

THE OVMRC RAMBLER

Volume 35, Number 4 -- April, 1992

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION'S WORLD ADMINISTRATIVE RADIO CONFERENCE 1992 FINAL REPORT

by Bill Wilson, VE3NR

NO CHANGES TO AMATEUR BANDS

It is no wonder, when the title is as long as that, why we have been calling it WARC'92. That conference, which interested many of us greatly for the past year because of the possibility that changes might be made around 40 meters, concluded by not making any changes to amateur bands.

NO ADDITIONAL 40 METER SPECTRUM FOR BROADCASTING

The rationale for this decision, where 40 meters was involved, is a little convoluted, but here goes. WARC'92 decided not to give any additional spectrum to HF broadcasting at 40 meters. As a result, it could not justify making what are called

*About the Author
Bill Wilson, VE3NR, a Life Member of the Club, was a member of the Canadian Preparatory Committee for WARC'92 and has been closely following the proceedings of the Conference held in Torremolinos, Spain earlier this year. He has been in close contact with the Canadian Delegates to this Conference and summarizes the ITU's Official Report as it affects amateur radio.*

consequential changes to the 40 meter amateur band. So, we amateurs in the Americas (ITU Region 2) will continue to hear broadcasting from Regions 1 and 3 in the 40 meter band for some years yet.

FUTURE WARC TO REALIGN 7 MHZ ALLOCATIONS

However, the Conference did adopt a recommendation to correct that situation some time in the future. It was proposed by Mexico and supported by Canada and several other countries. This recommendation starts by noting that the sharing of the bands around 7 MHz by the broadcasting and amateur services is undesirable and should be avoided. It concludes by recommending that a future, competent WARC should consider the possibility of aligning the allocations to the amateur service around 7 MHz on a world-wide exclusive basis, paying due regard to other services.

This recommendation will go to the ITU's Administrative Council (the equivalent of a company's board of directors) for action. There are a number of WARCs being planned and the Council will have to figure out on which agenda it should be placed. We may know after the Council meets later this spring which WARC will make the realignment and when.

NEW HF BANDS FOR SSB BROADCASTING

WARC'92 did do something for the HF broadcasters. Ten bands, not near any amateur bands and totalling 790 kHz, were reallocated to HF broadcasting for SSB use effective April 1, 2007. Another WARC will be given the task of planning the use of the existing HF Broadcasting bands and these new SSB bands.

BROADCASTERS WANT MORE BELOW 10 MHZ

The European countries and the United States wanted more spectrum for HF broadcasting but the smaller countries would not agree. Specifically, the U.S. did not think that WARC'92 provided enough spectrum below 10 MHz. As a result, in signing the Final Acts, the U.S. served notice that it will take the necessary steps to meet its spectrum needs for broadcasting. The result will undoubtedly be a continually increasing pressure on the amateur and other HF services from European and American HF broadcasting stations operating out of band.

EFFECTIVE DATE - 1993

The Final Acts of WARC'92 will take effect on October 12, 1993



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Volume 35, Number 4 -- April, 1992

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NEXT MEETING OF THE OVMRC

16 APRIL, 1992
1930 hours

**National Museum of
Science and
Technology**

Auditorium

CLUB CALENDAR

APRIL MEETING PROGRAMME

CLUB REPEATER
UPGRADES &
NEW PROJECTS

FUTURE SPEAKERS
Solar Panels?

FUTURE EVENTS

Flea Market, 11 April
Canterbury High School

May Meeting
Honours and Awards Night

June Meeting
Elections

SOME AMATEUR RADIO NETS

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

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

THE WISE OWL NET - Fridays 2000 hrs. 147.30 MHz

OVMRC CODE PHONE - 746-2065 24-hr code practice..

The support of Corel Systems Corporation through
their generous gift of

Corel Draw used in preparing this newsletter is gratefully acknowledged.

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is gratefully acknowledged.

Ramblings

Jerry Wells, VE3CDS



April, that time of the year when we see the first real signs of spring, puddles and pot holes, longer days and thoughts of warmer days to come. This winter just past seems to be hanging in there a bit too long, lots of spring activities lie ahead.

First of all we have our annual flea market coming up at Canterbury High school. This has certainly become one of the most significant highlights of the Club season and this year is no exception. What better way to greet the advent of summer than with a visit with fellow hams at a flea market where we can admire the nice new commercial gear or reminisce over the piles of old radio bits and pieces, some of which have seen better days.

What else is ahead? Field Day of course during the last weekend of June. Be sure to let Vic Know what your participation will be, there are a lot of details to cover. With all the new hams in the Club this year I cer-

tainly encourage them to get involved.

A little bit closer at hand are the upcoming May and June meetings. The May meeting has become the one meeting where we recognize those Club members who have contributed significantly to the well-being of the Club. Please speak up if you feel someone should be recognized for their efforts. Talk to any member of the Executive.

It is also that time of year when we must look ahead to next year and our annual general meeting in June. The most important task at hand is to elect a new Executive for 92-93. The current Executive will endeavour to have a nomination committee put forward a proposed slate of officers for the new year and I want all of you to give this topic some thought. The Club has grown to its largest size during the last few years, there are many new members as a result of the Club courses and an influx of others from the amateur community in the

Ottawa area. Last year we moved to a new executive structure comprised of committees for the Club activities. These are listed in the Rambler along with the names of the chairperson for each committee. Have a look at these and ask yourself where you can help. There is nothing in the Club which prevents you from volunteering. Give it some thought.

The one area of activity that I would like to see more participation is in the provision of articles for the *Rambler*. As most of you are aware, the *Rambler* is looked upon as one of the most interesting Amateur newsletters in Canada. The *Rambler* is often mentioned in other ham publications and reprints of interesting articles is quite common. The Editor needs your help to maintain the standard. Technical or general interest write-ups are most welcome. Try your hand at it, you may like it.

I will see you all at the Flea Market and at the May and June meetings

73

THANK YOU KENWOOD

The Pacesetter in Amateur Radio

It's one thing for a corporation to know its market and quite another when that corporation recognizes the voluntary nature of that market and comes through with real, tangible assistance. **Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc. of Mississauga** is one such corporation.

When approached to assist the OVMRC's Flea Market with a draw prize, they offered a top-of-the-line dual Band Handy - the Kenwood TH-77A. This fabulous little performer will be the feature of our Flea Market draw on 11 April. The Club expresses its sincere appreciation to Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc. for this assistance and encourages its members to show their appreciation by shopping Kenwood.

SILENT KEY

JOHN H. "BUD" BROOME

The Club was saddened to learn of the passing of Bud Broome, on Sunday, 22 March, 1992. Bud was a Club member of some years and OM of Betty, VE3ZBB. Although Bud was not a licensed amateur, he was a great enthusiast and encouraged Betty in attaining her license and in her amateur radio activities.

The Members join Betty and her family in grieving the loss of a loved one and a member of the amateur radio fraternity.

Secretary's Minutes



MINUTES OF THE OVMRC MEETING HELD 19 MARCH, 1992

Minutes taken by Jerry Wells.

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by the President, Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, at 1940 hours. Jerry welcomed the seventy-seven members in attendance, including a large number of the OVMRC Radio Course students, and nine guests:

Rick Bradley, VE8QL, from Iqaluit, N.W.T.; Chris Cullen, VE3ULL of Winchester; Lawrence Dobranski, VE3TVV of Nepean; Joe Finn, VE3EWF of Russell; Phea Finn of Russell; Michael Hickey from Goose Bay, Labrador; Tom Marshall; Andrew Webb of Carp; and Robin Webb of Carp.

Jerry noted that one of the students, Daren Bryk, has just received his new call sign - VE3YZA, having written and passed the Basic exam, the Advanced exam, and Morse Code at 12 w.p.m. all on the same day.

2. Flea Market Report. Ken Barry, VE3KJB, Chairman of the Flea Market Committee, gave a run-down on the activities planned for the Club's Flea Market on 11 April. He reported that the raffle prize is a

Kenwood TH-77A, dual-band hand-held transceiver. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Ken asked for help in setting up tables on Friday, 10 April at 1600 hrs at Canterbury High School. He will need assistance to take them down again on Saturday afternoon. Susan, VE3SLC, the snack-bar convenor, asked members to please be generous with their donations of cookies, squares or similar snacks for the "Flea-Bite." The President extended a vote of thanks to Ken and his Committee for their efforts in obtaining the raffle prize from Kenwood and for their fine work in organizing the Flea Market. Well done, Ken & company.

3. CARF Report. Dan Holmes, VE3EBI, gave a brief report from the recent CARF Bulletin.

4. Training Committee Report. Doug Carswell, VE3ATY, reported on his search for a suitable computer to handle the production of Amateur Radio Course manual as decided in a motion at the December, 1991 meeting (see p.4 of the *OVMRC Rambler*, Vol 35, No. 2 February, 1992. This motion approved the expenditure of \$805.00 for an upgrade, but the Committee was urged to investigate the purchase of a new

machine. Doug reported that he is still looking and will report at the next meeting with a final recommendation.

5. Repeater Upgrade Report. The President gave a short report on activities regarding the possible relocation and update of the Club 2-meter repeater. A 6-meter repeater was also mentioned as a possible venture for the Club. The Technical Committee is investigating both of these projects and will make a report at a later date.

6. NETWORKING - Bob Campbell, VE3KJK. The speaker for the evening was Bob Campbell, VE3KJK, the Net Manager of the ComsOnt Net. Bob covered the topic of amateur radio nets, giving the members an insight into the various type of nets, both on HF and VHF. His presentation, liberally interspersed with first hand humorous anecdotes, was well received by the members.

7. Door Prize Draw. The door prize, an antenna anthology, was won by Daren, VE3YZA.

8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hrs and was followed by coffee, goodies and rag-chew.

CAVEAT EMPTOR - LET THE BUYER BEWARE

by Larry Woram, VE3WLN

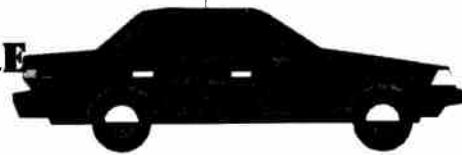
The number of "for sale" items on the various nets is a sure sign that spring is upon us as many amateurs clean up their shacks to make room for new equipment. These nets and the upcoming fleamarkets provide a source of older HF transceivers for the new amateur or those on a budget. Like all consumers, amateurs should be aware of the maxim, "caveat emptor" legalese for let the buyer beware. You are ad-

vised to make yourself as well informed about a piece of HF equipment as you can before purchasing. Does it meet your budget and does it meet your requirements. Swap nets and magazine ads are excellent sources of current asking prices. When you have decided what transceivers are available within your budget you can start your homework. The following is a list of product reviews for HF transceivers published in QST

magazine during 1976 to 1990. The list is not all inclusive but does include many of the popular units. These reviews provide the reader with the transceiver's specifications and explain the features of the unit and the author's overall impression. The more informed you are the better your purchase will be and the happier you will be with it. Do not

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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM HERE AND THERE



by Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ

This month's visit with amateur radio clubs across Canada starts in Calgary with the **Calgary Amateur Radio Association** bulletin *Key Klix*. Jeff VE6RCI ex VE3RCI has accepted the task of running the Calgary club's Field Day effort this year. There are a total of 61 people registered in club sponsored courses. The Telephone Pioneer division of CARA is proposing to set up a Canada wide group called "10 Plus" which would be similar to the Quarter Century Wireless Association. They have also proposed that lists of provincial repeaters be left at border tourist information centres. Every ham in Canada will be receiving information on the Canada 125 Award. This award, sponsored by the Calgary club will be in honour of Canada's 125th birthday.

Next we have the *SARC Feedline* of the **Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club**. A highlight of this month's bulletin is a recipe for diabetic Chocolate chip cookies. We could all use some no-cal cookies! Syl VE5YK writes about the value of keeping a detailed log. He uses it to log contacts for QSLing, to keep track of people in other countries, and to bring back memories of important events. One of these events was the Mexican earthquake of Sept. 19, 1985. Syl's notes provide a detailed account of the dramatic events of that day and the days that followed. Some of the friendships formed then remain to this day.

Next stop is the *SARCommunicator* of the **Sudbury ARC**. They have set up a YL round table net for women amateurs on the club repeater one night a week. This sounds like a good idea. Would anyone like to form one for our club? The bulletin features three pages of lists of all Ontario repeaters. Missing are any repeaters

east of Peterborough. Are they trying to tell us something?

In the **Chatham Kent ARC Clear Signals** there are some definitions of note. A computer is "an electronic device designed to speed the rate at which human beings can make mistakes". A manual is "a book ... that is written so that the user can start making mistakes faster", and a packet is "a paper envelope used to mail the payments for the computer". One of the advantages at this time of year of living in Southwestern Ontario is the Dayton Hamvention. It is within easy range of amateurs in Chatham, London, and Windsor.

On to **London** and the *LARC Bulletin*. Several club members recently visited the TeleSat Canada Teleport in Allen Park, just north of Hanover, Ontario. They were treated to a four-hour tour of the extensive satellite control and uplinking facilities. Apparently tours are available for the asking. Bulletin editor Eric, VE3EPP suggests "capturing" your entire packet radio sessions. This allows him to keep a permanent log of packet activities and makes it possible to copy, edit, and print portions of the log to isolate important information. He then keeps an indexed binder of useful packet information.

Our next stop is the bulletin of the **Scarborough ARC** of Toronto. Editor Dave, VE3SVL reports that Apple, Motorola, and others are working on the technology to give the equivalent of a cellular phone network for computers. Users will be able to connect to their offices or any communication network via radio. The FFC allocated frequency spectrum to this use in January of this year. The SARC Technical Forum discusses Effective Voice Communication. When talking locally emphasis should be on speech quality and low background noise. For DX, audio punch can be im-

proved by the sensible use of speech processing. "Audio quality will be reduced as the amount of compression is increased, but the intelligibility will be increased. To cut down on breath noises, talk across the microphone rather than into it." To be heard in a pileup try transmitting slightly higher in frequency (on USB) than the DX station's frequency. This will make your voice slightly higher in frequency and possibly easier to pick out. Finally, try turning down the volume when copying through QRM. The human ear is more selective at low audio levels.

Our next stop is the *Kingston Amateur News* of the **Kingston ARC**. In mid-March, club members headed off to Watertown to visit their American ham friends. They also helped with the PBS station pledge drive. Did you see them on the air? An article reproduced from World Radio suggests that a quad will give 10 to 15 more minutes of operation in a band opening than a yagi. The information comes from a forum at the ARRL convention last fall.

Next we come to Ottawa and *TelePARC* of the local **Pioneer ARC**. In January and February club members participated in two events of the Nakkertok Ski Club of Cantley, Quebec. About 150 skiers took part in the 25 km Nakkerloppet in January and about 200 kids between the ages of 7 and 19 participated in the Nakkertok Junior Races in February. Seven radio operators participated by manning each of the checkpoints and accompanying the "sweeps".

The **Ottawa ARC Groundwave** has a reminder to new hams of the annual Joe Norton Trust Fund Award. Contact me if you want more infor-

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mation on how you can win \$800. Mike VE3FFK writes that some newcomers have what is known as a "novice accent". "Even if they sound like newcomers, the traditional ham hospitality toward new hams should continue. Let's keep it that way, and

keep helping them along. You were there once too."

Our final stop is the *Reflector*, the bulletin of the Halifax ARC. The callsign for the new club station is VE1FQ in memory of the late Brit Fader. A new HARC QSL card will be developed for the station and for

club members. The club is forming a technical reference library. They are lucky enough to have a permanent location in a school in which to set up a station and to hold club meetings.

Caveat Emptor... from page 4

hesitate to ask other amateurs for opinions on their equipment. It is also makes good sense to bring an amateur with you when you make your purchase and to test the equipment before you buy.

- COLLINS KWM-380 OCT 82
- DRAKE TR-7/DR-7 MAY 79
- HEATH HW-8 APR 76
- HW1101 DEC 76
- SS-9000 FEB 84
- HW-5400 OCT 84
- HW-9/HWA-9 JUL 85
- SB-1400 OCT 89
- ICOM
- IC-701 APR 79
- IC-720A AUG 82
- IC-730 DEC 82
- IC-740 SEP 83
- IC-751 JAN 85
- IC-745 SEP 85
- IC-735 JAN 86
- IC-761 SEP 88
- IC-575A NOV 88
- IC-781 JAN 90
- IC-725 MAR 90
- IC-765 DEC 90
- KENWOOD
- TS-820 SEP 76
- TS-520S MAY 78

- TS-120S FEB 80
- TS-180S MAY 80
- TS-830S MAY 81
- TS-130S JUL 81
- TS-530S MAR 82
- TS-930S JAN 84
- TS-430S MAR 84
- TS-940S FEB 86
- TS-140S JUN 88
- TS-680S OCT 88
- SWAN 100MX JUN 79
- ASTRO 150 JUL 80
- TEN TEC CENTURY21 DEC 77
- 554 JUL 79
- OMNI D JAN 80
- ARGOSY OCT 82
- CENTURY22 MAY 85
- 585 MAY 88
- OMNI V NOV 90
- YAESU
- FT-101E SEP 76
- FT-301D OCT 77
- FT-901DM NOV 78
- FT-101ZD DEC 79
- FT-7B MAR 80
- FT-107M APR 81
- FT-707 JUN 81
- FT-ONE AUG 83
- FT-102 OCT 83

- FT-77 NOV 83
- FT-980 NOV 84
- FT-757GX DEC 84
- FT-767GX SEP 87
- FT-747GX DEC 89

There are many excellent product reviews in other magazines such as CQ, 73 and Radio Fun. The December issue of most magazines feature an index of the past year's articles for you to refer to. I choose QST magazine for this article as it is available at the Main Library at 120 Metcalfe (at Laurier Ave.).

When shopping at a flea market for used equipment, it is an advantage to know the seller, especially if he or she is from the local area. For the most part, amateurs are honourable people and will not intentionally lead you astray. But there are no guarantees, unless the seller gives you his personal guarantee and you know him to be an honest person. Most local amateurs will not want to blacken their reputation for the sake of a sale and will usually back up their word. However, if you buy a piece of equipment at a "real good price" when it is advertised "as is" you have all the more reason to keep the maxim in mind -- CAVEAT EMPTOR!

Good luck.

Larry Woram VE3WLN

REMOVE AND FOLD THE LAST TWO PAGES OF THIS ISSUE AND RETAIN AS A CLUB DIRECTORY