



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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

Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

May 2001

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I forgot how difficult a job producing a newsletter could be. It took me about a week to find out how to change the postal code from K13 3J2 to K1G 3J2. Sharp readers pointed out my error. At least they sound the same.

Other than that, this is my second effort. Most of the same group of contributors added to this edition and, to make things easy, I got all the material before the deadline. I hope the mail system is as efficient.



If anyone has any favorite pictures they want published, please send them in. Make sure they relate to Amateur Radio. The picture shown below is the effort of a teenager VE3EBH. Read further about him in this issue.

The OARC is holding a "Surplus Equipment Sale" and "Trunk Junk Event" on **Saturday May 26**. It will be held at the **Time Mobile Shop at 1600 Laperrier Avenue-Suite 104** from 10 am to Noon.

Help will be needed on Friday evening May 26 from 6 to 8 pm. Contact **Brian Campbell, VE3ZRK** at 737-3933 e-mail ve3zrk@home.com



MAY MEETING

7:30 May 2nd, Ottawa City Hall, Richmond Room.

Dave Goodwin VE2ZP will be the speaker at the May meeting. He will speak on the topic of **HF contesting**. Dave is a strong contest participant and well qualified to speak on the topic of HF contesting. Dave is a former contest columnist for TCA.

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Articles may be submitted for use in this publication provided that they portray events or activities that promote Amateur Radio. Letters and comments are also welcome. Submissions may be made by mail addressed to the Editor care of the OARC, or by email to "editor@oarc.net". Deadline for submissions occurs on the last Monday of the month preceeding

Please support your local radio organizations. They support you!

Club Information

The Ottawa Amteur Radio Club Inc. is an association of Radio Amateurs devoted to the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communications in the National Capitol 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 Ottawa City Hall (formerly Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton Headquarters) 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.

The CAPITOL 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 Capitol Region.

The SWAP Net is a service provided and conducted by Dan Reardon, VE3GUU. This feature appears on the Capitol City FM Net. To list items and make inquiries, call Dan Reardon at 731-3339 or email him at 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 Moblie Radio Club and is conducted every Sunday at 10:00 hours on **3.760 Mhz**. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

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 meets every Thursday evening at 20:00 hours on repeater VE3TEL, **147.03** You do not have to be a QCWA member to participate.

The 2M SSB Net is sponsored by the West Carleton ARC. Look for it every Tuesday night (except the first Tuesday of the month) around 21:00 on **144.250**. It is very informal and verticle polarization is encouraged.

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club bulletin "Groundwave" is published and distributed to club members by mail. Publication dates may vary but it is hoped that the bulletin arrives at its destination before the events listed in it have expired. The bulletin is not published for July and August when meetings do not occur. Every effort is made to provide accurate information in the bulletin, however we are all human and mistakes can be made. The OARC accepts no responsibility for any damages that may result from this. The opinions expressed i n this bulletin are only those of the author.

Voice (VHF)	146.94/146.34	100Hz output tone
(UHF)	443.300/448.300	
Packet	147.07(sx)	For QSO and Packet BBS
Packet 56 BPS	220.55/443.44	
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.

VE3TEN

Tuning in the beacon so that it makes sense requires you tune to **28.175** on cw and read the tone that is there . The spaces between the elements are the higher tone. If that doesn't work, tune to **28.175.28** on lower sideband for better results.



the annual Electrothon, to be held on June 2, 2001. More info is available from the <http://www.econogics.com> web site.

We learned that the June edition of QST will have a story on the One Big Field Day held last year in Ottawa. Brice (VE3EDR) had CDs for sale with Field Day pictures etc. Greg reported on a conversation he had with Paul (VE3ICV) the Club's Field Marshall and he has kindly agreed to look after this year's event. Paul is looking for ideas and suggestions for format and location of this year's station. As we get closer to June, Paul will be mentioning Field Day at future meetings.

With the business end of the meeting over, Harrie (VE3HSY) and Sean led tours of the CHUM Building facilities. Fascinating and definitely appreciated by the members. Thank you Harrie and Sean.

Upon completion of the tours, members relaxed over coffee and cookies and compared notes based on what they saw on the tour. There was pronounced excitement in the air, especially with Home Brew projects coming up.

Clare showed members a 10 to 6 metre receiver converter that he had built. Clare also had a code oscillator to give away. Bryan had a real heavy duty grounding rod that he had made and Mike (VE3FFK) was quite proud and with reason as he showed off his very special audio amp, with multiple inputs/outputs.

Judges Bob (VE3CDG) and Greg had a tough time deciding but the Clare Fowler award and a \$50 gift certificate from our good friends at Bytown Marine went to Mike. Congratulations, Mike!

As the meeting began to wind up, President George presided over multiple draws. Liz won the 50/50, slipping all of \$22 into her cookie jar. Jim (VE3GJY) and Greg each won relays donated by Bryan and Suzie Juneau won a very nice prize of a RAC Operating Manual. Great prizes!

With that, a meeting jam packed with surprises and great fun was adjourned at 9:30 pm until next month and back at City Hall.

QST magazine, or at www.arrrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-iaru.html .

Interested parties can contact Derrick Belbas, VE4VV, at ve4vv@rac.ca, or by telephone at **204-224-2641**, prior to 10 June 2001.

Ottawa Pioneer Radio Club Elections

The following Amateurs will take office July 1, 2001

Jerry Dillon *President*.....**Larry Wilcox** *Vice-President*
Doug Bannard *Secretary***Peter Mott** *Treasurer*.

Minutes of the OARC General Meeting- April 4, 2001 -

CHUM Building in the Market

The meeting was called to order by President George (VE3BNO) at 7:35 who, as per tradition, learned that the following individuals were this evening's guests: Pauline McConnell, Rene (VE3JKR), Charles, Sydney (VE3GVI) and Suzi Juneau. Welcome to all and we hope to see you back real soon.

Clare (VE3NPC) briefed members on the current state of Oscar 40 (Phase III D). Our wounded bird is now rotating too slowly and there seems to be plenty of trouble generally. For some reason, ground controllers need to wait for May before doing anything further.

President George introduced the Groundwave's new Editor - Cary Honeywell (VE3EV). Welcome aboard Cary. Nice of you to take this on. (*Thanks. Ed.*)

In response to motion from the floor moved by Greg (VE3YTZ) and seconded by Tom (VA3WTJ), members expressed their appreciation to Richard (VE3UNW) for the hard work that he put into producing the Groundwave in what were less than ideal circumstances. Thanks from all of us, Richard!

Liz (VA3ELB) reported on the state of Club finances, while Tom gave us the membership numbers.

Bryan (VE3ZRK) announced another sale of surplus equipment sponsored by the Club and in conjunction with Time Communications. The sale will be Saturday morning, May 26th.

Fred Green (VE3IO) reminded members that it was time again for

From: RAC Headquarters

Date: April 22, 2001

Subject: IARU HF World Championship



Radio Amateurs of Canada would like to invite Canadian amateurs with an interest in HF Radio Contesting to participate in a Canadian Headquarters entry in this coming July's 2001 IARU HF World Championship. Participants are welcome in any part of Canada, and we will be using various official RAC call signs.

Complete contest rules can be found in the April 2001 issue of



RAC appoints New Awards Manager

RAC President **Kenneth Oelke** today announced the appointment of **Dave E Reid VE6BIR**, as RAC Awards Manager replacing **Russ Wilson VE6VK**, who recently retired from the position.



Dave was first licensed in May of 1961 as **VE2BIR**, and has been an active Amateur since. Dave has held calls **VE3EZZ**, **VE4RF**, **VE3OOL**, and currently, **VE6BIR**. His main operating interests are casual DX chasing and contesting, much of it done QRP style using an Argonaut 509.

Dave is a Professional Engineer, and graduated from Queen's University in 1965. He joined TransCanada PipeLines in 1967, and retired from that organization, as Vice President of Engineering and Construction, in July of 1998.

indicated that it is most likely to act in suspected unlicensed operator situations when amateurs themselves document the cases.

Price said the FCC relies on the Amateur Service to be self-policing and has indicated that it is most likely to act in suspected unlicensed operator situations when amateurs themselves document the cases.

Price said active use of the bands by licensees is the best way to discourage unlicensed operation

"It is not easy or quick work, but it has been successfully done in the past," he said.

"establishing an Amateur Radio Exhibit at the National Museum of Science and Technology".

The **VE3JW** station is an Amateur Radio window to the world. It is our National Station as noted on a dedication plaque now proudly hanging in our Exhibit. Visitors from everywhere have signed our Guest Book and when on the air, **VE3JW** is a choice contact for many stations around the world.

It is your Station, yours to show, yours to operate and also yours to help maintain and improve. We certainly would welcome renewed participation by the members of OARC in the activities and progress of **VE3JW**. Simply call up my number (613-749-9010) and leave your call sign and telephone number.

Maurice-Andre Vigneault Amateur Radio Exhibit at CSTM
ve3vig@rac.ca

SB QST ARL ARLB012 Overwhelming response to Intruder Survey



The response to **ARRL's** call last fall for reports of apparent unlicensed operation on 10 and 12 meters has been "overwhelming," according to **Brennan Price, N4QX**, administrator of the **ARRL** Monitoring System. The survey last October 1-14 was initiated in response to an increasing number of complaints from the amateur community.

Price said that more than 400 separate reports, nearly all from United States amateurs, detailed more than 1000 separate instances of apparent unlicensed operation. An analysis suggests that nearly half of the transmissions originated in the US. Of the remaining reports, most appeared to document transmissions originating in Latin America.

"The variety of languages, dialects and beam headings relating to these transmissions clearly indicates that this is a worldwide problem" Price said. Surveys by monitoring-system administrators in other IARU Region 2 countries confirm this conclusion, he said.

ARRL has shared its data with the **FCC**. Price points out that before the Commission can take any action, an offending transmission must be documented and its source found. "Given the changeable nature of 10 and 12-meter propagation, especially at the top of the sunspot cycle, this is not an easy task," Price said. He said the **FCC** cannot make its sophisticated HF direction-finding facility available for routine intruder-signal searches. Price said the **FCC** relies on the Amateur Service to be self policing and has

NATIONAL STATION VE3JW

By the time you read this, Radio Station **VE3JW** would have been renovated once again and reopened for you to operate and enjoy. This is not the first renovation undertaken by volunteers at the station. The most recent one was in 1993/95.

While reading into the original planning and development documentation I became aware that many dedicated Amateurs took part in making **VE3JW** what it is today. And these Amateurs were not solely from the **OVMRC**. Enthusiastic participation from regional Amateurs has seen this project through.

Although, the main **OVMRC** partner was the **OARC** whose members were present at the time of initial planning and building, throughout the early phase of operation, during the renovations, and they are still active at **VE3JW** through the participation of **Rick, VE3IHI**, **Clare, VE3NPC**, and others. In fact, early documents attest to the joint efforts of **OVMRC/OARC** in



Places to Go, People to See

MK's Words Reflections

Apr 23

It was interesting to read the new editor's recollection of his early days at the OARC. My memories are similar, being in awe of VE3GI and his ability with cw, and just a little scared that I wouldn't measure up to his standards. I still hope to be that good at it some day. George, VE3BNO was trying patiently to get us to understand the difference between screen and control grids. The theory was more like school (grade 10 at that time) than the code, so I enjoyed it less. I guess I got through it though, since I was able to draw the required schematics from memory on the day of the exam. I still remember it as a day when I could officially take the day off school. The code must have been less difficult, since I have a certificate from W1AW dated two months before the exam, stating that I had managed at least a minute of solid copy at 10 WPM. The meetings at the auditorium were usually over my head, but fun to listen to anyway, even if I was somewhat intimidated by the older (much older) folks in the crowd. Every homebrew night, I was amazed by the things these guys could make, transceivers, digital multimeters, antennas.. it was amazing to a kid like me. I was jealous.

Then, shortly after the ticket, came field day, and I was more than just a spectator. I got to help put up antennas, log, and really go on the air. Now if I only had a rig of my own...

So that's where Cary and I came from, how about you? How about a paragraph or two describing how you got launched into this "thing" we call amateur radio?

73 & remember, radio is also an outdoor sport
mk VE3FFK

QCWA Capital Chapter dinner meeting at the Green Valley Restaurant on May 15 at 6.45 pm.

QCWA Fred Hammond Chapter 73 (Toronto) Luncheon Meeting at the Plainsman Restaurant, Clappison's corners. May 5-10.am.

OVMRC Flea market on May 5 in the arena, Stittsville.

Kingston Amateur Radio Emergency Service 2nd Annual Flea Market at Glenburnie United Church-1028 Unity Road, Kingston. Vendors 0730/buyers 9.00am. ve3jvf@king.igs.net (613)384-5900

Dayton-May 18-20

Smiths Falls Flea Market-May 12

See you there!

From: RAC Headquarters



Date: April 15, 2001

Subject: Jack Tennant, VE3AHZ Receives Recognition

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to learn that Jack Tennant VE3AHZ of Richmond, Ontario was recognized by Emergency Preparedness Canada in a Federal Volunteer Recognition event on Parliament Hill, Ottawa on 26th April.

Included in this program were 60 other volunteers from communities across Canada who will be representing other Government departments.

Jack's recognition is the result of his contributions to the Emergency Preparedness College in Arnprior, Ontario during their in house disaster response training exercises.

When Jack receives this award, he will be sharing with and acknowledging the many other radio amateurs from eastern Ontario and western Quebec who have contributed their time and resources to the training programmes at the College.

APRS

For those of you who have Internet access, APRS position reports are being reported through the international space station can be viewed at <http://www.ariss.net>....



From DC to Green Light

Errors, Coincidence and Chance!

Cary Honeywell VE3EV

There were numerous examples of fine architecture on display in downtown Ottawa in the '60s. The Hunter Building, Longevin Block, Met Life, Daley, and even old Parliament Hill. The Garland building, on the other hand, had a little less appeal. Well, maybe more than a little. To a 16-year-old budding Ham, it might have resembled anything from a palace, to the castle of Dracula. It was brown brick on the outside and green linoleum framed by grungy oak on the inside. The elevator was downright scary. With mixed emotions I entered the realm of the DOT, Department of Transport, soon to be Department of Communications, and then, and then.... This was the daytime home of Bruce Spanton, VE3BRS, who administered the office where I was to attempt the Amateur exam, Basic. I had heard stories of Bruce and how he was Amateur's best buddy at DOT. He was fair with his exam evaluations and had a good fist on the key for administering the 10-wpm test. I felt my chances were pretty good here.

I was ushered in to a glass enclosed office by one of the secretaries or clerks who, to my astonishment, introduced me to my examiner: a Mr. Tessier! He wasn't smiling. Cutting to the chase, I flunked! Badly! Even the code! I didn't even seem to understand where I had gone wrong, as Mr. Tessier's evaluations seemed to be spoken in some ancient Greek dialect. I departed from the scene quickly with my tail firmly tucked between my legs. I was told, however, that I could retry the exam in 30 days. Yeah! Right!

Going back to the books was tough. I didn't tell my classmates at the Radio classes that I had flamed out. I just carried on as if... At this point, the classes had moved to a roomier locale at the Gem store near the corner of Baseline and Merivale Roads. If you remember the Gem store, you have a good memory. It was an ancient example of what Wal-Mart is now, except it was exclusively for Federal Civil Servants. Going through the small ante-room, past the card checker and through the small door into this large store reminded me of the '30s Speakeasies that you saw on "The Untouchables". "Yeah! Joe sent me. Let me in!" The classroom was in the basement so we didn't have the benefit of a "Prohibition" style entrance. It was just another basement.

I continued on as if all was well for another 29 days, and on the 30th day I wrote and passed the exam. Bruce was the examiner, although he probably didn't have much more to do with my passing than Tessier had with my failure. Just circumstance and more priming from Burt Coy, Jim Strain, VE3BSG and Jerry Wells, VE3CDS. Mind you, he accepted my diagram of a receiver despite the fact that it was a "Super-Regen" rather than a "SuperHet". He

said it was kind of cheating, but accepted it because it would work properly if built.

After passing the exam, I asked him how long it would take to get my license. He indicated that 30 days was the norm, but it was already near Christmas and it might take longer.

It took 30 days.

On January 15, 1965, I became VE3EBH. Why that call when everyone else was getting VE3G**? Well, I sort of asked for it. I really wanted VE3CBH, my initials, but someone in North Bay Ontario had it and he wasn't about to give it up. I was happy to get what I got. That is until I tried it out on the key.

That day, I got home from school as early as I could. I went to my bedroom/Ham shack and powered up the home-brewed "Cake Tin" transmitter that Tom Dean and I had built from a Popular Electronics magazine. For the past 6 months I had been practicing my code on it using every call I thought I could get. All except the one I got. I popped in the 6.655 MHz crystal, tuned in the frequency using the OARC HQ-129X receiver, called CQ and got an immediate reply.* At least that's what I thought. No antenna was connected. The rig wasn't tuned up. It was just an oscillator, but yet somewhere my ear was picking up a signal calling VE3EBH. It took me a moment to realize that the pitch of the signal was so high that it was only a sensation: not a sound. The HQ-129X has all the selectivity of your average drainpipe, so I had to scan around a bit before I could home in on the signal I was hearing. Sure enough, at about 10 kHz above me was a fairly weak signal calling me. I wish I had a picture of my face at that moment. How unlikely was this?

The other station was VE3BSZ, Ron Kramer. The coincidences started piling up. We exchanged signal reports and locations. We were both in Ottawa. Ron was military, barracked at Beaver Barracks, about a half mile away from me. He was using a Heath HW12-a, a single band 75 Metre SSB transceiver with poor CW capability. He was 45 kHz below the transceiver's lower frequency range and he had only just started

listening. I was his first contact in Ottawa, from Ottawa!

My CW was really bad so I asked him if I could come over and visit. I spend the rest of the afternoon chewing the rag with someone who was as astonished as I was about this unlikely contact.

That was just the start. It gets better!

- Cary -

* Long pause for effect while this news sinks in!



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Box 8873
Ottawa, Ontario
K1G 3J2

Renewal New New Ham (FREE if licensed in current membership year)
 Single (\$20 (\$15 after 1 Feb)) Family (\$25) Junior (\$10)

Family Name: _____ First Name/Initials: _____

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Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ ext _____

E-mail address: _____@_____

Callsign(s): |_____| |_____| |_____| Fax: _____

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Other Family Members

Name: _____ Callsign(s): |_____| |_____| |_____|

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Name: _____ Callsign(s): |_____| |_____| |_____|

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Name: _____ Callsign(s): |_____| |_____| |_____|

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Interests: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____



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