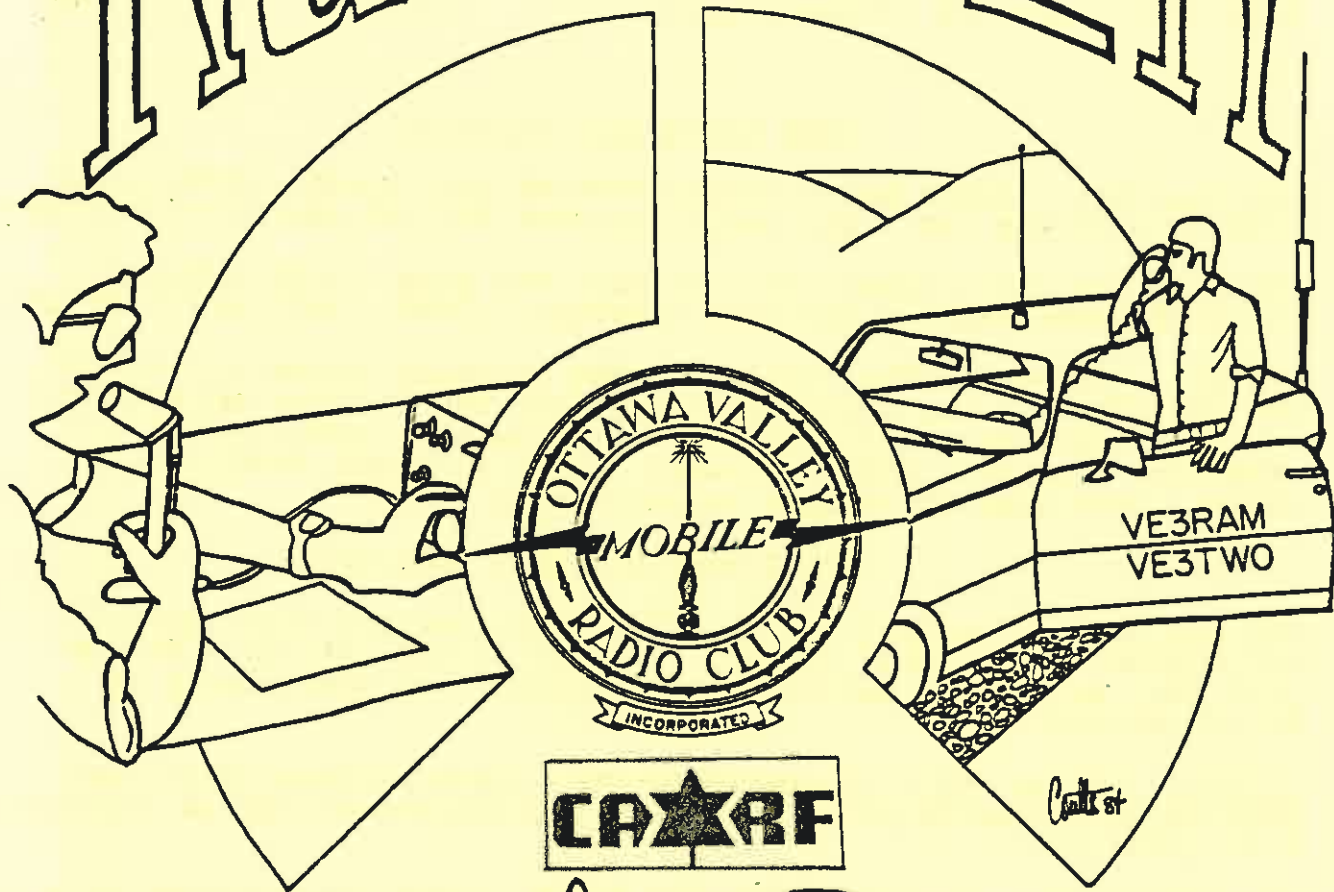
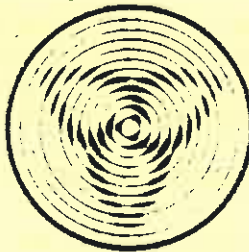


RAMBLER



CA★RF



NEXT MEETING:

SEP 19 1985

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1985-1986 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Bob Campbell	VE3KLK	729-7536
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Hughson	VE3DVH	835-3093
SECRETARY	Kathy Rodd	VE3OWY	722-0255
TREASURER	Chuck King	VE3PDK	733-2079
TECHNICAL ADVISOR	Keith Ballinger	VE3IMT	726-8378
PUBLIC RELATIONS	George Dew	VE3OWW	237-1290
PAST PRESIDENT	Pat Brewer	VE3KJQ	820-9309
PAST VICE PRESIDENT	Vance Johnson	VE3OAO	824-9555

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 local time on 3.73 MHz SSR. 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 - 147.30/147.90 MHz.

VE3JW - Amateur Radio Station of the National Museum of Science and Technology. The OVMRC helps maintain the station and schedules 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 TV is also demonstrated.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES

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

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday night at 20:00 Hrs. Conducted on VE2CRA repeater 146.94/146.34.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3GX, each Sunday as a part of the Pot Hole Net and each Monday as a part of the Capital City FM Net (except July and August). Ed may be reached 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 meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 20:00 Hrs unless otherwise posted. Meetings normally take place in the auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd. (south of the Queensway).

The OVMRC provides code practice 24 hours a day. Dial 825-0786

"RUMBLIES FROM OLYMPUS"

Well, now that summer has made its sneak appearance and scrambled off to parts unknown, it is time again to sit back and think about all the projects we should undertake immediately but of course will defer until it is too cold and too miserable to venture out of doors.

Having been away from Ottawa for much of the summer, I am a bit out of touch. I assume that as usual, the Bar-B-Q was a great success. I have heard ominous things about the Jack Ravenscroft problem and I hope to have a detailed report for the September meeting.

During my absence from Ottawa, I travelled north of Lake Superior and visited relatives in Thunder Bay. While there, I had an EYEBALL with VE3CH, Ray Greer, at Loon Lake with VE3AYZ, Les Harris, in Thunder Bay itself. Both these gentlemen are active members of the COMSONT net and I have spoken to them daily for the last seven years. It was therefore interesting to see how far off I was in trying to form mental pictures of them based only on the sound of their voices. Propagation in the north was generally quite good and I was able to maintain daily contact with Eastern and Southern Ontario.

The Club's Amateur Radio Course is off and running and at the time of writing we have about 24 students. The classes will be held at Laurentian High School, on the Baseline Road just west of the Boy Scout Headquarters. As last year the classes will be held on Tuesdays starting at seven PM and we invite club members to drop in occasionally to meet and encourage the students.

Bob - VE3KJK

YYB REPORT

As promised, the first in a series of articles from my new homeland, North Bay or as it is known among airport purists, YYB.

My first few months here have been really quite eventful for me having never lived on my own before and in a "foreign" land to boot!

North Bay is a pretty nice city of about 51,000 (according to the local signs upon entering the control zone). North Bay is on Lake Nipissing and also Trout Lake. The latter being quite close to where I live. It is not uncommon to see float planes taking off and landing in Trout Lake. I gather there is some good fishing around here. Not being much of a fisherman, I wouldn't know good fishing from dead squids in bell jars, but that is another story. Being an airport radar technician has its advantages; North Bay is also a DND Base and military aircraft are also a common site including the infamous F-18 usually followed closely by flocks of ambulances and fire trucks-just kidding! Anyway there's lots to see at the airport. Even watching DC-9's and 727's landing or departing is interesting especially when you track their approach on radar and then run over to the window and see the aircraft's lights way off in the distance as it travels along the glide slope for a perfect touchdown.

The North Bay airport is about 1215 feet above sea level which is quite a distance compared to Ottawa's 50. Since we are

so high in the sky, lightning really plays havoc with our sensitive radar and communication equipment.

Since my arrival here, I have already been fortunate enough to have an "eye-ball QSO" with Mike, VE3KMG who was up here on business. I have also spoken on the phone with Vance, VE3OAO who tracked me down and chatted for a while. I have received a radiogram from Fred, VE3BAJ and correspondence from Kathy VE3OWY and Evelyn, VE3OAM. I want all of these people to know that their interest was very much appreciated as I adjust to this new lifestyle.

The next step in my evolution will be to buy some living room furniture. I have already purchased a water bed and I tell you it is nice having a place to sleep that is not the same room as the comm centre. Actually, since I do more communicating via modem back to Ottawa than I do via radio, I have officially named my apartment "The North Bay Telecommunications Centre".

The plan is to purchase an HF mobile whip for my car so I can do some HF work. I certainly can't do any here in my ground floor apartment. Probably aim for COMSANT or TPN on 40 metres on weekends, once I get established on HF mobile.

The chances are also good that I may attend the RSO in London, in which case I will see a lot of you there. So that's about it for this installment. I will be adding more tales of fun and palaver as they become available and since Douglas Adams tells us that "time is an illusion caused by the passage of history and history is an illusion caused by the passage of time" I find it very difficult to nail down exactly when, on the Julian calendar taking into account the doppler effect and the space-time curve, the next communication will occur.

More later, bye for now!

Dave, VE3KLX
Foreign Correspondent

WANTED - AMATEUR RADIO COURSE EQUIPMENT

The OVMRC's amateur radio course has need of components/equipment to be used to demonstrate principles being taught. A look in some of the latest catalogs show that even something like a crystal radio set could cost more than \$30.00 if using new components. The course needs old, non-working radios, equipment, any vintage, to be reduced to useable components. Donations may be made by calling Russ, VE3FSN, at 325-0796 (home) or 995-3057 (work).

WANTED - WORKING/NON-WORKING TEST EQUIPMENT

Although many "old-timers" have a well equipped test bench, the new amateur has had to scrape to be able to afford his/her rig and likely has no test equipment what-so-ever. In addition, many pieces of test equipment are only used once or twice and the cost does not justify the purchase. It seems to me that there must be some unused working or repairable test equipment in the Ottawa area. I would like to propose that this equipment be donated to the club, be refurbished, and made available for free

short-term loan to any who require it. Any one interested in donating equipment or discussing the idea can contact Russ, VE3FSN, at 825-0796 (home) or 995-3057 (work).

THE WISE OWL

In true form, the club repeater failed the day I left on three weeks summer leave. This time, however, I was one step ahead of the problem and had a spare set of repeater boards sitting at home in case of problems. Note the words "sitting at home". I cleverly ensured that the back ups were secured where no one else could get at them. I heard about the problem in a weekly call back to Ottawa to discuss amateur course problems but there was still nothing I could do about it. The problem disappeared a few days before I returned but reappeared a few days later. This time I passed the boards to Kathy, VE3OWY, who went up to the site and effected the repair. You will note that the identifier level is lower, this is partly by accident and partly by design. Some people running TTY on the repeater said that the ID was causing problems, so the level was reduced.

The spare boards include the identifier board and timer. As agreed to last year, a total set of high quality fibreglass boards will be built up this fall.

The charger controller board was completed only to find a design error in the original circuit. This did not show up until I hooked the charger to the circuit. On a DC supply the circuit worked perfectly but when a non-pure DC source was applied, the circuit began to act up. The problem has been solved and I hope to have the circuit re-assembled in a few weeks. Installation should follow shortly. I have not been in a great rush to install the system as the repeater has operated quite well at 30 watts output using my own power supply. In addition, access to the site is limited to normal working hours and I want to make darn sure that once all is installed, I don't have to remove it again.

I noticed in the latest 73 magazine a new sequence decoder for repeaters. Since the article uses the same decoder chip we bought for the repeater, this is the way I will go. It allows for plenty of expansion and is cheap.

I have a number of other ideas but as many of you have seen and commented on, I am rather slow getting the idea to the final product stage, so I'll keep them to myself. I would still like to have a complete backup repeater that could be commanded on by touchtone if problems arise and a remote receiver at a second location, for improved coverage to the south. If any of you have any thoughts, let me know, PLEASE!!!!

de the dumb jerk in charge of
the machine
Russ VE3FSN

BARGAIN - 50% OFF LIST COMPUTER

Radio Shack Mc-10, (20K) - \$100.00. Ideal for hobbyist or learner. Colour Printer - \$130.00. Full instructions, books, etc. Less than 1 year old: in use now. Call Serge VE3JRG at 746-9031. Make him an offer.

4th ANNUAL AMATEUR RADIO COURSE

Once again the "gang of four" has gotten another amateur radio course underway. As in previous years, things did not run smoothly. With Dave and Mike no longer in town, replacements were required and finally recruited in the form of Jim, VE3AHN, and Kathy, VE3OWY.

A week before registration, we were told that the EMO building, where we intended to hold the course, was no longer available. We could see all our efforts and advertising going out the window. A totally suitable location could not be obtained from RMOC, despite their best efforts, and a hurried call for help to the Ottawa-Carleton Board of Education got us a spot at Laurentian High School.

The new location did not include the night of registration, however. A quick conference and a solution was agreed upon. Kathy, VE3OWY, volunteered her QTH for registration. Kathy and Jim, VE3JPC, were posted at EMO headquarters and with a set of maps, re-directed people to her place. Here I greeted the students and directed them inside, where they were processed by Pat, VE3KJQ, and Chuck, VE3PDK.

It went fairly smoothly from this point on and at the end of the evening, we had 18 new students. Not too bad but a little down from what we expected, considering the interest we saw.

So, the course will have started by the time you read this. You will be called upon to act as a mentor, please consider helping. It doesn't take a lot of time and will consist mainly of answering the odd question on the phone. Also, if you're free on Tuesdays, drop down. The students appreciate talking to licenced amateurs and will listen to your "war stories".

de Russ VE3FSN
Course Co-ordinator

Dear Paul,

At the most recent club executive meeting the grave subject of the fate of the club's only structure was discussed. I gave a brief speech on the inner workings of the structure and a description of its present state of decay. Most of the executive were unaware that the club owned such an exalted building. Those who knew of it had fond memories of time spent in it (or is that "on it"?). In any case, after considerable discussion, a vote was taken and it was agreed that the club "throne room" could be disposed of. Therefore, as President, I authorise you to dispose of this magnificent building in any manner which you see fit.

On a slightly more serious note, I would like to thank you for storing the "thunder chamber" and the other Field Day equipment for the last few years. I hope that the loss of our "club house" will give you some extra space to store some of your own things. I hope too that we will see you out at Field Day, where your CW skills are always helpful in racking up those two-point contacts.

Yours truly,
Patrick Brewer
VE3KJQ

See page 5

The reply to Pat's letter

RR2, Metcalfe, Ont.
KOA 2PO
June 6th, 1985

The President,
OVMRC.

Dear Pat,

Many thanks for your letter of June the 4th on the subject of the club's "only structure" which has been sitting in the corner of my barn for some four or five years now. I note that the executive has authorised me to dispose of it in any manner which I may see fit.

It will be with a keen sense of regret that Bob (VE3JLQ) and I will move the "Thunder Box" out of the barn on its last journey. Of recent years we have often wondered out loud how such a fine product of club craftsmanship...was it ever entered in a home brew night...might be better utilised. Amongst other ideas we wondered about a last resting place deep in some rustic glade in the middle of my maple bush. There it would serve as a convenience for any woodsman hunter while racoons and small birds might, with advantage, make use of its shelter to raise their young.

A more fitting end might be an attempt to recycle the structure by a cunningly worded advertisement in the local newspaper hinting at a wide range of new uses such as a shelter for children waiting for the school bus. However certain interior changes might have to be made before any children I know would agree to use it for this purpose. Exterior changes might also be in order, the present silhouette does rather suggest only one conceivable use.

Failing all these possibilities we may have to place the structure, with all possible solemnity, on top of a suitable funeral pile. After a minutes silence while we ponder the checkered history of this wooden waterless closet a match will be added to the kindling and in a few short minutes a piece of OVMRC history will be reduced to ashes.

Should I be forced to adopt this firey fate for club's portable powder room I will, of course, convey a small sample of the ashes to the executive who may wish to sprinkle them, after an appropriate ceremony, around the new field day site.

Gentlemen I close this letter with a very real sense of the ultimately transient nature of all human endeavours.

Sadly yours,

Paul D Cooper VE3JLP

The following add was placed in a local paper.

FOR SALE-Portable outhouse,
traditional wooden design
complete with electric light
and modern seat, ideal for
hunting camp or cottage.
Could easily be converted to
children's bus shelter. \$25.
821-2167.

There's more on page 6

The Sequel

RR 2, Metcalfe Ont.
KOA 2PO
July 3rd, 1985

The President,
OVMRC

Dear Pat,

You will recall our previous correspondence on the clubs "only structure", I'm sure you will be pleased to hear that the saga has been brought to a very satisfactory conclusion.

You remember I spoke of a 'cunningly worded advertisement' which might attract a buyer? Well last week I developed a suitable text, copy on the back of this letter, and had it inserted in the Winchester Press, our local, rural paper. The paper came out last Wednesday and the phone has hardly stopped ringing since. On the day of publication we took a call early in the afternoon and a buyer arrived panting on our door-step half an hour later. He took one look at the structure and slapped down his \$25. Bob helped him load the outhouse on the back of his pick-up truck and shortly afterwards we understand he was seen heading south through the village of Metcalfe. Before he left Bob asked about the intended use and you will be interested to learn that the OVMRC's portable powder room will now grace the site of a local area of bush where one of these "War Games" will be played. I'm not sure whether this represents a step up or down in the scheme of things however the important thing is that structure will be used, it was with a heavy heart that I contemplated the possibility of having to consign it to a funeral pyre.

To complete the story I must tell you that by Saturday we had received a total of 7 calls, clearly there is a significant demand, out there, for used outhouses....it makes me wonder if my first retirement project should not be a small production line turning out these useful structures?

So there it is, Pat, the end of an era, the passing of a little bit of OVMRC history. In closing you will note that I have enclosed a cheque for \$25.....in view of the interest perhaps we should have asked a higher price?.....Too late!

Regards.

Paul Cooper VE3JLP

MINUTES OVMRC JUNE MEETING

The PRESIDENT, VE3KJQ, Pat Brewer, opened the meeting at 2007 hours with 42 members present.

Visitors present: VE3OWL Mark, a special call in this club and a noteworthy licensee in that he arranged for the club the gift from MITEL Corporation of an excellent computer.

After a minor ammendment the minutes of the May meeting were approved on a motion by VE3JRR Bucky, seconded by VE3FSN, Russ.

BUSINESS

The P.R. Coordinator, VE3LNH, Alan, reported on the general situation of VE3JW the museum station. He recorded the gift from Mitel referred to above of an Apple 2 Computer with 2 disk drives and cards for 16K RAM plus a monitor and printer.

The VICE-President, VE3OAO, Vance Johnson, announced that he was taking memberships for next year and that, to date, he already had 41.

The Wise Owl Net Manager, VE3NVL Leo Desjardins, announced that he still has some "Wise Owl Certificates" for qualified club members.

The CRRL Rep. VE3FN, Ray Perrin, commented on the current J. Ravenscroft situation. Also on the CRRL Board meeting in Toronto, July 13 and the coming RSO/CRRL Convention. He also had some Repeater directories for distribution.

VE3FSN, Russ Pastuch, Radio Course Director commented on the search for classroom space. When a site is found, a further announcement will be made over VE3TWO and in the RAMBLER. He reported a 90.9% success rate for the last class in that of the 11 CANDIDATES WHO WROTE, 10 PASSED.

The new call sign for VE3LAR, Mike Shacklock, who now resides in the Halifax area is VE1BSN.

The Club Bar-B-Que has been confirmed for 17 August at the QTH of VE3LNH Alan. Members wishing to attend should indicate the size of their party to Alan so he will know just how much clean H2O he will need to put in the swimming pool.

There will be the usual midsummer RAMBLER published at the end of July.

The clubs financial records for the past year will be audited by VE3MEJ, Mary.

On a motion by VE3NJI, Bob Hewens, seconded by VE3FSN, Russ Pastuch, a sum of \$100 was voted to cover incidental expenses for Field Day.

The President VE3KJQ, Pat, read the exchange of correspondence with VE3JEP, Paul Cooper, concerning the Club's only ediface.

The President VE3KJQ, Pat Brewer, thanked the club members for their cooperation in the club activities over the past year and extended his best wishes to the new executive to be elected at the meeting. He then turned the meeting over to the Chairman of the nominating committee VE3BAJ, Fred Noble to conduct the election of the new executive.

The Chairman of the Nominating Committee then read, as required, pertinent sections from the club's Constitution and requested nominations from the floor. As none were forthcoming, he declared, on a motion by VE3NJI, seconded by VE3JKR that the slate of Officers printed in the June issue of the RAMBLER were elected by acclamation but recognizing the exchange between the candidates for the offices of treasurer and Public relations.

The Club Executive for the 1985-1986 Club Year will be as follows:

PRESIDENT:	VE3KIK	Bob Campbell
VICE-PRESIDENT:	VE3DVH	Mike Hughson
SECRETARY:	VE3OWY	Kathy Rodd
TREASURER:	VE3PDK	Chuck King
TECH. ADVISOR:	VE3NHT	Keith Ballinger
P.R. COORDINATOR:	VE3QWV	George Dew
RAMBLER EDITOR:	VE3GDS	Jerry Wells

The new PRESIDENT, VE3KIK, Bob Campbell then took over the meeting and after thanking the members for their expression of confidence spoke briefly about the manner in which he would hope to guide the club through the coming year.

The new President then presented the retiring President with a framed certificate of appreciation for his period in office.

The meeting then took a coffee break and when recalled was handed over to VE3JPC, Jim Cummings, who, as the Club's Field Day Coordinator gave a run-down of the proposed activities and fielded last minute questions from the members.

The meeting was closed at 2157 hours after a motion by VE3KJQ Pat, seconded by VE3OAO Vance.

Bob VE3KLK
Secretary

Temp HOT!! - 96°F 72%RH. average 92° 65-70% (soggy & miserable)

Lloyd Carr,
1212 Edgeworth Dr.
Montgomery, Al.
U.S.A. 36109
26th June, 85

Letter to the Editor

The Gang at OVMRC

Thought I'd take this opportunity to say hi to everyone from "Way down South". It looks like a lot of new blood has joined the club since I came down here in July 83. I look forward to receiving the Rambler each month and see what is happening. I'm glad to hear all is going well. I had a chance to say farewell to Mike 3LAR but Dave 3KLX slipped by me. Hope you enjoy North Bay Dave. I had three options - North Bay, Ont. Barrie, Ont. or Montgomery. My XYL got her choice this time. I'll be returning to Ottawa 25 July '86.

My activity on the bands is very limited here. I participate with the "locals" on 2 metres (146.92 & 146.84) but no activity on HF. I work my Dad, VE5EQ, the odd time on 21.250 MHz but normally cannot hear the Canadian Stations from here.

The weather is HOT - 96°F with 75% humidity. XYL loves it but I'll be glad to get back to God's country soon. 3 hours to Gulf of Mexico & swimming but hate to share the water with jelly fish & the odd shark. Great otherwise.

We've had a good two years so far touring Florida and Georgia. We have one big problem-money isn't made of rubber down here--exchange rate is lousy!

I'm in computers heavy here (my main job). At home I have a VIC 20 and a KayproII. I'm thinking of adding a Zenith/Heath Z153 this summer if I can convince Barb out of a trip to Tennessee or Kentucky.

No wine making here Russ-no basements. Glad to hear you have a new residence. Hope you can accomodate a horse we've bought down here.

Congrats to all the new students off the recent courses. Instructors do the guiding but the students produce the determination, hard work and self motivation to join our elite fraternity. Well done!

C Ya'll in '86

73/88

Lloyd VE3FHC

P.S. Here's my \$6.00 for another year of the Rambler. PPS: You can see Barb is trying to change 86 to 87. She wants to stay here for some strange reason.

NOTICE OF MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club will be held at the Museum of Science and Technology on St Laurent Blvd. Starting time is 8:00 pm. Our speaker will be Joe MacPherson VE3CAT. Joe will bring us up to date on what is happening with regard to the communications side of the former EMO organization. This meeting will be the first for your new executive, be sure to attend.

RED DOT.....

Does your issue of the Rambler have a red dot beside your name? If you do that means that it is time for you to renew your membership in the club. Come early to the meeting and take care of that little detail... NOTE the club will accept your cheque for your membership, no need to worry about sending cash through the mail.

LIGHTNING DAMAGE

With summer approaching and thoughts of lightning damage once again becoming a major concern, I would like to mention an incident which may benefit some.

Preparing to head north to the cottage country, I did the usual things to protect my radio equipment. I grounded all antennas, pulled the main plug leading to the power bar. The following equipment was plugged into the power bar: the Transceiver, linear amplifier, electronic keyer, video screen, computer and rotor box.

Satisfied that I had taken all the necessary precautions to protect my station, I headed north. Two weeks when I returned to the home QTH, I coupled the antennas, plugged in the power bar and met the unmistakable smell of burnt components. I shut down and began to look for the problem. Before reading further, can you find my error?

My investigation found the inside of the rotor control box to be in a charred condition. Lightning had taken the easy path available, down the rotor cable to the rotor control box which was plugged into the power bar then through other equipment plugged into the same bar and causing extensive damage to a complete station.

To prevent a recurrence, I made a simple modification to the rotor control box which I highly recommend to anyone using a rotor. I removed the eight wire terminal block from the rear of the control box which feeds the rotor cable to the rotor. I replaced the terminal block with an eight pin male and female Jones connector which can be easily mounted to the rear of the control box. It is now a simple matter to make a quick disconnect and thereby isolate the rotor cable from the rotor control box.

de Gordon Wright VE3ISG in the
Guelph Amateur Radio Club
bulletin.

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P.O. BOX 5530 STN F
OTTAWA ONTARIO
K2C 3M1

VE3JW NOTES

Well folks, September has snuck up on us again, and it's time to start getting organized for the fall operating season. A quick look for the station operating schedule will suggest that I should have started sooner.

Phone calls will be going out over the next few weeks, looking for operators. If I inadvertantly miss you, don't put up with it. Your best bet is to call me and demand to be included on the list! Call 237-1290.

As added incentive, the station has acquired some new toys. Our Yaesu 757 is in place and fully operational, the club computer has been installed, and an AMTOR interface is on the way. The end objective of all this is the development of a computer controlled AMTOR station/mailbox; in the meantime it will give all of us a chance to try out some new equipment and unfamiliar (at least to me) modes of operation. I'll see you there.

George VE30WW

OVMRC

P.O. BOX 5530 Stn F
Ottawa, Ontario
K2C 3M1



FIRST CLASS

FIRST CLASS

JIM HAMILTON VE3GJY
2038 ARCH ST.
OTTAWA ONT.
K1G 2H1