



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

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From the Editor:

May 2012

There are lots of community events coming up that need amateur radio communication volunteers. Check the listing on page 6.

Now that spring is here it's time to think about antennas. The guest speaker for May is Doug Leach, VE3XK. His topic is "Ground-Mounted Verticals- Dispelling Radial Misconceptions and Looking at the New 43ft Multiband Verticals".

See you at the meeting—Colonel By Room.

Ian Jeffrey, VE3IGJ, Editor



Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

**Next Meeting 7:30 pm, Wednesday, May 9th
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. 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
 Currently off the air and looking for a new home.

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.



April Minutes

Meeting Opens

- 2012-04-10 19:35 EST

Guests

- Jose VA3PCJ
- Fletcher Thompson
- Tracy Cadorette VA3TXN

Current Events

RF Components Project

- 5 session, we designed and made a bandpass filter, two lowpass filters, and a transformers, and an SWR meter
- everything went well and as planned

Big Wheel Project

- 8 folks from the club signed up, all the kits were made up with the help of VE3NJK
- all the kits were distributed

Magloop Project

- 10 people signed up for the project, we have another shipment of parts coming in this week, and we're setting up the next build session tonight

Ottawa Antenna Policy

- Glenn gave a talk on the result of the policy debate in Ottawa
- the whole process led us to believe that we would like to have someone at Field Day who can meet visitors, explain what ham radio is about

Upcoming Events

CN Cycle

- May 6th, 8am to 1pm
- we're still looking for a couple more people, so contact va3unk@rac.ca

Smith Falls, May 12th

Ontario QSO Party— April 21st and 22nd

QCWA Spring Contest: - This Saturday: want to see some more activity on the 144 and 220MHz bands

Dates to Remember

2012

- Feb. 11, 12 Canada Ski Marathon
- Apr. 11 Homebrew Night
- Jun. 13 OARC AGM and Elections
- Jun. 23, 24 Field Day
- Jul. 1 RAC Canada Day Contest
- Sep. 8 Hamfest
- Sep. 30 Membership Renewal Deadline
- Nov. 1 Joe Norton Award Subm. Due
- Dec. 29 RAC Winter Contest

Lanark Highlands Forest Rally: - May 5th: They are really looking for radio operators - runs all day - a mobile rig is ideal, but we need people more than equipment - contact Mike VE3FFK

OARC Hamfest - September 8th

General Meeting— Homebrew Night

- people show off what they've built during the last year

Mike VE3FFK

- a multiloop magloop antenna from old ethernet coax cable and a hula hoop
- the antenna hears really well, but doesn't get out very well
- Made a contact with it to VE3BNO.

Bob VA3QV

- W3EDP Antenna (off center fed dipole, a 4:1 bal-un)
- now bend the one end around and make it parallel, now it's an endfed antenna that works like a dipole
- very versatile, can be strung horizontal, as a sloper, an inverted L, or even a vertical
- need a matching circuit
- has worked contacts on 10m to 160m. Has run it between 5 to 100W.

Peter VA3PJ

(Continued on page 4)



mk's Word

I think last meeting's homebrew night clinched CZO's position as the heir to the VE3NPC Homebrew Night legend. Congratulations of another exquisite piece of work. Thanks to those of you who voted for my multi turn mini loop at the people's choice awards, although I think DB had the best toy in that category. By the way, just how DID PJ put a hole lengthwise down what looked like a piece of 14 gauge wire for that microwave feed? Good fun all around, and yet more proof that homebrew is NOT dead in the era of surface mount and micro thingies threatening to go nano.

Speaking of homebrew, I recently bought an "e-book" on line, a 426 page pdf tome called "From Crystal Sets to Sideband" by Frank Harris, K0IYE. It came from lulu.com, the same place that published VA3ZBB Rod Newkirk's book (another good read). The author starts off talking about what got him into ham radio in the first place, goes on to describe the history of radio and finally gets into the meat of the thing. He wants more hams to homebrew something more challenging than a dipole cut from a formula or graph. To this end he starts describing the theory and practices necessary to get into the game, from what is electricity to what should be on your workbench. It can be read as an interesting story, or as a how-to guide to, as the title suggests, build equipment ranging from crystal radio receivers to SSB transceivers. Some may find it a little chatty, with as many digressions as an on air QSO, but either way it is worth a look. While you're at it, drop "amateur radio" into the search box on the lulu.com site and see what else you find there. Does any one know of other little publishers putting out interesting amateur radio books?

Still on the topic of building, a few of us had another development session on the mag loop project. VA3AE brought in the Lexan tubing we will use to house the capacitors (which have now arrived). We tossed around a few ways of turning the cap, and have pretty much decided on an analog gear head motor with a drive belt coupling it to the capacitor. The hunt is now on for a

suitably priced (cheep) motor, and a few other bits, such as a box to put the DC block in. One big mechanical problem was to connect the loop to the capacitor without transferring any of the mechanical stress to the glass envelope of the cap. That is pretty much sorted out. We are also looking at putting the motor drive wiring down the middle of the antenna loop, rather than dropping it vertically down the mast, although this may change. In short, things are well on track. I wouldn't be surprised to see a few of these things at field day.

Between now and then, there are a few public service events, and of course, more contests on the air than even a die hard fan can work. I've probably used up too much space already, so I'll let you look up the contests, but remember the Lanark Highlands Rally on Sat May 5, the CN Cycle on Sun May 6, and the Rideau Lakes Bicycle Tour on June 9 and 10. See you out there.

73 mk VE3FFK

(Continued from page 3)

- a 5.7GHz Feed Horn, adapted from the RSGB Microwave Handbook
- a ferrite choke assembly

Ian VE3IGJ

- experimentation in time measurement (sundial)

VE3CZO

- needed a sequencer for his tranverter
- surveyed the available projects online, and found a number that had features that he liked
- but couldn't find one with all the features he wanted and so designed his own sequencer

VA3DB

- a superhet receiver, made from junkbox components, using a Manhattan style construction
- wound all the toroids

Homebrew Winners

Judge's Award: Wayne VE3CZO

People's Award: Diane VA3DB

Meeting Closed: 2012-04-10 21:38 EST

Jean Richard, Secretary



Special event stations WARD 2012

On April 18, 2012 we will celebrate the World Amateur Radio Day on the 87th Anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union, IARU.

This year's theme for the World Amateur Radio Day is "Amateur Radio Satellites: Celebrating 50 Years in Space" in remembrance the launching of OSCAR 1 on December 12, 1961 and the launch of OSCAR 2 on June 2, 1962.

For this reason there will be several special event stations from IARU's Member Societies active on different dates during April: 6H6IARU, 3G73IARU and LZ1WARD.

If IARU's Member Societies plan to have a special event station for this reason in April let us now so we can publish the details before the end of this month. Send us an email to news@iaru-r2.org with the information.

Joaquín Solana, XE1R
News Editor - IARU R2

Update on 60 Meters

2012-04-04

RAC has been pursuing channelized access to 60M since early 2010. Our request was for an allocation identical to the US allocation, with one additional unique Canadian channel, and with fewer restrictions (the US allocations were restricted to USB voice only, with power and antenna restrictions). Amateurs will recall that one of the rationales for RAC requesting a 60M allocation was to enhance emergency communications including cross-border interoperability. IC responded by indicating that they were prepared to support access in synch with US amateur allocation and regulations. In late 2011, in response to an ARRL petition for change, the FCC issued



a final Report and Order that, once it has been published in the Federal Register, will result in a change to the frequency of one of the channels and will enable the use of CW and data modes in addition to USB voice. These features had already been in the original RAC request. The FCC Report and Order has cleared the way for Canada to move ahead with finalizing its allocation to match the new US allocations, including the ability to use CW and data modes. This allocation, which will be on a secondary basis, requires a public consultation through the Canada Gazette, which RAC anticipates will occur in the second quarter of 2012.

It is important that Canadian Amateurs comment on the draft once released. RAC will continue to keep our members aware of the status of this important initiative.

An important offer has been made by IC with regards to 60M. Industry Canada is prepared to licence operators in channelized 60M operation pending the results of the consultation process. The licencing process will be managed out of IC's regional offices and is open to any Canadian amateur. The process requires a formal licence application, payment of a licence fee, and the use of a special call sign instead of the licensee's amateur call sign. RAC regards this as an important interim step allowing amateurs to get on the air in the 60M band as soon as possible and thanks IC for this initiative. RAC's objective, however, is to ensure that Canadian amateurs have the 60M allocation available to all amateurs as part of their amateur radio certification, i.e. without licence applications, licence fees or special call signs. RAC is cautiously optimistic that this will come about in the summer of 2012.

If you wish to obtain a temporary, paid license to operate on 60M, please contact your local Industry Canada Regional Office to complete the application form. The total fee depends upon the date of your application but in any case is less than \$100.

Bill Gade, VE4WO
Regulatory Affairs Officer, RAC

Olympic Special Event Stations

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 18, World Amateur Radio Day

Saturday, May 5, Lanark Highlands Forest Rally
Organizers have said they are critically short of hams for the event and may have to cancel. If you can help out, let them know ASAP at

<http://lhfr.ca/workerRegistration.php>

or by contacting Robert Roaldi at

robert_ve3vpl@rogers.com

Sunday, May 6, CN Cycle for CHEO

If you can help out, contact Harold, VA3UNK at

hamihar@gmail.com

Saturday, May 12, Smiths Falls Flea Market

Saturday and Sunday, June 9,10

Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour

The RLCT is also short of operators. Please contact Gordon Mein, VE3FRB, at ve3frb@rac.ca

Wednesday, June 13, OARC AGM and Elections

Saturday and Sunday, June 23,24, ARRL Field Day

Sunday, July 1, RAC Canada Day Contest

Saturday, Sept. 8, OARC Hamfest

Wife sends a text to husband at work;
"Windows at home frozen - what will I do?"

Husband: "Spray some de-icer, if that doesn't work pour on hot water!"

Wife a few minutes later -
"Done that, now computer won't work at all".

Special Event Stations for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Some special event call-signs will be activated to celebrate the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games: 2O12L (Two Oscar One Two Lima) from London, England and 2O12W (Two Oscar One Two Wales) from Barry, Wales. The Radio Society of Great Britain has been granted the 'Inspire mark' for these stations by the London 2012 Inspire programme.

The London station, 2O12L will be active through the duration of the Games, located at the historic Eltham Palace, south-east London on 160m-2m, all modes. More information on the web site <http://www.2O12L.com> or contact the Press Officer, Mr. John Warburton G4IRN at press@2o12l.com.

The Welsh station 2O12W will also be active on all bands from 160m to 23cms and all modes including SSTV and satellite from Whitmore Bay, Barry Island, Vale of Glamorgan, Wales. More information on web site <http://www.2O12W.com> or contact station manager: Mr Glyn Jones, GW0ANA, at glyndxis@talktalk.net.

Amateur radio operators everywhere will be able to share in the Olympic experience by making contact with the station and to exchange greetings messages with visitors and Games participants. The team aims to make contact with as many of the Games participating countries as possible. Special QSL cards will be available to stations contacted. Of course, visiting hams will be made very welcome at the stations.

For further information prior to the event, please respond to me at press@2o12l.com, telling me your deadline-date for publishing publicity material before the event. 2O12L and 2O12W go on the air on 27th July 2012.

73 de John Warburton, G4IRN, Publicity Officer



Run With the OARC

The goals of Run with the OARC are to allow our members to have fun locally while competing in any and all amateur radio contests. As you might gather from the phrase “our members” this contest is open to Ottawa Amateur Radio Club members (in good standing) only.

Your participation in any amateur radio contest (HF, CW, SSB, VHF UHF and above) is the key element. Participate in whatever amateur radio contest you wish and follow the rules for that specific contest. At the end of the contest once you have calculated your score all you have to do is send a quick email to VA3QV, Bob (who is the score keeper) with the following information: your name, your call sign, the contest name, and your claimed score. Your claimed scores will be entered into a spreadsheet and from that awards will be made for each contest depending on the participation level for that contest. Every contest gets automatic “Bragging Rights and Public Recognition” which includes an award certificate. If for some reason you don’t use email then hand me a note at the meetings with your results.

How much fun you have Running with the OARC depends on for how many contests you submit your score.

At this time in an attempt to keep it simple lets work off the following guidelines.

Any power level from QRP to legal limit. The choice is yours. If this idea takes off then running three different categories, under 5w, under 200w and over 200w, would be considered but for now its what you chose to run with.

All modes are equivalent— SSB, CW, and the rest of the digital modes.... Unless of course it’s a specific contest... No CW in the SSB contests seems to make sense to me.

Multi operator stations could submit their scores but

please list the individual operator’s call signs. Scoring for multi ops will be determined by the participation levels of the membership.

Please try to get me your results within 30 days of the contest closing date to make it interesting and so I can get the results into the Groundwave. However, late entries are cheerfully accepted.

We really want you to have fun doing this. It gives you an excuse to get out there and play radio. Some Google searches or looking at the contest section on the ARRL website should get you pointed in the right direction.

Check the Groundwave every month for updates, hints and claimed scores.

73 Bob Sharp VA3QV

VA3QV@rac.ca or VA3RCS@rac.ca

Scorekeeper for Run with the OARC

Call	Name	Event	Claimed Score
VA3QV	Bob	RAC Winter 2011	75264
VA3QV	Bob	ARRL DX SSB	24000
VE3OSZ	Bob	BERU	2235
VE3XK	Doug	CQ WPX Nov 2011	55888
VE3XK	Doug	ARRL 10m Dec 2011	76000
VE3XK	Doug	RAC Winter 2011	28728
VE3XK	Doug	NAQP	19350
VE3XK	Doug	ARRL DX CW	160920
VE3XK	Doug	BERU	960
VE3Ytz	Greg	CQ WW WPX SSB	141602



Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour

Directors Report

North East Ontario Regional Directors Report

April, 2012

First I want to remind you of the Ontario QSO party that is coming up this month on April 21 and 22. For complete details check out the Contest Club of Ontario's web site located here, <http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/index.htm> VA3RAC will be operating portable from Manitoulin Island, so give a listen for them as well.

We are also coming into Hamfest season and two coming up in Ontario are the 16th Annual Iroquois Hamfest on April 7th and the Smiths Falls Fleamarket on May 12th. Further information is available in the current TCA in the Coming Events section.

Recently the Board of Directors has created a new position of "Deputy Director". The job of the Deputy Director is to assist and advise the Director, and unlike the Assistant Directors can vote at Board meetings if the Director is not there. I am hoping to fill the position of Deputy Director for North /East Ontario Region. If you are interested in further information please don't hesitate to contact me. I will also be contacting various presidents in Eastern Ontario for their thoughts on this, so expect a phone call sometime in the future.

The Field organisation in Ontario has recently been changed from one SM to four. We are always looking for people to fill in positions under the SM in the various jobs. Please give it a thought.

Finally, Mitch, VE6OH and his group is organising a major Hamfest on the weekend of August 11th and 12th. It is shaping up to be a pretty impressive looking weekend. Could this turn into Dayton North? You may want to mark your calendar for this one.

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

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

Just wanted to let you know that the Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour 2012 will indeed be going ahead (there was some doubt at one point), and radio support is being sought again. The overall communication coordination has moved from Keith Fish to Rick Furniss, VE3IHI, and I will coordinate the organizing of the Ottawa end of things again this year. It will take place the weekend of June 9/10.

We are looking for volunteers for the Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour. New participants are always welcome.

The event will be much the same as last year. We are looking to set up stations at 11 locations (same as last time), plus two controllers, plus a control bridging station between the two nets (Lanark and Ottawa). This year we are also looking for at least 4 mobile operators who would be willing to be in one of the OBC official vehicles (SAG1, SAG2, Repair 1 and Admin 1). I'd also like to have a home-based station to monitor APRS, as well as weather reports/radar. That worked well last year.

The mobile operators are key, and would be needed to stay with the whole tour, staying overnight in Kingston on the Saturday night (expenses paid). Of course, they see the most action, but also commit the most time both days.

All communication will be on 2m FM using local repeaters (assuming the same as last year).

I haven't yet sent out anything to the operator roster from previous years, but will send something quick out shortly I hope.

If people are interested in volunteering, please ask them to contact me at ve3frb@rac.ca.

Gordon Mein, VE3FRB

2011-2012 Membership Application/Renewal

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc., Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J2

- Single \$25 (\$20 after Feb 1, 2012)
- Family \$30
- Junior \$15 (under 18 years of age)
- New Ham - Free (if licensed in current Membership year)
- Emailed *Groundwave* Mailed *Groundwave* (add \$10.00)

Please Note: Membership year is September 1, 2011 to August 31, 2012.

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 _____