



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

October 2007

Membership renewals are now due. A membership form is included in this newsletter. The cutoff date is November 1 after which un-renewed subscriptions will be terminated. If you have not already done so, you may order a free club name badge. If you want additional badges they will cost about \$8.

Dave Green is setting up a visit to the Military Communications and Electronics Museum in Kingston for Saturday, November 17. Set this date aside on your calendar.

Any new hams may apply for the Joe Norton award. The deadline is November 1. See the details on page 7.

The October meeting speaker is Vladimir Sidirov, VE3IAE, who will be speaking on RTTY and general HF contesting.

See you at the meeting.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor



OCTOBER MEETING 7:30 pm, October 10th 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 those of the author.

Voice (VHF) 146.94/146.34 100Hz CTCSS required
(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.



Dates to Remember

June Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the president at 19:35. There was one guest Bill, VE3WSN.

Dave Green presented a list of the OARC accomplishments for the year. They were too numerous to mention.

The treasurer presented the budget for 2007/2008.

As there were fewer nominations than vacancies the nominees were elected by acclamation. The board for next year is :President, Dave Green; Vice President, Greg Danylchenko; Treasurer, Janice Neelands; Past President, Diane Bruce; Directors, Wayne Getchell, Mike Kelly, Al MacPhee, Harrie Jones, Ian Jeffrey. The position of Secretary is vacant.

VE2CRA will soon require a 100 Hz tone on the input. Ed Sich, the Hamfest manager, reported that the Hamfest is scheduled for September 1. The door prize will be a \$300 gift certificate from Elkel.

Dave Goodwin reported on the Ottawa bylaw regarding antennas.

The evening's speaker was Dave Green, VE3TLY who gave an interesting talk and slide presentation on a ski trip to Golden, BC. He also described the repeater systems in that region and how much the resorts rely on it for day to day communications and safety in the area.

The 50/50 draw of \$17.00 was won by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN.

Alan MacPhee, VE3ZTU

September Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the president, Dave Green, at 19:35. There were 30 in attendance including one guest Bill, VE3WSN.

2007

- Sep. 1 Hamfest, RAC AGM, and Forum
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 1 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 29 RAC Winter Contest

2008

- Feb. 9,10 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 9 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 11 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 28,28 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest

Paul Campbell was welcomed back after an illness.

Members were reminded to make sure their email addresses are correctly on file with the membership list so that the Groundwave is emailed to the correct address.

Members were also reminded that their membership renewals are now due. The cutoff date for new badges will be November.

The OARC contribution to DARF, the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund, was increased to \$200. The OARC will also be making a one-time contribution of \$100 to the D-Star Ottaawa Amateur Radio Digital Group for operating expenses.

It was announced that the Joe Norton Award deadline is November 1. [See details on elsewhere in this issue. ed]

Dave Green will be investigating the possibility of a field trip to the Canadian Military Communications and Electronics Museum in Kingston. Dave will also be re-introducing the haves and wants, most interesting QSO, and show and tell items at the monthly meetings.

Ed Sich reported on the Hamfest. There were 405 in attendance including 60 at the RAC AGM. Ed thanked all the volunteers and the membership

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mk's Words

So wasn't that a fine Hamfest. Although I haven't finished playing with the toys I got last year, a few things jumped off the tables (and tailgates) into my hands. I got a Russian (?) straight key. At first because the price was too right to pass up. On the way home I got to thinking that, being all enclosed with a board underneath, it would be a good candidate to build a rig into the housing. Then after reading in a magazine (another Hamfest find) about one tube transformerless CW rigs, the key's enclosed style would be a good match. That gets around the line voltage on the fingertips problem. Time will tell of either of these approaches goes anywhere, but stay tuned.

One item that I didn't notice until looking at the pictures afterward was an HP 200 signal generator. It would have been a nice mate to my HP 400 AC voltmeter. Maybe next year. Maybe I shouldn't look at the pictures so closely.

I found a variable capacitor for my "some day" 160m loop antenna. It looks like about 200 pf times 2, at about 1500 V so I can stop looking for one now. If all else fails, it would be a good place to start a really nice antenna tuner.

There was a 3 A dc power supply that wasn't in working condition, so the price was right. It turns out to be better to start with dead hardware. Dead hardware doesn't raise expectations and set you up for disappointment when plug hits socket. It turned out to be a good place to use one of those nifty green LEDs that VE3ZRK was handing out like candy after one of his many trips to the remains of Ford Enterprises (or crown assets, I can't remember which). If I can just find a use for 50 more LEDs, I will be able to fit the rest into a parts drawer. Anyway, after a little time on the bench and a reglator (or was that regulator?) replacement the supply is ready to play. I can always use another 12 V supply around the kitchen.

A dual range (1/25 W) terminating wattmeter was next into the heap. It looks OK at dc, so now I just have to

get around to seeing what its top end frequency is. It is sort of big, but that makes it easy to tell if the power is going up or down as you tune through a band.

Just about the last thing into the pack was a pair of traps for I dunno which band, and I dunno why I scooped them. By the time you read this, it will be closer to Halloween than Hamfest, so it will be time to play antennas again, so who knows.

The find of the day was something I had actually been looking at buying new, but the price kept saying "next time". It was an MFJ 1026 antenna coupler thing. It adds the noise from a separate antenna, but out of phase so it cancels. It promises to get rid of a lot of that power line buzz that comes with living in the big city. In transmit, it just gets out of the way. I'm looking forward to hooking it up and seeing if it really does what it claims.

All in all this year's haul is smaller than I can remember from most years, but that is because I spent less time shopping and more time yakking. Not a bad way to spend a Saturday morning.

So what was your "Find of the Fest"? Maybe bring something in for show and tell?

There is another EMRG meeting, another session at Collegeville and the October OARC meeting coming up before the pumpkins come out and the leaves fall down. Always something to keep radio active.

73.. cu on cw
mk VE3FFK

Laws of the Natural Universe

Law of Probability

The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of the act.



OARC Hamfest 2007

Brainteaser

This month's puzzle:

Three crates are labelled "Mangos", "Papayas", and "Mangos and Papayas". Each label is incorrect. You may reach in without looking, and select only one fruit from one crate (no feeling around allowed!) Which crate should you reach into in order to be able to label each crate correctly.

Send your answers to editor@oarc.net.

Last month's puzzle: Census Problem

A Census-taker stopped at a guy's house and wanted to find out how many children he had. The guy, a math dude, wanted to see if the Census-taker still knew her math...

Census-taker to guy: How many children do you have?

Guy: Three.

Census-taker: How old are they?

Guy: The product of their ages is 36.

Census-taker: Well, that's just not enough information.

Guy: The sum of their ages is our house number.

Census-taker: [thinking, but still needing more says] I still need more information!

Guy: My oldest child plays the piano.

Census-taker: AHA! I've got it figured out. Thank you!

How'd the census-taker figure out their ages?!

Congratulations to Richard Hagemeyer and honourable mention to Bryan Campbell.

There are many possible combinations of ages whose product is 36. As the census taker said that is not enough information. The resident then says that the sum of their ages is the house number, which the census taker knows since he is at the door. However, the census taker says he still does not have enough information. That means there must be at least two possibilities with the same sum. In fact, if you list the possi-

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The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club held its 11th annual Hamfest on September 1, at the Carp Fairground Arena in Ottawa's west end. It attracted a good crowd, with many locals as well as visitors from Montreal to Sudbury, and even upstate New York. The arena interior was the main venue for the fleamarket, and the weather was perfect for the group of tailgaters who brought some of the larger items to sell. In addition to the many vendors who participated, displays were also set up by several amateur associations, including Radio Amateurs of Canada, QCWA, EMRG/ARES, and several local Amateur clubs. Several door prizes were awarded to the lucky draw winners, and the main prize, a \$300 gift certificate from Elkel, was won by Stephen Mayne, VE3LWX.

After the conclusion of the fleamarket at 1pm, Dave Goodwin, VE3AAQ (RAC Ontario North/East Director) hosted the Radio Amateurs of Canada AGM and Technical Forum. After the lively discussion in the AGM, the crowd was treated to exciting presentations on roving in VHF Contests by Tom Zinck, VA3NFA, and on D-Star repeater technology by Doug Leach, VE3XK and Rick Bandla, VE3CVG. The 2008 Hamfest will be held in the same location, again on the Saturday of Labour Day weekend. Many thanks to the hard-working volunteers who made this Hamfest a success:

Clayton Jenkins VA3CBJ, Diane Bruce VA3DB, Janice Neelands VA3PAX, Harold Hamilton VA3UNK, Robert Cherry VE2AGE, Dave Goodwin VE3AAQ, Al Oldfield VE3ANO, Dave Parks VE3AV, Wayne Getchell VE3CZO, Mike Kelly VE3FFK, Ian Jeffrey VE3IGJ, Rick Furniss VE3IHI, Dave Conn VE3KL, Criss Gibran VE3KRW, Peter Hafichuk VE3LBW, Ernie Brown VE3OEB, Paul Campbell VE3PC, Bryan Rawlings VE3QN, Richard Hagemeyer VE3UNW, Gord Phillips VE3XGP, Greg Danylchenko VE3YTZ, Bryan Campbell VE3ZRK, Alan MacPhee VE3ZTU, Anna Cullenen, Mary Bishop, and Steve Price

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Military Communications and Electronics Museum

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thanked Ed for managing the Hamfest. [See details elsewhere in this issue. ed]

Harold Hamilton report on the OARC's 2A entry in Field Day. There were five transmitters, four HF antennas, 3 VHF antennas, two generators, eight batteries, 155 phone contacts and 468 CW contacts for 3100 points, and three great meals.

The evening's speaker was Lee McMurter, VA3LHM, from Durham Radio in Whitby. Lee displayed a couple of new radios one of them the ICOM 7000. He also had a good selection of antennas and antenna accessories on hand. Durham has 5500 items in its catalogue including a wide selection of parts for do-it-yourselfers. Sixty percent of their business is by mail order.

The 50/50 draw of \$25 was won by Ernie Brown, VA3OEB. The meeting adjourned at 10:00.

I have tentatively scheduled the tour of the Canadian Military Communications and Electronics Museum in Kingston for Saturday, November 17. I will start announcing it on the Capital City Net tonight. This will be a day trip. The plan is to meet in the morning in Ottawa and carpool to Kingston for the tour. More details will follow.

Dave Green

Tom Atkins, SK

It is with deep regret we inform you of the passing of Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, at the age of 82. Tom was a QCWA Life Member as well a member of Wild Rose Chapter 151. He was the President of the Fred Hammond Chapter 73.



Amateur radio has lost a great Ambassador and advocate for amateur radio. He served as President of the former Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL). As well Tom served as Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the International Amateur Radio Union - Region 2 (IARU-R2) before retiring at the end of 2001.

Those who knew Tom will miss his great enthusiasm for his love of amateur radio and the many Amateur Radio friends he met over the course of many years.

RIP

Amateurs are reminded that the RAC Store, accessible from the RAC home page at <http://www.rac.ca/store>, provides an online method to order a variety of RAC and ARES items, as well as to facilitate new and renewal RAC memberships and/or TCA subscriptions.



All orders or renewals processed through the online facilities will receive an immediate e-mail confirmation. Please enter your normal e-mail address for the confirmation as it cannot be forwarded through a <callsign>@rac.ca address.

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ble solutions you will see that there are two possibilities with the same sum: 2,2,9 and 1,6,6. The resident then says his oldest child plays the piano. This statement says there is an oldest child, therefore the right answer is 2,2,9.

QED

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See www.oarc.net for the link to the hamfest photos.

Ed Sich VE3WGO

OARC Hamfest Manager



Joe Norton Award Announcement

The OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC. 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, 2005 to June 1, 2007.
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 17:00 local on November 7th, 2007. Entries received after that date will 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 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 21st, 2007.

9. The winner will inform the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. of his or her acceptance of the award no later than November 30th, 2007.

10. The award presentation 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.

ENTRIES

Send your entry, to be received no later than 17:00 on November 7th, 2007.

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.

Membership Application/Renewal
Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J2

- Single (\$25, \$20 after Feb 1)
- Family (\$30)
- Junior (\$15, under 18 years of age)
- New Ham (Free if licensed in current Membership year)
- Emailed *Groundwave* Mailed *Groundwave* (add \$5.00)



Please Note: Membership year is September 1 to August 31

Family Name: _____ First Name/Initials: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Post Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____ (For *Groundwave* mailing)

Callsign(s): _____

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Morse Code
Year Licensed: _____ RAC Member? Yes

Other Family Members

Name: _____ Callsign(s): _____

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Morse Code
Year Licensed: _____ RAC Member? Yes

Interests: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

All members who are in good standing on or before the December General Meeting will be eligible for a free one-time name badge. Members who wish a second or replacement badge may purchase one at the Club Price (approx \$7.50 plus tax). Ordered badges will be available in January.

OARC NAME TAG Yes Second or Replacement Yes

ORDER DETAILS - As to appear on badge:

First Name _____ Call Sign _____