



# GROUNDWAVE

January/February 1999

Check out our Web Page: [www.oarc.net](http://www.oarc.net)

It's time for the Canadian Ski Marathon...

frança

**CANADIAN SKI MARATHON**  
CANADIEN DE SKI

February 13th-14th, 1999

About the ski marathon  
Event registration  
Weather, news and conditions  
Results  
Photo gallery  
Sponsor's corner  
Contact us



Check it out at <http://www.csm-mcs.com/>

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## Club Information

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (OARC). 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 Keefer Room (2nd floor of the Old Teacher's College) of the Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton Head Quarters complex on Lisgar Street. Meetings commence at approximately 19:30 hours. Further details about each meeting is elsewhere in this publication.

**Executive Meetings of the OARC Inc.**, are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at 19:30 hours. Contact the President to confirm the date, time and place of the next meeting.

**Packet Radio Meetings** will be held at 19:30 hours on the last Thursday of every second month beginning in September, at the Algonquin College - Lees Campus. This is an OARC Inc. Technical meeting open to all who have an interest in packet radio.

## NET's of Interest

The **Capital City FM Net** meets every Monday at 20:00 hours on the club repeater VE2CRA to pass traffic and to make announcements of interest to amateurs in the National Capital Region.

The **SWAP Net** is a service provided and conducted by Dan Reardon, VE3GUU. This feature appears on the Capital City FM Net. To list items and make inquiries, call Dan Reardon at 836-2633, Fax: 836-5635.

The **POT-HOLE NET** is a SSB/HF net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club and is conducted every Sunday at 10:00 hours on 3.760 Mhz. All amateurs are welcome to check in. The SWAP Net is a regular feature of this net.

The **POT-LID CW NET** is an informal slow-speed CW net sponsored and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX, and meets every Sunday, except during July and August, at 11:00 hours on 3.620 Mhz, to promote interest in CW and CW procedures.

The **QCWA Chapter 70 NET** every Thursday evening at 2000 hrs local time. Repeater VE3TEL is used, courtesy of the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club. The frequency is 147.03 out, 146.43 Mhz in. The callsign used is VE3QCW. Visiting Hams are invited to check into this Net. You do not have to be a QCWA member to check into this Net.

## Club Repeaters

Voice (VHF)	146.94/146.34	100 Hz output tone
(UHF)	443.300/448.300	

Packet	147.07(sx) For QSO and Packet BBS.
Packet 56 kbps	220.55/433.55
East of Ottawa	145.69(sx)
Ottawa Centre	145.07(sx)
Hull	145.05(sx)
West of Ottawa	145.03(sx)
South of Ottawa	144.91(sx)
Nepean	145.59(sx)
West Carleton	144.97(sx)

For further information, please contact the Repeater Chair.

## OARC Inc. Memberships

- **Individual Membership** is available for \$20.00
- **Family Membership** is available for \$25.00
- **New Hams** just licensed may qualify for free membership, contact the membership Chair.
- **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 50% discount but the junior member must pick up his/her copy of the Groundwave (preferably at the meeting).

## December Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the OARC General Meeting - December 2, 1998

The meeting was called to order by the President, Ed (VA3MPY), at 7:35 p.m.

We had one guest this evening, George - VE3PFZ. Welcome George, hope to see you again.

Ed started the main part of the evening with a very serious announcement. He, accompanied by several other OARC members, presented to the West Carleton Club (WCC) the Field Day Plaque. Winning by a mere nose, the WCC members nonetheless felt comfortable enough to dine on chocolate orange cake and coffee presented by the OARC. (Note from your Minute Taker: Don't feed them too well Ed, we don't want them getting too used to the idea that they can enjoy eating cake at OARC expense.) Apparently there is a picture of the event on the WCC web site.

Ed and the Members present thanked Anne (VE3TSB) and Ken (VA3KA) for auditing the Club's accounts.

Dave Parks (VE3AV) reminded the members that the ARRL January VHF Sweeps will be held on January 23/24. Not to be outdone, George (VE3BNO) also reminded members of the 160 metre contest to be held on December 12/13th.

Brian (VE3ZRK), as per his generous nature, brought assorted magazines and catalogues for the members. Rick (VE3IHI) also had brought various newsletters and club publications. Rick continued with an invitation received

from the OVMRC inviting OARC members to their annual Xmas Show. This year it will be held on December 17, 1998 at the usual location - the Museum of Science and Technology.

Consistent with his determination to completely check out the APRS weather station's operating characteristics in even the harshest of environments (before certifying it as ready), Rick was curious to investigate whether its control head could still function after being subjected to a direct burst of RF energy. As Rick told the members - it can't. (Note from your Minute Taker: The membership did not seem surprised by the test report, but appeared appreciative of Rick's continuing efforts in this area.) Rick went on to observe that the City of Nepean has allocated money towards an emergency response centre. Rick promised to investigate further.

Mike (VE3FFK) pointed out that the log periodic antenna in front of the CRC is down.

On that note Ed invited Jim Cummings (VE3XJ) to present his exposé on amateur emergency communications in the Ottawa area during last year's Ice Storm. Jim's talk was presented at a workshop held earlier in the year in British Columbia. Jim also presented slides taken from another presentation on amateur operations during the Manitoba floods. An interesting Q&A session followed.

## Oops!

It looks like someone was sleeping on the job!

A credit got lost in the December Groundwave.

The article "An elegant Lady-of-the-sea" should have been credited to Rick McCusker, KO6DJ via Worldradio, June 1998 Edition.

**Oops again!**

The January Groundwave didn't make it past the reproduction stage early this month. Our usual copy supplier as well as the backup both were unable to make copies of the newsletter.

This month's issue combines both Jan. and Feb.



## Radio Amateurs of Canada

All News below is received from Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) bulletin service. Readers may subscribe to this service, visit the RAC website at [www.rac.ca](http://www.rac.ca) for more information. Guy Charron VA3FZA Bulletin Editor. Email: [va3fza@rac.ca](mailto:va3fza@rac.ca) Packet: [va3fza@ve3kyt](mailto:va3fza@ve3kyt)

From: RAC Headquarters Date: December 20th, 1998  
Subject: VE3SJQ elected Ontario Section Manager

Robert McKenzie, VE3SJQ was recently elected Ontario Section Manager for a two year term that will begin on April 1, 1999.

Robert ran unopposed, eliminating the need for a balloted election.

Section Manager elect Robert McKenzie, VE3SJQ has agreed to complete the term of the outgoing Section Manager, Mr. Larry Thivierge VE3GT, who will be assuming the duties of Director Ontario North on January 1, 1999.

## MK's Words

Here it is. mk Dec 15 1998 (got to get used to using four digits for the year)

Well, here it is nearly half past December and there still isn't any white stuff on the ground. The weather twocasters are predicting PLUS six for today. Even the worst of the procrastinators has their antenna work done (don't you?). Are we going to have a Canadian Ski-less Marathon this year? As one ham said, "every day like this puts us a day closer to spring". All this is good news for me.

We had another transmitter hunt this weekend, but nobody won. The transmitter quit after just a few transmissions. Even the most sensitive receiver won't find a signal that isn't there. The ESP receiver didn't do us much good this time either. Oh well, we'll try again later- maybe hunting snow bunnies.

Otherwise, not much is happening around the old hamshack just now. I have been playing around with the toys I mentioned last month, and found out that my 6 el UHF yagi will bring in a P4 picture from the video repeater at CJOH. Somehow seeing "VE3ATV" on a test pattern makes me think that there might be something to this television stuff after all. That has me wondering what the picture would look like if I put the antenna outside. .. I'm beginning to see why those TV guys have to retire to find time to play with all the toys. Meanwhile,

I will resist the urge to add video to my list of things I'm too busy for.

I've been playing on a few nets, having a (very) few QSOs on VHF, and doing a little more re-arranging of the shack. It turns out that no matter how often or how neatly one re-arranges a heap of stuff, it remains -a heap of stuff.

During a QSO after one of the Pot Lid nets, I suggested to someone that they borrow the QRP rig to run CW backpack portable during their daily walkabout. Maybe I will have to do something similar to re-kindle my enthusiasm for getting on the air and yakking. (You already know I consider radio to be an outdoor sport.) One may yet hear VE3FFK going snowshoe mobile on the big waves. The ground plane may not be as big as the bike, but I would lose the warble that tells those in the know that they are working a bike mobile cw station. At the same time, you know a better set of paddles can be made when one doesn't have to worry about brake levers. It is also easier to practice cw while walking around the house than while cycling around it.

Here are a few more things to do in January while you get ready for either the Ski Marathon, or the coming of spring.

Jan 6 OARC meeting Jan 9 N.A. CW QSO Party Jan 16 VHF Sweepstakes Jan 16 N.A SSB QSO Party Jan 23 EMRG general meeting Jan 23 CQ WW 160M SSB contest Jan 30 EMRG Y2K group meeting

73.. mk

## An oldie but a goody

ENGINEERS TAKE THE FUN OUT OF CHRISTMAS

There are approximately two billion children (persons under 18) in the world. However, since Santa does not visit children of Muslim, Hindu, Jewish or Buddhist (except maybe in Japan) religions, this reduces the workload for Christmas night to 15% of the total, or 378 million (according to the population reference bureau). At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, that comes to 108 million homes, presuming there is at least one good child in each.

Santa has about 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 967.7 visits per second. This is to say that for each Christian household with a good child, Santa has around 1/1000 th of a second to park the sleigh, hop out, jump down the chimney, fill the stocking, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left for him, get back up the chimney, jump into the sleigh and get onto the next house. Assuming that each of these 108 million stops is

Continued on Page 6

## Local News

### Merry Christmas from VE3CPC Joyeux Noël de VE3CPC

#### NEWS FLASH \* BULLETIN SPÉCIAL

Le Déjeûner du Mois de Janvier 99  
The January Breakfast 99

Samedi, Janvier 9, 1999 @ 0900 heures  
Saturday, January 9, 1999 @ 0900 hrs

LOUIS STEAK HOUSE - 1682 Rue Cyrville Road

Veuillez aviser Guy à [ve3wgl@rac.ca](mailto:ve3wgl@rac.ca)  
Please register with Guy at [ve3wgl@rac.ca](mailto:ve3wgl@rac.ca)

The results of the 1998 VE3CPC Weekly Net will be available & certificates to those who maintained a 60% average or above will be presented.

Les résultats de 1998 pour le réseau hebdomadaire VE3CPC seront disponibles & nous présenterons les certificats à ceux et celles qui ont maintenu une moyenne de présence de 60% ou plus.

#### VE3CPC WEEKLY NET 1999 RÉSEAU HEBDOMADAIRE VE3CPC 1999

The VE3CPC Weekly Certificate Net will begin on January 07, 1999 at 2030 hrs on VE3MPC (147.150+ / 444.400+).

Le réseau-certificat hebdomadaire de VE3CPC débutera jeudi le 7 janvier 1999, à 20h30 sur les ondes de VE3MPC (147.150+ / 444.400+)

The Net will last for 52 weeks and stations must maintain a 60% or above by the end of 1999. Le réseau sera tenu pendant 52 semaines, et les stations se présentant doivent maintenir une moyenne de présence de 60% ou plus, jusqu'à la fin de l'année 1999.

If the repeater is not functioning properly, there will be no Net and no one will be penalized for that week. Dans l'éventualité où le répéteur ne fonctionnerait pas adéquatement, il n'y aurait pas de réseau et personne ne serait pénalisé pour cette semaine spécifique.

Individual results will be available at any time from [VE3WGL@RAC.CA](mailto:VE3WGL@RAC.CA) at any time during the year. Les résultats individuels seront disponibles en tout temps auprès de [VE3WGL@RAC.CA](mailto:VE3WGL@RAC.CA) et ce, à n'importe quel moment durant le cours de l'année.

The VE3CPC Weekly Certificate Net will be awarded at the first breakfast of 2000.

Le certificat mérité pour le réseau hebdomadaire de VE3CPC sera décerné lors du premier déjeûner de l'an 2000.

Any questions, please contact Guy (Weekly Net Coordinator) at [VE3WGL@RAC.CA](mailto:VE3WGL@RAC.CA).  
Pour toute question relative à la présente, SVP communiquer avec Guy (Coordonnateur du réseau hebdomadaire) à [VE3WGL@RAC.CA](mailto:VE3WGL@RAC.CA).

### West Carleton ARC

We finally have an APRS Internet Server going to relay live data from the local area to the Internet - and to a web page. We have also registered the domain name [canaprs.net](http://www.canaprs.net), and you can find a web page of live APRS activity in Eastern Ontario at <http://www.canaprs.net/>

No one is directly feeding data to the server yet, so I have it temporarily set up to retrieve the data from [www.aprs.net](http://www.aprs.net) in Miami. So, stations in this area may appear very slowly when you connect because you are also getting all of the U.S. stations. My dad is working on his APRS station to be able to gate local data to the server.

I plan to put a mention of WCARC on the current page, and possibly create a separate page under the [wcarc.on.ca](http://wcarc.on.ca) domain with a focus on the West Carleton / Lanark area.

Please pass along any ideas, comments, etc.

73, Rene (VA3RDK)

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Rene Kahle | IGS - Information Gateway Services  
[rene@igs.net](mailto:rene@igs.net) | (613) 592-5619 FAX (613) 592-3556  
Systems Manager | <http://www.igs.net/>

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## HamFests and Flea Markets

### Niagara Peninsula ARC Fleamarket

Saturday, February 6, 1999  
 St. Catharines, ON  
 CAW Hall, 124 Bunting Rd., St. Catharines  
 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Set-up at 7 a.m.  
 Tables \$20  
 147.240(+)  
 Information/table reservations:  
 Joe, VE3NDX, 905-937-6208, ve3vm@rac.ca  
 NPARC  
 P.O. Box 20036  
 Grantham Postal Outlet  
 St. Catharines, ON L2M 7W7  
<http://members.tripod.com/~VE3VM/>

### Burlington Amateur Radio Club Spring Fleamarket

Saturday, February 27, 1999 - 09:00 - 14:00  
 Burlington, ON  
 Canadian Legion, Legion Rd., Burlington, ON  
 (off Queen at Brant)  
 For more info:  
 Burlington ARC  
 P.O. Box 85037  
 Burlington, ON L7R 4K3  
 ve3iuo@rac.ca  
<http://bigwave.ca/~ve3coj/barc>

### HAMEX '99

Peel Amateur Radio Club  
 Saturday, March 27, 1999 - 09:00  
 Brampton, ON  
 Brampton Fall Fairgrounds  
 Heart Lake Rd. and Old Church Rd.  
 (19 km north of 401 on 410)  
 Admission: \$5. (\$10/family of 2 adults, 2 children under 12). Tables \$25. All tables will be pre-sold (none available at door). No tailgaters.  
 VE3PRC 146.880(-), 443.550(+)  
 Basic, Advanced and CW examiners will be on-site  
 Test bench for used gear.  
 Jack Summers, va3jak@rac.ca 905-458-0002  
 George Van Ryssen, va3gvr@rac.ca  
 George Duffield, ve3wkj@rac.ca  
 info@peelarc.org  
<http://www.peelarc.org/>

### Club Radio Amateur Laval Laurentides (CRALL)

**7th annual hamfest**  
 Saturday, March 27, 1999  
 Sainte-Thérèse, QC  
 In 1997 it was held at:  
 Polyvalente Sainte-Thérèse, 401 Boul. du Domaine,  
 Sainte-Thérèse, QC.  
 VE2REL 147.315(+)  
 For more info:  
 Jean-Paul, VE2LHR 450-625-8656  
[hamfest99@hotmail.com](mailto:hamfest99@hotmail.com)

evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false, but will accept for the purposes of our calculations), we are now talking about 0.78 miles per household; a total trip of 75.5 million miles, not counting bathroom stops or breaks. This means Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per second—3,000 times the speed of sound. For purposes of comparison, the fastest man made vehicle, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a poky 27.4 miles per second, and a conventional reindeer can run (at best) 15 miles per hour.

The payload of the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium sized LEGO set (two pounds), the sleigh is carrying over 500 thousand tons, not counting Santa himself. On land, a conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even granting that the "flying" reindeer can pull 10 times the normal amount, the job can't be done with eight or even nine of them—Santa would need 360,000 of them. This increases the payload, not counting the weight of the sleigh, another 54,000 tons, or roughly seven times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth (the ship, not the monarch). A mass of nearly 600,000 tons travelling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance - this would heat up the reindeer in the same fashion as a spacecraft re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer would adsorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy per second each. In short, they would burst into flames almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them and creating deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team would be vaporised within 4.26 thousandths of a second, or right about the time Santa reached the fifth house on his trip. Not that it matters, however, since Santa, as a result of accelerating from a dead stop to 650 m.p.s. in .001 seconds, would be subjected to acceleration forces of 17,000 g's. A 250 pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim considering all the high calorie snacks he must have consumed over the years) would be pinned to the back of the sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force, instantly crushing his bones and organs and reducing him to a quivering blob of pink goo. Therefore, if Santa did exist, he's dead now.  
**Merry Christmas**

## January Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the OARC General Meeting - January ?, 1998

The meeting was called to order by the President, Ed (VA3MPY), at 7:43 p.m.

We had two guests this evening, Dave Harris, VE3KMV, and Adrian Comeau who hopes to be licenced soon. Welcome to both of you.

For the Haves and Wants section, someone wants a new radio. Of course, who doesn't? As well, on the 23rd and 24th, 2 metre contacts on FM and SSB would be appreciated.

### Announcements:

The Canadian Ski Marathon is Feb 13 - 14. Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to sign up at the front. See Harrie Jones, VE3HYS for more info.

1999 is a special year for the RCMP. It marks the 125th anniversary of the "Trek West".

Peter Gamble, VE3BQP the team leader of the Emergency Measures Radio Group listed a few upcoming dates.

Jan 23 9:00-12:00 - General meeting and photo session.  
Jan 30 9:00-12:00 - Y2K working group/info session.  
Feb 27 The next EMRG exercise.

All of these events are opportunities for anyone with an interest to get involved and all are invited.

Richard showed off the new TH-D7A, a cool new handheld from Kenwood. It features a built-in 1200/9600 TNC and APRS software.

QCWA is on the internet! Use "QCWA" in your favourite search engine and get there from here!

Ed also mentioned that Jim, VE3XJ is looking for help with the fleamarket. Greg, VE3Ytz has already agreed to do publicity and has already sent out announcements.

The Canadian Amateur (TCA), the official publication of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) is now publishing six times a year instead of eleven. Each issue will now be sixty-four pages instead of forty-eight.

Some concern was raised about the format change, but the consensus was to wait and see how this affects the publication.

As well, Rob Ludlow, VE3YE is no longer editor of TCA.. An exhaustive search on the RAC web pages found no mention of this fact or the name of the new editor. *(Editor's note: He is real, I've met him -- just can't remember his name)*

We then proceeded to watch a RAC video about Field Day. It was embarrassing to say the least, enough said.

Ed, VA3MPY closed the meeting at 20:45 by wishing all a prosperous 1999.

Guy, VE3ZZJ won the 50/50 draw and took home \$17.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held February 3rd at 19:30 at the RMOc headquarters - 111 Lisgar St. in the **Billings** room.

OMB hearings are in our usual spot.

March's meeting will be held on March 3rd. We may also be bumped then from the Keefer room, so don't stumble into the wrong meeting!

Students from Algonquin College will be presenting the RDF project in February.

### The Finer Points of Publishing...

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

## CSM info

February 13 and 14, 1999 will mark 26 years for Amateur radio on the Canadian Ski Marathon and it's time to get your spot on the radio crew. The CSM is a cross country ski tour through the forests of Quebec just North of the Ottawa river. Every year 45 to 60 radio amateurs in teams of 2 or 4 man the 10 check points, ride in the CSM vehicles, run the net control stations and some even ski the trail. The equipment required is readily available, 2M radios with at least a 25 Watt output, 1 omni and 1 directional antenna per check point. Teams generally share a car and pool their equipment. New people are put with experienced ones so they can get a chance to learn how it works and not get worked to death first time out.

Radio operators report to the check point Captain who is in charge of the 20 to 30 people in the check point. Food, water, safety crew, first aid and a great working atmosphere are all provided at each check point. Some check points open very early, some open a little later, early openers tend to close in the early afternoon and late openers close later in the afternoon. This event is a great deal of fun and as such the volunteers tend to return year after year, the fact that there are seldom more than 10 new radio operators per year speaks for the events popularity.

Persons wishing to volunteer for the CSM for 1999 should not delay in contacting Harrie Jones VE3HYS, at home in the evenings at 739-9365. Harrie can also be reached at work, after 3pm is best, at 738-2372 ext 234. Best way of all is to E-mail Harrie at [hjones@koolcfra.com](mailto:hjones@koolcfra.com) and avoid the phone tag problem all together. Informal questions can be answered during the Capital City FM net on Mondays at 8 pm on 146.940 - , just ask there's lots of people on the air who have been on the marathon and can help with an answer.

## Worldradio

The December issue of the Groundwave featured an article from Worldradio without proper credit.

To make up for the error, we feature an excerpt from the Worldradio web site <http://www.wr6wr.com/>

The OARC has been exchanging newsletters with Worldradio for longer than most can remember and is an invaluable source of ham radio news, information and stories .

Check it out!

"Welcome to the Worldradio website. This page is the doorway into over a hundred pages of Amateur Radio services and information. The links above will take you to the main pages.

This has been a very exciting past month here at Worldradio headquarters. With the new year approaching we felt motivated to renovate the look of the magazine and we're sure you'll be pleased. We also are pleased to announce that we are now printing the magazine digitally. What does that mean for you? Cleaner, crisper text and photos as well as some other tricky graphics that we were unable to do before. For more specifics on Worldradio magazine click on the link above.

Also, with the January issue, Worldradio has started printing the photos on the cover from our recent photo contest. It was a tough decision to pick the winners because we received so many good photos. To see the January cover click on the Worldradio magazine link above.

For those of you who aren't subscribers, Worldradio is a service-oriented magazine written by and for Amateur Radio operators (Hams). Our features include columns on QRP, DX, Contests, Old-time Radio, MARS, Club Huddle, RFI & You, Computers & Basic Stuff, With the Handi-Hams, and, of course, Aerials.

This website is open to everyone and we welcome all contributions to it. Many of the pages (Hamfests, VE Exams, etc.) have forms where you can post your information easily and it will be posted in short order for free.

So have fun and tell your friends. If you see something that you think should be on the site but isn't then click the webmaster link below and let me know about it and I will do my best to make this site better."

**NOTE: 1999 MARKS THE FIRST YEAR FOR WHICH ANY OF THE ORIGINAL ELECTRONIC COPIES OF THE GROUNDWAVE WERE FOUND.**

**Where there was an electronic copy available, the paper versions were not scanned. There are obviously other electronic copies of THE GROUNDWAVE out there somewhere.**

**IF YOU HAVE AN ELECTRONIC COPY OF AN ISSUE THAT ONLY APPEARS IN THE ARCHIVE AS A PAPER NEWSLETTER, LET THE EXECUTIVE KNOW, AND WE WILL TRY TO INCLUDE IT IN THE ARCHIVE.**

**Having a copy of the electronic version rather than a series of images scanned from paper into a .pdf document will facilitate electronic searching for keywords without relying on optical character recognition which, as of this date (July 2011) is still unreliable.**

**73 MIKE KELLY VE3FFK**