

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

Apr 2002

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Almost a year has passed since I assumed the role of Editor for the Groundwave. In the time leading up to this I didn't even imagine that I would be any more involved in Amateur radio than I had for the previous ten years. How wrong I was.

One of the benefits of being this visible is the resumption of friendships and acquaintances that have been left to slide over the years. More than one phone call, email and personal communications have renewed my feeling that friendships do last the test of time. Of all of these, one phone call that I have not as yet returned was from Coleman McConnell, VE2DCI. One of the most genuinely nice people whose acquaintance and friendship I made during my first few years in this hobby. Coleman bought my trusty DX-40 transmitter and I hope used it to its fullest. There are many more I have met that fit this profile but some have gone and others have moved on. I won't even try to name them all.

The passage of time causes change. Some good, some bad, most indifferent. We should relish the good, laugh at the bad and strive to change the indifferent. Let us all try to apply this to our hobby. Friendships do last even if unspoken for many years.

My spell checker is broken. Sorry. At least one article didn't get edited properly. Grain of salt time.

VE3EV



APRIL MEETING

7:30 April 10th , Ottawa City Hall, Richmond Room

In This Issue....

Club Information	2	DC to Green Light	6
March Meeting Minutes	3	Ontario QSO Party	8
OARC and RAC Bulletins	4	Contest Calendar (Courtesy MARC)	8
MK's Words	5	Hot Story (Microwave Goodbye)	8
IRLP News	5	OARC Membership	9



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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 e-mail to "editor@oarc.net". Deadline for submissions occurs on the last Monday of the month preceding any regular meeting of

Please support your local radio organisations. They support you!

Club Information

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 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 Richmond 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 e-mail 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 Mobile 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 vertical polarisation is encouraged.

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 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 in this bulletin are only those of the author.

Voice (VHF)	146.94/146.34	100Hz output tone
(UHF)	443.300/448.300	
IRLP Node 204	146.94/146.34	(VE2CRA/VE3RC) (Code 411 for info) (Code 2040 for activity)
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.



Minutes of the OARC General Meeting March 13, 2002

The meeting was called to order at 19:30. President George VE3BNO welcomed everyone. There were two guests: Pat VE3PZ and Jim VA3AHQ. A total of 32 people were present.

Al VE3ZTU circulated, selling tickets for the 50/50 draw.

George VE3BNO announced two silent keys: Richard Jestin VE3RWJ of Russell and Charles Poole VE3OJ of Ottawa.

Dave VE3AV made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting with a second from Ken VE3CV. The motion passed.

George VE3BNO reminded all present of the Capital City Net on VE2CRA on Mondays at 20:00.

George reported that a work party went to Cary VE3EV's home to improve the position of the antenna for IRLP. The path appears to be better and all is running well. George indicated when working a station calling into our node, that you should ask them for their node number in case you have to be the one to disconnect. Cary indicated the numbering system of the nodes will be changed soon and a "73" combination will be used to disconnect.

George VE3BNO announced that Richard VE3UNW is teaching an amateur radio course to some of the safety team for the ski marathon so they can get their Amateur radio licence.

There is a requirement for two volunteers to help supervise two sight impaired students who are taking the CNIB Amateur radio course. Please call George if you are willing to assist.

Treasurer Liz VA3ELB presented the financial report. There were no major expenses or income. No questions arose from the report.

Membership Chair Tom VA3WTJ announced we have 93 members to date.

Coming events were announced:

April 13- Iroquois Flea Market and SLVRC meeting

May 4- OVMRC Flea Market

May 11- Smith Falls Flea Market (new venue this year)

July 26, 27, 28-RAC National Convention in Vernon, BC (RAC General Meeting will be held there)

April 10- OARC General Meeting and Home Brew Night. The prize is a \$50 Gift Certificate from Bytown Marine plus presentation of the Clare Fowler Trophy

Field Day 2002- to be held the third weekend in June. Paul VE3ICV presented a quick report on Field Day 2002. Location will most likely be at the Lees Campus of Algonquin College with a 2A format. He has been challenged by a club on the West Coast.

George VE3BNO introduced our speaker for the evening, George VE3GWS. George VE3GWS gave an overview of his background which

ranged from service in the military to correctional services and currently the Ontario Provincial Police as a regional technologist. Using a very informative flip chart, George VE3GWS gave the members an overview of the existing communications system now used by the OPP in this region of Ontario. The current system is an older one and will soon be replaced by a new one which will be more advanced and operate from a new communications centre. It will likely be installed over the next two years. The existing system operates using a series of microwave towers, plus UHF and VHF bands. Depending on the terrain and sites involved, different combinations of links are used to pass messages between the centres, vehicles and constables on foot. Thanks George for the very informative briefing!

Numbers to note for contacting the Ontario Provincial Police outside of the Ottawa-Carleton jurisdiction:

1-888-310-1122 (from a pay phone)

310-1122 (non-life threatening from home)

911

Liz VA3ELB announced that the Annual Return that updates our data for our incorporation papers had been completed and submitted in early February. Also, she noted that members are able to take courses through their local branch of the Canadian Red Cross if they fill out the application and become a Red Cross volunteer. More details of these and the obligation of being a volunteer is available by checking with your local branch.

The OARC Hamfest this year will be held again at the Cap Fair Grounds. Doug VE3XK will be organizing the afternoon session (or so he found out at this meeting!!).

George VE3BNO presented a letter from the CNIB Amateur Radio Program Funds Appeal requesting donations to help support their program. A motion was made by Bryan VE3ZRK, seconded by Tom VA3WTJ and passed by the members to donate \$100. Treasurer Liz VA3ELB will send the cheque.

George VE3BNO announced that we still need a chair for the nominating committee for next year's executive.

The executive had received an email from England to say that the VE3TEN beacon is too fast. The 20 m signal is also still present.

Cary VE3EV presented a quick report on IRLP. Some of the new nodes on the air are using dial up modems which causes their signals to be spotty and some words to be missed. If communicating with these stations you must speak slowly (as heard from the other end) so that the words are more readily transmitted and understood.

New Business was as follows:

The next Bunny Hunt will be on April 6. Other details TBA.

Doug VE3XK announced a RAC conference on the TP Net (7.005) on March 17 at 14:00. Some of the RAC executive and directors will be on available on the air.

The following were winners of the 50/50 draw and door prizes:

Gord VA3GFH- \$26.00

Continued next page...



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Groundwave

Apr 2002

- John VE3JBS- ARRL Handbook donated by Dave VE3AV
- Al VE3ANO- computer accessory
- Ed VE3WGO- computer accessory
- Gord VE3XGP- computer accessory

The next three meetings of the OARC will be held in the Richmond Room of Ottawa City Hall. Date for the next meeting is April 10 at 19:30.

Minutes compiled by Liz VA3ELB Secretary/Treasurer

VE3TEN Heard in Oregon!

Hello OM !



UTC with

I logged VE3TEN on 16 March 2002 at 2030 on 28174 kHz. Signal was 589 on my R8 rcvr 30-m inverted vee antenna.

The transmission was "DE VE3TEN" followed by a long dash.

Please find my eSWL card at www.eQSL.cc & input "WDX7AF, 10M, 2002, March, 16" to get it. I hope for an eQSL inreturn !

Am disabled vet; postage hard to come by. Many thanks, 73 & DX !

Bill Flynn, WDX7AF
343 June Drive
Cave Junction, Oregon
U.S.A.97523-9347

From: RAC Headquarters RAC SM Election results

Tom Caithness, VE1GTC the interim Section Manager for the Maritimes was elected for a two-year term, which began March 1, 2002.

Derek Hay, VE4HAY was recently re-elected Section Manager in the Manitoba Section for a two-year term that will begin on July 1, 2002.

Joe Craig, VO1NA was recently re-elected Section Manager for the Newfoundland/Labrador Section for a two-year term that will begin on July 1, 2002. Tom, Derek and Joe ran unopposed in their respective section, eliminating the need for a balloted election.



First 2-Metre Trans-Atlantic Contact? (RSGB)

Have the first 2-metre band trans-Atlantic contacts now been made?



A second-hand message posted on the packet network by DK3XT would, if confirmed and proved to be true, re-write the 2-metre DX record books. DK3XT says that he received an e-mail and phone call from Alex, N2PIG, in which N2PIG claims to have made trans-Atlantic contacts on 2 metres using WSJT, the new weak-signal digital communications mode

For more details please visit the RAC Members only News page.

Please remember the following rules when operating the IRLP:

1. **Make sure you have a good signal to CRA.**
2. **Identify yourself before opening an IRLP link.**
3. **Make sure you dial the codes in a continuous string.**
4. **Once connected, listen for any activity on the remote site.**
5. **Pause after pushing the PTT and before speaking.**
6. **Remember: if you are on a reflector then the whole world may be listening. Act accordingly.**



RAC2002 National Convention online registration available

The RAC2002 National Convention Committee is proud to announce that online registration is now available on RAC 2002 National Convention website.



There are two easy ways to register:

- 1) Print the registration form available online, and mail it along with your cheque to the address provided.
- 2) Register online with your visa or mastercard number.

Please visit www.rac2002.org to register today!

Wilfried Mulder
VE7OHM
RAC 2002 National Convention Chairman



MK's Words Reflections

Low Voltage Power Supplies

Perhaps you have heard that 5 VDC is no longer the standard power supply voltage that it was back in the days when TTL was king and NASA was going to the moon*. The consumer electronics revolution that has brought us such vital pieces of equipment as hand held video games and web enhanced eyebrow rings have necessitated ever lower power devices. If only the supply voltage can be reduced, a fixed amount of current means lower power dissipation. Lower power dissipation means more features can be packed on an integrated circuit die before the thermal problems become limits. More features mean the lucky consumer can spend endless enjoyable hours learning how clever you, the designer are. As a bonus, the manual can be put inside the device as an electronically readable file, preferably in some format that will become obsolete before the device reaches the marketplace. Having the manual built into the device means the answer to every question is RTFM (read the fancy manual). You never hear the user bleat the old excuse "I lost the manual".

- but I digress.

Since the world has left the comfort of the standard 5V supply, a number of voltages have entered the race to become accepted as the new standard. First it was 3.6V, then 3.3V, then 2.2V and I am seeing some devices specify a supply rail of 1.8V. To be prepared to work with these devices the modern amateur must have a power supply that will go down to these levels and beyond. In fact this is our chance to get a jump on all those commercial outfits. We, the amateur community should go all out and build a 0V supply. Judging by the present trend in technology, that should put us about three years ahead of the pack. No one would think of taking spectrum away from amateurs if they provide that much of a leap forward in technology. When combined with current microwave superconductor technology, the possibilities are endless.

Although low voltage systems don't work for power hungry applications like the klassik kilowatt, that still leaves a wide field where we can contribute. Just think of what a better place the world would be if the supplies for watches that beep and cell phones that ring in meetings were changed over to a zero volt design. Hand held video games and personal "sterios that aren't ** would also be good candidates for retrofitting. Even

without the benefit of new Hydrogen Hydroxide batteries (HHB)** coming on stream, the batteries of such portable devices could be made to last much longer, perhaps even as long as the warranty period. If we are clever enough in our design efforts, we may be able to get them to last as long as the warranty on the software running on these devices.

As with much ground breaking technology, the design work is straight forward once the initial concepts are recognized and understood. The accompanying schematics show several possible designs, and work is currently underway to simplify the circuit to reduce the component count. As amp matter of fact, it is beleived to be possible to reduce the circuit to less than one active device and a bit of wiring, but to date the circuit has

not been completely finished.

So there you have it. Lets see what kind of an impression the amateur community can make on this problem.

*So now CNN is king, and NASA is going to congress- such is modem life. **HHB technology development is still ongoing. Expect an article in this space on the topic in about a year from now.

***Actually the problem with over loud walkpersons is a failing of the earpiece, and not the electronics. Work in progress on the bidirectional noise cancelling headset will be described in a future April edition of this column.

7d3

Loof Lirpa

Internet Radio Linking Project

It looks like the IRLP link station is pretty stable now. I have not had to do any patches or repairs so either it is working properly now or there is impending disaster!

The ZS6 station in Johannesburg South Africa had a meltdown on Easter Sunday. The local stations were on making many worldwide contacts and gave a thrill to so many Amateurs who have only dreamed of such an easy method of contacting this part of the world. Unfortunately, their repeater runs on batteries and was operating almost continually for most of six hours. Those listening in on the operation started to notice a hum on the repeater signal. Eventually the repeater was operating off the trickle charger which then caused the whole system to crash out. That's what happens when you can't hear the signal that your system is putting out.

Just a reminder or two.

First, remember to pause between transmissions to allow others to join a QSO.

Second, after pushing the PTT switch wait a few seconds before speaking. I heard one user telling this to another user who acknowledged by repeating the offense.

Third, if the station you are working isn't as clear and clean as you think it should be, it probably hears you the same way. If you have difficulty hearing the link signal, speak slowly and clearly back to it.

A new feature that should be installed by the time most of you read this will allow you to call a busy node and have the system inform you when that node is no longer busy. Stay tuned.

Lastly, Node 204, our node, is linked to Reflector number one in Toronto from 0700 to 0900 local time. It shouldn't time out. All other connections to reflectors will time out after 30 minutes.

VE3EV



From DC to Green Light

More Repeater Tales

Cary Honeywell VE3EV

I never really considered myself a technical whiz kid even though that may be a perception held by others. I felt that most of my technical successes were a result of better luck than management. I graduated from Carleton University as a Political Scientist with a major in Canadian constitutional law. My first job was as an Editor with Supply and Services. Doug Burrill, VE3CDC, got me in there and I spent my time editing emergency supply manuals. Boring as heck but it was a job and as a new graduate with a marriage pending it was almost obligatory that I provide financial support of some sort. That didn't stop the federal government from cutting my position and red circling just about everyone else in the shop in what was called the "Thanksgiving Purge of 1975". During my time of unemployment, I renewed my acquaintance with Bob Brookes, VE3CSC (now VE3SC). He had an overabundance of solid state devices such as IC's, diodes and transistors and he was willing to share them with me. For six months I succeeded in blowing away a small fortune of components much to the dismay of my new bride. Living in a one bedroom apartment slowed me down a bit but didn't stop me.

While living in the apartment I decided to try my hand at putting together a repeater. My spare parts bin still resided at my parents house, but I was able to construct a small simple repeater from VHF Engineering modules, several small power supplies and two home-made cavities. I managed to swindle the 147.900/147.300 frequency from the local repeater council and installed the whole mess on the balcony of the apartment. Being up nine stories helped, but I only had an east west coverage by virtue of the fact that I faced the other tower of this two tower apartment. I managed to trip the repeater from Carleton Place one day, but I think the winds were favorable. Otherwise, it was heard by few. A year later the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club approached me with a request to take over the frequency which was a good "out" for me. I remember a discussion taking place in my living room regarding the repeaters call sign. I suggested that VE3TWO might be good if it was available. It was.

Once again I was back in the observer mode. I was no longer on the OARC repeater committee and so I could only look on from the sidelines.

One night, while returning from a shopping spree, I heard what sounded like an emergency situation developing on VE2CRA. Someone was tracking a car full of TV's. The suspicion was that they were stolen. Dave Hilbom, VE3JBX, was on frequency and was concerned enough to stay with Amateur trailing the car until the situation was resolved. I just waited and listened but I could tell that Dave's concern was mounting. So I decided to track the Amateur down and see what was going on.

Because of the nature of this and other events to be documented here I will only refer to the participant by the name of Arnold. It isn't his real name of course but this is how I am going to work this one in. Arnold indicated on the repeater that he was following this car and that at any moment he might want the local police involved. His last known location was Vanier and when I arrived on frequency, Dave was waiting for him to come back up. Arnold was a young lad and somewhat prone to dramatics but nevertheless I drove to Arnold's last known location and started a search. The

first thing I found was the car full of TV's. It looked pretty much like a car used by a TV repair man and so it really wasn't much of a crime. Not too long after I found the car I also found Arnold who was walking through the neighborhood like James Bond. I tore a bit of a strip off him for leaving a community of concerned Amateurs to hang. He expressed a bit of remorse but, as I found out later, he really didn't care much what anyone else thought. This was just the start.

That summer I operated the Department of Communication's demonstration station at the Ottawa Exhibition and there I had another opportunity to see what Arnold was made of. The station consisted of a HF rig connected to a small beam mounted on top the building housing the display. I was the resident operator, but I was spelled by other Hams during the day. I kept a pretty accurate log of people who used the station. Arnold wasn't one of them although he did stop by once or twice during the show.

Just before the event finished I received a call from the holder of the OARC club callsign VE3RC. The station was using that call with permission from the club, but the Amateur who actually held the callsign, Bud Punched VE3UD, seemed to be more than a little concerned about how it was being used. I didn't see that there was a problem until he related an incident that had happened on the 40 metre phone band on an afternoon session. It seemed that the VE3RC station was causing a disturbance to other phone operators on that band and that foul language might have been used. Considering the high regard I personally held for Bud, I had no problem accepting the possibility that it had, in fact, happened, but as I was controlling the station during the day I could assure him that no Amateur had even been operating the station at the time of the incident. Bud indicated that it had sounded like Arnold, who wasn't licensed for phone operation anyway. Bud had actually confronted him with the charge. Arnold had gone ballistic and harsh words were exchanged I guess because Bud was a little more irritated by this mess than I had ever seen him. Nothing was ever proven and soon the matter was dropped.

Several years later, while I was employed at CBC, I ran into another situation which seemed to have Arnold's name written all over it. VE2KPG is one of the repeaters located at Camp Fortune Quebec. The system is actually inside the CBC transmitter building and those of us who were Amateurs and worked there would often wonder over to the equipment just to make sure it was operating properly. This was a commercial repeater and not only did it look professional, it operated the same way. It was a rare day when it was affected by anything. Dr. John (Jack) Belrose was the owner/manager of the repeater and kept everything pretty much up to snuff. On this occasion, however, something was amiss. Jack called up and asked if we would have a look to see if there were any spurious signals on his input frequency. The CBC was well equipped with spectrum analysers and other valuable test gear but with all the RF emanating from the various TV AND FM transmitters it was very difficult to detect any really small signals. We were, nonetheless, able to prove that none of the broadcast stations were spiking on his frequency. Another cavity was added to his diplexer but the problem still persisted. His repeater would stay on or cycle indefinitely. Nothing we did would stop it. We could not even detect a weak signal from back in the city to prove that the equipment itself wasn't at fault.

One Monday during the peak of this problem one of our technicians asked me to have a look at something his daughter had found on the weekend while playing at Camp Fortune. It seems that he



Apr 2002

had brought her to work on the Saturday and she had gone off into the woods to play. Not long after she had returned to her father she told him that she had seen a strange package in the woods not far from the CBC building. This immediately raised his suspicion and he went off to investigate. What he found didn't seem to make much of an impression on him as he just left it where it was, but he did think to ask myself and Bob Brookes, VE3CSC, to have a look. What we found were two plastic one quart ice cream containers connected by two wires and with one piece of bare wire sticking out of the top. The whole thing was propped up against a tree about fifty feet from the main building. Inside one container was a number of dry cell batteries. In the other was a small FM transmitter strip with a crystal tuned to 147.960, the input frequency for VE2KPG!

It is funny how quickly the repeater's problems went away once we disconnected the battery pack.

We took the pieces and parts back to headquarters and briefed out bosses Glen Pack, VE3CGP and Bob Zieman VE3ATN. Although there was no evidence as to who the perpetrator or perpetrators were, we, nonetheless, informed Jack Belrose of our findings. It was collectively agreed that no one would mention anything about finding the bug while Jack worked with the RCMP to investigate. With no evidence other than the bug, nothing further was done until I had a chance encounter with another repeater owner at field level during an Ottawa Rough Rider football game a short time later.

This Amateur had been having problems with a jammer. He suspected someone but didn't have any proof and couldn't locate the signal either. We were both trying to avoid being crushed by football players and so the discussion wasn't very comprehensive. But when he told me that he had proof that another repeater had recently been jammed and that he knew one of the culprits he definitely caught my interest. No one else knew of the KPG jammer.

Over a couple of beers I got not only the name of the one jammer (jammer 1), but a suspicion as to the other (jammer 2) and a date when it was done. The date coincided with the date when Jack asked us to look at the problem. The suspicion was that the other jammer was Arnold. The repeater owner had been in a conversation with jammer 1 about his repeater's problems when jammer 1 blurted out that it was similar to the jamming of KPG which he had witnessed on a trip to Camp Fortune with jammer 2. He described the equipment and its location which exactly matched what we found and where we found it. All this was, and still is, hearsay but it was valuable enough information to be brought to Jack's attention. Considering that this was an act of jamming a Federally sponsored communications system on Crown property, DOC and the RCMP would be involved. CARF became involved as well. It was decided that someone with knowledge of the incident and who could ask the right questions should be dispatched to interview jammer 1.

That turned out to be me.

Jammer 1 was actually a pretty decent sort. He was in a little over his head here as I had all the facts. All I needed was someone to confirm them for me. With a bit of persuasion punctuated with veiled threats I managed to get him to admit being with jammer 2 when the bug was activated at Camp Fortune. Since more than one person knew he had been a party to this, he was positioned very nicely to take the fall unless he could convince the authorities that it was really jammer 2 who masterminded the whole affair and that jammer 1 was only along for the ride. I gave him

a list of people to call with his mea culpa and advised him to make his deal before jammer 2 caught wind of the fact that the jig was up.

To this day I have no idea how this rondo played out to its conclusion. Both jammer 1 and Arnold kept their tickets and Jack's repeater was no longer bothered. Arnold kept a low profile for the next few years although legend has it that he was involved in a few more shady deals one of which might have caused him to be run off the road on the way back from Montreal one night. None of this is proven fact. Just an interesting story full of coincidences and circumstances. As far as I am personally aware, Arnold hasn't been convicted of doing anything illegal. As far as I am aware.

Mind you his name is no longer featured in the local newspapers either.

Next month: People I know or knew.



VE3RC at the 1976 Central Canada Exhibition

Do you have an interesting story or anecdote about someone you know in Amateur radio? I would really like you hear from you.

Email me at editor@oarc.net , snail mail me at the OARC address on the masthead or pass me a note at the next club meeting.

I'm not running out of stories but I'm sure you are interested in hearing from someone else for a change.

The IRLP Ontario net meets each Wednesday night at 2000 local on Reflector 1 (910). Join in some-time.



Contest Calendar

March

Contest Calendar

April

YLRL DX to NA YL Contest CW	1400Z Apr 10
JIDX HF CW Contest	2300Z Apr 12
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	1200Z Apr 13
EU Spring Sprint, SSB	1500Z Apr 13
His Maj. King of Spain Contest	1800Z Apr 13
Yuri Gagarin Int. DX Contest	2100Z Apr 13
UBA Spring Contest SSB	0600Z Apr 14
YLRL DX to NA YL Contest SSB	1400Z Apr 17
Holyland DX Contest	0000Z Apr 20
TARA Spring Wakeup PSK31	0000Z Apr 20
YU DX Contest	1200Z Apr 20
GACW CW DX Contest	1200Z Apr 20
EU Spring Sprint CW	1500Z Apr 20
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z Apr 20
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z Apr 20
Harry Angel Memorial Sprint	1100Z Apr 25
SP DX RTTY Contest	1200Z Apr 27
Helvetia Contest	1300Z Apr 27
Florida QSO Party	1600Z Apr 27
May	
IPA Contest CW	0000Z May 4
MARAC County Hunters Contest CW	0000Z May 4
10-10 Int. Spring Contest CW	0001Z May 4
Indiana QSO Party	1300Z May 4
Massachusetts QSO Party	1800Z May 4
	1100Z May 5

Taken from WARC Bulletin, Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club.

The 6th Annual Ontario QSO Party sponsored by the Ontario DX Association takes place starting at 18:00 UTC on Saturday, April 20th, 2002 till Sunday, April 21st, 2002 at 18:00 UTC.

The Ontario QSO Party is a fun and friendly amateur radio contest where we try to get Ontario hams to "activate" as many of Ontario's counties, districts and regional municipalities as possible. You can operate from home or like many hams "take to the road" and go mobile putting Ontario counties on the air. Other clubs use the Ontario QSO Party as an "indoor warm-up" for Field Day.

This is a contest...so there are many awards big and small that folks can work on. For example, we award a certificate to the top entrant from each of the 48 "multiplier areas" in the province.

The "OQP" takes place on all of the HF bands (except the WARC bands) both SSB and CW and on the VHF/UHF bands either FM simplex, SSB or CW. There are even categories where hams with their "basic" no-code license can participate and have fun.

Complete rules and information (including logging software) can be obtained from:

Hot story

THOMPSON, MANITOBA, CANADA.



Telephone relay company night watchman Edward Baker, 31, was killed early Christmas morning by excessive microwave radiation exposure. He was apparently attempting to keep warm next to a telecommunications feed-hom. Baker had been suspended on a safety violation once last year, according to Northern Manitoba Signal Relay spokesperson Tanya Cooke. She noted that Baker's earlier infraction was for defeating a safety shutoff switch and entering a restricted maintenance catwalk in order to stand in front of the microwave dish. He had told co-workers that it was the only way he could stay warm during his twelve-hour shift at the station, where winter temperatures often dip to forty below zero.

Microwaves can heat water molecules within human tissue in the same way that they heat food in microwave ovens. For his Christmas shift, Baker reportedly brought a twelve pack of beer and a plastic lawn chair, which he positioned directly in line with the strongest microwave beam. Baker had not been told about a tenfold boost in microwave power planned that night to handle the anticipated increase in holiday long-distance calling traffic. Baker's body was discovered by the daytime watchman, John Bums, who was greeted by an odour he mistook for a Christmas roast he thought Baker must have prepared as a surprise. Bums also reported to NMSR company officials that Baker's unfinished beers had exploded.

(April 1, 2002)

(Having lived in Thompson Manitoba I can vouch for the plausibility of this story, but please check the date.)

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: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

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): | _____ | | _____ | | _____ |

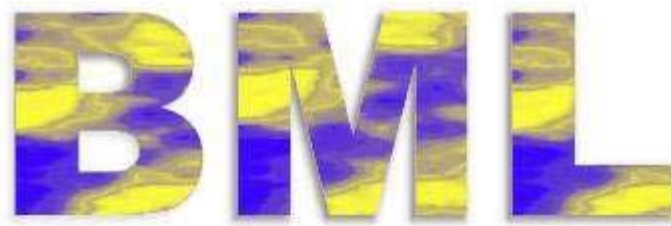
Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Interests: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

Would you prefer to have a mailed hard copy of the groundwave or an emailed PDF file?

Mailed Copy Emailed PDF Copy Email Address _____



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Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)

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The Communications Division specializes in the supply of commercial, industrial and military antenna systems and a full range of manportable push-up and crank-up masts. The company is well known to the Ottawa and district amateur radio community through its retail operation which has provided a much needed service since 1976. The retail operation displays a comprehensive range of products, most of which are carried in stock. The company's electronics workshop is fully instrumented to service and repair the products sold by the company