

GROUNDWAVE

November 1999

P.O. Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1G 3J2

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AMSAT



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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.

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 721-3339, ve3guu@igs.net. Also available on the web: <http://www.igs.net/~swap>

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).

October Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the OARC General Meeting -October 6, 1999

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

We had quite a few visitors this meeting including: Andy (Ed's brother), Tom (VA3TCG), Terry (VA2TER), Joe (VA2BJJ), Larry (VE3CRX), Wayne - a newly licensed amateur and Ken - an amateur returning to the flock. Welcome gentlemen - hope to see you again.

Without much ado, Ed introduced our guests for the evening. They included Randy Mawson and Stan from Environment Canada who spoke to us about CANWARN, a weather warning system.

Amateurs, as they are apt to do, are making their communities safer by forwarding to Environment Canada, reports on observed severe weather. CANWARN has been established for a number of years now (since 1987) in south western Ontario and the program has been a great success. Environment Canada has plans to introduce the program into the Ottawa area for next summer.

One training session was held in Smith's Falls last summer and another in Ottawa is planned. Judging from the member's interest in Randy's presentation and the large number of thoughtful questions that were posed, the OARC will undoubtedly be front and centre on this initiative! Would we

ever have it any other way? Thanks Randy. We'll be seeing you soon.

After thanking our guests, Ed advised that Jim (VE3XJ) was feeling better. Get healthy soon Jim!

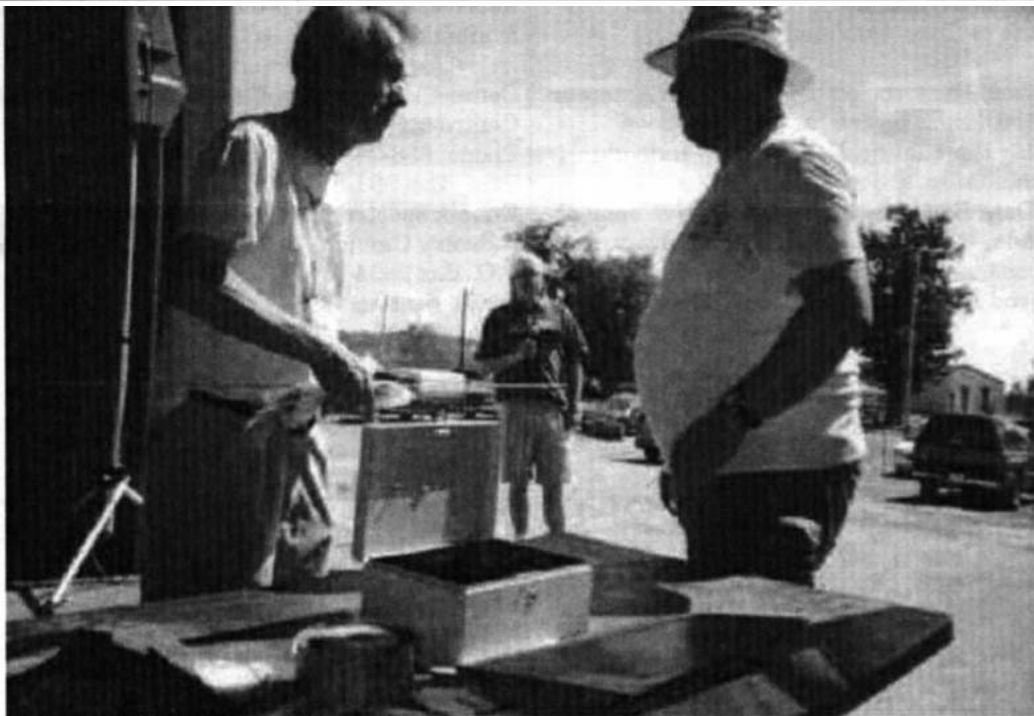
Ed announced that November's meeting may be held at the home of 705th Communication Squadron on Walkley Road. More info will be forthcoming. However, if this does not pan out, we will be next meeting in the Col. By Room just around the corner from the Keefer Rm (The Keefer Rm is not available due to some sort of hearings.)

(Editor's note: We will be at the RMOC in November)

Also on another administrative note, Ed announced that the Executive was now meeting at Algonquin College, Lees Ave Campus (Rm E118). (All OARC members are welcome to attend meetings of the Executive which are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.)

Ed reminded members of the Joe Norton award. Rules can be found in the Groundwave. (With \$500 waiting to be picked up, its almost enough to make you wish you were a newly licensed amateur once again!) The winner will be announced at the December meeting.

With Doug (VE3XK) picking up a cool \$25.50 from the 50/50 draw, Ed closed the meeting.



OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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 for more information. Guy Charron VA3FZA Bulletin Editor. Email: va3fza@rac.ca Packet: va3fza@ve3kyt

RAC Bulletin 99-097E

Date: September 25, 1999

New Basic and Advanced question banks released

Radio Information circulars RIC-7 - Basic Qualification Question Bank for Amateur Radio Operator Certificate Examinations, and RIC-8 - Advanced Qualification Question Bank for Amateur Radio Operator Certificate are now available for downloading from the Industry Canada Strategis web site. (The files are quite large; the basic question bank may require up to 260 pages to print !!)

Industry Canada proposes to implement the new exams as of July 1, 2000, but has released the question banks now to give course developers and examiners a chance to gain familiarity with them.

Any questions about changes to the examination curriculum and syllabus should be cleared up when a revised version of RIC-3 is issued in the near future.

The URL to RIC-7 is:
<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01900e.html>

The URL to RIC-8 is:
<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01901e.html>

RAC Bulletin 99-099E

Date: 1 October, 1999

Call Sign Database to Show Qualifications

Effective 01 October, 1999, the official Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base on the Internet has been amended to display the qualifications held by individual Canadian radio amateurs. The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is a collaborative development by Industry Canada, RAC and Information Gateway Services in response to requests from individual amateurs, clubs and Delegated Examiners across Canada

to have the qualification data included in the call sign data base on the Internet.

The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is derived from the new Industry Canada data base called the ACCS (Amateur Callsign Certification System)/ SGIC (Système de gestion d'indicatifs d'appel et de certification amateur) formed by merging information from the Department's existing, separate certificate and automated licensing system data bases. This was not a trivial task.

Many amateurs will recall receiving a letter early this year from Industry Canada in February or March requesting verification of information. The new data base has been made as accurate as possible, but some errors may exist. Industry Canada has requested that all amateurs check their information and report any errors or omissions to the Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre at the phone numbers or addresses listed below. Clubs should verify the currency of the information for their club station sponsor and report any changes.

All amateurs who obtained the former Amateur or Advanced Amateur Certificate of Proficiency in Amateur Radio prior to 1990 should be shown as holding Basic, Advanced and 12 WPM Qualifications. The new Canadian Amateur Radio Call Sign Data Base is available on the RAC web site at <http://www.rac.ca/callbook>. Further information will be posted on the web site as it becomes available.

Contact the Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre at:

Phone: 888-780-3333 (toll free)

Fax: 613-991-5575

E-mail: spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca

Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre

P.O. Box 9654

Postal Station "T"

Ottawa, ON

K1G 6K9

Joe Norton Award

The OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. awards annually the Joe Norton Trust Award for the advancement of amateur radio. The amount of this award is approximately \$500.

ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible, a candidate must:

1. Be a resident of the National Capital Region as defined by the official federal government map.
2. Have received a Certificate of Proficiency in radio from Industry Canada during the period June 1, 1997 to June 1, 1999.
3. Send a written submission of no less than 600 words and no more than 900 words to the executive of the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC., setting out his or her interests, achievements and plans to contribute to the advancement of amateur radio.
4. Present him/herself for an interview if so requested by the judges.

RULES

1. Entries must be received on or before November 10, 1999. No entries received after that date will be considered.
2. The club will send an acknowledgment in writing upon receipt of an application.
3. A panel of judges appointed by the executive of the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. will evaluate all entries.
4. Finalists may be interviewed by members of the executive of the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC., the panel of judges, or both.
5. Submissions will not be returned.
6. If the judges do not select a candidate in any year, no award shall be made in that year and the monies shall return to the trust fund.

7. All decisions of the executive of the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. are final.

8. The winner will be notified on or before November 19, 1999.

9. The winner will notify the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. of his or her acceptance of the award no later than November 26, 1999.

10. The award will be made during the regular meeting of the OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. in December.

11. The winner agrees to have his or her name, photograph and address published in club bulletins, trade papers and magazines, and on the airwaves.

Send your entry, to be received no later than November 10, 1999 to:

Joe Norton Trust Award
OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
Box 8873
Ottawa, ON
K1G 3J2

News from Near and Far

It is that time again - CPC Club Breakfast

It is that time again and you must ensure that your cholesterol level is correct by attending the CPC Breakfast Club in November. Contact Guy or listen to the Thursday night CPC club net for the date and location.

Guy, VE3WGL ve3wgl@rac.ca

Renew NOW!

Or join the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club if you're not a member! See **page 7** for a membership form



mk's words

Oct 26, 1999

The bike is put away for another year, all too soon. That week of rain in late September has been enough to lure me back into the big limo, and once I get used to the bus system again, it is hard to hit the road on two wheels before sunrise, only to find frost under the leaves under the wheels. So it's goodbye to 40 metres bike mobile.

Maybe in the spring I will try a higher band, like 15 or 20 metres. The propagation should support it and the antennas may be a bit more efficient up there. The only thing I regret about leaving the bike earlier than usual in the year is that I haven't been on 2m as much as in the past. However, I usually manage to get on the Capital City net once a week, and the PotLid net from time to time, so I am not completely radio silent in the local area.

Meanwhile, the leaves are almost all off the trees, so it would be a good time to work on the antennas around home. (Yes, I know I should rake up those leaves first, but somehow antennas are more fun.) There have been a bunch of toys finding their way home recently, starting with the flea market in September. Among other things was a speaker, with a power supply and a uhf rig attached as a bonus, some pilot lamps, with rigs attached, again as a bonus. I have also collected a few kits to keep me busy this winter when I don't feel like playing in the s**w. -Like I need more things to do. You will see some of the new toys on homebrew night, next April. You may hear some of them first (hint hint). Over the past month I have been able to stuff a schematic I did a decade ago into the computer. This thing was a modification for a radio shack scanner to add more memory to it. Somebody archived a note about it

on the web, and ever since I have received requests for it every year. Now I can stop trying to photocopy and mail the stuff. This is much easier. Sometimes these high-tech toys are good for something after all. In radio land, I am leaning more and more toward the "three knob radio".. Volume Squelch and Tuning on the little waves, and Volume Mode and Tuning on the big waves. For the cost of one of these little micro wonderboxes, you can get a mitten full of crystals for the rigs of the seventies, and say goodbye to static induced resets and failures, microprocessors and their birdies, and most of the intermod the appliance ops complain about. I might be persuaded that the phased locked loop (PLL) has a place in ham land, but as one who keeps old magazines for their projects, I wonder how useful those articles that end with "to download the source code for this project see <http://www.obsolete.now>" are going to be in a decade. Enough ranting for now. There don't seem to be too many free weekends this fall.. Oct 31 is another bunny hunt, Nov 6 is an EMRG exercise, Nov 14 is the repeater council meeting, Nov 20 is the EMRG meeting, and I expect to be putting an effort into the 160m CW contest effort of VE2OJ on Dec 5. Then it is into the holiday hurry. By my count, that leaves only the weekend of Nov 27-28 to do any serious work around the house. Things have been hectic and a bit unsettled around work for a few weeks, but seem to be settling down for now.. For a while, it was like being back at Carleton U., where doing three things at a time was considered loafing. That's all for this time.. Thanks to those who were wondering why I wasn't in the last Groundwave. It lets me know that somebody reads this stuff, even if the proofreader wonders if I read it before I send it.73.. Keep your toes warm. mk VE3FFK-

Next Meeting

OARC

The next meeting of the **OARC** will be held **Wednesday, Nov, 3rd at 19:30** at the RMOC headquarters - 111 Lisgar St.

WCARC

The next meeting of the **WCARC** will be held **Tuesday, Nov 2nd at 19:30** at the offices of Cygnus Satellite Systems - 5799 Hazeldean Road

Membership Form

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Box 8873
Ottawa, ON
K1G 3J2

Membership Renewal / Application

Callsign(s) _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ Work Phone _____ - _____ ext _____

Email Address _____ @ _____

Current Qualification: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licensed 19 _____

- Renewal (\$20 single, \$25 family, \$10 junior)
- Newly Licensed ham - \$FREE if licensed in current membership year
- New Single Membership - \$20 (\$15 after February)
- New Family Membership - \$25
- New Junior Membership - \$10



BML Communications

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