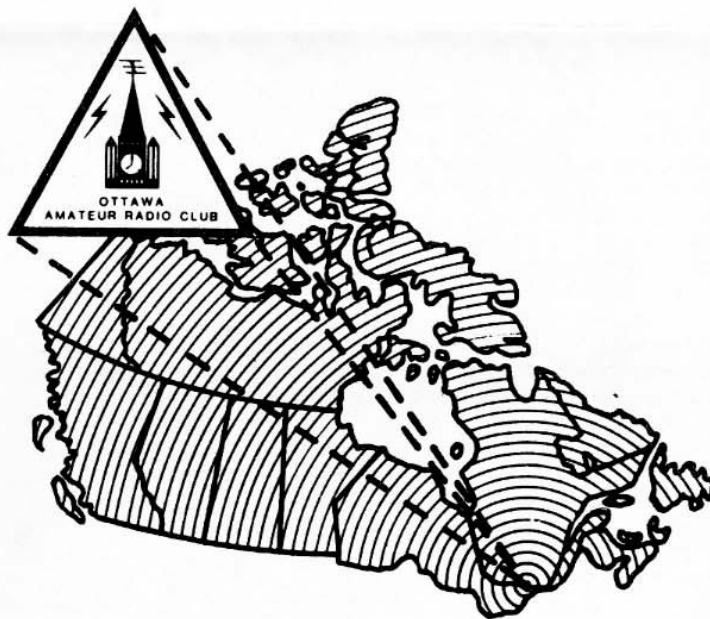


MARCH 1989

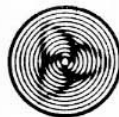
THE GROUNDWAVE



NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 1989

Club Call VE3RC

Repeater VE2CRA



Managing Editor	Mike James VE3PDE	11 Pommel Crescent Kanata, Ont. K2M 1A3	592-2962 995-2730
Graphic Design	Maria Townson VE3KIP		828-9573
Contributing Editor	J. Gord MacKay VE3JMT	P. O. Box 1204 Stittsville, Ont., KOA 3G0	831-1004
Production Committee	Bill Hall VE3JMC Chuck Baker VE3PAP Ted May VE3ADZ	69 Canter Blvd. Nepean, Ont., K2G 2M4 2061 Belcourt Blvd. Orleans, Ont., K1C 1M7 116B Laval St. Vanier, Ont., K1L 7Z4	224-2107 824-1941 741-0862 993-9132

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 Area; and to the advancement and achievement of club members.

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. Further details about each meeting is elsewhere in this publication.

PACKET RADIO MEETINGS are held at 19h30 on the last Wednesday of every second month beginning in September, at the Museum of Science and Technology, St. Laurent and Lancaster Roads. This is an OARC technical meeting open to all who have an interest in packet radio.

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 second Wednesday of each month. Make yourself better known to fellow members and other amateurs, too, by giving us an article, technical or otherwise, relative to our hobby. They may get reprinted in far away places; and the family will be proud of you.

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

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIPS: To encourage young people to join the club and to participate in amateur radio, the club is opening a junior class of membership. Dues will be at a 50% discount but the junior member must pick up his/her copy of the Groundwave (preferably at the meeting).

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

SAFETY BELTS, 2-METER RIG AND AN ENGRAVING PENCIL are available for loan to club members. The 2-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 2-meter rig or the engraving pencil; and Paul, VE3ICV, at 820-6643 (West End) or Brian, VE3JKZ, at 523-1535 (East End) for the belts.

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.

PACKET RADIO VOICE NET meets following the Capital City Net on VE2CRA at 2040 hours. This is an informal net to answer questions about packet radio, pass along operating hints and provide information for future packet operators.

THE SWAP NET, is a service provided and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX. This feature appears on the Capital City Net, noted in the foregoing paragraph. To list items and make inquiries, call Ed Morgan at 733-1721.

POT-HOLE NET is a SSB/HF net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, and conducted every Sunday at 1000 hours on 3.760 MHz. All amateurs are welcome to check in. The Swap-Net is a regular feature.

POT-LID CW NET is an informal slow-speed CW net sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX, and meeting every Sunday, except during July and August, at 1100 hours on 3.620 MHz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedures.

REPEATERS

VE2CRA	Voice	146.94/34	443.300/448.300
VE3NCR	Packet	145.01(sx)	Inter city links
VE3OCR	Packet	145.07(sx)	Local Area Net for QSO and Packet BBS

For further information, please contact repeater chairman.

MINUTES OF THE OARC GENERAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 1, 1989

The meeting was opened by Paul Cooper, VE3JLP, President, at 8.00 p.m.

Visitors included a chap from Timmins who is presently working on his ticket.

Paul announced there were spare copies of the Groundwave at the front desk.

VE3PVK moved and VE3ATJ seconded that the minutes of the previous regular meeting be accepted.

Problem time: VE3PDK has a problem with his Maestro system's computer - Doug suggested the computer leads might be the cause. Paul, VE3JLP, is looking for a chip to repair his battery charger.

CARF - no report.

CRRL - Ray, VE3FN, reported that QST Canada was being mailed 3rd class and he hoped that all arrived O.K. He also urged more activity on 2 metre FM.

Paul, VE3JLP, announced "Home Brew" night and urged all to participate.

The "Talk" of the evening was given by Kees Kaper on the History of Frequency Counters. What does he do with them all!!

Coffee - 9:10 p.m.

Product Review: Mike, VE3FFK, gave a talk on some new multi-mode 2 and 6 metre equipment.

DX tips: Bill reported that the new 18 metre band was very popular, particularly since it recently opened up in the U.S.

Ron, VE3DN, said that HF and 6 metres were good between 10 and 12 a.m. to Europe. Paul, VE3JLP, announced the

next regular meeting of the OARC will be March 1st.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m. on a motion by VE3YG, seconded by VE3FNG.

PACKET RADIO GROUP

Notice that the regular bi-monthly meeting of the Packet Radio Group will be held on March 23, 1989, at 1930 hours (7:30 p.m.)

The location is the McNabb Community Centre, 180 Percy St., Ottawa, in the crafts studio.

There is parking in front of the Centre. Please be reminded that Percy is a one-way street running south. If you will be coming from the Queensway, it is best to go north on Bronson, and go 2 or 3 streets north of Gladstone, then turn east and go over to Percy (the first street over) then turn south.

JOE NORTON AWARD

The executive hopes to be able to announce the 1988 winner of the Joe Norton Award at the March meeting. Remember to put in your application for the 1989 award if you are eligible.

```

*****
*                                     *
*           MARCH SPEAKER           *
*                                     *
*           Seldon Harvey on         *
*           Shortwave Listening       *
*           -                         *
*           Seldon is President of the *
*           Ontario SWL Club         *
*****

```

COMMUTING

One of the advantages of retirement is to get away from the bugbear of commuting to work every weekday. Serge Stucken, when queried soon after retirement about whether he could now loll in bed at leisure, replied "No, I like to get up in the morning and watch all those poor unfortunate souls trudging to work, especially if it is raining or snowing".

Those of you who still trudge may take heart in the fact that people are doing just that all over the U.S. and Canada. Some have to go a little farther than just down the block to catch a bus. On our way to Florida, twice a year commuting, this is forcefully brought to reality when we leave Winchester, VA, on the second day out. Up before dawn we join the thundering herd of transports down I-81, watching carefully for the sometimes obscure signs to not miss our turn-off, and join another group with another purpose.

We are now on I-66. It is still pitch dark. We head east joining a long procession of red tail-lights and realize that here is the commuting horde, some 80 miles (130 km) from Washington, that keeps the country running. Here are the keen civil servants, travelling daily to take care of the nation's business, probably oblivious by now to the beautiful Virginia countryside. But beautiful it is, a series of rolling hills, wooded, pleasant climate. The English and Scotch immigrants who first came to this area recognized a good thing when they saw it.

The procession winds on. A dozen or so red tail-lights ahead and the same number of headlights behind, and a myriad more to be seen when on top of a rise. Everyone seemingly with the same intent, travelling at the legal speed limits, or perhaps a little more, aiming to start another week at the office. A faint glow on the eastern horizon marks early dawn as the line of vehicles zips through the

valleys and wisps of fog, and then climbs a hill but with still misty hill surroundings. How could any civil servant not be influenced by these surroundings to do his best to administer the affairs of the nation.

Probably to answer a need and to fend off the irate flak of tourists taking the wrong turn, new signs announce the imminent approach to our turn. State road SR-17 will veer off to the south and leave the commuters to their tasks. Some of the old signs were misleading, taking unwary travellers off in the wrong direction, that was the epitome of the saying "you can't get there from here". But eventually you do, with threats to do violence to whoever was responsible for the mix-up. SR-17 soon becomes a 2-lane road, winding leisurely through farming country, made even more pleasant with the advent of sunrise, to lead us to Warrenton. This will be our first goal for the day and a hearty breakfast at a favourite restaurant. Our commutation to the south is well under way.

de Gord, VE3DY

FANCY QSL's

Having designed QSL cards with the information blocks on the glossy paper side, I soon discovered you can't write on that stuff. Felt-tip beads up like rain on a BMW.

Typewriter's hopeless. Ballpoint's illegible even before it smears. Terrific!

The answer is a Sanford "Sharpie" extra fine point permanent ink marker. Five stars. Don't get it on your necktie.

de Mid-Atlantic ARC,
Villanova, PA
via Worldradio

220-225 MHZ AMATEUR BAND UNDER DOC SCRUTINY

The struggle is not yet over for the Amateur Bands between 30 and 890 MHz. Here, briefly, is what has been said specifically about the 220-225 MHz Amateur Band.

The Ontario Ministry of Government Services would like to see that band withdrawn from the Amateur Service and used 'for government use including provincial governments and municipal safety service organizations.' Golden West Broadcasting, Manitoba, would like the band available for stereo and monaural point-to-point and for remote pickup of on-the-spot news. Lapp-Hancock, Ottawa, thinks it should be used for personal/business radio.

The Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers Association note the re-evaluation taken by the FCC some time ago of the 220-225 MHz band and suggest that the 'Department should consider joint implementation of any new services in allocations that may result from this evaluation.'

Radio Atlantic, CKCL, Truro, NS, noted that the 220-225 MHz band was lightly loaded and would probably remain so for the foreseeable future. Reducing the band by 2 MHz for a Personal Service should not have a negative effect.

The Radio Advisory Board of Canada noted the causes of slow Amateur growth in this band but goes on to add with regard to North American compatibility, the DOC should note the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rule Making (1987) regarding the 216-225 MHz band.

While these are the major organizations that have proposed other uses for the 220-225 MHz band, there is little doubt that the effect of other proposals will cause the DOC to look very carefully at this band and, perhaps, to take into

account the recent FCC decision to take 2 MHz for the commercial land mobile services and reduce the Amateur allocation to 222-225 MHz.

Canadian Amateurs and amateur organizations submitted 41 of the nearly 90 briefs, in total 2400 pages, received by DOC. It will probably be the summer before DOC's spectrum utilization policy paper, which will deal with the Amateur bands between 30 and 890 MHz, will be available for public comment. Amateurs should prepare themselves to comment at that time.

de CARF Bulletin 3-89
by Bill Wilson, VE3NR,
Chairman DOC Liaison Committee

FEBRUARY 1989 TALK HISTORY OF FREQUENCY COUNTERS

The speaker was Kees Keeper, PA0KKZ/VE3. He traced the development of frequency counters from their invention in 1952. Previously wavemeters had been used. The earliest such device was developed by Hewlett Packard and was called an EPUT, for Events Per Unit Time. Early models sold had top frequencies of 120 KHz or 1.2 MHz.

The first units used HP's Decimal Counting Units (DCUs) as readouts - these were vertical units with lights one above the other marked 1 to 0. Several DCUs were placed side by side to give the readout. Later counters used Nixie tubes.

By the mid 60's, HP, Systron Donner and others made counters that (with their plug-ins) could count as high as 40 GHz. Modern ones using GaAs ICs can count multimeter waves.

Kees made a comparison with an old model (60's vintage) which he owns versus a new one and found a difference of only 30 Hz.

CW SPEED AND ACCURACY

Here are a few miscellaneous tips for improving your speed and accuracy. Teach yourself to copy behind. Listen to the entire word before you begin to write it. Then write it while you are listening to the next word. Again, this is a new kind of coordination you need to acquire by practice. Good operators often copy several words behind, so that when the end of the message comes you have to wait until they finish writing it down before they acknowledge receipt, and if they break you for a fill, they will ask you for something a few words back, not the last word you sent. They set up a mental buffer that holds the material that is received until it can be put on paper, and processes it also, often helping the operator avoid errors in copying.

Copying words instead of letters speeds up the process too, and there is a point somewhere around 30 wpm where most of us find it necessary to do so if we want to increase our speed.

To increase your speed you have to work at a higher speed than you can copy accurately. But progress does not follow a smooth curve, rather our speed increases in jumps, followed by plateaus at the higher speed. Two such plateaus are especially noteworthy, the one just mentioned around 30 wpm where we recognize entire words as units, and an earlier one around 10 where we recognize letters as units, not the individual dits and dahs.

So when your progress seems to come to a halt, don't be discouraged. Your mind is setting up new pathways that will eventually speed up processing of code.

Copying is important. You may be able to follow the drift of a CW speed merchant, but the real test is whether you can put it down on paper. And yet listening without copying has its use too.

You'll never be able to put it on paper unless you can first read it.

W1AW announces the source of the material being transmitted in code practice transmission, usually something from a previous issue of QST. Follow the text as you listen to the transmission, then occasionally stop looking at the text and just listen and try to read the code as you hear it. Look back at the text if you get lost. Do this a little, then try to copy without the text, and you may find you're doing better.

an extract from the "Traffic" column
by Chuck Clark, K4ZN,
in Worldradio

DR. MAURICE HAYCOCK, VE3LC SILENT KEY

Dr. Maurice Haycock, VE3LC, age 88, died on December 23rd in Ottawa. A Maritimer and a graduate of Acadia and Princeton in geology, Dr. Haycock was an active radio Amateur, painter, lecturer and researcher who spent much of his time on geological exploration in Canada's Arctic. Always resourceful, on one occasion his skills as an Amateur enabled him to rehabilitate some aircraft radio equipment and call for emergency help to rescue a research team when an aircraft sent to the Arctic to bring them home was damaged and unable to take off. Among other things, he was noted for his exploration and research regarding Beechey Island and Sir John Franklin's ill-fated expedition in search of the Northwest passage.

de Bill Wilson, VE3NR

TWO CALLS MUCH BETTER THAN ONE

Those of us who monitor some of the 2-metre frequencies hear it every day. "-- is VE3-x- is any--- -round --". Or sometimes it goes like "WA2XVZmobileVE3 needingsomeinfoisanyonearoundtohelp..." By the time we prick up our ears to the fact that someone is there and maybe they need some help, the caller is gone, away to some other repeater channel, looking for the instant replay.

People who really need assistance should realize that monitoring a channel is an exercise in mental filtering. We tend to filter out a lot of things that sound trivial, while going about other tasks in the basement or garage. When you really want to attract attention, for street directions or other emergencies, try calling twice. Three times is even better. Remember that the person monitoring may be doing something that he (or she) just cannot drop, like a wet glue joint, decanting some home-brew, or trying to get a tricky bit of a carburettor together without dropping bits into the dirt. So give another try and let those with scanners have a chance to latch onto the RF. And have patience.

Although I've forgotten his name, we had a VU- in the city for a year or two who had the distinction of the greatest long-delay-comeback. He would announce that he was on the air, and the quick-on-the-trigger fellers would call him immediately, only to wait sometimes three minutes for a reply. It was an exercise in discipline. Patience will pay.

de Gord, VE3DY

APRIL MEETING

April meeting will be Home Brew Night and Packet Radio Demonstration. Hands on!

IS 911 A HAZARD?

In QSP, the monthly bulletin of the Tampa Bay Repeater Association, Tampa, FL, is a reminder to all mobiles that one should be very careful when using the 911 number to report an emergency. When calling from your mobile, remember that the repeater auto-patch number shows up on the screen of the operator on duty at 911. If you report an emergency, be sure to inform the operator that the emergency is not at the telephone number that you are using.

Our hobby is communication and this is an opportunity to show how well we can communicate. Failure to do that may generate 'false alarms' that will do the Amateur fraternity no good. Stay alert. Be accurate.

de Gord, VE3DY

AN OFFER YOU CAN'T REFUSE

CARF is looking for bright energetic Amateurs of either sex to work long and hard for Amateur Radio with little or no cash reward. If you are interested in getting involved, write the General Manager at CARF Headquarters.

de CARF Bulletin 89-2-12

THE GROUNDWAVE ON BULLETIN BOARDS

The GROUNDWAVE is now available on the following computer bulletin boards:

OASIS:

(613) 236-1720	1200/2400 bps
(613) 236-1232	300/1200 bps

SYNAPSE:

(613) 561-5268	1200/2400 bps
(613) 243-7179	1200/9600 bps

NED'S OPUS=HST=:

(613) 523-8965	1200/12000 bps
----------------	----------------

<u>The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ont. K1G 3J2</u>			
President	Paul Cooper	R.R. 2	821-2187
	VE3JLP	Metcalfé, Ont., KOA 2P0	
Vice-	Kees Kaper	4204-4000 Hungerford Gate	592-0474
President	PA0KKZ/VE3	Kanata, Ont., K2L 2T4	592-6500
Secretary	Mike Hughson	P.O. Box 103, 6135 Frank	835-3093
	VE3DVH	Kenny Dr., Vars, Ont., KOA 3H0	
Treasurer	George Caskey	19 Argue Drive	224-6415
	VE3NJV	Nepean, Ont., K2E 6S2	
Past-	John Drajewicz	38 Fuller Street	722-1854
President	VE3NVF	Ottawa, Ont., K1Y 3R8	952-1647
Directors	Fred Chilton	1718 Ambrose St.	744-2096
	VE3PFX	Gloucester, Ont., K1B 5J6	953-0207
	Peter Jago	6 Eagle Rock Way	836-1013
	VE3PWJ	Stittsville, Ont., KOA 3G0	
	Wayne Greenough	5 Summer St.	836-5320
	VE3JSQ	Kanata, Ont., K2L 2L3	
Packet Group	Doug Yuill		230-1741
Chairman	VE3OCU		
Packet Group	Chris Rochefort	2203 Hamelin Crescent	749-3625
Vice-Chairman	VE3PAE	Gloucester, Ont., K1J 6K9	
Repeater	Harrie Jones	9 Haxby Private	739-9365
Chairman	VE3HYS	Ottawa, Ont., K1T 3B4	233-6241
Net Manager	Bruce Lauer	10 Winlock Crescent	829-9471
	VE3MJV	Nepean, Ont., K2G 3X4	
Emergency	Ken Kendall	7778 Springland Drive	731-0892
Coordinator	VE3IHX	Ottawa, Ont., K1V 6L9	
EMI Committee	Ralph Cameron	30 St. Remy Drive	825-1634
Chairman	VE3BBM	Nepean, Ont., K2J 1A3	225-2850
Membership	Mike Kelly	25 Stevenson Ave.,	722-5918
Chairman	VE3FFK	Ottawa, Ont., K1Z 6M9	
National Cap.	Brian Summers	2231 Hillary Avenue	523-1535
Award Manager	VE3JKZ	Ottawa, Ont., K1H 7H7	996-7885
Publicity	Mike Pilon	596 Pleasant Park Rd.,	731-1567
	VE3BUP	Ottawa, Ont. K1H 5N1	996-3311
Photography	Chris Rochefort	2203 Hamelin Crescent	749-3625
	VE3PAE	Gloucester, Ont., K1J 6K9	