

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club
RAMBLER

Volume 35, Number 10 - October 1992

Mini-Field Day – maxi success!

by Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

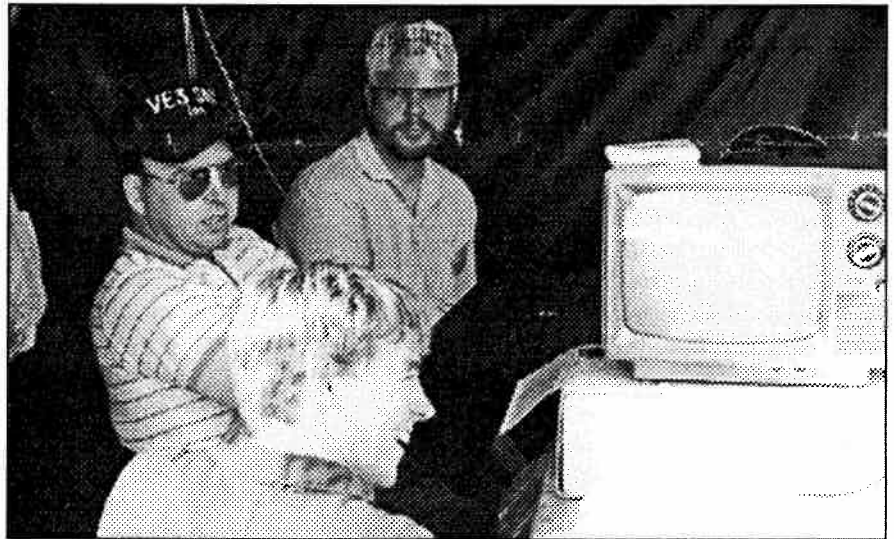
The "Techno Days" Amateur Radio Demo, was held August 29 & 30, 1992 to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Museum of Science & Technology in Ottawa

What an impressive array of science and technology for the public to enjoy! It was billed as two spectacular days of exciting indoor and outdoor activities with hands-on demonstrations featuring technological artifacts in action. It certainly turned out to be a resounding success in spite of the (un)usual (only in Ottawa you say?) crazy weather. Where was that sun?

Thanks to an invitation from Ernie DeCoste, VE3RIM (Radio In Museum), Senior Curator, Communications and Space, Museum of Science & Technology, and thanks to the quick commitment by our President, Bob Sharp, VE3YBC (I still don't know, why BC?), along with a multitude of helpful volunteers, we successfully operated a demonstration amateur radio station for the public.

Volunteers galore

From the time of set-up on Friday to the tear-down on Sunday, everyone pitched-in to make this an event to remember. I want to thank all of you for your assistance (I wish I



VE3SNX explains the difference between HF and TV

Photo:VE3WEH

could name you all). A hearty "Thank You" to Jim VE3NPJ, for your steel nerve in climbing the tower and threading the trees to install and take down our dipoles. "Special Thanks" to Marty VE3XRV, for the loan of your treasured (I would need a treasure to buy one!) Kenwood TS950S, the TS440 rig and other equipment you and Graham Walker from Bytown Marine so generously loaned. "Thanks" also to Mike VE3IPC, and your aspiring-to-be-an-amateur son, Eric VE3??? for bringing along your newly built 2m "Electrician's Delight" and the 2m/70cm "Copper Cactus J-Pole".

Bad bands

From the tight confines of a single brown military field tent,

(thanks once again to Mike VE3BGP and DND) the public and hams alike heard VE3JW, our museum amateur radio station in action on 20, 40 and 80 meters. In spite of poor propagation, Ian VE3SNX reported that we made 213 contacts during the 12 hours we operated. We will need help filling out those QSL cards! We made 148 of these contacts during the times we controlled the Trans-Provincial net. Not bad for a bunch of amateurs eh?

And the competition was fierce, especially from the other side of the table! Tom VE3UOM, our youngest and most avid operator (son of VE3NPJ), was very successful, considering the conditions.

See Techno Days..... page 6

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club

RAMBLER

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The OVMRC
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The 1992-1993 OVMRC executive

President: Bob Sharp, VE3YBC, 731-7089
Vice-President: Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, 747-5565
Past President: Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, 225-7374
Treasurer: Richard Adams, VE3EIT, 749-2619
Secretary: Larry Woram, VE3WLN, 835-2959

Standing committee chairs

Amateur radio exhibit: Cy Webster, VE3SIY, 733-2371
Amateur radio training (acting): Doug Carswell, VE3ATY, 839-5854
Field day: Vic Bajaj, VE3BSV, 726-9270
Flea market: Ken Barry, VE3KJB, 746-4823
Historical (acting): Pat Brewer, VE3KJQ, 825-8721
Hysterical: Neil Herber, VE3PUE, 829-4668
Membership: Mike Beausoleil, VE3BGP, 739-8871
Newsletter: See hysterical (don't ask)
Publicity and programs: Keith Beardsley, VE3SVQ, 731-7912
Radio operations: Ian Kennedy, VE3SNX, 747-8387
Technical: John Pope, VE3ACI, 989-3629

Ramblerites

Contributors to this issue:
Ron VE3UWR, Roger VE3XRR, Bob VE3YBC, Leo VE3NVL, Fred VE3BAJ, Ian VE3SNX, Larry VE3WEH, Larry VE3WLN
Get your name in here – if Larry leaves you any room!
Circulation:
Bill Chapman, VE3RWC
Fred Haire, VE3NJF
Eric Still, VE3OTT
Kevin Still

Mark Your Calendar!

Next general meeting:

Thursday, October 15, 1992 19:30 local time in the auditorium at the National Museum of Science and Technology. Field day video by Larry VE3WEH and crew.

Next executive meeting:

Thursday, October 22, 1992 19:30 local time in the volunteer room at the National Museum of Science and Technology.

Deadline for the next issue of the Rambler:

Thursday, October 22, 1992.

Affiliated clubs

The OVMRC exchanges bulletins with the following organizations:

Augusta Amateur Radio Association, Augusta, ME
Border City Radio Club, Windsor, ON
CARF, Kingston, ON
CRRL, Arva, ON
Chatham-Kent Amateur Radio Club Inc., Ridgeway, ON
Calgary Amateur Radio Association, Calgary, AB
Halifax Amateur Radio Club, Halifax, NS
Heritage Amateur Radio Club, Cobourg, ON
Kingston ARC, Kingston, ON
London Amateur Radio Club, London, ON
Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Ottawa, ON
Pioneer Amateur Radio Club, Nepean, ON
Scarborough Amateur Radio Club, Inc., Scarborough, ON
Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club, Cornwall, ON
Sudbury Amateur Radio Club, Sudbury, ON
Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club, Saskatoon, SK
Thousand Islands Amateur Radio Association, Prescott, ON
West Island Amateur Radio Club Inc., Dorval, PQ

Sponsors

The OVMRC provides bulletins to the following organizations for their past support of our activities:

Bytown Marine, Ottawa, ON
Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON
Seaway Communications Co., Cornwall, ON

We gratefully acknowledge the support provided by Dy-4 Systems in printing the Rambler.

Ramblings

Words of wisdom from our President, Bob Sharp, VE3YBC

This month there are a few topics I would like to cover with you. I think the first and most important is to ask you the simple question: "When you are driving around on the highway do you know where you are?" I ask this question because "a funny thing happened on the way to the Flea Market in Kingston".

While I was driving with VE3CUZ Chris and VE3LBH Peter to Kingston we witnessed a very serious car accident. A car with three occupants crashed and rolled over on the 401 just east of Joyceville and we saw it happen. We stopped and found one occupant with minor injuries, but the other two were trapped in the car. I pulled out my trusty handie talkie and broke into the Kingston repeater (146.94 -) with "Emergency Traffic". I asked the operator who took my call to phone the OPP, Ontario Ambulance and the fire department. He asked for my location and **I DID NOT KNOW WHERE THE HELL I WAS!**

The best location I could give him was the 401 east between Joyceville and Gananoque. Well, that was enough to get the emergency response started at least. We continued on our way looking for a mile marker post so we could give the police a better location. As it turned out we were 1km east of Joyceville.

This might not seem like much but it would make a difference if the ambulances or fire department were coming from Gananoque or Kingston. Yes, amateur radio was there to help out when needed, but the help might have arrived faster if they had a pinpoint location. This happened to me and it might happen to you. **Know your location.** It could save a life.

Flea Markets

I saw more than a few club members at the Kingston Flea Market, all out hunting for bargains. If you found some, why not give us a demo of the new toys at one of the meetings? Call me and get scheduled in. Don't forget the Scariest Flea Market in the region. The other Ottawa Club, our friends in the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club will be holding a flea market on the 31st of October. Save up your pennies and plan to attend.

Our flea market plans have hit a snag. The Ottawa Board of Education seems to have become a bit greedy. Raising the rent at Canterbury High School was bad enough, but now they want a percentage of the gate and the sales. Some of our commercial vendors only mark up about 5% for our events so the 10% the OBE wants is a bit much. If you know of a hall large enough (10 000 ft²) to suit our needs, give Ken VE3KJB a call.

Public Communications

Once again the dreaded deadline stops me from informing you about The OVMRC successfully handling a communications event. The cutoff for the *Rambler* was the 24th of Sept and on the 26th we will handle communications for a car rally. Thanks to all the people who offered their services for this event. There will be a full report on the event in the next *Rambler*.

Jammers Again

After the September general meeting, I got together with Peter VE3YYY, Larry VE3WEH, Ian VE3SNX and Bill VE3NPG for a coffee and bull session. Of course the topic was amateur radio. We agreed that something should be done about the infamous "button

pushers" that seem to haunt any repeater with a phone patch or a linking system. The problem is not just in Ottawa, it's everywhere. It seemed strange to us that whenever any clubs hold a direction finding (DF) contest (also called t-hunt, fox hunt or bunny hunt) there is no shortage of qualified operators, most of whom show up with some sort of home-brew "star wars" DF equipment. Yet if a button pusher disrupts a local repeater for hours, we can't find him! If we put some energy into looking for these guys, life on the repeaters would be much nicer.

I had a meeting with the people at the Museum the Friday after our September meeting and we cleared up the problem that we had with the audio visual system. It will be turned on for the October meeting and we will be able to see and hear our Field Day Video. Larry VE3WEH has spent many long hours at the editing table to squeeze 24 hours of field day into 30 minutes of prime footage. Don't miss this one night only special showing. Please – no Popcorn in the auditorium.

CW Claims Another Victim

One final note to those of you who checked into the Pothole Net on Sunday Sept 27th. Yes, that fellow giving Ian a well deserved break was me. After much procrastination and studying I finally passed my 5 wpm CW exam. Two of my observations are: 1)"Supermorse" actually does work, and 2) if I passed, just about anyone else can pass if they work at it. Hopefully before the summer I should have full privileges. That's about all I have for this month. See you at the October meeting.

– 73 de VE3YBC –

Minutes

Secretary's minutes from the last general meeting, by Larry Woram, VE3WLN

OVMRC General Meeting
September 17, 1992

1) Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 19:45 by the President, Bob VE3YBC. Bob introduced the executive and the chairpersons to the membership and welcomed all members, guests and visitors. Visitors welcomed included Jack VE3UPH, John VE3EIE, Bruce VE3CLN, VE3IPB, Jim VE3NPJ, Tom, Rob VE3SJM and Sam.

2) Amateur Radio Training

Doug VE3ATY reported that enrollment for this year's course is down from previous years and this may be attributable to EMRG offering one at the same time. The last part of the manual is finished and in the hands of the publisher, CARF and will be available at the Kingston flea market for \$34.00. This includes both the theory and question bank. It will be sold locally through Bytown Marine. Doug also asked the class of '93 to stand up and be recognized.

3) Technical

John VE3ACI thanked Moe VE3JTD and Phil VE3BYB for the help recently when his vehicle broke down. He also thanked Bob VE3YBC and Larry VE3WEH for their help with E.M.R. John briefly informed the members of the coming events with respect to the repeater. We intend to acquire a new 6m antenna for VE3RVI and a new 2m antenna for VE3TWO. This will be installed further up the support to provide better coverage. A 440 transmitter slaved onto the 2m unit is being considered. Bob VE3YBC stated

that the members have asked for the bells and whistles which will cost money. However, they will be phased in over a period of time. [See page 8. Ed.]

4) Radio Operations

Ian VE3SNX reminded members of the times and frequencies of the various nets and advised that Leo was looking for controllers for the Wise Owl net. The National Museum of Science and Technology demonstration was well received and 213 contacts were made during poor band conditions.

5) Flea Market

Ken VE3KJB announced that license plate frames were still for sale. The site for our 1993 Flea Market is unknown. Ken explained that the school board now wants \$48.00 per hour and 10% of all sales. Anyone who knows of a suitable site with approximately 10 000 ft² contact Ken at 746-4823.

6) Membership

Mike VE3BGP informed us that we presently have 248 paid memberships.

7) Publicity & Programs

Keith VE3SVQ has a contact who can give the club free publicity in community newspapers. Any human interest story should be directed to Keith for submission. Keith also asked the members for suggestions for guests speakers and topics for upcoming meetings. Phone Keith and leave a message on his answering machine. Be sure to identify yourself as an amateur.

8) Newsletter

Neil VE3PUE announced that the *Rambler* is not being sent to

those who have not yet renewed. He encouraged them to renew. Anyone with upcoming event news should pass the information onto Leo VE3NVL, event coordinator for the *Rambler*. Neil noted that Fred VE3NMF was ill and that we need someone to take over his job of stuffing and mailing the *Rambler* while he recovers. Two volunteers came forward.

10) CARF Bulletin

Dan VE3EBI reported that there were still four places available for the CARF 25th anniversary dinner to be held on September 26. The Guelph Amateur Radio Club will be operating special event station VG3W from November 7 to 11 in commemoration of Remembrance day. Operations will be limited to 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters.

11) Coffee

In view of the increased costs incurred, Sue VE3SLC announced that coffee and a cookie was now 50¢ with additional cookies 10¢.

12) Other

Chuck VE3PDK informed everyone that two of our members were ill; Fred Haire VE3NMF and Joyce Wells (wife of Jerry VE3CDS). Cards were passed through the auditorium for members to sign so that our best wishes could go out to both of them. Graham Walker from Bytown Marine is in the General Hospital after an accident. The club received a thank you card from the family of Blair Conlin VE3SHG for the donation to the Cancer Society.

See Minutes..... page 10

News & Views

Tidbits from here and there, by Larry Woram, VE3WLN

I would like to apologize to those who noticed that this column was missing from last month's issue of the *Rambler*. The truth of the matter is, I forgot all about the deadline. However, had I not been tardy, there would be little to report this month, since the newsletters are just starting to come in.

We'll start by welcoming out newest affiliate member the Seaway Amateur Radio Club and their president Jacques VE3VIA. The SVARC had a very successful field day, operating 6 HF stations with which they managed 769 QSO's for a point total of 1830. Of interest was a reference to an article in *QST Canada* making mention of the West Island ARC DX'pedition to Charlton Island in James Bay this past August under the call VE8CWI. Peter Purdy VE3NVP (a member of the OVMRC) joined Mark VE2PTT and other WIARC members. Maybe we can ask them to visit us for a presentation.

The London Amateur Radio Club *LARC Bulletin* sports a new look this year with the addition of the club logo and a new page format. Very attractive. Club president Carl VE3ZCO reported that the club station VE3LAC is up and running. Repeater VE3LON (147.06+) was retubed during the summer and is putting out 75 watts. The LARC is offering radio proficiency classes for newly licensed amateurs to learn correct operational procedures through hands-on experience.

From the *Kingston Amateur News* - field day was held this year at the cottage George VE3GWS has at Pike Lake.

While they reported that the bands were not active, they enjoyed a large turnout of members and visitors. During the summer the KARC ran a fox hunt with 15 hunters taking part. The 8th annual KARC flea market was held on September 19 and from what I heard while driving home through NY, it was a huge success.

The Chatham-Kent Amateur Radio Club *Clear Signals* also reported a very successful field day with 60 members present on Saturday morning to set up. Members were also kept busy during the summer with a fox hunt and a golf tournament (how does the first annual OVMRC tournament sound?). As a community service the CKARC supplies and maintains weather radios in all schools in Kent County. Well done.

The September issue of *TelePARC* reported the successful field day activities of the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club. This year's event was held was down the road from me in Cumberland at the campsite of the 1st Cumberland Scout Troop. The scouts, including those from the Rockland troop, assisted in most of the QSO logging. There were 485 QSO's logged for 1384 points. Members were asked to request identification from individuals not identifying themselves when using the phone patch on VE3TEL.

The *Reflector* echoed all the other clubs in announcing a successful field day for members of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club. It seems that it is not the points that make the event but the people. The HARC will be operating a

club station on October 24 & 25 in conjunction with the Boy Scouts on the Air.

The *Augustan*, published by the Augusta (Maine) Amateur Radio Association, Inc. extended congratulations to Stacy KA1MHB on his marriage to Becky Morang on September 5. Best wishes from the OVMRC. An unique column in The *Augustan* highlights club events from 10, 30 and 40 years ago. Thirty years ago the AARA was discussing the upcoming hamfest and the purchase of a coffee urn.

Just as I was finished keying this column in, I received another new bulletin, the *WIARC Bulletin* from the West Island Amateur Radio Club. They reprinted an article from *Florida Skip* magazine which attributed the origin of the word "Ham" to the station call of the first wireless station operated by amateurs of the Harvard Radio Club.

They first used the first two letters of each of their names, HY - AL - MU. In 1908 some confusion resulted between their call and a Mexican ship named "HYALMO" so the call was changed to the first letter only for "HAM". In 1911 one of the amateurs, Albert Hyman appeared before a congressional hearing on the Wireless Regulation Bill during which every speaker talked about "...poor little station HAM" and the rest is history.

The newsletter also featured a clever two device car theft deterrent costing less than \$2. I will supply a copy to anyone interested.

-73-

It was so noisy (from the other side of the table) at one point, Tom put on headphones but then he couldn't hear me!

Seriously, this was not a contest but rather an opportunity to work together to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the National Museum of Science & Technology. It was also an opportunity to have some fun, to meet other hams on the airwaves and to demonstrate ham radio to the public in a field operation.

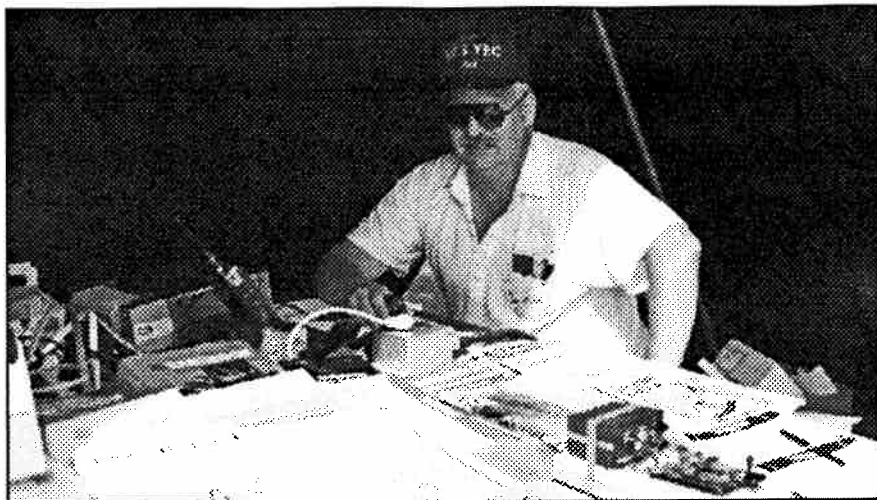
Radio Woes

Oh the joys of operating a strange, new, wonderful, thousands of bells and whistles radio! I was working with Mike VE3IPC on the Kenwood TS950S, and it proved to be more radio than we thought.

One of our first contacts was with an amateur in Nepean (he will get a QSL card too) and he informed us we had a terrible signal (seems we were way "overmod"). Marty VE3XRV, the smarty expert, quickly resolved the problem with a flip of the pre-amp switch on the bottom of the microphone stand! (Mike, where's that switch again?)

Hot coffee arrived about this time, supplied by none other than our very capable Field Day cook, Richard VE3UNW. On a cold, wet, windy, miserable morning, the coffee was very invigorating, tasty and well appreciated – thanks Richard!

The TS440, worked so well that it outdrew Bob VE3YBC's Bronco battery and "blew" it (along with \$60 of Bob's money). Poor Bob suffered the loss with grace and jumped at



"Why do I need a new battery?"

Photo:VE3WEH

the opportunity to ask for help. Peter VE3SOF came to the rescue by loaning us his power supply, which worked flawlessly through the rest of the event.

CQ DX, CQ DX

I recall the weak up-and-down signals when Mike VE3IPC, made contact with J88NCF, from St. Pierre in the Grenadine Islands, Caribbean Sea on 20m. The enthusiasm and sparkle radiating from Tom, VE3UOM, nearly lit up the dark tent as he made contact with Art VE7AAA, in West Vancouver. We also had Vic VE3BSV working DL5FCZ in Germany on CW and he worked many other stations. Well done Vic! And what about our Radio Operations Chairperson, VE3SNX? Well, Ian conducted the Pot Hole net on 3.760 at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning and had about 11 stations check in. Way to go Ian, another first and more history was made!

Thanks again

I would personally like to say "Merci à tous! (that's enough of my French) to all the radio operators (including the Class

of 92' which was well represented) for spending so many hours of their precious time working under extremely difficult conditions – rain, cold, and noisy, poor propagation.

I particularly enjoyed meeting the public, and I was able to meet many of you for the first time. I enjoyed demonstrating 2m to a very interested lady. She was amazed to see a phone patch from the middle of a field with an HT (or is that HH?). The handouts, including RIC-24 and RIC-25, were quickly snapped up the public and even some amateurs! Perhaps we should do a "special subject night" on the Welcome Mat net. What do you think Dave, Steve and Al?

Finally, on behalf of the club, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the museum staff for their assistance. Many thanks to all the visitors (especially the amateurs) who came by to say "hello" or to participate in our demonstration. We enjoyed it so much, we'd do it again. In fact, we hope the museum invites us again next year. Any volunteers?

– 73 –

Class of '92

by Ron Clément, VE3UWR & Roger Rose, VE3XRR

Old timers ready to pass the buck to new upstarts

It's amazing that by the time you read this, it will be the Fall of '92. Summer... where did it go? At least the students in the Class of '93 won't get classes cancelled because of snow!!!

Back to our topic.

On August 29 and 30, Techno Days was held at the Museum of Science and Technology. We kept hearing Ian VE3SNX on the Welcome Mat net with his general statements asking for volunteers to help at the Museum with the club station, VE3JW. Being a newly licensed amateur radio operator, I (VE3UWR) was too nervous to volunteer. I just didn't know what to expect.

I'm sure that there will be an article in this month's edition about Techno Days, so I will not do a report on it. All I want to say is that I am sure glad that I did my part in helping out. I personally learned a lot more about amateur radio and antennas in those two days than I did in the past year. Oops, no insult intended to Doug VE3ATY and the course. We all learned a lot on the course but I am sure that Doug will agree with me that

hands-on experience is better than theory.

It was a pleasure talking to potential and experienced amateur radio operators about the hobby. From now on this writer will not be too nervous to volunteer his services. (No comments Mister Ed).

Anyone who hasn't volunteered should give it a shot at least once. You will never know what personal satisfaction you can get out of giving some time to the club.

For those of you who have been around since the Diefenbaker days, you may feel that you've paid your dues... but I would like to say that we appreciated your help. On Field Day and Techno Days. Your answers to our many questions expanded our radio knowledge.

In case you haven't heard, a big **Thank You!** to all of you who have answered all the questions that the students of the Class of '92 have asked.

By now, the Class of '93 has started. There must be a group of future radio operators trying very hard, to answer Doug's "no brainer" questions. As a

recent graduate, all I can suggest to you is to make sure that you answer all of your homework questions. If you don't understand the answer or question, then speak up in class.

Another suggestion is to put aside at least twenty minutes every night, including weekends and holidays, for your Morse code practice. Jerry VE3CDS is right, "Practice makes perfect." Don't give up. It's really not that hard as long as you keep at it. Yes Jerry, I will call you to pass my 12wpm soon.

A challenge to the Class of '93. The club would like to know how the class is progressing. Mister Ed is looking for one or two of the students to send in an article to the *Rambler* once a month. If you're interested and don't know what to write about, call the authors of this article. We will be glad to assist you in any way we can. Please think about it. We have lots of fun doing this article.

Enough is enough. Time to turn this thing off before my nicads die on me. So until next month...

-73-

Long-winded columnists leave little leeway

by Neil Herber (VE3PUE)

The *Rambler* is suffering from too much of a good thing – at least for this issue. Because the repeater proposal took up two

pages, and because some windy columnists take two pages to say their thing (no names here, but We Expected Havoc) we don't have room for many pictures, Mr Ed [No loss.

Ed.], Letters to the Editor, or Welcome New Members. These treasured items will be back next issue (unless you-know-who starts writing again).

-73-

Proposal for a new VE3TWO repeater system

*Prepared by Bob Sharp, VE3YBC
for the Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club Inc.*

Many club members have approached me (and other members of the executive) with suggestions for improving the VE3TWO 2m repeater. What I am proposing is a three-phase improvement and expansion of the existing repeater.

This expansion would take at least 2 years to implement, and would result in a repeater system for our members (and all amateur radio operators in the Ottawa-Carleton Region) which would be second to none. Spreading the cost over 2 years keeps the club within its budget.

Phase One

In Phase One we would take our existing 2m repeater off line to give it a proper bench tune-up, increase its power and to raise the height of the antenna.

Additions to the existing system

We would take up the offer of the Ottawa Six Meter Interest Group and enter into a lease agreement for the use of repeater VE3RVI. This will give us the use of a second repeater with a much better ground wave than the 2m machine. Going hand-in-hand with the 2m repeater tune-up would be a new 70cm repeater.

Many of our members use dual-band radios or 70cm radios and have expressed interest in avoiding intermod whenever possible. At the end of Phase One, the club will have VE3TWO up and running on 3 bands (2m, 6m and 70cm).

Costs

Costs incurred in Phase One would be nominal. The 2m machine simply needs a good tune-up and the 6m machine is all ready up and running. However, the cost of a 70cm repeater is hard to estimate, due to the unpredictable availability of used repeaters. One of the certain costs would be for a new dual-band antenna and duplexer for the 2m and 70cm machines. The 6m repeater (VE3RVI) has its own antenna system which we could use. The technical committee will provide us with more details on these costs.

Phase Two

During Phase Two we would link the 3 existing repeaters.

Additions to the system

The Regional Government's Department of Emergency Measures has expressed an interest in linking two of their proposed repeaters into our system. They are planning to install a 2m and a 70cm repeater at a Regional Government site at Carlington Park in the west end of Ottawa. We would have access to that site for equipment that we plan to install in Phase Three. Our jointly-operated repeaters would be at two locations.

OVMRC VE3TWO repeaters at 580 Booth Street:

- 2m
- 6m (was VE3RVI)
- 70cm

EMRG repeaters at Carlington Park:

- 2m
- 70cm

We would also link our system into the existing linking system

of the Renfrew County Amateur Radio Club (attached to TFMCS). We do not know at this time if we would be receiving our feed from the hub at Foymount (VE3UCR) or from Ottawa (VE3MPC). One of the features of this system is that it gives us direct access to the new IPARN system.

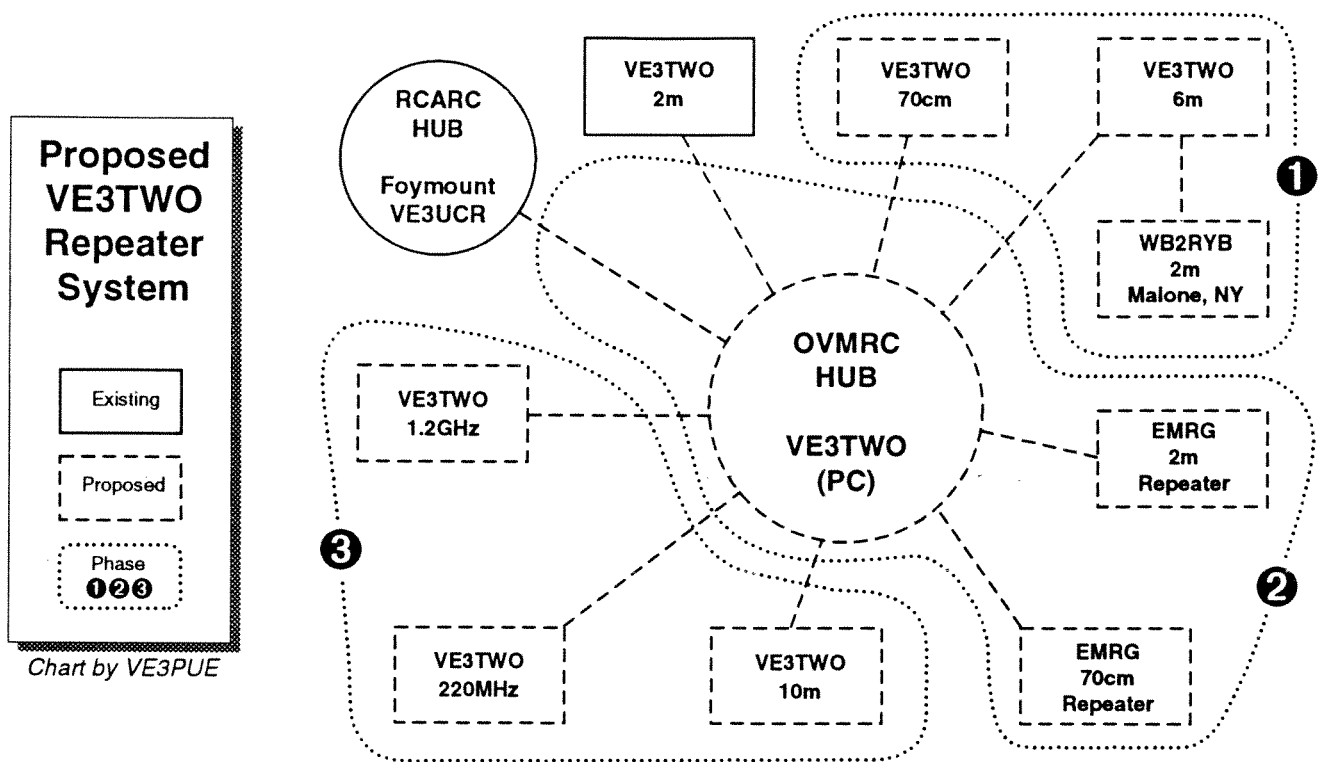
Costs

Costs incurred in Phase Two would be nominal. The bulk of the system would be controlled by a 286 computer and the software would be available to us from the TFMCS or it could be custom designed by our members. The largest cost is most likely to be the link boards and the hardware that goes with them. The Region would pick up the cost of linking their equipment into our system.

Advantages

It goes without saying that the VE3TWO system at the end of this phase would be second to none in Canada. It would provide unmatched services to club members and other local amateurs as well the citizens of the Ottawa-Carleton region. The effective coverage of our repeaters would be approximately 100 miles from the repeater site due to the great 6m groundwave. We would have next to no intermod on the 70cm repeater and the 2m repeater would provide full system access to most, if not all, amateurs. This would make it the largest multi-repeater system with linking in the region (possibly in all Ontario).

(Continued on next page)



Phase Three

This part of the system is the most expensive as well as the most dramatic. We would we add three more repeaters to our system as our club grows:

- a 10m repeater
- a 1.2GHz repeater
- a 220MHz repeater

At the end of Phase Three we would have eight separate repeaters on the air. All of them would be able to operate independently, or they could be linked in virtually any combination through the hub. This would be invaluable for emergency or public service uses. I estimate that we could provide reliable communications for any event within a 100 mile (160km) radius from the jointly-operated repeater sites.

Costs

For this phase we would have to make a big dip into club funds if we wanted to purchase new equipment. However, we have time to shop around for

used equipment to get the three new repeaters on the air and linked into the existing system. With time to look for deals, we should be able to do better than off-the-rack prices. We hope to be able to tap some sources of funding from one of the levels of government to complete the system.

At the end of Phase Three our system would consist of six VE3TWO repeaters:

- 2m
- 70cm
- 6m
- 220MHz
- 10m
- 1.2GHz

We would also have access to the following (proposed but unlicensed) EMRG repeaters:

- 2m
- 70cm

Our system would also have access to the RCARC linking system (TFMCS) as well as the IPARN system. These superb links would greatly benefit our members and all amateurs in the region.

Conclusion

I must admit that this is the largest task that our club has ever considered undertaking. The benefits to the citizens of the area, to local amateurs and to our club make it seem very inviting. Your executive officers have been working on this plan for some time and we offer this proposal for your approval.

The OVMRC is the largest club in the region and our numbers are growing. It is only fitting that we be in the forefront of providing a service to the community at large as well as ourselves. As our hobby grows, so technology grows and so must we grow with it.

Thank you for considering this proposal. We will be discussing it at future meetings and I welcome your input.

*Robert C. Sharp, VE3YBC
President, OVMRC*

Coiled again!

by special inductee,
Fred Noble, VE3BAJ

I was somewhat dismayed to find myself with 29 of my 30 free coil forms left over after the September meeting. Is experimenting really 50 years in the past?

RF coils are used in many aspects of radio – if you ever build an HF antenna tuner, you'll need a few.

The September 1992 issue of TCA discussed coils, and there is lots of info available in various handbooks. Here's another nifty formula featuring inductance:

$$LC = \frac{25330}{f^2}$$

where:

L = inductance in μH

C = capacitance in μF

f = frequency in MHz

PS: I've still got some coil forms!

-73-

Upcoming Events, Help Wanted

October 10, 1992

The 39th WIARC Auction and Flea Market will be held at St. John Fisher Catholic Church in Pointe Claire, PQ. Doors open at 08:00. Auction starts at 09:00. For tables (\$10), contact Brian VE2IBV at 626-9008.

Contributed by VE3WLN

October 17, 18, 19, 1992

The annual Scout Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). Interested in having scouts in your shack? Please contact Ron VE3UWR at 744-6672.

Contributed by VE3WLN

October 17, 18 1992

More scout JOTA! Interested in helping out the Carleton Place and Almonte troupes? Please contact Al VE3DMR at 257-5653 or on the STP mini-net. Al needs real outdoorsmen (and women) to staff 20m SSB, 80m SSB and 2m FM stations on Saturday afternoon, the 17th for 2 to 4 hours. Any other help, equipment loans or moral

support gratefully accepted.
Contributed by VE3PUE

October 31, 1992

OARC flea market at Cumberland Community Centre on Dunning Road, Cumberland, Ontario. Admission (\$4) entitles you to hourly draws and the main draw at noon. Doors open to vendors at 07:30, to public at 09:00. Tables (\$8) can be reserved by contacting Peter VE3LBW at 745-0608 or Paul VE3CEP at 733-0148. Refreshments. Talk-in on VE2CRA 146.940 MHz.

Contributed by VE3NVL

December 13, 1992

Talk to Santa event sponsored by the OVMRC at the Museum. Contact Ian VE3SNX at 747-8387. Bilingual operators with 2m handies needed.

Contributed by VE3PUE

To put a notice in here,
call Leo VE3NVL
at 225-0902.

Minutes..... from page 4

Ed VE3RDZ asked for technical help with his IC2AT while Leo VE3NVL asked for help in getting started on packet.

Chris VE3CUZ is operating the computer bulletin board, Channel-23. He is making it available at no cost to members of the OVMRC with a modem and IBM, Apple or Amiga computer. The numbers are 830-5391, 830-9217, 830-8147 and 830-8148.

Larry VE3WEH introduced the Welcome Mat managers, Al VE3TYJ, Steve VE3RUU, Dave VE3TVU and himself.

13) Guest Speaker

Peter VE3YYY once again was kind enough to visit with us and speak on the link system and the role of the Renfrew County Amateur Radio Club (RCARC) as the operator of the link system in cooperation with clubs in Toronto, Buffalo, and other cities and with the operators of IPARN. Peter explained that while the system was not perfect, they were working on the technical problems and that it requires constant effort and dedication by their members and the support of others who use the system.

Everyone was encouraged to support the link through a

membership in the RCARC (they are the access to IPARN) and to use the link to widen ones horizons. Memberships are available for \$20 and should be sent to the RCARC, Box 39, Chalk River, ON, K0J 1J0.

Unfortunately we were not able to provide Peter with the proper audio-visual aids he required for his presentation. Nevertheless, he was able to deliver an excellent presentation and he answered numerous questions from the floor.

14) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 21:45 and was followed by coffee and ragchew. - 73 -