



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

October 2009

Well, the Hamfest was a great success thanks to the organizer and all the volunteers. The shift in date away from the long weekend did not seem to be a damper on attendance.

Sadly, we announce the passing in August of Ken Willing, VE3CV, a long time OARC member.

A reminder the membership renewal dues are now due for the 2009-10 year. Use the form at the end of this newsletter to renew.

Our speaker for the October meeting will be Bob Baillargeon, VE3MPG, a past president of the OARC. Bob will relate his experiences as a hearing impaired amateur. The title of his presentation is: "Cochlear Implant Technology - How It Can Help".

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

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor



**October Meeting 7:30 pm, Wednesday, October 14th
in the Colonel By 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 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.



September Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the president at 19:30. There were four guests: Ross, Sandy (VE3HAZ), Rolly, Chris, and Don.

It was announced the Ken Willing, VE3CV, had become a silent key in August. George Roach related some of his memories of Ken who had been an OARC member since the 1950s'.

The upcoming Joe Norton Award dates were announced [see elsewhere in this issue]. The OVMRC amateur radio licensing course was announced as well [also see elsewhere in this issue].

The 100th anniversary of the founding of the Girl Guides is next year. On May 15 on Parliament Hill there will be a "Guides on the Air" event to commemorate the anniversary.

Over the summer the OARC was donated a WWII vintage AR88LF radio receiver by Wayne Gorman of Barhaven. After much consideration it was decided to donate the radio to the Diefenbunker museum to add to its collection.

A vintage Rogers short wave radio was sent to a silent auction at the Hamfest where it netted \$25.

Several ideas for club projects for the year were discussed. These included: an SWR power meter using a PICaxe processor and an Elecraft kit, a 70 cm Yagi design, and others.

Possible tours for the fall were also discussed: CHU transmitter, CFRA transmitter, etc

The evening's speaker was Charles Richer, the chief technical officer of Ions in Motion, a startup in battery management systems who spoke on the subject of "Batteries in Remote Locations". The principle idea was to monitor the state of the battery system and draw energy from it in a manner to maximize lifetime of the system. For example, the effect of a failing cell in a battery can be minimized by reducing the discharge so that the cell is not further damaged.

The 50/50 of \$21.50 was won by Brian Rawlings, VE3QN. The meeting adjourned at 21:30.

Dates to Remember

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



Some of the volunteers for Hamfest. Photos © Greg Danylchenko, used with permission.



mk's Words

Well, wasn't THAT a party. Of course I mean the OARC Hamfest. Although, for someone who spent ten hours there (4 Friday, 6 Saturday), I didn't see very much of it. I am looking forward to Ed's report on how the numbers worked out, although I don't think the stats show what the total amount of fun was. It certainly looked like the change of date didn't hurt us, but I understand there was one commercial vendor who couldn't be in two places at once.

While helping the vendors to their tables, I found I had to keep my eyes on the floor, lest I be pulled to the side by the irresistible tug of the deal of the year. Although I have no objection to vendors dealing among themselves (they pay for the privilege after all), I prefer to duke it out with everyone who comes through the front door when looking for a deal myself. After all, there's lots to go around.

After trying to help out on the vendor entrance up to Start Time, it was time to go into exam mode. It seems last year's interest in writing exams at the Hamfest wasn't just a fluke. Another six candidates showed up to write their Basic ticket. One of them also wanted a morse test, just because he could. The candidates varied from "I don't know if I am quite ready yet" (who exceeded 90%), to "I haven't a clue, but just want to try it (who now knows what he needs to study). They didn't all pass, but they all got what they came for.

>From time to time I got to look out the little window behind the OARC table and saw what looked like a record number of happy hams milling around a record number of tables. It made me wish I was out there with you, although I don't really have the space for more of the tempting offers on hand. Then again, do any of us? If you have any comments or suggestions about how to make it better for next year, let us know. It hasn't stayed the same two years in a row, so we are OK with changing things if it makes a better Hamfest for you.

The September meeting seemed a bit over full, since we had a lot to talk about in addition to the main topic. By

the way, it seemed there were a lot of good questions on a lot of related topics around the general theme of batteries in general, over and above the specific topic of our speaker. Maybe this points out a need for more coverage of the overall topic in later meetings. What do you think?

Having heard in a general way about the topics for major and minor projects coming up, be ready to commit to one (or more (or none)) by the October meeting. If you have an idea AND ARE WILLING TO SPEARHEAD IT, I think there is still time to propose a project. Bring your calendar and wallet, and let's try to get the projects started a bit earlier this year.

A special hello to those of you who are reading your first Groundwave. You will find back issues on the website. Don't worry, my column is usually as scattered as this one is. You'll get used to it soon enough.

My September column on surplus places generated the following correspondence from Bill Henderson.

Hello Mike;

Read your piece on old surplus places in the Ottawa area in September Groundwave with interest.

Yes, I recall those you mentioned - Kris Electronics, Capital City Surplus (I lived about a block from their Preston St. location) and ADD (started with the name Addison but I understand the name was changed due to there being Addison in the Montreal area).

I remember (vaguely in some cases) Century 21 in the Britannia (?) Plaza. I was impressed by their glass vacuum capacitors first time I visited. Bought a marine xcvr with the idea of converting it but it ended up as parts.

Then there was Anchor Enterprises on Besserer St. in the same building as Bou Claire fabrics (a municipal parking garage building) at the back of Ogilvy's. Bought quite a lot there including Turner Plus Two desk mic (one of my brothers



has it and says he is still using it on CB). This was a "regular haunt" of mine particularly Saturday mornings. One particular employee went on to a career in retail managing various Radio Shack stores. Haven't spoken with him in a few years now, but I understand he eventually left Radio Shack.

In Chrysler, Ont. there was Gord MacIntosh (sp?) TV - near the church and just over the bridge (kinda vague here as well). He was a ham, but I don't remember his call. There was a barn (?) with assorted goodies and I bought a Motorola HT in as-is condition with the intent of converting it to 2 M use. As with many projects, I had more plans, dreams (and sometimes money) than time. It, as with many other items collected over the years, was part of a "collection" dispersed when I divorced and moved away from Ottawa for a while.

There was also O.N.S. (Ottawa Neighbourhood Services - Wellington St. past Somerset St. Bridge at the bend by Kardish Deli - Garland and Wellington?) and a few other thrift stores that, although not specifically electronics surplus, often yielded treasures to reward your patient search. Various books and technical publications could be rescued at a reasonable price. Tubes, knobs, older radios, televisions, phonographs, the odd piece of ancient medical equipment (diathermy machines and other) - all these and much more were common offerings. Many actually worked (to some extent)!! Some items you asked one of the store staff about and they would have someone do a brief search. I recall AA5 radios (in their 4th floor shop) stacked several feet high in a pile about ten by twenty feet!!! A friend once purchased 100 of these - as is, no choice as to type - for \$100. This was early to mid '70's era.

My own finds included (over the years) several ham related publications - among them mags like 73 and QST, reference and instruction books (ARRL stuff including Handbooks from various years) - still have many of these, a TenTec transceiver (Powermite? PM-1?), an RCA 4 channel ship to shore radio (ETM-50R?) - weighed more pounds than watts, a 4-1000A (sold it recently on E-Bay), a few Zenith Trans Oceanics, a Hallicrafters S-120A, assorted pieces of test equipment

and hundreds of small items/parts too numerous to mention (still have many of these, too).

I still hunt surplus items when I get a chance, but the local pickings seem sparse these last few years. Everything is computer hardware oriented now. It's usually just a matter of chatting up the fellows in the service section of a shop to uncover hidden gems.

I almost forgot to mention Radio Clinic (Jack G.?) corner Bank and Catherine Sts. I think there was a restaurant there prior to the appearance of Radio Clinic. Although not strictly a surplus shop, I would drool over some of the stuff in the window. NC183D, DX60B (or was it DX100?)... too rich for my pocketbook! It was tough to get "a deal" there!! I still have a few sockets for FT243 xtals that originated from one of the few purchase sessions there.

Very first ONS find was a 1923 book by Victor H. Laughter for twenty five cents (a LOT for a 13 yr. old!!). Still have it. A Vibroplex Blue Racer followed me home once - could never figure out how to use the durned thing ! That's OK, though - never completely learned the code anyway. It was passed on in a trading session a few weeks later.

Got any new (to me) leads?

73 de va3hwa - Bill H.

Hi Bill;

Thanks for the note. I also used to haunt ONS on Wellington, but you must have got there first every time, as you seem to have found much better stuff than I did. I now tour the Salvation Army at City Centre and on Carling, St. Vincent de Paul on Wellington near Holland, and Value Village on Baseline at Clyde. All of them together are thinner pickings than ONS was on a bad week, but that's what they call progress. I have had good luck finding ham related books (The Complete DXer, Antenna Handbook) at local school book sales. I guess there are always a few people cleaning out "dads" collection from the old house.

73 mk VE3FFK

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, 2007 to June 1, 2009.
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 6, 2009. 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 20, 2009.
9. The winner will inform the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. of his or her acceptance of the award no later than November 28, 2009.
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 6, 2009.

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.



EMRG—ARES

EMRG Article #8: OARC Groundwave – Oct 2009

I was planning to explain the IMS (Incident Management System) positions that EMRG uses for an emergency deployment, but I decided this would be a good time to write about Pandemic planning and how this relates to EMRG.

In case you hadn't heard, they are predicting a more severe flu season than normal this year due to H1N1, "Swine Flu". The World Health Organization, Federal, Provincial and Municipal Governments have all been working on their Pandemic Plans since the SARS outbreak to make sure they have common and consistent strategies to identify and deal with something like H1N1.

So far, the best strategy to protect yourself and others is to follow these simple steps;

Keep Healthy – Eat right, exercise, get plenty of rest and reduce stress.

Wash Your Hands Often – Washing your hands helps protect you from getting the flu and helps keep you from passing it on to others. (Use a hand sanitizer if you can't wash your hands).

Cough or Sneeze Into Your Sleeve – Coughing and sneezing into your sleeve reduces the chance of you spreading the virus to others through the air and by not using your hand to cover your mouth, you do not pass on the virus when you shake hands or touch objects such as doors, keyboards, etc.

For more information on H1N1, see the EMRG Pandemic web page for links; www.emrg.ca/pandemic.htm

As a volunteer organization that may provide assistance during a pandemic, EMRG must also have a pandemic plan. It does not need to be long or complicated, but there are some things that must be addressed. As a

group, we need to ensure that people who volunteer are not putting themselves at risk and that volunteers are not a risk to the public when deploying.



Since EMRG is not an expert on Pandemics and we do not have the time or skills to become an expert, we turn to our clients for guidance. The three client groups are the City of Ottawa, Ottawa Red Cross and the Hospitals in Ottawa. Each of these has expertise and a pandemic plan, so the EMRG Pandemic plan identifies these clients as our experts and in an emergency EMRG will follow their plan.

There are still some areas that EMRG must address in its' own Pandemic Plan. For example;

Signs will be added to our communications room at OFS Dispatch and for shelter kits, showing proper hand washing, using sanitizer and signs of H1N1.

The Communications Room and shelter kits will be stocked with hand sanitizer.

The plan states that if you show signs of the flu such as H1N1, you must not volunteer. Follow public health guidelines and stay home.

EMRG will not provide masks for volunteers. The only time masks will be provided, is if a client recommends or requests volunteers to wear them, and if this happens, volunteers have the right to refuse to work in that environment. If masks are requested, the client will provide the masks, and the training for how to properly wear, remove and store the mask, as well as proper fit testing for the mask. To be effective, masks must fit properly. Improper use of masks can actually increase your risk of getting sick.

Setting expectations is important so Amateurs understand what EMRG might be doing during a pandemic. EMRG would provide

(Continued on page 8)



OVMRC Amateur Radio Course

(Continued from page 7)

the same type of communications for a pandemic as we would for a tornado. Locations may change, types of information might change, but we are still providing support for humanitarian relief. There are a few over imaginative Amateurs who believe that all communications might fail during a Pandemic and Amateur Radio will be the only remaining means of communications, which is not a realistic scenario for many reasons.

Even though EMRG is a very small volunteer organization, we have a responsibility to show due diligence in addressing risks. Failure to show due diligence, turns into liability if anything goes wrong. This is just one more aspect of running an effective volunteer radio communications group that has nothing to do with using the radio.

For more information, there are links on the EMRG Pandemic web page; www.emrg.ca/pandemic.htm, or go to the Ottawa Public Health web page; http://www.ottawa.ca/residents/health/conditions/swine_influenza/index_en.html

Peter Gamble – VE3BQP (ve3bqp at rac.ca)
www.emrg.ca

EMRG – Team Leader, Ottawa ARES – EC
Two Names – One Group – One Purpose

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club offers an amateur radio course each year for those wishing to acquire a government qualification to operate an amateur radio station.

Objectives

The course will enable students to pass the theory examinations for radio amateurs as prescribed by Industry Canada. Some students may also be able to pass the Advanced level qualification. The objective of the course is to teach a basic understanding of the principles of radio communication as a basis for further individual study of the science. Those wishing to learn the Morse code may do so during three week-ends of intensive instruction (and additional daily personal practice).

Course length

The course length is 20 weeks, one evening per week, including the Industry Canada examination, Tuesday evenings, 19:00 to 22:00 at the Canada Museum of Science and Technology, 1867 St. Laurent Blvd. Ottawa. (The course may have already started.)

Course content

The course provides instruction on electrical and radio theory, radio regulations, and practical sessions.

Course Fees

The instructors give their time without remuneration. **The course fee is \$300**, which covers the cost of the manual and other printed material handed out.

For **further information** contact:

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, ve3ejj@rac.ca

Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, ve3suy@gmail.com



FREE

Radio amateur is down-sizing, moving from an extended bungalow to a condo. In addition to the free items there are some for sale as well.

Free:

Pro-Am Mobile whip Antenna (for 80M band) PHF 76 (with mounting spring and capacitor to resonate the antenna for 50 ohm input impedance). Note: Purchased for evaluation testing, gain is 7dB down compared with Larry Parker, VE3EDY's tunable-all-band-antenna (so-called screw driver antenna)

UHF Tripler, 144 MHz input 430 MHz output, for back yard antenna modeling (constructed by Bud Punchard)

Delhi Uniform cross-section 50 foot tower (no guys, attached to the eaves of the house). It will have to be painted. Free to whoever (with help) will take it down.

34 foot Military Whip antenna (steel with nylon jacket, telescopic)

2M J-Pole antennas, fabricated by VE2CV for test purposes): a) 3/8 inch aluminum rod, with coaxial balun; b) as in a) but telescopic element; c) Larsen Half Wave.

Home Constructed Baluns: a) Ferrite Bead over Coax (50 ohms to 200 ohms balanced); b) 50 ohms to 12.5 ohms balanced; both enclosed in a PVC tube; c) a 4:1 balun not enclosed user can connect as user wishes.

Silver plated tunable inductors (RCAF WW II Design)

QST Magazines 1980-2007 (I propose to keep 2008 and 2009).

Proceedings of the IRE 1932-1957

Jack Belrose, VE2CV, VY9CRC, 819-776-4457

NE Director's Report

The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on August 25 starting at 2330Z.

I would also like to welcome aboard, Steve Mayne, VE3LWX who has volunteered to be an Assistant Director for the Ottawa area. Steve lives in Smiths Falls and is a great addition to the Eastern Area.

Still the big question at this point is what will happen with Bill C118. It is scheduled to come before the Legislature in October. We are asking all Amateurs to contact the groups that we do public service for or if you have an agreement with police, fire, ambulance or first responders in your area it would be very helpful for them to send a letter to James Bradley, Minister of Transportation. If they could suggest that Amateur participation facilitated in the successful outcome of the event it would show that we are an important part of the volunteer community. If you need any ideas email me.

For the most current information go to VP of Public Relations, Peter West's VE3HG web site. The link is: <http://ve3hg.wordpress.com/>

Also remember that on September 12 the 13th Annual Ottawa Hamfest, RAC Forum and Technology Update is taking place at the Carp Agricultural Fair Grounds. Steve may be there and as well former President Dave, VE3AAQ will be giving a talk.

Jim, VE2VE who is RAC's web guy has made some changes to the web page, including a member's only section. It is still under construction, but for now you can go and modify your personal data. Watch for further improvements soon

I also have brochures for hand out that I can send to anyone who is interested. If you prefer an electronic copy I can send one as well.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

73, Bill VE3XT, NE Ontario Regional Director

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 _____