



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

November 2010

The results of the Trivia Night questionnaire are included in the newsletter.

Remember the tour of the CHU facility (NRC's timekeeping radio station) is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2 at 19:00. The address is 709 Greenbank Road (east side). The time is tentative. Confirm with Dave Green if your name is not already on the list.

The club is again operating in the RAC Winter Contest from the Diefenbunker. Contact Dave Green if you are interested in operating.

Our November speaker will be Ray Perrin, VE3FN. His presentation is entitled "Amateur Microwave Communications" and he will place an emphasis on narrow-band modes, SSB and CW, on 10 GHz and 24 GHz.

See you at the meeting.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ
Editor



**Next Meeting 7:30 pm, Wednesday, November 10th
in the Colonel By Room at Ottawa City Hall**

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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 **VE3MPC 147.150(+)**. 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.



October Minutes

Vistors: Nick VA3LVE, A new HAM, on his first visit to the club.

Announcements: VE3GPR SK Bill Cousins. Dave Green has all the detailed information and we should be able get the write-up from him.

Membership: Renewals are new Due! Please contact Al MacPhee, VE3ZTU.

Coming and Goings: Joe Norton Award: New amateurs Details on the club website - <http://oarc.net/norton.html> For new amateurs during the 1 June 2008 - 1 June 2010 period. Submit a 600-900 word essay on ham radio. Entries must be received on or before 17:00 local on November 5th, 2010

Field Trip: CHU Transmitter site Visit; an evening tour Tuesday November 2nd 2010 @ 7PM 709 Greenbank Road. Contact Dave, VE3TLY@RAC.CA for further information.

Canada Winter Contest: We are VA3RAC from the Diefenbunker - 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC December 18, 2010. Shifts at the "CWM" to be determined. If you are interested in joining the team operating the station, contact Dave, VE3TLY

Please check the updated VE3RC listing at <http://QRZ.COM> - graciously managed by Greg, VE3Y TZ.

HamFest: Ed gave the recounting of the Hamfest with the details on the very professional PPT he displayed. Briefly, good Hamfest, stable numbers, and a good time had by all. A very big round of applause for Ed Sich, VE3WGO.

Portable Station Demo: At Elgin and Gladstone in the park. 6 Stations, Dave Conn brought his huge portable dipole, Bob VA3QV brought his very nice 817 portable station, Brian VA3QN with his NU3PSK, vA3AE a KX1 station, and Mike VE3FFK portable CW delivered with the bike.

Upcoming Event Christmas Trivia night: The executive was wondering about plans for the Christmas trivia night. Greg handed out a questionnaire to the attendees in order to determine what the club members think about the annual event, and solicit suggestions to im-

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Dates to Remember

2010

- Sep. 11 Hamfest
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 5 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 18 RAC Winter Contest

2011

- Feb. 12, 13 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 13 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 8 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 25, 26 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest

Four New DXCC Entities

The dissolution of the Netherlands Antilles has caused changes to the DXCC List. As per the DXCC rules, the two Netherlands Antilles DXCC entities will be deleted and moved to the Deleted Entities List.

Four new entities will be added to the DXCC List: (1) Curacao; (2) Sint Maarten; (3) Saba and St Eustatius, and (4) Bonaire. The event date and time for these changes was 0400 UTC, October 10, 2010. Confirmations for these new entities will be accepted for credit starting January 1, 2011.

Joe Norton Award

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club annually awards the Joe Norton Trust Award for the advancement of amateur radio. The award is given to an amateur who has received a Certificate of Proficiency in radio from Industry Canada during the period June 1, 2008 to June 1, 2010.

Applications are due by November 5, 2010.

The award consists of a wall plaque and \$500 cash.

For details see <http://www.oarc.net/norton.html>.



mk's Words

Some of the new hams in town are putting up antennas, HF and VHF for the first time. Maybe this means a little more activity over the coming winter. Between roof work and the power company finally trimming trees around their lines, I may not have much of anything in the sky below 2m this winter. Not that a loss of antennas will mean much of a change, since the HF wires seem to spend more time inhaling baseball games than exhaling CQs. More and more of my hamming time seems to be spent on the off-air parts of the game. Even at "peak" activity, I don't exactly fill the log books, but sometimes I wonder if my fingers will forget how to spell my callsign. Maybe it's just time to work on that compact loop I have been promising myself. I have the first part finished. Around a month ago I found a place that was selling hula hoops for three bucks. I figure that if I go twice around with a piece of wire (or tubing or something), that will put the capacitor at the same part of the loop as the feed point. So all I need is a few capacitors, some tubing (maybe braid off of some coax) and a little more ambition. That's the hard part. That's ALWAYS the hard part.

Off the air hamming these days consists of trying to keep track of the silent keys, both for TCA and to try to stop the Industry Canada database from becoming worse than it already is. Since Industry Canada only accepts a newspaper obituary or death certificate, it is hard to get them to remove a call from the database if they guy died years ago, before obits went on-line. If I ever get ahead of the game maybe I'll start asking for volunteers in each city to go through the archives at local libraries. It's still tough sledding if you only know that old Bill died "about three years ago". In addition to the SK list, there's those old Groundwaves. I have been slowing down recently. Now they get scanned in at a rate of one year's issues every two weeks. I am through 1982 as of this week. It is getting to be more of a chore than a fun job, but if I can just get through the '80s I will be able to look forward to the years when they were compiled as electronic files. Once the job reaches that stage it will be more of a treasure hunt to find the files and convert them from electric pencil or

Wordstar into PDFs. Maybe it will be easier just to scan them... sigh.

Coming up in the next month or so are:

- EMRG / Ottawa ARES meeting at City Hall on Saturday Nov. 6
- Field trip to CHU Nov 2.
- Tall pines car rally Nov. 20 (or 18,19,20,21 for some of us)
- Collegetville Nov. 24,25 (in French, last one until April)
- Something about the OARC project, sometime in there...

Somehow, none of these are typical "get on the air and yak" opportunities, and that's probably why the logbook has cobwebs on it.

73 keep hammerin'

Mk, VE3FFK

EMRG General Meeting

The next Emergency Measures Radio Group meeting has been postponed a week to November 6th at 9am. We are meeting at Ottawa City Hall in the Festival Plaza meeting room. We will be getting the City's "Are You Ready?" training and having a tour of the Emergency Operations Centre. An exercise for later in November will also be announced. www.emrg.ca

Richard Hagemeyer, VE3UNW

Bill Cousins, SK

I am sorry to report the passing of Bill Cousins, VE3GPR. As there was no newspaper death notice it is up to us communicators to communicate the facts. Bill was a Korean War signaller and was active with Canadian Guide Dogs for the Blind. He had also been a RAC Official Bulletin Station. Bill had many friends in the city who will miss him.

73

Doug Leach, VE3XX



Radio Communications at the Penticton Ironman Triathlon

Being in the Okanagan valley at the end of August I visited the local ham club, NORAC (North Okanagan Radio Amateur Club), of which I am a member, for Saturday morning breakfast. One thing led to another and before I knew it I had volunteered for radio duty at the Ironman Triathlon in Penticton on Sunday, August 29, the day before I was to return to Ottawa. I thought it would be a fun thing to try on a Sunday in August to compare with a winter weekend in February (Canadian Ski Marathon).

First off, it would appear that most of the race course has cell phone coverage. I was stationed on the run course and it had coverage. Parts of the bike course may not have had coverage. I was scheduled for a four-hour shift from 12:30 to 16:30 at checkpoint Run6A, 6 being the 6th run course checkpoint and A being the first shift at this checkpoint. A fellow club member in Vernon, Blake Tweddle, VE7DO, gave me a ride down to Penticton in the morning. He was stationed at Run 5A.

The triathlon started at 07:00 (06:45 for the professionals) with the swim, followed by the bike section, and finishing up with the run. The bike section had 11 checkpoints on a circular loop and the run section had 11 checkpoints on an out and back course. Runners were not allowed to start the run after 17:30 and the run course closed at 24:00.

Contestants have "chips" which I forget to get info on but I believe were RFID tags or similar.

The run course was along a road beside Skaha Lake so there was no problem getting to the checkpoint. The road was not closed to traffic even though runners were going both directions.

The weather was cool for that area at that time of year which contributed to the lower than normal first aid calls. There were no emergencies at my checkpoint during my shift and only one dehydration issue at checkpoint Run5.

The radio communications are in place primarily for safety issues, as in the CSM. However, unlike the CSM, it appears that almost no other information is regularly passed. It was usually unknown where the lead male and female runners were despite them being led by official race vehicles. I found this a bit strange. There were two types of printed message forms - one for safety type issues and one for everything else. In case of an issue, the checkpoint captain would fill out and sign the form which contained maybe eight blanks to fill in with patient symptoms. Once this was radioed in to the comm center they would pass it on to the safety people who would determine the appropriate response.

I arrived on site at about 11:30. Unlike the CSM, radio is not the first on site so it is easier to determine exactly where the checkpoint is located. I introduced myself to Richard, the checkpoint captain and started setting up. By 12:00 I was up and running and checked in with the comm center.

The lead runner came by at 13:00 and after that things started to pick up and by about 14:00 there was a continuous stream of runners. About 14:40 the lead runner was returning and then there was two way runner traffic with two way road traffic as well. It did not appear that there was anyone controlling traffic, which was a little surprising, but people may be more laid back in BC.

It turned out that no one had been scheduled to replace me at the end of my shift (they were short of volunteers). As I had to depend on Blake for a ride back to Vernon (two hours) I could not stay past 17:00. I informed the checkpoint captain of the situation and made sure he had the telephone number to call in case of emergency.

The checkpoint volunteers who passed out food and drink, numbered 35 at one point including at least six kids under ten years of age.

Surprisingly, there were no first aid people stationed at checkpoints. They were on motorized bikes or bicycles and could move around fairly quickly (not like on a cross country ski path) so I

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Director's Report

On Monday morning, the usual guests did the usual speeches to officially open the XVII IARU Region 2 Triennial Conference. The country Superintendent of Communications surprised everyone at the end of his speech by announcing that El Salvador had decided to sign the IARP agreement Amendment. This very significant news means that shortly the IARP and the CEPT International Amateur licences will be harmonized and become one. This is the first concrete step towards a worldwide international roaming permit that has long been wished for by the IARU as well as in the Amateur community.

Special thanks to the Club Radioaficionados de El Salvador (CRAS) for their fruitful efforts.

Daniel Lamoureux, Vice President International Affairs
Radio Amateurs of Canada

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guess they could spread them more thinly. Ambulances on call as well. However, the most surprising thing was the triathlon participants. They were all ages (teenagers to seniors) and all sizes (short and slender to big and heavy). Some of them would have been on the go for up to 17 hours!

The triathlon organizers make a cash donation of about \$100 to NORAC for their participation in the event. I had a good time and look forward to doing it again next year if I'm in the area.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ

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prove the event.

Club Project: 1) Fun with Radio Components. LC Meter Kit PIC Based with LCD display. Once built in the first two session, the following weeks would be taken up measuring common components and finally building a high-pass filter for < 1.8 MHz

<http://ve3kl.com/Presentations/Project%20Proposal.ppt>

2) Wayne Getchell proposes a Battery Monitor Project which he designed. Lovely kit, possibly the best bat-

tery monitor on the market. Well, it isn't on the market, but it would be the best if he felt like putting it on the market. His Powerpoint should be available on the OARC Website soon.

11 showed hands for the David's project.

18 showed hands for Wayne's project.

Haves and Wants: Bob Montreuil has a lot of really high current servo equipment, suitable for CNC machines, which he wishes to divest soon.

robertm@stuff.ca

Barry Crampton gave his reports of the flights of the Lanark Space Agency. Excellent talk, and very nice photography, both of the participants, and near space from the payload camera.....

<http://www.szijarto.ca/>

The meeting officially ended and the members began consuming coffee and cookies at 9:15. The 50/50 draw in the amount of \$25, was won by Al, VE3ZTU.

RAC Bulletin

The Board and Executive of the Radio Amateurs of Canada are meeting at the end of October to develop a vision for RAC in the 21st Century. In addition we will be establishing a two year operational plan for 2011 and 2012.

We are asking current, past and future potential mem-

bers of Radio Amateurs of Canada, amateur radio clubs and associations to provide your thoughts and recommendations on a set of questions found on which will be found on our website. We would appreciate receiving your response by October 20th.

Please visit the RAC website at [http://](http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/strategic-future/survey/)

www.rac.ca/en/rac/strategic-future/survey/ to provide your input.

Geoff Bawden VE4BAW – Président, RAC



FLEA MARKET & BREAKFAST
13 November 2010

Breakfast Buffet at Garrison Golf & Curling Club
Cost: \$5.50
Time: 0730 - 0900

Flea Market at the Military Communications & Electronics Museum
0830-1130 (set-up starts at 0700)

Tables are \$10 each and must be reserved by contacting Terry,
va3trm (at symbol) cogeco.ca

General admission is by donation to the Museum.

If you plan on attending breakfast, let Terry know # by Nov. 8th

Talk-in on 146.94 (tones 151.4)

The Museum is located on Hwy 2,
about 1 km East of Hwy 15 – opposite
Vimy Barracks entrance



Everyone is encouraged to join us for
breakfast. The Golf Club is located in
McNaughton Barracks (Hwy 2) – enter
opposite McDonalds, right turn at the
stop sign, left turn at 2nd street.

This event is co-sponsored by the Museum and KARC

The Museum Kit Shop will be open and you can tour the Museum

Bring your surplus gear and swap not only some gear, but maybe a few stories and tall tales of
great adventures and far-off DX contacts! Door Prizes, 50/50 Draw. Proceeds from the Draw
and table rental benefit KARC.

Visit our website at:

<http://www.ve3kbr.com/>

KARC meetings held the first
Wednesday of each month -
1900 hrs - at Smitty's
Restaurant, 2376 Princess St.
Dinner (optional) at 1730 hrs.

Weekly Saturday morning
breakfast 0700 - 0900 at Smitty's
Restaurant



Kingston Amateur Radio Club, Inc. - serving our communities

2010-2011 Membership Application/Renewal
Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J2

- Single \$25 (\$20 after Feb 1, 2011)
- 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, 2010 to August 31, 2011.

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.

Do you want an OARC **NAME TAG**? Yes Second or Replacement Yes

ORDER DETAILS - As to appear on badge:

First Name _____ Call Sign _____



Christmas Trivia Night Questionnaire

Part A – Everyone please answer the question in Part A

Do you wish to continue the tradition of an Amateur Radio Trivia Night which is normally held at the December OARC Meeting?	
Yes (25)	No (5)

Part B – Please only complete this part if you would like the tradition of Trivia Night to continue

1. Are you satisfied with the current format of Trivia Night? - i.e. formation of teams, small prizes for answering questions correctly, use of noise makers, and with an informal approach, including prizes for 1 st , 2 nd , and 3 rd place teams and best noise maker?	
Yes (20)	No (5)

2. Would you prefer individual or team efforts?	
Individual effort (6)	Team effort (19)

3. Do you like the current use of noise makers?	
Yes (16)	No (8)

4. Would you prefer to see many small prizes, one large prize, or no prizes?		
many small prizes (22)	one large prize (2)	no prizes (2)

5. Should we keep or drop handing out candies/treats to participants?	
drop candies/treats (7)	keep candies/treats (19)

6. Should Tim Horton Gift Certificates continue to be used as rewards for answering a question correctly?	
keep the Gift Certificates (17)	drop the Gift Certificates (9)

7. Do you generally find the Trivia Questions:		
too hard (2)	too easy (1)	about right (20)

8. Would you prefer to see Trivia Night take a more serious structured approach?	
Yes (6)	No (17)



9(a). The December meeting with Trivia Night is usually one of the lowest attended meetings of the year. Do you generally attend the December meeting?	
Yes (22)	No (3)
9(b) If you generally do not attend the December meeting, is it due to lack of interest in participating in Trivia Night?	
Yes (1)	No (1)

10. Do you have any comments or suggestions regarding Trivia Night?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Likes chocolates• Circus-like atmosphere• Rules ambiguous• Have Trivia Night every second year• Good idea, keep it going• Have other seasonal activities• Promotes socialization in the club• Likes the idea, but a regular meeting would be welcomed, followed by a pub visit• Wants Canadian radio history trivia

Conclusions:

- Want Trivia Night to continue
- Satisfied with current format
- Team effort
- Continue noisemakers
- Many small prizes
- Keep candies/treats
- Keep Horton Gift Certificates
- Questions are the right level of difficulty
- No need for more structure
- Yes, attend December Meeting

32 Questionnaires completed in total, not all questions were answered by all people, and therefore the numbers do not add up to 32