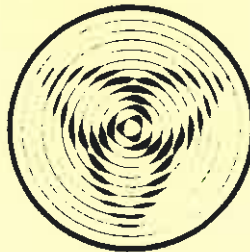
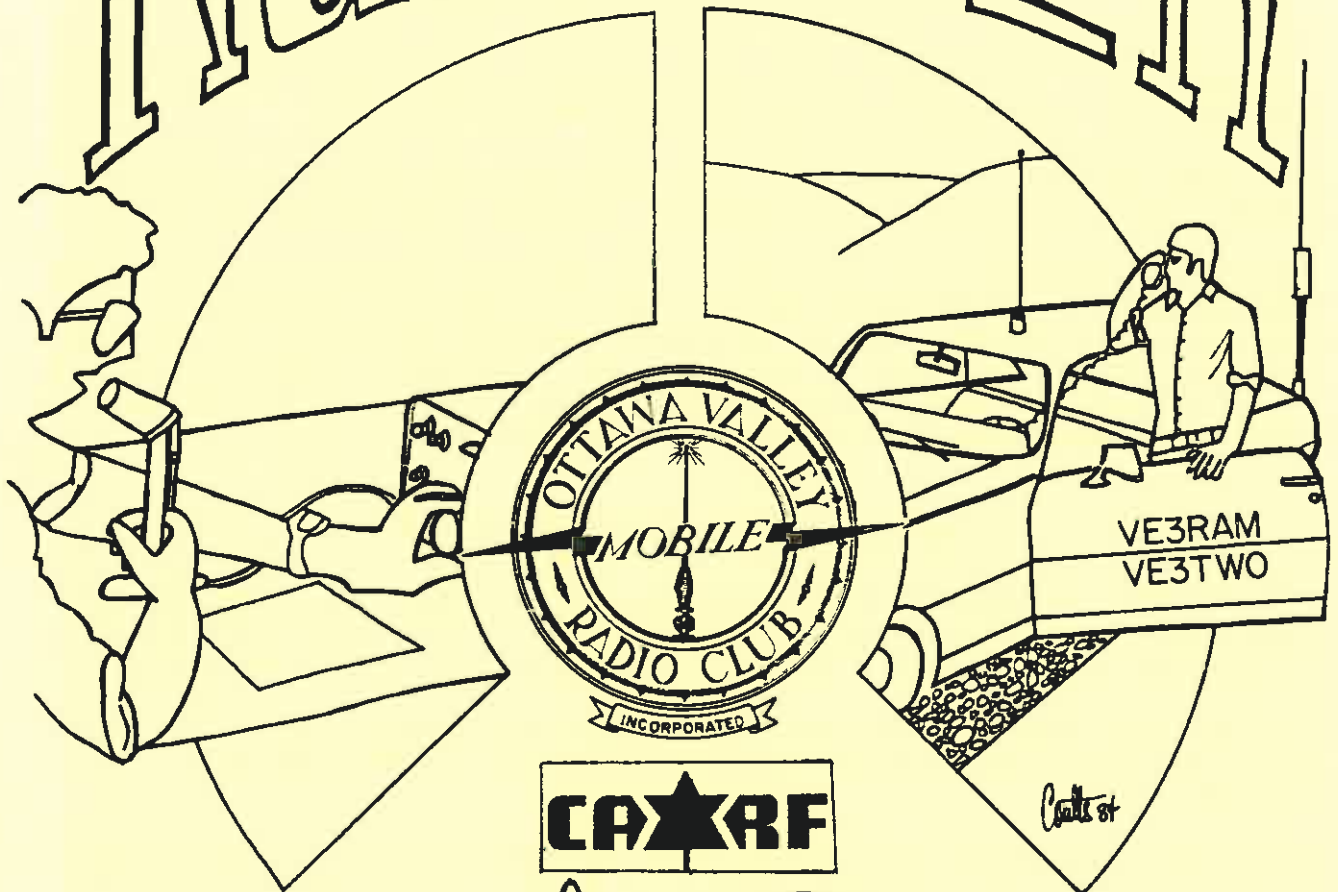


# RAMBLER



NEXT MEETING:  
APRIL 17

THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED

1985-1986 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Bob Campbell	VE3 KLK	729-7536
VICE PRESIDENT	Mike Hughson	VE3 DVH	835-3093
SECRETARY	Kathy Rodd	VE3 OWY	722-0255
TECHNICAL ADVISOR	Bob Ballargeon	VE3 MPG	235-0187
PUBLIC RELATIONS	George Dew	VE3 OWW	237-1290
PAST PRESIDENT	Pat Brewer	VE3 KJQ	820-9309
PAST VICE PRES	Vance Johnson	VE3 OAO	824-9555
EDITOR	Jerry Wells	VE3 CDS	225-7374

CLUB SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

POT HOLE NET - OVMRC Net - Every 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 VE3 TWO - 147.30/147.90 MHz.

VE3 JW - 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. VE3 JW operates on all HF Bands, both CW and phone. Slow scan TV is also demonstrated. For information or if you wish to operate the station, contact the Public Relations Coordinator.

LOCAL AMATEUR RADIO ACTIVITIES

POT LID NET - Sponsored by Ed, VE3 GX. 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.

CAPITOL CITY FM NET - Sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. every Monday night at 20:00 Hrs. Conducted on VE2 CRA repeater 146.94/146.34.

SWAP NET - Sponsored and conducted by Ed, VE3 GX each Sunday as a part of the Pot Hole Net and each Monday as a part of the Capitol City FM Net (except July and August). Ed may be reached at 733-1721 for listings and queries.

THE MILITARY NET - Sponsored and conducted by Frank, VE3 MSC, Tuesday at 20:00 hrs on VE3 TWO 147.30/147.90 MHz.

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

RUMBLINGS FROM OLYMPUS

Success sometimes creates problems of its own. The excellent response to the RG8X coax sale has resulted in orders for over 2000 feet and that does not include the requirements of the club itself. Depending therefore on a serious discussion with the Treasurer, we may, in the light of other demands on the treasury, need to collect a deposit from each person.

I am pleased to report that the Club's letter to the DOC has been mailed. A copy of it will be available at the April meeting for those wishing to see it in final form. Similarly the Resolution on Susceptibility has been sent with some minor revisions.

Since in the normal passage of time the Club Year will end in June, a Nominating Committee has been appointed. Chaired by VE3JLP Paul Cooper, assisted by VE3BAJ, Fred Noble and VE3JRR, Bucky Merkley, the committee will be calling on all members to seek candidates for next year's executive. There are six executive positions that traditionally change each year and I strongly urge club members to respond favourably to the Committee's approach. I believe that all the present executive (five of whom have held various executive positions for the past several years) will agree that the demands are not heavy and the right to a key to the executive washroom is worth having. So let your name be put forward, Executive meetings can be fun and, in fact, are sometimes fattening.

I remind members of the need for operators for "Horse People" June 14 & 15.

The Flea Market (that annual opportunity to acquire old or new goodies - or unload some of your own) will be held at Canterbury High School on April 19 between the hours of 0830 and 1500. Come one - come all - bring your friends- talk it up with other amateurs.

Finally, since the April meeting is "Home Brew Night", bring your winter project and let us see what you have been doing. Complex or simple, matters not. All are interesting.

VE3KLB Bob

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PROPOSED CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

At the February executive meeting it was proposed that the cut off date for membership renewal be backed up from November 30 to October 31. Our club year actually begins at the June meeting with the election of the new executive. With our present cut off date we carry members, who may not renew, for five months after the beginning of the club year. It is hoped that the new date will encourage members to renew in May or June instead of October or November. This would lower the work load on those members involved in looking after the membership and in Rambler publishing.

Proposed amendment to the Constitution, Article 7:

Change in the last line "Non-payment of dues by 30 November shall be cause for cancellation of club membership." to read "Non-payment of dues by 31 October shall be cause for cancellation of club membership".

73 to The Halifax Amateur Radio Club... We enjoy receiving your bulletin.



MINUTES OVMRC MEETING MARCH 20/86

The meeting was opened by the President at 8:06 PM.

Present was a guest of the club Dr. Claudio Stampi, I4RYH, from Bologna Italy. Dr. Stampi is doing research at the Ottawa General Hospital and will be in Ottawa until approximately the end of April. With the aid of VE3MPG and VE3LOW, he hopes to make contact with fellow researchers aboard a sail boat in the Red Sea.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as presented in RAMBLER on a motion by VE3CDS, Jerry seconded by VE3MPG, Bob.

BUSINESS:

The President reported on current attempts to have RAMBLER printing re-located to the museum.

Orders in excess of 2000' of RG8X coax were taken at the meeting.

- The resolution on susceptibility is now in final form and will be forwarded immediately.

- Horse People: June 14/15. We now have about twelve operators but more will be welcome. Pres reminded that operators (and families) invited to camp at site as they wish and to join in Saturday night BBQ.

- Members were reminded of FLEA Market, April 19 at Canterbury HS. 0830 - 1500 hrs.

- 3 parts orders were taken for "double Ducky DF" project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Club has been invited to participate in July 1 display at Majors Hill Park.

- Applications for next year membership will be in June RAMBLER.

- Cut-off date for unrenewed memberships will be October.

- Operators needed for VE3JW - See George VE3OWW to arrange. Bob VE3MPG will help people unfamiliar with the station.

- VE3JW will participate in CNIB inauguration of VE3AW memorial station (in Toronto) in memory of Dave Lloyd. - May 21 - 4 - 4:30 PM - 3742 Mhz.

- Paul Cooper displayed new and very economical QSL cards for which he will take orders. A bargain such as never before seen.!!!

Next meeting will be devoted to HOME BREW night - Bring your winters work.

May meeting will deal with Field Day planning and computer logging.

June meeting - club elections and field day recap.

- The meeting was then turned over to VE3KKB who gave a very interesting slide presentation on "designing stations for contesting and DX".

- The speaker was thanked by VE3CDS, Jerry. The meeting adjourned at ??? PM.

Kathy VE3OWY  
Secretary

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How many of you get up early on Sunday morning? Listen to The Pot-hole net on 3.76 MHz at 10:00 AM.....or try your hand at the Pot Lid net on cw at 11:00..... 3.62 MHz

THE LEADING EDGE

The IXYS Corp has come up with a new power FET for that next project of yours. The new design has yielded a device with a rating of 8A at 1000V.

Information at your fingertips is becoming a real problem these days. Information is being amassed faster than it can be stored and once stored, it is almost impossible to retrieve quickly. Optical Storage International is using the technology of the laser disk to solve the problem. A 12 inch optical disk can store and retrieve 2 billion bytes of information on a single disk. This is equivalent to a pile of paper over 60 feet high, 100 reels of tape or 3000 floppies.

Texas Instruments has revived research on a solar power system that may end up as supplementary generating equipment for electric utilities. Present efficiencies have reached 12% with 15% predicted. Big deal you say, with others claiming efficiencies of 20%. The difference is that the TI system does not generate electric power directly but uses silicon spheres and a hydrobromic-acid electrolyte. The silicon spheres generate a trickle current that breaks the electrolyte into hydrogen and liquid bromide, which are later recombined in a fuel cell.

Later in 1986, the largest business computer system ever built will go into operation. Teradata built the machine which will execute 170 million instructions per second, and will access 136 disk drives holding 515 megabytes each.

As design continues on the next generation of supercomputers, ETA Systems has indicated that their entry will operate with up to four pair of processors, each immersed in liquid nitrogen. This will serve a dual function, to carry away waste heat and to supercool the chips for higher operating performance.

Russ  
VE3FSN

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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. April 17 at 8:00 PM.

The program for the April meeting is "home brew nite". Here is your opportunity to show your pet project. There are no restrictions on what you can show or demonstrate. If it's associated with Ham Radio we're interested.

Don't forget that any of you that want to get checked out on the operation of VE3JW at the museum, contact Bob VE3MPG. He will be available before the meeting. Give him a call.

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THE OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC.  
P.O. BOX 5530 STN F  
OTTAWA, ONTARIO  
K2C 3M1



CQ CQ CQ THIS IS VE3JW THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

The amateur station at the museum puts out a commanding signal on all the HF bands. Hundreds of other amateurs have responded to CQ from VE3JW. When was the last time you were at VE3JW? The station is in first class shape and very easy to operate. The station is open at any time that the museum is open. All you need is a card to identify yourself as a radio amateur i.e. membership card from any of the local clubs and the station is yours to operate. Saturdays and Sundays are prime time. If you haven't tried VE3JW yet come on out, even if there are other hams there it's great fun - last Sunday there were 5 of us - made dozens of contest contacts and had a pleasant afternoon. If you are a new ham come out to VE3JW and get on the air. We'll see you at VE3JW. If you wish call George VE3OWW for further details. Alternatively just show up at the station.

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FROM CRRL NEWS

An update: The following countries have notified the International Telecommunications Union that they forbid telecommunications with amateurs under their jurisdiction: Angola, Burma, Ethiopia, Ghana, Iraq, Libya, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somali, Thailand, Turkey, Yemen and Zaire. A side note on Turkey: There are Turkish amateurs and they are active. The Turkish Amateur Radio Society has been in correspondence with CRRL.

Another update: Canada has third-party traffic agreements with the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Israel, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad, and Tobago, United Kingdom (certain special-event stations only), United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Travelling abroad this summer? Canada has reciprocal licensing agreements with the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bermuda, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Phillipines, Poland, Portugal, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. Crri has information and, in many cases, application forms for obtaining a licence or operating permit in these and over 100 other countries. Just keep the number of your requests reasonable, and the information and application forms are yours, free for the asking.

February 8 brought one of the most extensive auroras in years. Massive solar flares five days before send geomagnetic field indexes up to near record levels, resulting in almost total shutdown of the HF bands. Amateurs who work their DX on the VHF and UHF bands, however, had a field day. On 6 metres, North Americans worked Hawaii and Ecuador. On 2-metre CW and SSB, California and Florida stations were heard in the fray. There was even DX on 432 MHz.

LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING

Work goes slowly forward on the repeater upgrade. The touch tone decoder has been built and tested, and much of the logic circuitry should have been built by the time this hits your desk. The charger seems to be working like a charm, and has been cycling the backup power batteries for over a month.

A few words addressed to our newcomers to the hobby who are looking for radio equipment. Beware!! How few words can you get. What I am referring to is the old equipment that you or some other good soul may have in his basement. This looks like a great deal, especially if the price is FREE, and if "all it needs is a few tubes". Problem is, tubes like the 12AU7, which sold for \$.49 15 years ago, are up near the \$20.00 mark. In addition, some tubes are just not available. The great bargain could turn into a very expensive nightmare. Have no fear, help is at hand. The help is in the form of your fellow amateur. We all have junk boxes, some larger than others, and all are full of tubes from old equipment. Before you go and spend bags of money, speak up the next time you check into a net or at the next club meeting and I guarantee that you will find someone eager to get rid of a few dozen tubes, for free no less.

As most of you know, I absolutely hate the amateur activity called FIELD DAY. I hate contests with a passion and field day is no exception. Once again, you will have the annual opportunity to hear me complain, moan, groan and state what a stupid waste of time, while having an absolute ball. For the newcomers to the hobby, think about coming out to the upcoming field day. I am sure that our coordinator will have more details in the upcoming Ramblers, but I thought I should get a few plugs in to my students. Plan for it, you won't be expected to do it alone and it's a super way to get practice. By the way, the contacts also count toward the total you require for the advanced certificate.

Well I think that is enough scrap paper for this month, I've probably caused us to exceed the weight limit again. Happy gardening!!

Russ  
VE3FSN

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FLEA MARKET

Mark the calendar! April 19.

That's the date for the annual spring flea market. It will be held at the usual place - Canterbury High School.

Doors open at 8 AM for vendors with the hordes of money loaded free spending. Hams encouraged to come at 8:30 - this to give people a chance to get set up before the big spenders show up.

Refreshments will be available soft drinks - coffee - donuts sandwiches etc.

APRIL 19 SATURDAY 8:30 to 2:30 CANTERBURY HIGH SCHOOL

Listen to the Wise Owl Net Friday night at 8:00 PM on the club repeater for further details.

Smith Falls Amateur Radio Club's flea market will be held on May 10th.



THIS ONE YOU WILL PROBABLY ENJOY...READ ON

Finally April, the long winter behind us, we are at last getting closer to cycle 23 all the time. To those who listen and monitor some of the amateur bands you must wonder how some of these lids were ever licensed (even for 2 meters!). Many new operators have not been properly advised about proper operating procedures. Too many of the "amateur classes" produced today spend very little, if any, time correcting operating procedures. Their major thrust is to teach the code, and cram the theory.

Here is an article that appeared in the September, 1978 Ham Radio Horizons, entitled "So You Want to Be a Lid!," by A.J. "Buddy" Massa, W5VSR.

It's easy to be a lid. It must be-there are so many of them. If you are already a lid, read on. You may find some new "lid-isms." If you are not a full-fledged lid, you may learn some new material for your next transmissions.

Probably the most popular is "QRZ the frequency." Nobody can be sure what that means. The ARRL Handbook lists QRZ as a CW "shorthand" signal meaning "Who is calling me?". On phone it may mean something else, although I can't imagine a frequency calling someone! I even heard a W4 utter "QRZ the channel!" Now this guy is a chief lid. The frequency was silent for a while (probably as most good operators were still in shock) and then a signal from afar responded, "This is the channel and I wasn't calling you!"

I think "QRZ the frequency" and "QRZ the channel" are real winners. Use them a lot. You'll chase the good, experienced hams out of their gourds. Actually, the use of "Q" signals on phone is, in itself, a true "lid-ism." They were devised by high speed CW operators as a form of "shorthand" in order to speed up CW transmissions. What use they have on phone is questionable, as in many cases you can say the actual meaning just as fast. In many cases they cause more confusion than if you would have given the actual meaning. Then you get the real lid that comes off with the "QRM - Mary" or "QRN - Nancy." Good heavens, why didn't he just say he had interference?

You must be ready with this one at a moment's notice: "Hi." Never, ever, laugh if you find something funny. Say "Hi" or even better "Hi, Hi." It doesn't really take the place of laughter, but it tells the other operator that you know how to laugh on CW!

Always give your call phonetically when operating on phone, especially when conditions are good and signals are clear. It's another small way to take up valuable air time without really adding any intelligence to a conversation. To cut a fine line, it is not legal to identify your station by saying "Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." If your call is issued W5VSR, the identification is "This is W5VSR." If copy is difficult and for clarification, then, "This is W5VSR, Whiskey Five Victor Sierra Romeo." So continue your lid-ism and show how clever you can be with ridiculous phonetics. A good friend of mine is W5BS; he has a lot of self-restraint!

Are you interested in DX? Put these on your DX lid list, "CQ Dog X-Ray." Jazz it up a little by saying, impressively "CQ Dog X-Ray, beaming Asia." Not only does that improve your antenna's directivity, but it let's everyone hearing you think that you have a beam, whether you do or not! The number one, all time lid



award of the century goes to those great DX operators who listen down on one frequency in the foreign part of the band and transmit up in the American phone band without ever listening on that transmitting frequency to see if it was clear. Of course, you must use two processors, in tandem, mike gain wide open, and drive your three 8875 final tubes with and SB200 while bellowing forth, "CQ Dog X-Ray" for five continuous minutes, before listening. This is the way to attract attention. Lots of it.

Next on the list is the subject of the "Break". I do believe that we inherited that one from the CBers. Just find a comfortable roundtable in progress, and say "Break" or better, "Break, Break" or best, "Breaker, Breaker." Don't give any calls; neither the station you hear nor your own. Don't listen for a few minutes first to find out if you can hear all of the stations in the roundtable. Just Break in and disrupt everything. If that doesn't work, start tuning up your rig on that frequency. After all, aren't the frequencies there for all to enjoy?

Here are some quickies: Say "Go" or "Come back," or "C'mon, Good Buddy," instead of "Over" if you think you must say anything at all to let the other operator know you are ready to listen to him and don't forget the alltime Broderick Crawford "10-4" or better, "That's a big 10-4."

Too bad the FCC no longer requires us to indicate portable operation. They have taken away another opportunity for the lid-ism - "This is Whiskey Five Very Strong Radio, Port Five." I just typed this on my port typewriter!

Did you ever hear a phone operator who sounds like he's operating from a dungeon? Maybe he is, but even without a dungeon you can get the same effect by turning up your mike gain and holding your Golden Eagle D-104 at least one foot - or better at two, from your face. Never close talk a mike. Disc jockeys never do and they are "cool." When you're on the air you are "cool," so you do the same. Communications microphones are designed to be close talked. Keep that mike gain at a minimum level. That way you won't be transmitting the voices of your kids and wife screaming five rooms away. Of course, to be a super lid in the audio department, do use a "power mike" driving a processor. Everybody knows that the engineers who designed your transmitter purposely made it short on mike gain.

Lastly, when giving your name, refer to it as your "handle." It's folksy. And be sure to say, "The handle, here is Beaver." That's liddier than just plain, "My name is Beaver." It also helps to punctuate your remarks with "By golly" whenever possible and remember that when you're in a large roundtable especially on a VHF repeater, give each and every call sign in the group, complete with phonetics, when ID'ing.

Do you say "Over" or "Break" or even worse, "Come Back" when you are on the telephone? Well then, why do so many do it on the amateur bands? All of that is ever so redundant on a repeater system where most have end-of-transmission "beep tones"; and of course, there usually a squelch "burst" ahead of that, so you actually end up with a fellow ending his sentence with "Come back" followed by a squelch burst, followed by the repeater's "beep" and in many cases, the repeater carrier dropping. You have had four indications that it is your turn! QSL?

Let's all pay more attention to this problem and see if we can help to "clean up" our operations and put amateur radio operations back to the more professional nature that it enjoyed before many poor habits of the CB band crept up on us.  
Bob VE3MPG

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OVMRC CODE TAPE LIBRARY

The OVMRC now has a code practice tape loaning library. There are two tapes at each wpm speed from 11 wpm to 15 wpm. One side of the tape consists of random code groups including letters, numbers, and punctuation. The other side is plain language. Each tape has different text on it so that you will be able to get two sets of text at each speed. The tapes will be available at the club meetings or directly from me and can be borrowed for a period of ONE MONTH. If I run into problems getting the tapes back I will start requiring a deposit. People borrowing the tapes should realise that others may wish to borrow them. If you wish to reach me by phone my number is on the inside front cover of the Rambler.

Pat Brewer  
VE3KJQ

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