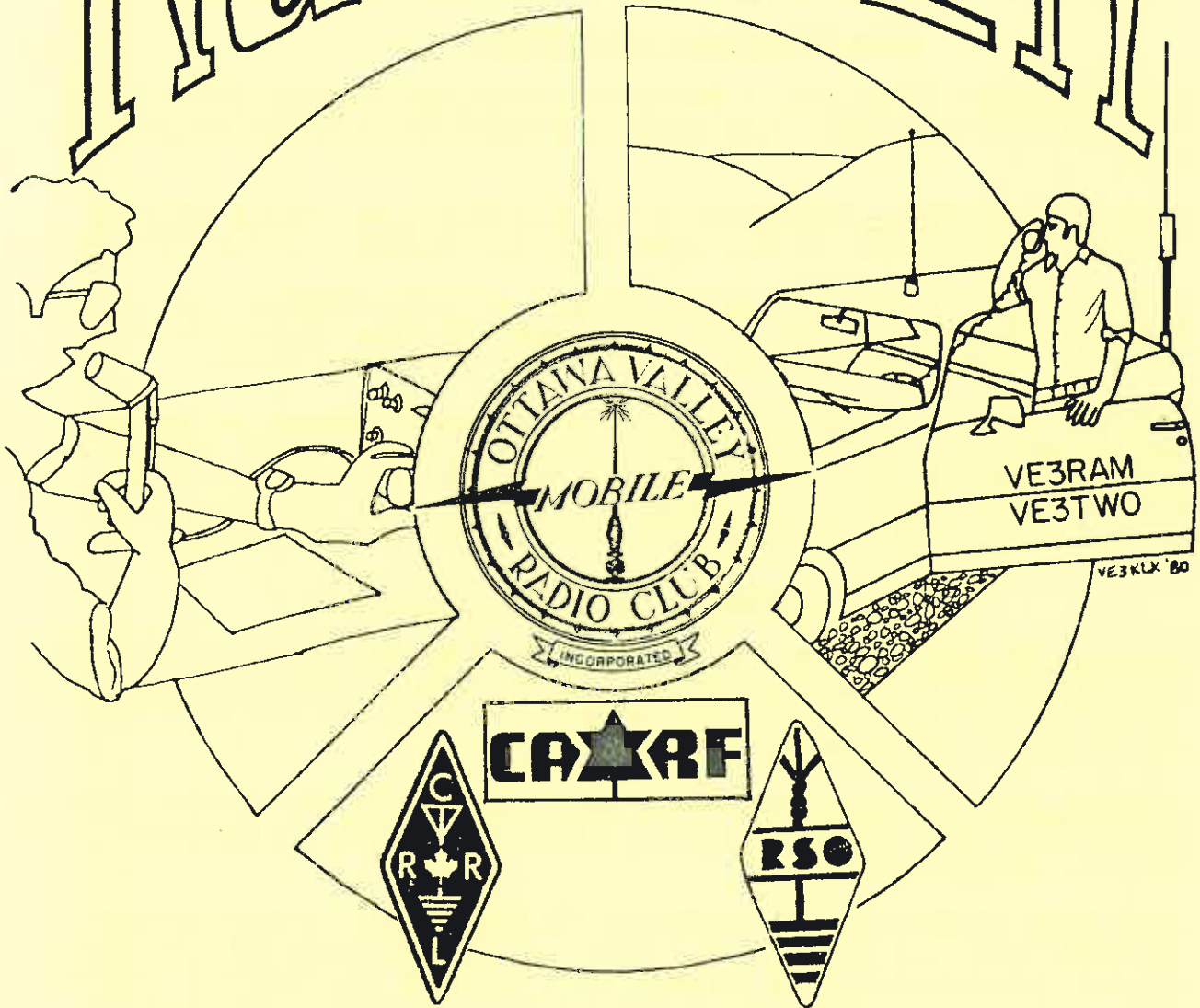


RÄMBLÄR



MAR 17 1983

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1982-1983 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Russ Pastuch	VE3FSN	828-9235
VICE PRESIDENT	Dave Coutts	VE3KLX	829-2537
SECRETARY	Tim Evangelatos	VE3EWE	722-1358
TREASURER	Pat Brewer	VE3KJQ	725-1528
TECH ADVISOR	Dave Harris	VE3KMV	234-7812
PUBLIC REL.	Mike Shacklock	VE3LAR	523-1571
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3CDS	225-7374
PAST PRESIDENT	Ray Ferrin	VE3FN	225-8132

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT-HOLE NET- OVMRC Net - Every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 local time on 3.76 MHz SSB. All radio amateurs are welcome to participate

THE WISE OWL NET - OVMRC Net - Ragchew net each Friday evening at 20:00 local time on the club repeater VE3TWO - 147.90/147.30 MHz

CODE PRACTICE - Transmitted on VE3TWO by Dave VE3KLX. Wed. 19:10 20 wpm, 19:25 7, 10 & 13 wpm, Fri. 19:10 25 wpm, 19:25 13, 15 & 18 wpm. Both sessions end about 19:55; all times local.

VE3JW - Amateur Radio Station of the National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC helps maintain the station, schedules provides operators for the station as part of an Amateur Radio public relations display. VE3JW operates on all HF bands, both CW and phone. Slow scan Amateur TV is also demonstrated.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO NET ACTIVITIES

POT-LID CW NET- Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. An informal slow speed CW net meeting every Sunday (except July and August) at 11:00 local time on 3.62 MHz, to promote interest and proficiency in CW and CW procedures.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Sponsored and operated by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday at 20:00 local time on repeater VE2CRA. 146.34/146.94.

SWAF NET- Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX. Every Sunday (except July and August) as a part of the POT-HOLE NET and every Monday (except July and August) as a part of the Capital City FM Net. Ed may be contacted at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS BULLETIN GLADLY ACCEPTED

Membership in the OVMRC is open to all those interested in Amateur Radio. Regular Club Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 20:00 local time unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the National Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd. (south of the Queensway).

THE PREZ SEZ

It seems like the results from the February 9th Amateur exam are trickling in. The students all seemed to voice the same complaint, that of horrendous quality in the code portion of the exam. That is not what I was most concerned about however. The theory/regs portion of the exam, being given every three months or so, was of most concern to me. So far, the students' reaction was that the theory/regs portion was fair and as a matter of fact, fairly simple and straight forward. To all who wrote, a hearty well done.

Now that the club will have some new licenced members, it sounds like a good time to mention club elections. Now don't run for the nearest foxhole. I'm looking for members willing to run for treasurer, secretary, etc. President normally requires you to have proved your insanity by having previously held an executive position. Think about it, it's a great way to meet people and who knows, you too may find a flair for politics.

In the same vein, that this really is a volunteer organization; we need a field day coordinator. Field day, that weekend in late June when we take off to a deserted field and make like emergency communications. The coordinator's job is quite simple. You only have to make sure all the various pieces come together on the proper weekend. Helpers are always available, all we really need is a coordinator. Towers, tents, outhouse and other goodies are readily available, so how about it, here's your chance to be an organizer.

That's it for this month. It's hard to concentrate on radio when you're waiting for your garden seed order to arrive. Mind you, warm weather also means painting, lawn, cleaning and other awful tasks. Oh well, maybe I'll just dream of a faraway world.....

Kuss VE3FSN

VICE VOICE

Well we're finally getting closer to spring-like conditions. I guess it will soon be time to pull out the bike and finish construction on that 2 metre antenna mount for it.

At the time this article is being set for the RAMBLER we will have heard about the fate awaiting those students from the course who tried the amateur exam. Everything appears positive with the exception of the code test. We know of two of the students who successfully completed the exam with the exception of the code test.

There has been a great deal of discussion as to the merits of putting the examining routine into the hands of the amateurs. I am cautiously in favor of such an idea and it appears that now is the time for all of the amateurs to put their heads together to iron out the details with the LOC. The best way, of course, is to pass along your ideas to either of the national organizations or go through your local club. The OVMRC exec. will be hashing this out very soon. Upon compilation of the data we will be sending a letter stating our opinion on behalf of club members. The issues at stake have been mentioned and are rather lengthy

for a mere vice president to enter into this publication. If you want to examine them talk to Ray, VE3FN or Art, VE3ZS.

This plan is a big step. The big question is ARE YOU IN FAVOR? If you are, then how about some input. If not tell us your concerns. I've heard some really interesting ideas so far, but to get a consensus we need as much input as possible. Think about it. It is to our mutual benefit not to turn a blind eye and hope it will go away.

Isn't this amazing! I'm always convinced I'll have nothing to say and nothing always turns out to be more than I thought.

Dave VE3KLX
Vice President

MINUTES OVMRC MEETING 17 FEB 1983

INTRODUCTION

President Russ VE3FSN opened the meeting at 20:00 hours and introduced the following guests: E.O. Smith, Ric Guidone - VE3NJM, and John Bartlett - VE3DHB.

MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING:

Jerry - VE3CDS moved that the minutes be accepted. Seconded by Mike - VE3LAR the motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

President: Russ - VE3FSN reported that the amateur radio course has been completed. Out of 27 students that registered, 7 students wrote the DOC exam. The students indicated that the theory portion was ok, but the poor tape quality and room acoustics made it very difficult to copy the code.

Past President: Absent.

Vice President: Dave - VE3KLX has a few copies of the CRRL net directories which are available, free, on a first come first served basis.

Editor: Jerry - VE3CDS reported that arrangements have been made to hold the auction at Canterbury High School on April 23, 1983. The executive has responded to requests and the flea market will be allowed to run all day. Volunteers will be needed to assist.

Technical Advisor: Nil report.

Secretary: Nil report.

Public Relations: Mike - VE3LAR is preparing a bulk order for the new Canadian Callbook described in the February issue of the "Rambler". Cost is \$10.00 and orders were taken at the meeting.

Treasurer: Nil report.

Field Day: Pres. Russ asked for a volunteer to co-ordinate field day activities. It will be held at Bob - VE3JLQ's farm.

VE3JW: Renovations are almost complete. Teddy Paul, project coordinator for the station has been requested to send the Hercules amplifier out for repair. The station needs operators on weekends, contact Mike - VE3LAR.

CARF: Art - VE3ZX read a brief from DOC requesting comment on their proposal to have hams administer the amateur license

exams. Comments are desired on every aspect of the proposal which were detailed by Art in his presentation and which had also been typed up and were available to individuals interested in responding. Art stressed the importance of this opportunity and asked the ham community to give it serious thought. Comments are to be sent to Art (home address) by May 10, 1983 so he can prepare and submit his brief by the May 31, 1983 deadline.

RSO: Merv - VE3CV reported that the 1983 RSO convention will be held on September 23, 1983 at the Inn on the Park, Toronto. He also provided an update on the plans to link the repeater VE3STP to VE3TBF which will provide access to the repeaters in southern Ontario. Merv also appealed for net managers for the Pothole net.

VE3TWO: Russ - VE3FSN reported that the interference on our repeater is gone. Cavities on the offending transmitter seems to have cleared up the problem. The repeater will be taken down soon for tuning and checking. Also, the uhf repeater is almost completed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Entertainment: John Bartlett - VE3JHB provided the entertainment. His well researched and well prepared talk, previously given to clubs in the Toronto area was interesting and very informative. The title was "Understanding Transceiver and Antenna Parameters Leading to the Ultimate Station". John explained the equipment specifications in a clear and easy to understand manner. He showed that the most expensive equipment is not necessarily the best performing and explained what to look for when studying equipment specifications.

Executive Meeting: To be held on Thursday, Feb. 24, 1983 at Jerry - VE3CDS' QTH.

Next Meeting: To be held on March 17, 1983 at the Museum of Science and Technology at 2000 hours.

Adjournment: Moved by Lloyd - VE3FHC and seconded by Dave - VE3KLL, the meeting was adjourned at 22:13 hours.

T.V. Evangelatos
Secretary

RAINFALL: BEYOND THE CRYSTAL BALL (From the NPARC "Feedline")

Weather forecasters would like to be able to predict not only when it will rain but how big a soaking to expect. Conventional weather radar, however, is unable to determine such essential data as how large rain droplets within a storm are or how many cohabit a given volume. And that's because the radar signals are polarized in a single direction, usually horizontal, explains Thomas A Seliga, and electrical engineer at Ohio State University. Dual polarization is his solution.

Viewed side on, raindrops are not spherical, but elongated ellipsoids. Seliga has found that the ratio of the power returned by horizontally and vertically polarized radar provides the data necessary to calculate both raindrop size and Density. What's more, it also permits determination of whether the falling droplets have formed as ice or water. Unless the ice chunks are large enough to rain down as hail, the distinction for those under the umbrella is not likely to seem important. But for those employed as atmospheric

(continued page 10)

FR PRATTLE

With these temperatures, can spring be that far away? It seems like only yesterday that I was trying to get comfortable on a foot wide mattress on the floor of a classroom in the Laurention Regional High School in Lachute. Also the noise from the members of the Chateaugay Radio Club did little to usher me on the road to slumber. It appears there are noisy GRS types and noisier GRS types. Luckily on the first night of the National Ski Marathon, I was in the quieter room and managed to doze off somewhere about 1:00 AM. The rude awakening (a tune by CCR which features a bit of God Save the Queen) came at 4:00 AM "Chateaugay, rise and shine". What a terrible thing to say! You see the courier-de-bois skiers set off at 6:00 AM and the traffic control teams had to be in place to prevent chaos. Since I was to be their contact with the amateur radio operation, I too had to be in place. Breakfast wasn't all that great that I recall but I guess I was still asleep! The whole rest of the day was a bit of a blurr. That nite we were put up in a luxurious top floor classroom in the exclusive Papineauville Polyvalante. Not two classrooms but one for all 25 or so of us. Luckily, most were tired and the conversation only lasted until 11:00 P.M. There is a corollary or something dealing with people that are tired. The volume of the snoring is directly proportional to the fatigue. Needless to say Saturday was another nite to remember. Even though the Quebec teachers were on strike, the heating plant was in fine form, leaving me to toss and turn (another song?) most of the nite. Oh no not 4:00 AM again! It was beginning to feel like a bad dream. Dream! I couldn't get past alpha let alone delta or REM. I must say the food at the PPV was much better and probably did much to help me through the day. (almost a title) Sunday was like any other day without much sleep.

All in all I enjoyed the 'Ski Marathon and probably I'll be in there again next year. The week after I helped out with the Gatineau 55 and underdressed, got cold feet but at least I got to sleep in my own bed that nite!

On the FR front, no news on VE3JW but I should have something to report at the next meeting in March. If you would like to help out man the station, drop me a line, give me a call or look me up!

I guess that's all for now, so until next time cheers and 73.

De Mike
VE3LAR

MATERIAL PUBLISHED IN THE RAMBLER DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT CLUB POLICY OR VIEWPOINT. ANY ITEMS MAY BE REPRINTED BY AMATEUR RADIO OR SIMILIAR PUBLICATIONS WITH THE PROVISIO THAT CREDIT BE GIVEN TO AUTHOR AND SOURCE.

PUBLISHED AND DISTRIBUTED BY
THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC.,
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Editor
Jerry Wells
VE3CDS

FROM CARF NEWS SERVICE
DOC SEEKS RECOMMENDATIONS ON AMATEUR PARTICIPATION IN EXAMS

Some time ago it was suggested to the DOC that there could be a number of advantages to an arrangement whereby Amateurs assisted in the conduct of examinations. CARF raised the matter again with DOC last summer. Since then the Department has been considering the possibility of such an arrangement and the result has been a letter addressed to CARF president Don Slater, VE3BID, dated February 1. It notes:

"The discussion has reached the point where our further consideration of the subject would benefit from detailed input from your organization. Of specific interest would be your recommendations under the following headings:

- (a) method to use to select volunteer Amateur examiners;
- (b) minimum criteria for examiners, i.e., qualifications, experience, skills;
- (c) how to assure impartiality of examiners and avoid charges of conflict of interest and favoritism;
- (d) quarterly scheduling of exams or an altered frequency/schedule;
- (e) how to ensure availability of examiners and suitable facilities for candidates in remote or isolated areas;
- (f) maintenance of integrity of examination papers;
- (g) how to ensure uniformity on national basis in awarding marks;
- (h) examination paper production and distribution networks;
- (i) coordination and contact points between DOC inspection staff and Amateur examiners;
- (j) provision of service in official language of candidate;
- (k) desirability of establishing pilot project in one province or in a limited area;
- (l) how to ensure the departmental objective of reduced costs with equivalent or better service will be achieved and maintained;
- (m) other relevant matters which are important to the process."

SOME IDEAS

In order to promote discussion the following points are recorded for your consideration. These suggestions were put forward at the last executive meeting. Note: letters a, b, c etc. refer to above points.

- (a) all examiners must be licenced amateurs
- (b) - under control of professional eng, etc. who is responsible for exam and examiners
 - under recognized amateur radio club
- (c) - sealed package to person responsible for exam
 - responsible for all material
 - return all material to DOC
 - not advise students of mark
 - paper over name booklet as in university
 - CN in same booklet

- CW and regs can be marked - regs as multiple choice
- CW as can be advised of what an error is
- (d) - altered frequency as at present
 - on weekend
- (e) - if volunteers are available use, if not, use DOC office
- (f) - covered in C
- (g) - DOC marks theory
 - regs multiple choice
 - CW is absolute as per DOC guidelines
- (h) - remains with DOC, pickup at office if warranted in major city
- (i) - contact on amateur is the professional
 - DOC local office contact
- (j) - both official languages would be available (in this area)
- (k) - up to DOC, would be willing to cooperate
- (l) - DOC - salary of people
 - meeting room
 - marker (only now marks theory)

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 3

Change membership class 1. to read "FULL MEMBER" instead of "MEMBER".

Delete membership class 4. and replace with:

"4. FAMILY ASSOCIATE MEMBER - a non-licenced dependant of a member upon payment of a reduced fee;"

ARTICLE 5

MEETINGS

Change "member or associate member" to read "Full Member or Family Member"

ARTICLE 6

DUES

Add the word "members" between the words "those" and "present" in the first line.

ARTICLE 10

VOTING

Change to read:

"All classes of MEMBER in good standing and LIFE MEMBERS, are entitled to one vote each in deciding the affairs of the club. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS and ASSOCIATE FAMILY MEMBERS may not vote on electoral, constitutional, or financial matters.

BY-LAWS (continued next page)

3. DUES:

Change to read:

"Dues for full members and associate members shall be \$10.00 per annum. Dues for additional family members shall be \$1.00. Those persons joining after 1 February may be granted membership at half the usual rate at the discretion of the executive. Life members pay no dues. Persons who are not club members, and for whom membership would be impractical may subscribe to the club publication "RAMBLER" on payment of \$6.00 per annum (for ten issues)."

8. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Change "Full and Associate members" to read "Full Members and Family Members".

10. POT HOLE NET

Change to read:

"10. NETS: With reference to ARTICLE 2, Section 6 of the Constitution, the club will sponsor two nets:

1. POT HOLE NET - This net is to meet every Saturday and Sunday at 10 AM local time, on 3760 KHz.

2. THE WISE OWL NET - This net is to meet every Friday at 8PM local time, on repeater VE3TWO.

11. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS:

To Vice-President add: "The Vice President looks after the club membership."

From Treasurer delete: "and looks after the club membership."

FROM CRRL NEWS

Item 1 DOC has released advance copies of the new TRC-24, the syllabus for all Amateur radio examinations, to CRRL and CARF. The syllabus is dated April 1 and should be available for general distribution after that date. DOC has informed CRRL that examinations will not be based on the new syllabus until next year.

Examinations for the three remaining dates this year, April 20, June 15, and October 19, will be based on the current syllabus.

Item 2 As a result of a CARF request, DOC has extended the deadline for the CRRL and CARF submissions on a volunteer examination program to May 27. CRRL and CARF will now meet with DOC on June 10. This will give all amateurs ample time to make their feelings known. CRRL would particularly appreciate your input. Please send your comments to CRRL, Box 7009, Station E, London, Ontario N5Y 4J9.

Item 3 If you plan to write the DOC Amateur Radio examinations on April 20, submit your application to DOC before March 23.

To commemorate World Communications Year, DOC will permit Canadian amateurs to use the following special prefixes between May 17 and July 17: in Newfoundland and Labrador, CI1 and CI2; in Yukon Territory, CK1; and in the remainder of Canada CY1 to CY8.

AUCTION

AUCTION

AUCTION

AUCTION

AUCTION

APRIL 23

CANTERBURY HIGH SCHOOL

THE BOTTOM LINE

With the course now complete I have decided to come up with a financial statement for the period November 1, 1982 to March 1, 1983. It appears elsewhere in the Rambler. This should be the low point in our club finances for the year with the annual club auction coming up next month. As you can see from the statement we have already paid for the space at Canterbury High School.

Last month I was saying how glad I was that the course was finally over and that I would have time for other things. The results from the DOC exam are out and none of the seven people that wrote the exam passed the code portion. Five passed the theory and regulations. As a result Mike VE3LAR and myself found ourselves making up code tapes again this week. Several students are planning to write the code again this month at the DOC office. They should do much better as the circumstances should be much better and they will have an extra month of practice behind them.

Along with Mike I was out on the Gatineau 55. Unlike him I decided to overdress even if it was warm in the city. As it turned out it can get pretty cold after you have been standing still outside for several hours. I was at the finish line, sending times and placing information into the press inside the nice warm building. It was fun and the radio held up very well in the cold. I didn't even have to change the battery.

One final point. We are at least talking about improving our repeater coverage to the west and south. There are some very interesting possibilities in the wind.

Pat Brewer
VE3KJQ

THE STUDENTS CORNER

Since our last issue of the Rambler we have learned that five of our students were successful in passing the regs and the theory. All five are anxiously awaiting their chance to try the code at the DOC office. We will no doubt be listing five new calls in the next issue of the Rambler. Already I hear interest in next years course.

One of the activities which is an excellent way to get into the thick of things is the amateur field day. We have an excellent location with good antennas and operating facilities. If you want to operate to your heart's content come out and join us. We not only operate all bands but there is good fun and fellowship. We would like our newly licenced amateurs to not miss out on one of the most interesting of all amateur activities. See you all there. Look for the details in the May issue of the Rambler.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held on March 17 at the Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd.

Time: 8:00 F.M.

Wear Green - It's St. Patrick's Day.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR NOVEMBER 1, 1982 TO MARCH 2, 1983

Balance Forward Nov 1/82:	Bank Balance	\$2332.75	
	Petty Cash	14.55	\$2347.30

REVENUE:			
Club Memberships		\$ 141.00	
Amateur Radio Course		42.71	
Bank Interest		70.09	
Banquet Deposit Returned		50.00	
OARC Directories		1.75	

		\$ 305.55	
EXPENSES:			
Rambler Postage		\$ 84.00	
Amateur Radio Course		582.31	
Auction Advance		66.66	
Bank Charges		2.40	

		\$ 735.37	
Book Balance March 2, 1983			\$1917.48
Bank Balance March 2, 1983		\$1902.93	
Petty Cash		14.55	\$1917.48

Pat Brewer VE3KJQ
Treasurer

LETTER FROM A STUDENT

Responding to your request for comment in the Students Corner of the February 1983 issue of the RAMBLER and pending receipt of the "official" results, I would like to pass on the following comments.

As witness to the reality of Ray Fleury's, VE3 KND, comment in the October 1982 issue of THE CANADIAN AMATEUR on "How to Flunk The Code Test", I would underscore the case he made. It would seem that DOC deliberately sets out to fail the participants - a poor tape and atrocious acoustics, resulting in a double echo of the transmitted code.

On a more positive note I would like to say this about the course. As a result of the dedication and conscientious enthusiasm of Russ, VE3FSN; Dave, VE3KLX; Pat, VE3KJQ; and Mike, VE3LAR, I found the written portion to have been a "no sweat" deal in the end. In fact their "message" had been duly well received!

In the compressed time frame of 20 weeks it would be very difficult to suggest any improvements to the three hour classroom sessions. Of value, perhaps, would have been some supplementary time spent on walking theory through some practical station configurations to extend understanding.

Otherwise, I can only express my appreciation for the considerable efforts spent by the team to deliver this course as effectively as they did. President Russ' enthusiasm and competence as a lecturer is to be strongly commended.

Ed Wiggs

physicists, such data could help improve the basic understanding of cloud physics, improve methods for augmenting showers with weather modification and improve the ability to forecast hail and severe showers. Traditional forecasting has provided very gross rainfall estimates at best, Seliga says, with errors sometimes off by a factor of five or more. But with dual polarization, Seliga says he has reduced errors to "better than a factor of two" and hopes eventually to pull them into a range considered "insignificant."

Well, here we are at the end of another Rambler. We hope you have enjoyed the news and comment on the preceding pages. I don't know why but we always seem to end up with not quite enough or too much copy to exactly fit on 10 or 12 pages. This month with the added distraction of the international DX contest there just wasn't any thing that we could squeeze int these last few lines. So, let us remind you all of the upcoming auction on April 23 at the usual place Canterbury High School. Anything that you don't want and has some value can be donated to the club. Let any member of the executive know and we will be glad to pick it up. Thats it for this month.....

73 Jerry VE3CDS

JAMES A. HAMILTON, VE3GJY
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