



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

# Groundwave

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

September 2006

Well, here we are starting another year. I would like to thank all those who contributed to the Groundwave over the past year. I hope some of the rest of you will contribute and make my job easier.

I would also like to thank outgoing directors Bryan Campbell, Ernie Brown, and Richard Hagemeyer and welcome Mike Kelly and Gord Holmes. As you can see  $-3 + 2 = -1$ , and so we are still looking for a club secretary. Contact any executive member to volunteer.

Don't forget the upcoming Hamfest on Saturday, September 2. The RAC Technology Forum in the afternoon will host a presentation on the ICOM DSTAR technology. DSTAR is an open protocol for digital radio communication (see <http://www.icomamerica.com/amateur/dstar>). The presentation is by Eric Meth, VE3EI, from Niagra-on-the-Lake. Full agenda on page 5.

Membership renewals are due by September 30. A membership renewal form is included in this newsletter. Mail it in or bring it to the September 13 meeting. Ernie Brown, VA3OEB, will give a talk entitled "Radio Waves Across the North" describing his experiences with radio operations in Canada's north. See you then.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ



## SEPTEMBER MEETING 7:30 pm, September 13th in the Honeywell Room at Ottawa City Hall

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Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

# Groundwave

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 "ve3igi@rac.ca". Deadline for submissions occurs three days after the regular monthly meeting of the OARC.

*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 Capital Area and to the advancement and achievement of club members.

**Regular Meetings of the OARC Inc.** are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in the Honeywell 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 first Wednesday of each month at 19:30 hours. Contact the President to confirm the date, time and place of the next meeting.

**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 Ed Seib, VA3ES. This feature appears on the Capital City FM Net. To list items and make inquiries, call Ed at 613-738 8924 or e-mail him at va3es@rac.ca. 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 **VE3TWO 147.300+**. You do not have to be a QCWA member to participate.

**The Ottawa Valley VHF/UHF 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**, (roll calls after net on 50.150, 432.150, 222.150, and 1296.100.) Horizontal polarization is preferred.

*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

VE3TVA Amateur Fast Scan Television Repeater  
Video/audio beacon & input 439.25 MHz (audio sub. 443.75)  
Video/Audio output 914 MHz (FM)

IRLP Node 2040 146.94/146.34 (VE2CRA/VE3RC)  
(Code 411 for info) (Code 204 for activity)  
(Code 88 for time)

For further information please contact the Repeater Chair.

Note: The IRLP link is not connected to ECHOLINK. Please do not try to connect using the alpha keys on your keypad. It just confuses the operator.

Note: The IRLP link is disabled during the Capital City Net each Monday. It is disabled from 2000 to 2145 Mondays except for May to August when the link is disabled from 2000 to 2020.

### 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.



## *From the ARRL*

NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 9, 2006

US Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), this week offered "A Salute to Ham Radio Operators" on the floor of the US House. Ross, one of two Amateur Radio licensees in the House of Representatives (the other is Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI, R-OR), addressed his colleagues February 8 to recognize the contributions of the Amateur Radio community in the wake of last year's devastating hurricane season.

"Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby--a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete--were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas," Ross said.

He noted that while ham radio is often overlooked "in favour of flashier means of communication," Gulf Coast communities learned after the 2005 hurricanes that technology can be "highly vulnerable" to storm damage. "Ham radios, entirely self- contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna," Ross explained.

Because of the "critical intervention" of radio amateurs across the US, Ross said, many lives were saved following Hurricane Katrina.

" Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of American citizens who are members of the American Radio Relay League, known as HAM radio operators. Citizens throughout America dedicated to this hobby--a hobby that some people consider old fashioned or obsolete--were true heroes in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina as they were often the only line of communication available into the storm ravaged areas.

Amateur radio operators are often overlooked in favour of flashier means of communication. As communities across the gulf coast and America learned this year, technology can be highly vulnerable. HAM radios, entirely self- contained transmitters, require no cell towers or satellites, simply a battery and a strip of wire as an antenna.

## *Dates to Remember*

### **2006**

- Sep. 2 OARC Hamfest and RAC Forum
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 1 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 30 RAC Winter Contest

### **2007**

- Feb. 10,11 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 11 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 13 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 23,24 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest

Just as after major earthquakes, tornadoes, and the terrorist attacks of 9/11, HAM operators around the country received an alert to stand by their radios to listen for calls for assistance. Following Hurricane Katrina, when cell phones and e-mail were useless, a HAM operator located in Connecticut alerted authorities about a woman trapped for 4 days without food or water and a Coast Guard Auxiliary in Cleveland arranged for a medevac for a woman in labour in New Orleans. These are just a few examples of the many lives that were saved with the critical intervention of HAM operators throughout the country.

Now more than ever, I am proud to be a licensed amateur radio operator. It is important to realize that every HAM radio operator in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service is a volunteer. This year, when disaster struck, hundreds of HAMs moved to the gulf coast to help in every way they could. Every one of which did so on a volunteer basis and their only goal was to assist in what became one of the worst natural disasters in America.

The dedication displayed by HAM radio operators in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina sets a tremendous example for us all. The people whose lives were rescued as a result of the tireless dedication of HAM radio operators will forever be grateful to these selfless public servants."



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

# Groundwave

September 2006

## Field Day 2006

I'm sorry I missed Field Day this year. I scheduled my holidays without looking at the calendar. Check out the pictures on the club web site.



## April's Homebrewer

Darren Hum's re-generative radio. He was going to submit it for homebrew night but the whole family got sick a week before the meeting. Darren finished the radio after the meeting.



## Tower Bylaw

The big news over the summer was the release of the proposed draft Ottawa bylaw and in particular its provisions for antennas and towers. The Ottawa Tower Consultation Committee was established in June under the guidance of Jim Dean, VE3IQ. It is chaired by Richard Ferch, VE3IAY, and is composed of members from a number of amateur radio clubs in Ottawa including Diane Bruce, VA3DB, and Dave Green, VE3TLY, from the OARC. By Sept. it will have met three times. Its purpose is to comment on, and suggest major changes to, the proposed Ottawa City Bylaw which in its draft form, will significantly limit the use of amateur radio antennas and antenna support structures within the city. The initial submission to the City Planning Department will be in mid-September.

In other news, RAC has established a committee headed by Midwest Director Bj. Madsen VE5FX to look into restructuring amateur radio in Canada. There is an online survey seeking opinions from amateurs across the country (<http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/restructuring.htm>).





## Hamfest 2006

### Mk's Words

So now I'm a director. What direction do you want to go?

I started writing these columns back when I became the club membership chairman, and continued when I became the treasurer. I was OK at one of those jobs and pretty crummy at the other. Getting the incomes and the outgoes to come out the same never was my strong suit. In both cases, I stepped in because nobody else wanted to do what needed doing. Same thing this time, but with one difference. The job of director is less defined. Which brings me back to the question at the top. I figure the job of director is to try to make the club go into some particular direction.

Some points to think about. Along with the demographic of amateur radio in general, the average age of club members is climbing. Are you OK with that or do you want to work on ways to bring in new members?

Although we as individuals do a lot of interesting things, we, AS A CLUB don't do much of anything except gather at city hall once a month, and at Carp once a year. Even those things are largely the result of the efforts of a few people. Do you want a hamfest next year, and the one after, or are you willing to see it go when Greg decides not to continue?

Are you satisfied with sitting around in a meeting, or do you want to DO something too? If so, what do you want to do?

Unlike many clubs, we aren't tightly limited by money, resources, a lack of outside experts or meeting spaces. We are limited by our ambition or lack thereof, and by our imagination. Being hams, neither should be a problem. So tell me..

**In what direction do you want the OARC to go?**

mk VE3FFK

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc. is pleased to announce its 10th annual Hamfest.

**ICOM IS COMING TO THE OARC HAMFEST!** They will be on the Trading Floor and at the RAC FORUM Saturday, September 2, 2006 (Labour Day weekend).

Carp Agricultural Fair Grounds  
3970 Carp Rd (at Falldown Lane)  
Ottawa, (Carp) Ontario, Canada  
Tailgaters Open and Building Vendor setup: 8am.  
Building Opens: 10 am until 1 pm  
Radio Amateurs of Canada Forum and Technology Update 1 pm - 4 pm

\$6 general admission  
\$12/table (plus admission)  
\$5/tailgate (plus admission)

The OARC is proud to sponsor the RAC Forum and Technology Update. This highly informative event follow immediately after the close of the Hamfest at 1 pm. We are very fortunate to have Ben Price (VE3CDA), RAC's Ontario North/East Director, as Moderator.

1:00 - 2:00 Peter Jennings VE3SUN  
IARU Beacon Project  
2:00 - 3:00 Eric Meth VE3EI of ICOM Canada  
DSTAR technology where is it and where is it going?  
3:15 - 3:45 Discussion Forum with Eric and Peter  
3:45 - 4:00 Wrap up

This year's great door prize is a Yaesu FT-7800R - 2 meter/440 MHz Dual Band Mobile. Very generously donated by Elkel.

For further information or reservations contact Greg Danylchenko, VE3YTZ

Tel: (613) 236-9291 (H)

e-mail: [fleamarket@oarc.net](mailto:fleamarket@oarc.net)

Web address: <http://oarc.net/fleamarket>

## *OARC Accomplishments 2005/6*

Membership: 93

New meeting format, open-ended coffee break at end.

Joe Norton Awarded to Martin Gillen, VA3SIE  
Capital City Net (Bryan)

Guest speakers (8 by June 2006, Dave)

Wayne Getchell - VE3CZO Receiving the ATV Repeater

Ian Jeffrey - VE3IGJ Underwater LF applications

Harrie Jones - VE3HYS Upgrading VE2CRA, the OARC Repeater

Ernie Brown - VA3OEB Interception of Enemy Wireless at Ottawa Monitoring Station, WWII

Dave Green - VE3TLY Antenna Simulation: Can you really believe it?

Greg Danylchenko - VE3YTZ Software Defined Radio

Jim Dean VE3IQ, Joe Parkinson VE3JG BPL: Current Status in Canada

Richard Hagemeyer – VE3UNW RSES: Radio Signal Extension System

RAC Canada Winter Contest (Ian)

Field Day 2006 (Harold)

Hamfest 2005 (Greg)

Homebrew night, 13 participants

VE2CRA repeater upgrade (Harrie, Bryan, Wayne, Ian, Dave)

### **Public Service**

- CSM (Richard)

- Tour Nortel (Kris)

- Collegetown. Emergency Preparedness College, Emergency Operations Centre Management course, and Emergency Site Management course. (Mike)

- Tall Pines Car Rally, Bancroft (Mike)

### **Financial support**

- RAC Youth Education Program = \$100 Cdn

- Defence of Amateur Radio Fund = \$100 Cdn

- AMSAT = \$120 USD

- RSES project by Algonquin students.

OARC received donations of equipment, and in turn donated:

- a 2m rig to a blind ham

- a 'scope to a youngster

- Other donated gear for FD, for the repeater or for sale at the OARC Hamfest

Web site (Diane)

### **Delegated examiner's report (Mike)**

- 5 Basic – all passed with HF privileges

- 1 Advanced - passed

- 2 Morse – 1 passed

- numbers down, is the higher passing grade discouraging candidates?

Dec. Trivia Quiz (Mike, Richard, Janice)

Agreed to donate the OARC historical record to the City of Ottawa Archives (Paul Henry).

Dave Green, VE3TLY

Vice-President

### **Aviation Humour**

In a famous SR-71 (Blackbird spy plane) story, Los Angeles Center reported receiving a request for clearance to FL600 (60,000 ft). The incredulous controller, with some disdain in his voice, asked "How do you plan to go up to 60,000 feet?"

The pilot (obviously a sled driver) responded, "We don't plan to go up to it; we plan to go down to it." He was cleared.



## *Joe Norton Award*

### ENTRY INFORMATION

The **Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc.** (OARC) annually awards the Joe Norton Trust Award for the advancement of amateur radio. The amount of this award is \$500 and a wall plaque.

### 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, 2004 to June 1, 2006.
3. Send a written submission of no less than 600 words and no more than 900 words to the executive of the OARC 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 17:00 local time on November 1, 2006. Entries received after that date will not be considered.
2. The OARC will send an acknowledgment in writing upon receipt of an application.
3. A panel of judges appointed by the executive of the OARC will evaluate all entries.
4. Finalists may be interviewed by members of the executive of the OARC, 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 OARC are final.
8. The winner will be notified on or before November

23rd, 2005.

9. The winner will inform the OARC of his or her acceptance of the award no later than November 30th, 2005.
10. The award presentation will be made during the regular meeting of the OARC in December.
11. The winner agrees to have his/her name, photograph, and address published in club bulletins, trade papers, and magazines, and on the airwaves.

### ENTRIES

Send your entry, to be received no later than 17:00 on November 1, 2006 by mail to:

Joe Norton Trust Award  
Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc.  
Box 8873  
Ottawa, ON  
K1G 3J2

Entries may also be e-mailed, in plain ASCII text only. No word processor formatting, no word processor attachments allowed to executive@oarc.net. Be certain to include your full name, address, call sign, and your e-mail address if you have one, in your submission. Both mail boxes, paper and electronic, will be cleared at 17:00 on the closing date.

## *Brainteaser*

Last month's question:

Is the same as his month's question because I didn't solve it yet!

What is the resistance measured between adjacent nodes of an infinite square mesh of one-ohm resistors?

I'm told once you know how to solve this, you can also solve the triangular mesh or hexagonal mesh.

# The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

is pleased to announce its 10th Annual



# Hamfest

**Saturday, September 2, 2006 (Labour Day weekend)**

Tailgaters Open and Building Vendor setup: 8 am

Building Opens: 10 am until 1 pm

Radio Amateurs of Canada Forum and Technology Update: 1 pm - 4 pm (approx)

**Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds**  
**3970 Carp Rd (at Falldown Lane)**  
**Ottawa (Carp), Ontario**

From Ottawa take Highway 417 west to Carp Road exit, north to the fairgrounds

We are in the Arena, so follow the signs on the site

\$6 general admission

\$12/table (plus admission)

\$5/tailgate (plus admission)


This year's door prize, a Yaesu FT-7800 dual band mobile, is very generously provided by:



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**For further information or reservations contact:**

Greg Danylchenko (VE3Ytz)

Tel: (613) 236-9291(H)

E-mail: fleamarket@oarc.net

Talk-in: VE2CRA146.940 Mhz -

# 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 (\$25, \$20 after Feb. 1)    Family (\$30)    Junior (\$15)  
 Emailed PDF Copy    Mailed Copy *Add \$5.00 for mailed copy of Groundwave.*

(Please note: membership year is September 1 to August 31.)

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name/Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Ext \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ (For Groundwave mailing)

Callsign(s): | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ | Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualifications:    Basic    Advanced    Grandfathered

Year Licenced: \_\_\_\_\_

## Other Family Members

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign(s): | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ |

Qualifications:    Basic    Advanced    Grandfathered

Year Licenced: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign(s): | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ |

Qualifications:    Basic    Advanced    Grandfathered

Year Licenced: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign(s): | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ | | \_\_\_\_\_ |

Qualifications:    Basic    Advanced    Grandfathered

Year Licenced: \_\_\_\_\_

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# KENWOOD

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HF/50MHz All-Mode Transceiver

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