

# THE OVMRC RAMBLER

Volume 34 -- Number 10, October, 1991

## A MATTER OF HISTORY -- by Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ

As a result of the elections at the June Club meeting I have become the Chair of the new Historical Committee. At the moment, this is a committee of one, but I could use your help. There are several things that I would like to do.

First, the Club should have a complete archival copy of the *Rambler* from its very first issue to the present. If any of you have copies of the *Rambler* prior to 1980 and would be willing to loan them to us for copying, I would like to hear from you. It would also be helpful to have some information on when and how the *Rambler* first came into being. Once copied, the *Rambler* would be

placed into a binder and indexed. This publication contains much of the history of the Club and it is important that it be recovered and preserved.

Second, I would like to make up a complete list of all the Past-Presidents of the Club and their terms of office. These are the people who have shaped the direction of the Club over the years and we should have a record of who they were. It would be particularly rewarding to find out who the founders of the Club were.

Third, it would be nice to collect some stories about our Club, such as the one behind the key to the Execu-

tive Washroom that has been passed from President to President at the June meeting. What were the early meetings of the Club like? Where were they held? Who designed the Club logo and what did it look like in its first form? Perhaps more importantly, where is the original artwork?

Finally, having done all this research, it would be time to publish a complete revised history of our Club so that we would have some idea of where we came from and how we got to where we are.

If you can help with this project please let me know.

## Acting Membership Chairman's Report

de VE3PUE Neil Herber

Greetings from your acting membership director. Now that Judy, VE3PAB and I have beaten the membership database into submission, I can report a few statistics that you may find of interest.

As of 91.10.04 we had:

183 Regular members

74 Associate members

6 Life members

263 Total members

19 Affiliates

282 Database listings

In case you didn't know, a regular member is one with a call sign. Affiliates include corporate sponsors and other clubs with which we exchange newsletters.

Forty six new members have joined the club since the summer -- thirty three of them are students in the radio course. Five existing members also signed up for the course, so things will be hopping in the classroom.

I don't want to use the word "dead-beat", but as of the beginning of October, eighty (80!!) current members had not renewed. If you are one of the tardy ones, you probably won't see this column because your *Rambler* subscription will be cut off.

Have you ever wondered why you sign in at meetings? In theory: 1) it lets us keep attendance figures; 2) it lets us collect guest addresses to send them a complimentary *Rambler*; 3) it allows members to request badges. In practice it takes a lot of time and seems to be inaccurate. So... next meeting we

will use a preprinted sheet with every member's name and call on it. You will be checked off the list as you arrive. Guests will be given a small form to fill in (during the meeting if they wish). Members who need badges can request them on yet another small form.

Although this may sound like a lot of paper pushing, it should be much faster, since members with badges just have to shout out their name or call as they whiz by. Only guests and badgeless members will need to fill anything in.

If you don't have a badge, and you have requested one 800 times, please bear with us. Unfortunately, the database did not contain badge information -- but it does now! Give us at least one more meeting to get it up to date.



# THE OVMRC RAMBLER

Volume 34, Number 10 -- October, 1991

## OVMRC EXECUTIVE 1991-1992

### President

Jeff Wilson, VE3RCI - 833-0638

### Vice-President

Larry Woram, VE3WLN - 835-2959

### Past President

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY - 839-5854

### Treasurer

Judy Taetz, VE3PAB - 822-0937

### Secretary

Ted Paull, VE3KEH - 830-2751

## STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### Amateur Radio Exhibit

Cy Webster, VE3SIY - 733-2371

### Amateur Radio Training

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY - 839-5854

### Field Day

Vic Bajaj, VE3BSV

### Flea Market

Ken Barry, VE3KJB - 746-4823

### Historical

Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ - 825-8721

### Membership

Mike Beausoleil, VE3BGP - 739-8871

### Newsletter

Chuck King, VE3PDK - 733-2079

### Publicity and Programmes

Keith Beardsley, VE3SVQ -  
731-7912

### Radio Operations

Jerry Wells, VE3CDS - 225-7374

### Technical

Ed Sieb, VE3RDZ - 738-8924

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## NEXT MEETING OF THE OVMRC

17 October, 1991  
1930 hours

National Museum of  
Science and  
Technology

Auditorium

## CLUB CALENDAR

17 October  
Programme

### FIELD DAY VIDEOS

Next Executive Meeting  
24 October, 1930 hrs  
Meeting place T.B.A.

Deadline for Rambler  
articles  
24 October

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Club Dinner, February

Spring Bunny Hunt

Flea Market, April 1992

Field Day, June, 1992

## RAMBLER COMMITTEE

### Editor

Chas. King, VE3PDK

### Contributing Editors

News & Views - Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ

Ramblings - Jeff Wilson, VE3RCI

DXdeYOU - Keith Beardsley, VE3SVQ

### Circulation

Fred Haire, VE3NHF

Neil Herber, VE3PUE

Eric Still, VE3OTT

Kevin Still

Fred Taetz, VE3PAA

## AMATEUR RADIO NETS

POT HOLE NET - Sundays 1000 hrs. 3.760 MHz (includes Swap Net)

SWAP NET - (Ed Morgan, VE3GX regular feature of Pot Hole Net and Capital City FM Net. Call Ed 733-1721 for listings and queries.

POT LID NET - Sundays 1100 hrs(except Jul & Aug) 3.620 MHz slow-speed CW.

CAPITAL CITY FM NET - Mondays 2000 hrs 146.94 MHz. Swap Net featured.

PACKET RADIO VOICE NET - Mondays 2040 hrs 146.94 MHz follows Capital City FM Net.

MILITARY NET - Tuesdays 2000 hrs 147.30 MHz.

CUMBERLAND EMERGENCY NET - Wednesdays 1930 hrs, 147.03 MHz

THE WISE OWL NET - Fridays 2000 hrs. 147.30 MHz

OVMRC CODE PHONE - 825-0786 24-hr code practice..

CHAMPLAIN MINI NET - Daily 1845 hrs 147.06 MHz

The printing support of Dy-4 Systems Inc.  
is gratefully acknowledged.

# Ramblings

by Jeff Wilson, VE3RCI



What a turnout we had at our first meeting of the fall season, well over eighty! We had to keep sending for more chairs. This won't be a problem this month, now that we're back in the National Museum of Science And Technology (SAT is back, according to their Radio commercials). If you didn't make the meeting you missed an informative and very humorous presentation by Neil, VE3PUE on Nicads.

I hope everyone has been out to see the Fall Colours. While I was up in the Gatineau at the end of September, I happened upon an HF mobile operator parked at the Belvedere Lookout, with his base vertical antenna strapped to the wooden guard rail and radials spread out. I knocked on his car window to introduce myself and see how the DX was. He had a brand new TS-440SAT on the seat next to him, tuned to 27.440 MHz. I could hear all the European stations calling CQ DX. His call was 9A something. He was embarrassed when I gave my VE3 callsign. He said he was working on getting his Amateur license. That's nice, since he already has a hundred watt HF rig better than mine! While I can't begrudge his enjoying the thrill of DXing on the "Free Band", my concern is how easy it must be for unlicensed persons to obtain amateur radio transceivers.

I know that there is no problem obtaining equipment from US mail order dealers, without a valid amateur licence. Perhaps there should be. The number of illegal operators, largely Spanish speaking, on LSB in the lower portion of the 10 metre CW band is increasing. Just how bad this situation will be the subject of an article from one of our executive members in the near future. Fortunately, the new regulations and licensing requirements has made it easier for CBers and others to get their amateur licenses. Several of these new Hams have made their presence felt in the Ottawa area by freely volunteering their time and demonstrated operating skills, providing radio communications for local events. To those who have made the leap to the amateur ranks, welcome to the fold!

Judging from the report of our Training Committee Chairperson, Doug, VE3ATY, this year's class was quickly filled, with 36 eager new students. Unfortunately, several had to be turned away because of necessary size limitations. Looks like the new regulations are proving to be the tonic we needed to swell the amateur ranks in Canada. Just listen to all the new calls on 2 meters. What will happen when all the VE3Z's are assigned?

While I'm on the topic of radio enthusiasts outside of the amateur ranks, I just finished writing a letter to twelve-year old SWL, Oleg, in Krasnoyarsk, USSR. His letter (in English) and four postcards arrived via direct mail. It was very enjoyable. I remembered the thrill I got receiving letters from Hams I bothered with SWL QSL requests as a 15-year old, so I didn't delay in responding to his request for a card. I urge all members to treat SWL request with equal respect. Remember how you felt receiving encouraging letters from Hams all over the world. A lot of us started as SWLs, so let's not forget the younger generations.

I'm sorry if this month's Ramblings have been on a more serious note than usual, but I have to finish with a real kicker. There is a 95% probability that I'll be accepting a new job in Calgary this month. Just when I'll be moving is not certain, but it will be before the end of my term as your president. This job offer came out of the blue and is a rare opportunity. The timing is lousy, though. I'll keep you posted. Hope to see you all at the October meeting. The videos should be great in the museum auditorium. 73 for now, Jeff.

## FOR SALE & WANT TO BUY

### For Sale:

TR2400 and accessories, base stand charger - \$200

TS120S, power supply and CW filter - \$650

Vertical antennas - 80 to 10 meters - \$100

- 20 to 10 meters - \$75

2 Hallicrafter SW Receivers - S77A - \$65.00

- SX122A - \$150

All above items with manuals.

Various test equipment - negotiable.

### Want to Buy:

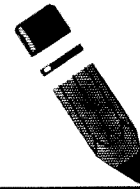
Small tower - 20 to 40 feet

Small beam - 3-element, 3-band with controls.

Call Sigi, VE3JDA, 592-0172

# Secretary's Minutes

by Ted Paull, VE3KEH



## Minutes OVMRC Regular Meeting September 19, 1991

QTH: Multicultural Centre, Heron Road

**1. Call to Order.** President Jeff (VE3RCI) called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm., and welcomed all (of the very large crowd) in attendance.

**2. Visitors:** The following visitors were welcomed to the meeting: VE1DE, Michael VE3TEA, Barry VE3BXH, Marcel VE3FNG, Glen VE3TUZ and Gary VE3CSI.

**3. Financial report:** Any questions regarding the financial report which was published in the Sept. 1991 Rambler were solicited, but none were forthcoming. Also, members were asked to check the membership list for any corrections to their vital information.

**4. Help Wanted:** Pres. Jeff asked if any club members required any technical assistance or 'Elmering'.

Vic VE3BSV, a student at Lisgar Collegiate told the members about the International Students Space Simulation project of which he is the Communications Coordinator. Students here, as well as in the US and Japan, wish to set up a packet network. They have received funding from Telesat and SPAR in aid of this project. All help is welcome.

Doug VE2VMS is looking for other QRP enthusiasts to share info. and to locate and build QRP rigs from kits or magazine articles.

**5. CARF Bulletin:** Dan VE3EBI presented a brief outline of the CARF Bulletin (#13/91 - Sept 16, 1991), which called for nominations for CARF Regional Directors. Also, on Sept. 21 there will be a Kingston Area Flea Market. October 19/91 is the Boy Scouts Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA). Members are encouraged to invite scout troops to their shack. Don't forget to renew CARF membership and

TCA subscriptions. There is a fall special on the Study Guide and DOC Question Bank (\$32.).

**6. Hospitalized Member:** Life member Merv VE3CV has suffered a stroke on Sept. 14, 1991. He is in hospital in Ste. Catharines, Ont. and will soon be air ambulated back to Ottawa. Club members wish Merv a speedy recovery.

### 7. Other announcements:

a. The **OARC Flea Market** will be held beginning at 9:00am Sunday Oct. 6/91 in the Canada Room of the RA Centre on Riverside Drive. There is a \$2.00 general admission charge, \$5.00 for a table and \$20.00 to commercial vendors. For more info. contact Peter Jago VE3PWJ at 613-836-1013.

b. Terry Mahoney of the Ottawa PC Users Group is looking for a **speaker on packet radio** for the Nov. 26.91 club meeting. Anyone interested should contact Pres. Jeff.

c. The **OVMRC Flea Market** date is tentatively scheduled for April 11/92. We are still looking for a suitable site to hold it.

d. The next **Ottawa Packet Radio Users Group** meeting will be held on October 3, 1991 at the National Museum of Science and Technology.

**8. New Two Meter Net Proposed:** Bob VE3YBC has proposed to conduct a 2 meter net in conjunction with the Sunday morning 80 meter (10:00 am local - 3760 kHz.) Pot Hole Net, to pass traffic, questions and answers back and forth, as well as to the VE3GX Swap Net. Anyone interested?

**9. Joe Norton Award Winner:** Roxanne Delmage VE3VON was congratulated for winning the Joe Norton Award to new amateur who have made an outstanding contribution to amateur radio. The award is in the order of \$700.00.

**10. Wise Owl Net Certificates:** A reminder to all of those who have not picked up their net participation certificated. These are available from Leo, VE3NVL.

**11. Another new net:** Bruce VE3JIL is Net Control Station (NCS) for a new net directed to addressing the needs and questions of new amateurs. The net will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm local, on the VE3STP repeater (146.46/147.06), following the Champlain Mini-Net.

**12. Senior Member's Committee:** Pres. Jeff asked if there was a need within the membership to form a committee to specifically address the needs of senior hams, to have regular 'coffee klatches', solicit special grants, etc. Anyone interested?

### 13. Committee Reports:

**Training Committee:** Doug VE3ATY announced that the club course has started, and welcomed the 34 candidates that have registered.

**Exhibits Committee:** Cy VE3SIY announced that the committee has had one meeting so far, and is gathering pertinent materials. The NMST is planning to select a design company to create the exhibit which will contain the club station VE3JW, and we should be ready to provide input as soon as possible.

**14. Code Practice:** Ted VE3TGS inquired about the possibility of holding code practice for those who wish to upgrade their licences. There will not be formal classes, however Ed VE3GX has offered to assist club members in furthering their code skills. Also, the 24-hr Code Phone Line is available to members. Next month the phone exchange will be changed so

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as to be accessible without charge within the entire Ottawa region.

**15. JOTA Request:** Don VE3PUZ requested that some members assist the Cambridge Public School (Bronson & Carling area of Ottawa) to set up a JOTA ham radio station. Also, VE3SHQ will be in operation at Scout Headquarters. For further information call 225-2770.

**16. Next Executive Meeting:** Pat VE3KJQ announced that the next executive meeting will be held on the home of Jeff VE3RCI, at 7:30 pm.

**17. 'DX de YOU' Column:** The 'DX de YOU' Rambler column, normally authored by Jeff VE3RCI, didn't make it into the current issue. However, in future it will be included, and will be

taken over by Keith VE3SVQ. All are invited to submit their interesting contacts.

**18. DX PacketCluster Report:** Jeff VE3RCI told members about the DX PacketCluster BBS which can be found on 144.93 MHz. He showed an overhead of some of the reporting and logging capabilities, which can local hams to work DX more effectively. He also described the 'Talk' mode permitting on-line chatting between users. Anyone interested in supporting this useful service should purchase the operating manual for \$10.00. Contact Paul VE3JLF for more information.

**19. Guest Speaker:** Neil Herber VE3PUE was the guest speaker for the evening. His topic was 'AA Nicads: The Bane of my Existence'. In his talk Neil told members everything they

ever wanted to know (and more) about the care and nourishment of handi-talki batteries. Neil presented rigorous scientific data to back up his assertions, but in a very light and humorous fashion. The information divulged to members was very useful and most appreciated by the audience.

**20. Coffee & Cookies:** Thanks was given to Sue VE3SLC for taking over the task of providing coffee and cookies at club meetings.

**21. Adjournment:** There being no other business a move to adjourn was made by Doug VE3ATY, seconded by Doug VE2VMS. Motion carried and adjournment took place at 9:15 pm. followed by coffee, cookies and the season's opening eyeball QSO.

Ted VE3KEH

# OVMRC

## Membership Application

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.  
P.O. Box 5530, Station F  
Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3M1

- The membership year starts in July and runs to June 30 of the following year.
- Regular membership is only open to licensed amateurs.
- Associate membership is open to all radio enthusiasts.
- The family rate is for second and subsequent members of the same family living at the same address.

Date	Call Sign	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Info Update ONLY	
Surname	First Name	Preferred Radio Name	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if your address information is already in the database.			
Home Address		Apartment Number	
City	Province	Postal Code	
Home Phone		Work Phone	

- One year membership. Regular or Associate, includes Rambler subscription. \_\_\_\_\_ \$15/year
- Family rate. For family of current members, **NO** Rambler subscription. \_\_\_\_\_ \$5/year

Amount Enclosed
\$

For family rate only - additional name(s) and call(s)
---

- Cheque
- Cash

# DX de YOU

by Keith Beardsley, VE3SVQ



CQ CQ CQ DX DE VE3SVQ! Calling all OVMRC members. Bring me your best DX catches of the month, any mode, any band. This DX column is based on the reports that you provide to me at each monthly meeting. You can also call me at 731-7912. This column will only work if you support it. Let's hear who you have been working.

Welcome back to all of our members, and hello to the new students on course. For many of the students, this column will be their first opportunity to learn about DX and what it is all about. Therefore, I am going to make a slight departure from the usual format and offer a few explanations.

Essentially DX refers to contacts outside of North America. This column will highlight some of our members "catches" or contacts with other amateurs around the world. Most of the activity takes place on the 10, 15, and 20-metre bands. For students on course, this means you will need your 12 wpm endorsement. One good reason to work at your code.

We chase DX stations for the fun of it, plus many of us also collect the many awards offered for successful contacts. We confirm our contacts with QSL cards.

I am frequently asked if you need a lot of expensive equipment, antennas etc. The answer is no, although every little bit extra helps. For instance I use an old HW 101 (100 watts) and a wire antenna that cost \$8 to build. Others have state-of-the-art transceivers and huge antenna farms. Either way, DX chasing is rewarding and exciting.

Looking back over the last two to three months, we can see that conditions were not very good, however from my log I notice that I was able to work 48 different countries. These include -

St Paul Is. CY9CWI 14.190 MHz (Dxpedition);  
Colombia HK3MAE 14.196 MHz;  
Hungary HG4P 21.240 MHz;  
Norway LA1VFA (EU61) 21.215 MHz;  
Czechoslovakia OM5SNP 21.290 MHz (Special Event);  
U.K. GB5XX 21.235 MHz (Special Event);  
Italy I1A 14.195 MHz (Special Event);

Sweden SK3IK/2 (EU135) 21.260 MHz;  
Sierra Leone 9L1US 14.155 MHz;  
Azores CU2DX 21.280 MHz;  
Barbados 8P9AP 21.220, 14.160 MHz;  
Spain EF1VFN 21.170 MHz (Special Event);  
Brazil PV8AAL 14.205 MHz;  
Desecheo Is. KP2A/KP5 14.185 MHz (Dxpedition);  
Canary Is. EC8AWQ 21.195 MHz;  
USSR RU9H/UA0OGS 21.230 MHz (Dxpedition);  
Uruguay CX5TV 21.250 MHz;  
Aran Is. EJ2VLP 21.225, 14.215 MHz;  
Luxembourg LX1BG 21.232 MHz;  
Japan JA6IP 28.393 MHz;  
Cyprus 5B4SA 28.454 MHz;  
Jersey GJ4HSW 28.505 MHz;  
Cape Verde D44BC 28.500 MHz;  
Portugal CS5A 28.497 MHz;  
Cuba T40PAN (PANAM GAMES) 14.180 MHz.

#### From Jeff VE3RCI:

Uruguay CX4CR 14.195 MHz;  
Sardinia IS0IIT 14.199 MHz;  
Nevis Is V47LDX 14.260 MHz;  
Anguilla VP2EE 28.489 MHz;  
Galapagos Is HC8GR 18.133 MHz;  
Aland Is. OH0BBF 14.007 MHz CW;  
Desecheo Is KP2A/KP5 24.938 MHz;  
Lesotho 7P8DX 28.377 MHz;  
Azores CU2DX 28.479 MHz;  
Liechtenstein HBO/DJ1FH 21.009 MHz CW.

Lets hear from the rest of you. How did you do this summer? Has anyone contacted the ZA station yet?