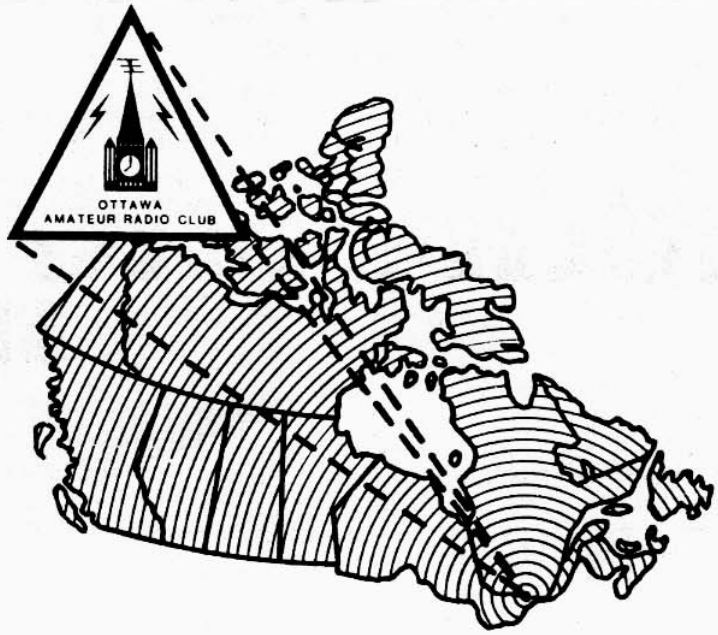


JANUARY 1991

# THE GROUNDWAVE

**NOTICE! NOTICE! NOTICE!**  
NEW LOCATION FOR OARC MEETINGS  
SEE DETAILS INSIDE



NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1991

Club Call VE3RC

Repeater VE2CRA



Official Bulletin of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ont., K1G 3J2

President	Dave Goodwin, VE2ZP	684-1432	
Vice-President	Peter Jago, VE3PWJ	836-1013	836-6860
Secretary	John Connor, VE3RMM	727-5805	
Treasurer	Mike Kelly, VE3FFK	722-5918	788-5782
Past-President	Paul Cooper, VE3JLP	821-2167	
Directors	Clare Fowler, VE3NPC	232-1081	
	Dave Parks, VE3GSA	225-1206	
	Rob Morrison, VE3ZZR	722-3837	992-4334
	Doug Yuill, VE3OCU	567-2700	788-2733
	Harrie Jones, VE3HYS	739-9365	738-2372
Packet Group Chairman	Wayne Greenough, VE3JSQ		
Repeater Chairman	Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM	825-1634	225-2850
Net Manager	Mike Kelly, VE3FFK	722-5918	788-5782
EMI Committee Chairman	Brian Summers, VE3JKZ	523-1535	996-7885
Membership Chairman	Mike Pilon, VE3BUP	731-1567	
Nat. Cap. Award Manager	Mike James, VE3PDE	592-2962	995-2730
Publicity	Maria Townson, VE3KIP	828-9573	
Groundwave Editor	J. Gord MacKay, VE3JMT	831-1004	
Graphic Designer	Paul Campbell, VE3CEP	733-0148	
Contributing Editor	Chuck Baker, VE3PAP	824-1941	
Production Committee	Ted May, VE3ADZ	741-0862	790-3576

**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) in the Champlain Room of the RMOC HQ complex on Lisgar Street, Ottawa, at 1930 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** will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 29, 1990; Jan. 31, 1991; March 28, 1991; and May 30, 1991, at the National Research Council on Sussex Drive. 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 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.

**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 members. For the belts, a refundable deposit consisting of a cheque equal to the replacement value of the belts is required. 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
VE3OCR	223.34/224.94	
VE3OCR Packet	145.01(sx)	Inter city links
VE3OCR Packet	145.07(sx)	Local Area net for QSO and Packet BBS.
56 kbps Packet	220.55/433.55	
VE3DX DX Info	146.25/146.85	

For further information, please contact repeater chairman.

MINUTES OF THE OARC GENERAL MEETING  
OF DECEMBER 5, 1990

No minutes were available for the December OARC meeting.

PI (PACKET INTERFACE) CARD

The Packet Working Group of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc., is pleased to announce the PI (Packet Interface) card.

The PI card is a cost-effective PC-compatible synchronous interface card for high-speed packet radio. Designed for operation at speeds up to 57600 bits per second, this card offers the packet radio experimenter high performance at a reasonable cost.

The PI card offers the following features:

- Dual channel operation; 1 high-speed DMA, 1 low-speed non-DMA
- Driver software for KA9Q NOS included
- Compatible with PC, PC/XT, and PC/AT type systems
- Low-speed port configurable for either RS-232 or TTL levels
- Small size (5.25" length)

The PI card has been extensively tested with the WA4DSY 56kb/s modem and KA9Q NOS, on various XT- and AT-class systems. With suitable choice of parameters, FTP throughputs of as high as 5600 bytes/s on half-duplex RF links have been attained.

The PI card is available only fully assembled and tested, for US\$120, or CDN\$140.

The package includes KA9Q NOS configured for the PI card, and installation documentation with schematics. Software updates will be available via FTP from several INTERNET

sites. Updates on floppy will be available for \$5, for postage and handling.

Support will be available via USENET, the Internet, CompuServe, and the PBBS system.

Send order to:

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P.O. Box 8873  
Ottawa, ON  
K1G 3J2  
CANADA  
Attention: Packet Working Group

SKI MARATHON

Volunteer for the Canadian Ski Marathon! This is the 25th anniversary of the 100 mile cross-country ski event. It takes two days: day 1 to go from Lachute to Montebello; day 2 from Montebello to Gatineau.

I need 30 hams to provide safety and administrative communications.

When - February 8, 9 and 10, 1991.

Call me now and volunteer.

73, Harrie, VE3HYS  
Home: 739-9365  
Office: 738-2372

CHANGE IN THE EXECUTIVE

Mike Kelly has accepted the job of Treasurer. This means we need a new membership secretary. Please volunteer as soon as possible.

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN'S RANDOM STUFF

As of today (December 12, 1990) we have 158 members. If you still haven't got your membership card, let me know and I'll do another one.

I've been writing a bit for each Groundwave for what seems like years, so maybe this spot should have a name...any suggestions? Looking over the membership forms, it seems that a lot of you have new work phone numbers since last year. I wonder if that means you changed jobs, or whether your employer changed telephone systems. Around the "Engineer Factory" here, we seem to change telephone systems about every five years, with a new number every time.

I got a note from John, VE3NVF, one of our past presidents, saying he has moved to New Zealand and is awaiting his ZL callsign. In other "news", there seems to be a lot of new, and recently grandfathered hams out there. Having talked to a fair number of each in the past week or so, I think they are a positive addition to this mix we call ham radio. To those of you who are in one of those categories (new hams, and new "grandfathers"), welcome aboard. To those of you who are new hams, don't be the least bit shy about asking what you may think are "dumb" questions. They will be the same questions everybody else asked not so long ago. To those of you who are old timers who were afraid of being inundated by the great unwashed...relax. These newcomers really do have the stuff that real hams are made of. Help them come up to speed (so to speak) in any way you can. We will all be better for it.

I've been having lots of fun messing around with a new receiver I got in July. Recently, I "discovered" radar signals at 1030 and 1090 Mhz. That sent me off to the library to read up on radar, so now

I'm up to my knees in what for me is a whole new topic. I think that's a good example of how people learn stuff through ham radio. What interesting side roads have you explored in your ham radio "career"? One final thought...when mobiling with 2 meter gear, keep track of exactly where you are. Imagine how you'll feel if you have to report an accident to the police, but find you are unable to tell them exactly where it is.

LAST WORD...HOMEBREW (T'is the season to start).

Update: No, I didn't fall into a black hole, I just missed some exec meetings. That's why you haven't seen anything from me lately. I'm keeping this short because I no longer have access to a machine that will translate from the 3 1/2 inch, 2 meg floppies that I use at work to the 5 1/4 inch floppies that your long suffering editor uses. The way this technology keeps going obsolete is going to be a big problem for people like hams. Suppose 20 years from now, you get a surplus rig, from around the year 2004. Suppose you are lucky and it even comes complete with its manual set...on a CD-ROM or something like it. The problem is that the last reader for the manual was junked five years earlier. I can easily read manuals for stuff made fifty years ago. I doubt that I will be able to say that about anything that I push through one of these computer thingies. Enough gloom...I finally (JUST before the snow came) got an HF antenna up. Jeff, VE3RCI, says the OVMRC is working up a bunny hunt for this summer. Keep listening and start building that DF stuff. I hope Santa was good to you all. This may be my last column as Membership Chairman and first as Treasurer.

LAST WORDS: Trust paper (it won't go obsolete as fast as people like to think).

"Till next time...

73 de VE3FFK, mike

SANTA'S HELPERS

On Wednesday, December 12th, 10 amateurs and 4 helpers made it possible for Santa to talk to 50 children who were at the Children's Hospital for Eastern Ontario. This event has been taking place since 1977. This year it was organized by Gerry, VE3GK, who also acted as a subordinate class and a backup Santa Claus. Our two main Santas were Ron and Ron, VE3AUM and VE3MJX. Also helping Santa out were Russ, VE3LOW; Chuck, VE3PAP; Marcel, VE3FNG; Bill, VE3NPG, and his XYL, Linda; Joe, VE2DZT; Wayne, VE3WDP; and Harrie, VE3HYS. Also helping out were Cindy, Daphne and Michelle.

de Harrie, VE3HYS

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

THINKING OF IMPORTING FROM THE U.S.A.  
- by Larry Woram, VE3WLN - thanks to the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club bulletin 'RAMBLER', November 1990.

"I have recently noticed an increased interest by Amateurs in importing equipment from the U.S.A. To assist those of you who may be interested, I have listed the following tariffs items and rates of duty for the more popular items.

8525.20.10 Transmission apparatus incorporating reception apparatus for use on the amateur bands - FREE

8527.39.10 Receivers designed for use on the amateur bands - FREE

8529.90.10 Parts suitable for use solely or principally with the above items - FREE

8529.10.90 Aerials and aerial reflectors of all kinds; parts suitable for use therewith 5.7%. 3.8% (after 1 January 1991)

8471.91.00 Digital processing units, whether or not presented with the rest of a system which may contain in the same housing one or two of the following types

of unit: storage units, input units, output units. (FREE if made in the U.S.A.) (3.9% other countries).

8471.93.10 Storage units whether or not presented with the rest of a system (disk drives) FREE. Item 2, CARF News Bulletin 19-90.

The ONTARIO TRANSPROVINCIAL NET. If you are looking for a place to meet friends, get a signal report, information on weather or road conditions, pass traffic, or just have a friendly chat, then tune into 7055 KHz LSB on the 40 metre amateur band. The hours of operation re 0900 to 1700 EST, Monday to Friday. Saturday and Sunday 0900 to 1600 hours EST. More on this friendly net in a future issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine. Item 3, CARF News Bulletin 19-90.

PLEASE LEND YOUR LITTLE EARS TO MY PLEAS: Don't send outgoing QSL cards to CARF headquarters in Kingston. This delays delivery of your cards and wastes our time and money. Send them direct to P.O. Box 66, Islington, Ontario, M9A 4X1. Thank you. Item 4, CARF News Bulletin 19-90.

WARC

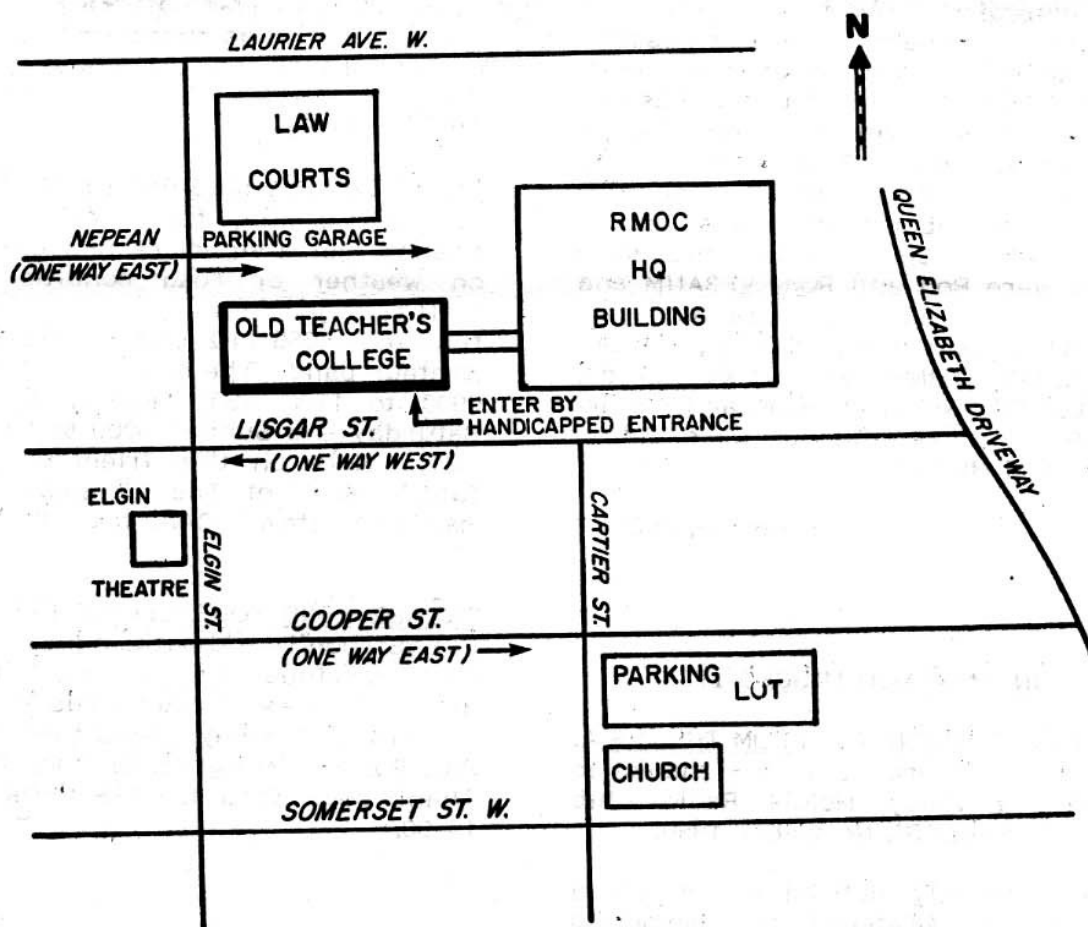
The club is supporting a fund-raiser for a delegation to WARC. Please be prepared to place some loonies or other change (or bills) in the bank at the next meeting.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Field day volunteer wanted - volunteer early so we can plan ahead.

We still need a coordinator for the next Flea Market.

NEW LOCATION FOR OARC MEETINGS



For the whole of 1991, the OARC will be meeting in the Champlain Room of the RMOC HQ complex on Lisgar St. in downtown Ottawa.

The Champlain Room is located on the second floor of the Old Teacher's College Building. Enter from the corner of Cartier and Lisgar. Look for the handicapped person's entrance. Take the stairs to the second floor. The room is the second on the left. There is also an elevator available.

We need a volunteer for a talk-in station for the January meeting.

There is FREE on-street parking on Lisgar, Cartier and Cooper.

The parking garage, accessible from Elgin at Nepean, will cost \$2.00.

The parking lot at Cartier and Cooper may be unattended and, therefore, FREE.

It is with some regret that we leave NRC, where the OARC has been meeting since the early 1950's. Sincere thanks go to Larry Abott, Emergency Planning Officer, RMOC, for getting us such beautiful accommodations.