



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

September 2009

Well summer (or what passed for summer) is almost over and that means it's time for Hamfest and the RAC Forum. This year it's on September 12—NOT the Labour Day weekend. See the ad inside.

It also means it's time for membership renewals which are due by the end of September.

The June AGM re-elected the previous executive without change and passed the budget for 2009/2010.

Be sure and read the important Bill 118 information on page 5.

See you at the meeting, again in the **Colonel By Room**.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor



**September Meeting 7:30 pm, Wednesday, September 9th
in the Colonel By Room at Ottawa City Hall**

In This Issue....

Club Information	2	Bill 118	5
ARRL Quiz	3	Encounter in the South Atlantic	6
Dates to Remember	3	EMRG—Ottawa ARES	7
mk's Words	4	Hamfest	9
Missing Q Signals	4	Membership Renewal Form	10

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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 "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 146.940(-)** 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, got 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

ARRL Quiz

Models, parts, designators, references -- they're all part of the radio game. The more you tinker and swap and change, the more of these little bits of "radio DNA" get lodged in your gray matter -- and there's nothing you can do about it. Resistance is futile! So load up on wireless weirdness and have fun with a whole catalog of conundra.

1) Which of these tubes was nearly ubiquitous in the output stage of amateur transceivers during the 1970s?

- a. 807
- b. 811
- c. 6146
- d. 4-1000

2) What standards organization is responsible for assigning semiconductor part numbers that begin with 1N, 2N, 3N, 4N and so on?

- a. ANSI
- b. JAN
- c. JEDEC
- d. ITU

3) Match the model number prefix with the manufacturer.

- a. FT f. Drake
- b. SB g. Heathkit
- c. TS h. Yaesu
- d. DJ i. Kenwood
- e. TR k. Alinco

4) BBROYGBVGW -- what the heck is that?

- a. The acronym of the latest new digital mode.
- b. The first letter of all ARRL Divisions.
- c. The initials of the inventors of the ASCII code.
- d. The resistor value color code.

5) What is a UG-176?

- a. a BNC cable plug
- b. an adapter for using RG-59 cable in PL-259 connectors
- c. the designator for military-grade electrical tape
- d. a type of waveguide

6) What are the two types of USB connectors?

- a. Type A and B
- b. DB-25P and DB-25S
- c. PAL and SECAM
- d. There is only one type of USB connector.

2009

- Sep. 12 Hamfest
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 4 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 19 RAC Winter Contest

2010

- Feb. 13, 14 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 14 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 9 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 26, 27 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest

7) If a miniature tube number begins with "12," what is it likely to mean?

- a. It's a triode.
- b. It's a tetrode.
- c. It has a 12 V filament.
- d. It's rated at 12 W of plate dissipation.

8) Which of the following is *not* a digital mode?

- a. OOP
- b. MFSK
- c. PSK
- d. Olivia

9) What is a J-38?

- a. A straight key.
- b. The 30-amp Anderson Powerpole series.
- c. A ¼-inch phone jack.
- d. VHF antenna.

10) What type of component is rated in Ah (ampere-hours)?

- a. fuses
- b. surge suppressors
- c. choke baluns
- d. batteries

11) Which of these is a measure of antenna gain?

- a. dBc
- b. dBd
- c. dBm
- d. dBV

12) What type of component is identified by its "mix"?

- a. microphone
- b. ferrite bead or core

(Continued on page 6)



Missing Q Signals

mk's Words

OLD SURPLUS PLACES

They come and go. Mostly they go. Remember Kris Electronics, out off Morrison near where Bytown used to be? Several neat(ish) rows of interesting surplus parts and things, mostly from ETCO, if I remember right.

How about Capital City Surplus? Another gem of a place. I even found a straight key there once. If you don't remember the store, you might remember the go-rilla.

The most recent one to come and go would be ADD Electronics on Armstrong, around the corner from where Wackid used to be. It reminded me of Kris Electronics with its rows of electronic parts on pegs and in cardboard bins.

None of these places put much of a premium on order, or neatness. The proprietors usually knew where things were but they were the kind of places where you wanted to walk around everything anyway, just to see what else might turn up. They will all be missed. With the economy as it is, there is always a laid off optimist who wants to start out on their own. Some might enjoy feeding themselves off of the carcasses of failing hi tech companies including the one that let them go. There is probably an opportunity to re-sell the offerings of the Crown Assets disposal system around here. Even ebay offers the possibility of buying low and selling high, but local. Any takers?

I'm sure there were more old surplus places, both before my time and ones I have forgotten. Which ones did I miss? What do you remember about the old surplus stores in town? A lot of you are from "away". What was the surplus scene like where you grew up? What was your best find? What was your favourite find? What do you have from back then that is still waiting in the basement for the rest of the project?

73 .. mk VE3FFK

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that could be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a trailing question mark is used.

QLF I am sending with my left foot.

QLF? Are you sending with your left foot?

QRC Warning, rag chewer on frequency.

QRC? Are you a rag chewer?

QOK Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.

QOK? Was my last transmission OK?

QFH This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere.

QFH? Is this frequency hogged?

QBS It's getting deep in here.

QBS? Did I tell you about the one that got away?

QZZ I fell asleep at the mike.

QZZ? Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

QBA My antenna is BIG!

QBA? How big is your antenna?

QHI I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.

QHI? Are you leaving after only one transmission?

QBO Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.

QBO? Buddy, can you spare some soap?

QNO I am sending through a non-standard orifice.

QNO? Are you sending through a non-standard orifice?

QCW I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)

QCW? Why are you whistling Morse?

QET Phone home.

QET? Has anyone called me from another planet?

From <http://www.qsl.net/kc4gzx/kc4gzx/rant.htm>

Passed along by Ross VE1RFB



Bill 118

Hello:

Bill C118 is coming to a conclusion and we still don't have an exemption for Amateur's. We need to make the Minister of Transportation and your local MPP's aware of the public service Amateur Radio Operators perform while operating from their vehicles.

Please contact organizers of groups that your Amateur Radio Club provides communications for and ask them to send a letter to Jim Bradley, Minister of Transportation and your local MPP's? If your club provides communications for marathons, bikes races, cross country ski events or any other public services, ***we need their support now.***

Their letter might suggest that without Mobile Amateur Radio Operators, the event may be compromised in terms of safety or they may have to rent commercial radios which could put the event into financial jeopardy. The MPP's need to know that we provide an important public service to many organizations.

They don't have to mention the Bill, but just emphasize the fact that Amateurs operating from their vehicles and provide communications for their event as a valuable community service.

If you have any agreements with local Police, Fire, EMO, Salvation Army or First Response Groups you need to contact them and ask them to send a letter as well.

If you would like to send a letter that is fine, but a note from a third party will carry much more weight. A letter from an Emergency Service is even better. A local politician is the best.

Any questions give me a call or email.

Here is the contact information for Mr. Bradley.

Hon. James J. Bradley
Ministry of Transportation
3rd Floor, Ferguson Block
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z

Here is a link to the listing of MPP's and their mailing addresses. A letter is better than an email.

http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/members/members_current.do?locale=en

Any questions, please give me a call.

This is important if you want to continue operating from your vehicle, do it now!

Thanks

Bill, VE3XT
North/East Ontario Regional Director
Radio Amateurs of Canada

ExHAMiner

The June issue of the Groundwave reported that Jean, VE3DNI, had prepared a rudimentary Advanced question bank for use with ExHAMiner exam simulation software.

Please note that the complete Advanced question bank has been made available to RAC: complete in the sense that it includes an explanation with each question (as did the Basic) and that partial exams (one chapter at a time) are possible.

The download page has moved to a new location on the RAC website:

<http://www.rac.ca/en/amateur-radio/beginner-info/exhaminer/>

A new version of the program has also been released.

73, François, VE2AAY, Granby QC



Encounter in the South Atlantic

- c. solder
- d. printed-circuit board

13) Which of these coaxial cables can handle the most power?

- a. RG-8
- b. RG-58
- c. RG-62
- d. RG-174

14) What is a "Cantenna"?

- a. A beer-can vertical.
- b. A homemade WiFi antenna.
- c. A dummy load.
- d. A portable antenna that folds up into a can.

15) Pan, round, flat and hex are all types of what?

- a. antenna mounts
- b. screw ups
- c. screw heads
- d. screw drivers

Bonus: What tube is just as likely to be found in a guitar amplifier as in the final amplifier stage of a homebrew CW transmitter?

Answers

- 1) c -- A pair of 6146 tubes provided 100 W or more on all HF bands.
- 2) c -- The [Joint Electron Device Engineering Council](#) is a standards organization for the semiconductor industry.
- 3) a-h, b-g, c-i, d-k, e-f
- 4) d -- black, brown, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet, gray, white
- 5) b -- The UG-175 and -176 center the thinner coaxial cables in the body of the PL-259.
- 6) a
- 7) c -- The leading numbers of receiving-type tubes indicate approximate filament voltage.
- 8) a -- OOP is an acronym meaning "object-oriented programming."
- 9) a -- Many amateurs got their start "pounding brass" on one of these.
- 10) d -- Ah is a measure of energy capacity.
- 11) b -- dBd means "decibels with respect to a dipole."
- 12) b -- a ferrite's mix specifies its magnetic properties.
- 13) a
- 14) c -- Heath manufactured these oil-filled paint-can dummy loads.

By O. E. Brown

July 2009

In the September 2008 Groundwave I wrote about a near encounter in the North Atlantic involving U111, an eastbound convoy, and the Bismark, in an area SW of Iceland where my ship, the SS Maasdam had just passed through, westbound.

That story was read by a UK ham operator who was looking for information about the U111 because a relative of his had been killed in the exchange of gunfire between HM Armed Trawler Lady Shirley and the submarine, south of the Canary Islands on October 4, 1941. The HMAT Lady Shirley sank the sub and took prisoner 45 survivors of her crew. The Lady Shirley had a crew of only 35 men!

On arrival in Gibraltar four days later, the Lady Shirley got a hero's welcome and the Commander was awarded the DSO. On her next voyage the Lady Shirley was lost at sea – cause unknown, as there were no witnesses and no survivors.

For U111 and HMAT Lady Shirley – the end.

15) c

Bonus: The 6L6 -- usually a 6L6GT -- beam power pentode continues its amazing product life producing music and is occasionally heard on the airwaves, too.



EMRG—ARES

EMRG Article #7: OARC Groundwave – Sept 2009

In June I wrote about our ARES district exercise in April and the challenges of organizing an effective and efficient radio communications service in an emergency. Like any organization, there needs to be someone in charge overall, someone running the daily operation, someone planning next steps, someone responsible for the physical assets, and people doing the final work. In a one person organization there is one person responsible for everything. In larger organizations, responsibilities are broken down by department and in still larger organizations departments may be broken out to cover specific areas.

In an emergency, the scale of the operation may be small like a car fire, or very large like a hurricane. The emergency may involve people from one group, or could incorporate people from many groups and agencies, like the forest fires in California. In order to prevent chaos, there must be a system that is recognized by everyone, regardless of where they come from, that can bring a group of people into an effective and efficient organization.

In emergency response such as Ottawa fire department, the system is called Incident Command System (ICS). There is a clear structure established from the first truck on scene, expanding up to a multi department fire and collapsing back to the last truck on scene. This structure has been adopted by emergency management across North America, using the name Incident Management System (IMS). While ICS is used more within a single entity, such as the fire service, IMS is meant to bring together multiple agencies and organizations. Hospitals in Ottawa have all implemented IMS, and the province of Ontario has now made IMS the standard for all emergency management in Ontario.

You may be asking how this applies to amateur radio. The IMS structure applies to any organization and since our clients have implemented it, EMRG is implementing IMS as well. Amateur radio emergency communi-

cations groups need to embrace IMS because it works and we need to be effective and efficient when delivering service to our clients.



There are five key positions in the IMS;

- Incident Commander (the person in charge)
- Operations Section Chief (manages the current activity)
- Planning Section Chief (plans for the future)
- Logistics Section Chief (responsible for supplies and people)
- Finance & Administration (manages money and records)

The benefit of IMS is its flexibility and scalability. In a small incident, all five positions may not be needed, or several may be done by one person. As the incident grows, IMS provides a common, known structure that can expand to include separate people for each of the five key positions, with other people responsible for subtasks, plus command staff to support the incident commander.

For EMRG, the incident commander is replaced by the team leader or the person acting as team leader. EMRG is a communications module that plugs into the client's IMS structure, so there is already an incident commander and there is only one.

During the power outage, EMRG activated with only the team leader and net control. That was all that was required. As we were requested to deploy, shelter stations were activated and another operator was brought in to support the net control. This is an example of a small deployment. In a larger incident, there would be a separate person responsible for operations, someone looking after logistics, planning, liaison with other ARES groups, staging, and a very important role, safety officer.

Next month I will explain the key roles in EMRG IMS structure, what they do and why. The important thing to remember for now is that IMS is a

(Continued on page 8)

**York Region Amateur Radio Club
Hamfest**

(Continued from page 7)
 recognized structure that has been proven. If all groups implement IMS, then integration in an emergency is quite easy. Amateur radio needs to embrace and implement IMS to ensure we can integrate with our clients in an emergency and to demonstrate that we are aware of best practices and the direction of emergency management in North America.

Peter Gamble – VE3BQP
 ve3bqp at rac.ca www.emrg.ca
 EMRG – Team Leader, Ottawa ARES – EC
 Two Names – One Group – One Purpose

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2009
Closest town: Markham, ON
Directions to location: The Hamfest will be held at the Markham Fair Grounds, 10801 McGowan Road, just north of Elgin Mills Road, in Markham, ON. Go to the following site for directions on how to get there:
http://www.markhamfair.ca/how_to_get.asp
Opening times: Gates open at 0630 for Vendors. At 0900 General Admission commences but an indoor waiting area will open at 0800.
Cost: General Admission is \$6.00. Table rental (8 ft tables) is \$30 per table.
Talk-in frequency: VE3YRA 145.350 (-)
Description: For over three decades this has been Canada's largest indoor Amateur Radio Hamfest/Fleamarket, with 200 vendor tables. Refreshments will be available on site. A door prize ticket comes with your admission and grand prize draw tickets will be on sale.
For more info: <http://www.yrarc.com/yrarc/hamfest.shtml>
 Geoffrey Smith VA3GS

Field Day 2009

Below is part of the team for the 2009 ARRL Field Day.

 Photo courtesy Greg Danylchenko, VE3Y TZ.





OTTAWA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
"HAMFEST"
FLEAMARKET & FORUM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

Tailgaters Open and Building Vendor setup: 8 am
Indoor arena fleamarket opens to the public from 10 am to 1 pm

CARP AGRICULTURAL FAIRGROUNDS
3832 Carp Rd, Ottawa (Carp), Ontario

*From Ottawa take Hwy 417 west to Carp Road (exit 144), then 10 km north to the fairgrounds.
We are in the W. Erskine Johnson Arena - follow the signs on the site*

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

For table reservations email us at
fleamarket@oarc.net

for info visit www.oarc.net/fleamarket

Ham Radio/Electronics Equipment
Buy – Sell – Trade, New & Used!

Excellent Door Prize,
very generously supplied by Elkel:



2575 Girard Trois-Rivières Québec Canada G8Z 2M3
Tél. (819) 378-5457 Fax. (819) 378-0269

*** Ham Radio Licence Testing Available On Site – get yours, or upgrade! ***

RAC Forum & Technology Update:

Radio Amateurs of Canada (www.rac.ca) will host this highly informative event from 1 - 4 pm at the arena following the fleamarket.

For further information or flea market table reservations contact:

Ed Sich (VE3WGO)
Tel: (613) 763-3628

E-mail: fleamarket@oarc.net
Web site: www.oarc.net/fleamarket

Talk-in: VE2CRA 146.940 - 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 _____