



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

June 2008

Well, this is the last Groundwave before summer and so there are several events to remind you about. Firstly, the OARC Annual General Meeting and Election takes place on Wednesday, June 11 at 19:30 at City Hall. Details on page 5. There is one vacancy open for the position of Secretary. If you are interested in running for the executive, contact Rick Furniss, VE3IHI.

Secondly, Field Day is June 28-29 at the usual place, St. Paul's on Main Street. Be sure to let Harold know you're coming.

Thirdly, don't forget the RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1. Details are on the RAC web site.

Fourthly, the OARC Hamfest and Technology Update on August 30. Contact Ed Sich, VE3WGO to volunteer.

Now for this year's kudos. Thanks to Ed Sich for organizing Hamfest. Thanks to Harold Hamilton for managing Field Day. Thanks to Brian Campbell for providing coffee and treats at every meeting. A vote of thanks to the OARC executive members. Thanks to all our meeting presenters. And thanks to anyone else whom I forget to mention.

(Continued on page 4)



JUNE MEETING 7:30 pm, Wednesday, June 11th 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 "ve3igj@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 which is on the second floor 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 (except some holidays) 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, go to <http://www.ncswapnet.ca>. You may reach Ed at 613-738 8924 or e-mail him at va3es@rac.ca.

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 Monday evening at 19:30 hours on repeater **VE3TEL 147.030(-)**. 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

May Minutes

The OARC general meeting of May 14, 2008 started at 7.30 pm. There were five guests: VE3JLG, VE3JF, VE3OCU, VE3MDL. The fifth was a past member who has some equipment to give away by July. His name is Sampson Pierre, VE3JSP. His phone number is 613-833-2801.

The membership chair reported 75 members.

The club project has been completed for this year but we will have a PICAXE projects demonstration night at the October meeting. We are looking for ideas and suggestions to extend this project to next year.

Ed, VE3WGO, is looking for volunteers for the Hamfest on Saturday, Aug 30.

Two silent keys were announced: Bob Knapp, VE3CDG, a longtime OARC member and Len Gelfand, VE3LGZ.

Home brew winner Dave Conn, VE3KL, was presented with the Clare Fowler Award for the winning home brew project.

Rick Furniss, VE3IHI, has agreed to serve as this year's election committee for the upcoming June executive elections. The existing executive is prepared to serve again next year but anyone interested in running for any position is encouraged to contact Rick for details. We are still looking for someone for the Secretary position. Contact Rick if interested.

Field Day is June 28-29. Contact Harold Hamilton, VA3UNK, for more information.

The president, Dave, VE3TLY mentioned that the ARRL is trying to encourage more public awareness of amateur radio during Field Day. He asked for people to consider volunteering to chat with and to encourage discussion about amateur radio with visitors who may happen by. Richard, VE3UNW, will bring along some RAC printed material for handouts.

2008

- Feb. 9,10 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 9 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 11 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 28,29 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest
- Aug. 30 Hamfest
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 3 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 27 RAC Winter Contest

We are still looking for a permanent home for the former OVMRC manuals. They are being held temporarily by Mike, VE3FFK, and Ralph, VE3BBM.

The Champlain Trail: Maurice Andre, VE3VIG is looking for help with the special event station VC3C that will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the exploration of the St Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers by Champlain. A sequence of sites will be activated over a 2 month period beginning on June 1. This includes a few in the Ottawa area. Please contact Maurice-Andre if you wish to participate.

Interesting contacts : Clare Fowler, VE3NPC, had a mode LS satellite contact with N0JY who happened to be using a helical antenna designed by Clare. N0JY sent photos of the antenna to Clare who passed them around at the meeting.

The speaker was introduced by Greg, VE3YTZ. Doug Yuill, VE3OCY, gave an historical summary of the Packet Working Group. This group developed innovative hardware for digital packet radio that was widely marketed for several years. The proceeds from this effort have served as a financial foundation for the OARC since that time.

The 50/50 draw of \$19.05 was won by Christophe Gibran, VE3KRW.

The meeting was adjourned at about 21:20.



mk's Words

Well the bike is on the road again for another season. No tune up, just fresh air in the tires and head on down the road, ignoring the squeaks and rattles (and the ones coming from the bike, too.) I haven't put much effort into radio on the bike. Most of my radio time on it has been transporting bits and pieces out to a quiet site to work on the end-fed half-wave for 20m and 40m that I have been playing with for a while now. I've decided I'm lousy at tossing antennas into trees, so I am trying an antenna that will go up without having to make fishing line fly. So far it is proving a bit difficult to get the loading coil right, although the tuned circuit at the base seems to be behaving itself. With luck I will be able to bring it in to show off next April. Without luck, that is all it will do. Time (and tweaking) will tell.

The Tour Nortel has come and gone OK. Thanks to Dave, VE3KL for showing up at our assignment on time, and bringing a nice big rain proof van to operate from. I got delayed because not all the busses had their bike racks installed at the time. Things will go better next time. It was an unusually quiet event, which is what we always hope for. We get busy when bad things happen, so I don't mind being UNbusy at these things.

The May meeting was a lot more interesting than I expected. I had forgotten a lot of that stuff, and it was nice to see the folks responsible for the project all in one place again. For some, the only thing they remember is the Packet radio voice net, which followed the Capital city net. The meeting also pointed out that there are some, perhaps many people who have been in the club for quite a while now, but who don't know much about the story of the club before they arrived. Come to think of it, we are all in that boat, except for perhaps George, VE3BNO who is our historian.

I didn't go to Dayton but hear that a lot of you did. I expect a full report from all of you at the June meeting. What did you see / hear / do / buy or nearly buy, that impressed you. What did you miss out on, that you only heard about on the trip back? What was the flea market find of the trip? Did you win any of the goodies?

While I didn't go to the Hamvention, I did buy a new hand held, a Yaesu VX170. First look says it's OK. I had to build another adaptor box so I could use my headset with it. (The radio PTT doesn't activate the headset microphone.) I'm impressed with it's sensitivity. I'm impressed with it's claim to be waterproof up to a point. (Any radio I own WILL get rained on, sooner or later). I'm unimpressed with the cryptic menu descriptions, but I managed to turn off most of the "features" I don't want/need/use without memorizing the manual. Ask me about it when I have more time in front of the beast, but so far it's a keeper.

That's about all that's new from here. This column is going to the editor a day late, but I'm counting that he is still a day behind schedule after Dayton.

73.. See you at Field Day
mk VE3FFK

Missing

The OARC projection screen has been misplaced. The screen which is about 5 feet wide includes a stand and was last seen at the Sept. 2007 OARC Hamfest. If anyone knows the whereabouts of this screen, could you please notify any of the OARC executive. Thanks.

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I would especially like to thank those who have made my job as editor easier over the last year namely all the contributors to the Groundwave. In particular, Mike Kelly, VE3FFK, for his monthly column and Greg Danylchenko for photos and bulletins.

See you at the meeting and have an FB summer.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ



Election

Brainteaser

This month's puzzle:

I am going to give all your brains a rest fro the summer. The brainteaser will return in the fall.

Last month's puzzle:

The one is to satisfy my own curiosity. For all you sci-fi fans: The answer is 42. What is the question?

Answer:

Although Richard Hagemeyer tried to feed me some guff about the Hubble Constant, he did steer me in the right direction. Bryan Campbell also got it right. A quick search on Wikipedia provided the following.

The **Answer to Life, the Universe, and Everything** has a numeric solution in Douglas Adams' series The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy. In the story, a "simple answer" to The Ultimate Question is requested from the computer Deep Thought—specially built for this purpose. It takes Deep Thought 7½ million years to compute and check the answer which turns out to be 42. Unfortunately, The Ultimate Question itself is unknown - suggesting, on an allegorical level, that it is more important to ask the right questions than to seek definite answers.

When asked to produce The Ultimate Question, the computer says that it can't, but can help design an even more powerful computer (the Earth) which can. The programmers then embark on a further, ultimately futile, ten million year program to discover The Ultimate Question, a process that is hindered after eight million years by the unexpected arrival on Earth of the Gollfrinchans and then ruined completely, five minutes before completion, when the Earth is destroyed by the Vogons.

OARC Board of Directors Election

Bylaw Number 4 of the OARC Corporation provides: "that the members shall elect a Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting. The Board will include President, Vice-President, Secretary, and three Directors-at-large. The immediate past President shall be a member of the Board. In addition, the Editor of the Groundwave, and the Chairman of the Repeater Committee, who shall be appointed by the Board, are members of the Board. ... The whole Board shall be retired at each annual meeting, but shall be eligible for re-election."

The Bylaws are silent regarding a nominating committee, but the practice has been for a member of the corporation to act as a committee to determine which members of the Board wish to retire, and to seek replacements from among the membership, as may be needed. As your nominating committee for this year, I will be pleased to receive your nominations before the June meeting.

These are the nominations at present.

- President: Dave Green, VE3TLY
- Vice-President: Greg Danylchenko, VE3Ytz
- Secretary: open
- Director: Wayne Getchell, VE3CZO
- " Gord Holmes, VE3GFH
- " Mike Kelly, VE3FFK
- " Al MacPhee, VE3ZTU

Other Board Members include Groundwave Editor, Treasurer, and Repeater Chairman who are appointees of the Board and not elected.

The Annual General Meeting takes place on Wednesday, June 11 at 19:30 at City Hall.

To nominate a candidate please contact Rick Furniss, VE3IHI.

New Satellites

On 18 May 2008, a petition began circulating on the Internet that quotes an unsigned e-mail from the Toronto District Office of Industry Canada (IC) stating that Industry Canada is no longer the regulatory body overseeing the amateur radio service, and that amateur radio is self-policing.



Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) contacted IC on 20 May, the first working day after the petition began. IC have confirmed that its contents are incorrect. IC clearly affirmed they are the regulatory authority for Amateur Radio in Canada. The originator of the petition, Eddie Pereira VA3EDP, has since received a message from the acting Director of IC's Toronto District Office confirming that the original unsigned e-mail was sent in error. Eddie will be meeting an IC official in the near future to discuss a spectrum management issue that was the cause of his initial inquiry with IC.

RAC asks all Canadian Amateurs to contact RAC first if they have specific concerns about IC's willingness or ability to supervise the Amateur Radio Service. RAC is here to serve the interests of all Canadian Amateurs and we will do our best to ensure IC listens to our concerns.

RAC President Dave Goodwin VO1AU/VE3AAQ has named Gabor Horvath VE7DXG of Duncan, BC as Chair of RAC's VHF/UHF band planning Committee. The Committee's role is to make recommendations to the RAC Board on how Amateur spectrum between 30MHz and 2GHz is divided among the various modes and techniques employed by Canadian Radio Amateurs. Gabor is looking for volunteers to serve on the committee, and the begin the process of reviewing and updating the current band plans. Please contact Gabor at VE7DXG@rac.ca. The Committee is not responsible for assigning frequency pairs to particular repeaters - that is the work of local repeater coordinators. Gabor succeeds Graham Ide VE3BYT of Ottawa ON, who resigned as Chair of the committee in 2007. RAC is very grateful to Graham for his many years of service to Canadian Amateurs.

Ten satellites reached orbit April 28 aboard an Indian PSLV-C9 rocket launched from the Satish Dhawan Space Center. The primary payloads were India's CARTOSAT-2A and IMS-1 satellites. In addition to the NLS-5 and RUBIN-8 satellites, the rocket carried six CubeSat research satellites, all of which communicate using Amateur Radio frequencies. All spacecraft deployed normally and appear to be functional at this time.

The SEEDS satellite is designed and built by students at Japan's Nihon University. When fully operational, SEEDS will download telemetry in Morse code and 1200-baud FM AFSK packet radio at 437.485 MHz. The satellite also has Slow-Scan TV (SSTV) capability. Several stations have reported receiving SEEDS CW telemetry and the team would appreciate receiving more reports from amateurs at their ground station Web page.

AAUSAT-II is the creation of a student team at Aalborg University in Denmark. It will downlink scientific telemetry at 437.425 MHz using 1200 or 9600-baud packet.

Can-X2 is a product of students at the University of Toronto Institute for Aerospace Studies, Space Flight Laboratory (UTIAS/SFL). Can-X2 will downlink telemetry at 437.478 MHz using 4 kbps GFSK, but the downlink will be active only when the satellite is within range of the Toronto ground station.

Compass-One was designed and built by students at Aachen University of Applied Sciences in Germany. The satellite features a Morse code telemetry beacon at 437.275 MHz. Compass-1 will also provide a packet radio data downlink, which will include image data, at 437.405 MHz.

Cute 1.7 + APDII is a satellite created by students at the Tokyo Institute of Technology. This satellite will not only provide telemetry, it will also offer a 9600-baud packet store-and-forward message re-

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Winnipeg Hamfest and RAC AGM

The planning for this has been going on for over a year already, with meetings for those on the committee being held more frequently as the event draws nearer. The price for HAMFEST2008 has been held to the absolute minimum and is a bargain, considering what you will get for it.

Early bird pricing is \$130.00 before June 15th, after this date the price is \$150.00 per person. But what do you get for your money. You will receive, a Lunch on Saturday, a sit down dinner on Saturday night along with local entertainers - Jimmy & the Doo Wops, who will really get the place up and dancing. The following day you will be treated to a Sunday morning breakfast.

While the price for all of this including taxes and tips is close to the ticket price alone, you will receive so much more. Your VIP package will also include access to the Fleamarket on the Saturday morning, along with a trade show that will run during the flea market and continue into the afternoon. Here you will see Icom and some of their gear. Be able to speak directly to Icom personnel and ask those all important questions you have about their products. Icom is not the only commercial vendor in the trade show, the Cdn Forces will have a display area, along with MB Emergency Measures Organization. We are still working on bringing in a satellite communication company and other commercial vendors. So buy your bargain items in the early morning and see the commercial booths in both the morning & afternoon.

But wait that is not all ... What would a great hamfest be without some education. We will have 3 tracks of concurrent informational/educational sessions happening during the afternoon, as well as again the next morning. The three tracks will be an Operating Track, a Technical Track and a Ends of the Spectrum Track. The Sunday afternoon will be mostly session on ARES. Check the web site listed below for more information on the program line up.

We are still not done... during the Sunday breakfast, we are planning to have a discussion panel on "The Past,

Present & Future of amateur radio. This promised to be very enlightening.

As if the above was not enough value... For those HAM's who are also RAC members, Radio Amateurs of Canada will be having their 2008 Annual General Meeting in conjunction with HAM-FEST2008. Come out and speak with the new RAC president, meet other officials of RAC, participate in the open forum, and learn about your national organization during the AGM.

And finally.... we will be hosting a hospitality room on the Friday & Saturday evenings for those who will be staying in the hotel (remember no drinking & driving).

Ohhh... Did I mention the door prizes ? Yes, we have door prizes as well.

You enjoy the hobby of being an Amateur Radio Operator, now HAMFEST2008 will provide you a social atmosphere where you can eyeball your fellow HAM's, share ideas, learn, be informed, pick up a few bargains and have a great time in the process.

Check out our website

<http://www.mts.net/~warc/hamfest/>

for all the information you will need on HAM-FEST 2008. Remember to register early to save yourself some money. But most of all just remember to register. You will not want to miss this event. Additional and separate from the main VIP package are banquet tickets which can be purchased for your YL, XYL or OM as the case may be. you could also bring them along for the entire event as companion passes are at a reduced price. Or be like a few of the local HAM's and book a room for the weekend and enjoy yourself for the weekend with your YL, XYL or OM and all the out of town HAM's. it's your hobby - enjoy it.



Dayton Hamvention

My first time at Dayton. Had a great time and spent lots of money. My wife and I drove down while Janice and Greg flew. Even bigger than I expected—the Greatest Show on Earth!! The photos show an Australian ham we met Peter Young, VK3MV, retired from the Australian spectrum regulating body and now a director of the Wireless Institute of Australia.

Ian

Photos courtesy Janice and Greg



Reward Offered

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for the information leading to the arrest of hop-a-long capacity. This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber.

He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named milli henry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving dc motor over a wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit he was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend eddy current who was playing a harmonic.

A bit of humour forwarded by Mr. Mark Bushnell, Director of Engineering at CCA Electronics. Original Author unknown.

<http://www.repeater-builder.com/humor/bushnellhumor.html>

Courtesy Dave Scobie

(Continued from page 6)

lay with an uplink at 1267.6 MHz and a downlink at 437.475 MHz.

Delfi-C3 was designed and built by students at Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands. It includes an SSB/CW linear transponder. The satellite will be in telemetry-only mode for the first three months of the mission, after which it will be switched to transponder mode. Delfi-C3 downlinks 1200-baud packet telemetry at 145.870 MHz. The linear transponder, when activated, will have an uplink passband from 435.530 to 435.570 MHz and a corresponding downlink passband from 145.880 to 145.920 MHz.

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 _____

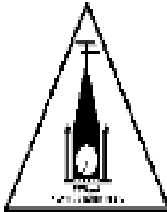


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Groundwave

June 2008

THE OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HAMFEST



SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 2008 (LABOUR DAY WEEKEND)

Tailgaters Open and Building Vendor setup: 8 am

Building Open: 10 am until 1 pm

CARP AGRICULTURAL FAIRGROUNDS

3832 Carp Rd (at Falldown Lane)
Ottawa (Carp), Ontario

From Ottawa take Highway 417 West to Carp Road exit,
10 kilometres North to the fairgrounds.
We are in the W. Erskine Johnson Arena – follow the signs.

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

**Radio Amateurs of Canada
Forum and Radio & Technology
Update: 1 pm until 4 pm**

The OARC is proud to sponsor the RAC Forum and Radio & Technology Update. This highly informative event follows immediately after the close of the Hamfest at 1 pm. We are very fortunate to once again have RAC President Dave Goodwin, VE3AAQ, as Moderator.

We are offering an excellent door prize,
a \$300 Gift Certificate, generously
supplied by Elkel.



ELKEL LTEE
2575 Girard,

Trois-Rivières, Quebec, G8Z 2H3
Toll free: 1-866-383-5535 Web: www.elkel.com

For further information or reservations contact:

Ed Sich, VE3WGO

Tel: (613) 763-3628

Email: filemarket@oarc.net

Web address: <http://www.oarc.net/filemarket>

Talk-In on VE2CRA, 146.94-