



THE OVMRC RAMBLER

Volume 40, Number 9, April, 1996

Nominations For Club Officers

A Nominations Committee has now been formed with the responsibility to submit to the membership a slate of candidates for executive officers for 1996-1997. The Committee, comprised of Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, and Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, will be contacting members to ascertain whether they will accept nomination and stand for election at the Club's annual meeting in June.

In view of the fact that the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary have served for two consecutive years in the same office, each must be replaced in the forthcoming election. No such restriction applies to Committee Chairpersons. However, they must stand for election on an annual basis.

The Committee points out that according to the Bylaw 8.4, titled "Other Nominations", no nominations for office will be accepted from the floor at the June meeting. If you wish to have your name placed in nomination for any office along with those submitted by the Committee, your nomination must be in writing, signed by the mover and two seconders (all of whom must be in good standing in the Club) and must include a written and signed indication by the nominee that he/she is eligible and willing to stand for election.

All written nominations must reach the Nominations Committee by May 24th to be included in the June edition of the Rambler but no later than June 6th, 1996, to be included in the June 20th election.

Special Event Station, VE3JW

The museum station, VE3JW, is celebrating its one year anniversary of being refurbished in its new location on Sunday, April 14th, from 1400 to 2200 UTC (9:00am to 5:00pm ET). A special events station will be held on VE3JW on the following frequencies - 3860, 7260, 14260, (+/- QRM) and 147.300 (+). A special anniversary QSL certificate has been designed to mark the occasion. If you wish to receive a certificate send a 9 x 12 inch self addressed stamped envelope (if you send a letter sized envelope your certificate will be folded) to : Anniversary Special Event, VE3JW, P.O. Box 5530, Station F, Ottawa, Ontario, K2C 3M1.

If you would like to assist in the special events station as an operator for an hour or two, please contact Jacques, VE3TSC, at 748-6597, evenings.

Teacher/School Still Required

Dennis Mungham and Elaine Fortin are still looking for a teacher, affiliated with a local school, to act as educational coordinator for their student-shuttle communications program. They are hoping to arrange for a scheduled contact for the students with a space shuttle.

It is anticipated that planning for the event will take one to two years.

If interested, please call either Elaine at 721-7070 or Jacques at 748-6597 (evenings).

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club

RAMBLER

The Rambler is published monthly by:

The OVMRC
Box 5530, Station F
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada K2C 3M1

Opinions expressed in the Rambler are those of authors, and not necessarily those of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated, its officers or its members. Permission is granted to republish the contents, in whole or in part, providing the source is acknowledged. Commercial use of the contents is expressly prohibited.

The 1995-1996 OVMRC Executive

President: Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, 728-3666
Vice-President: Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, 731-6749
Treasurer: Colin Finlayson, VE3UZU, 722-4452
Secretary: Roger Rose, VE3XRR, 741-9847

Standing Committee Chairs

Amateur Radio Exhibit: Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, 828-3839
Amateur Radio Training: John Moffat, VE3NJ, 224-5204
Field Day: Jake Guertin, VA3TQX, 744-2717
Flea Market: Ed Strange, VA3CEJ, 828-4804
Historical: Mike Beausoleil, VE3BGP, 739-8871 &
Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, 747-5565
Membership: Gordon Beatty, VA3GRB, 722-4675
Newsletter: Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, 745-9214
Publicity & Programs: Moe Cluff, VE3CTD &
Leonard Chodat, VE3LPH, 733-5122
Radio Operations: Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC, 748-6597
Technical: Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, 737-9443
Novice: Joe Donneley, VA3JJD, 488-3299

OVMRC Life Members

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM
Doug Carswell, VE3ATY
Gerry King, VE3GK
Fred Noble, VE3BAJ
Jerry Wells, VE3CDS
Bill Wilson, VE3NR

Joining or Renewing RAC Membership

When joining or renewing your membership in RAC, remember to quote "OTT-101" on your application. This will reimburse the OVMRC \$3 of your RAC membership dues which will be passed back to you in the form of a credit on your next year's OVMRC dues.

OVMRC CODE PHONE - 737-0197

SEE THE OVMRC WEB PAGE:

<http://www.worldlink.ca/ovmrc>

The OVMRC gratefully acknowledges the support of the Corel Corporation in producing the Rambler.

Mark Your Calendar !

Next general meeting:

Thursday, April 18th at 1930 hours in the main auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology. A really different type of evening is planned - it will be a "Variety Show Night". Entertainment and fun are the order of the evening. Bring your family and friends and enjoy the fun !

Deadline for next Rambler:

Friday, April 26, 1996.

OVMRC's Repeater:

**VE3TWO , 147.300MHz (+)
444.200MHz (+)**

Affiliated Clubs

The OVMRC exchanges newsletters with the following organizations:

Algoma ARC, Sault Ste Marie, ON
Augusta Amateur Radio Assoc. Augusta, ME
Border City Radio Club, Windsor, ON
Chatham-Kent ARC Inc. Chatham, ON
Calgary Amateur Radio Assoc. Calgary AB
Comox Valley ARC, Comox, B.C.
Halifax ARC, Halifax, N.S.
Heritage ARC, Cobourg, ON
Kingston ARC, Kingston, ON
Lambton County ARC, Sarnia, ON
London ARC, London, ON
Metroflex ACA, New York
Ottawa ARC, Ottawa, ON
Pioneer ARC, Nepean, ON
RAC, Kingston, ON
Rideau Lakes ARC, Smiths Falls, ON
Scarborough ARC Inc. Scarborough, ON
Seaway Valley ARC, Cornwall, ON
Sudbury ARC, Sudbury, ON
Surey ARC, Surrey, B.C.
Saskatoon ARC, Saskatoon, SK
Thousand Island ARC, Brockville, ON
West Island ARC, Dorval, PQ
Winnipeg ARC, Winnipeg, MAN

Sponsors

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

Bytown Marine, Ottawa, ON
Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc. Mississauga, ON
Corel Corporation, Ottawa, ON
WorldLink Internet Services Inc. Ottawa, ON

Ramblings

*Our President, Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ,
would like you to know...*



Warm weather is here again, and with it an opportunity to repair the ravages of the past winter, like putting up the antenna that came down under the weight of snow. Looking ahead to the next meeting, Ken, VE3KJB, has arranged an outstanding program of entertainment that should be appealing to the whole family, so bring along the YL, XYL, and perhaps older children. We want to show them that amateur radio can have a lighter side that is not purely technical and equipment oriented.

Looking farther ahead, the flea market is to be held on 8 June, 1996, at the Lees Avenue campus of Algonquin College. Ed, VA3CEJ, the chairman of the event, is in need of the following volunteers.

- 5 for security, including collection of admissions,
- 3 for parking,
- 10 at 07:00 to set up the event,
- 10 at about 14:00 to clean up after the event,
- 2 to look after the raffle, i.e. sell tickets in advance and at the event and arrange for the draw,
- Someone to man a PA system and the talk-in, and a few other functions yet to be identified.

If you are interested in helping to make one of the Club's biggest annual events an outstanding success, contact Ed at 828-4804.

Looking even farther ahead to the field day in June, It is planned to hold an operator training session about a week prior to the event so that new operators can learn about the intricacies of the "dupe sheet" and how to handle a contact to get the required information in the shortest time. Speaking from experience, I can say that knowing how to handle the dupe sheet is imperative, as a fast cw operator can run ahead of even a logger who has some idea of the dupe sheet.

More about this training session later when the date is fixed.

VE3JW is the demonstration amateur radio station at the Museum that is staffed by qualified amateurs who are museum volunteers. They are largely OVMRC members. The station is well manned during the week, but is thin on the weekends when attendance at the Museum is at its highest. We want to make a better effort to staff it during weekends. To this end, Jerry, VE3CDS, would like to hear from anyone who could help out on weekends. Also, current volunteer operators may expect a call from Jerry as he sets up a weekend operating schedule for the station. If you all participate, the weekend schedule should not be onerous for anyone.

At the last meeting, Larry, VE3WEH, presented a nicely crafted sample wooden call sign, taking orders for similar units from those interested. Larry indicated that a portion of the price would be given to the club treasury. This is yet another example of club members undertaking fund raising activities that benefit the club and its members. We have had several of these fund raising projects so far this year, and it has been suggested in the executive that perhaps a fund raising interest group might be started. Anyone interested in this idea is invited to contact me.

At the last meeting I called for a nominating committee chairperson volunteer, having already had two volunteers, Jerry, VE3CDS, and Larry, VE3WEH for the committee. There were no takers at the meeting, however, Dan, VE3XDD, has since graciously come forward. This is a committee of conscientious members who will, I am confident, provide a slate of active, hard working, candidates for next year's executive. If you would like to be considered for any position on next year's executive, contact Dan, Jerry or Larry.

Minutes

OVMRC Regular Meeting, 21 March, 1996

The meeting, held in the train bay, was called to order at 19:32 hours by President Ernie. The membership welcomed Stephen (VE3BFG), Robert (VE2RGK) and Al (VE2TYJ).

Leonard, VE3LPH, was detained resulting in the program being delayed. President proceeded by making the following announcements.

It is election time and a volunteer is needed to chair the nominating committee. Anyone interested is asked to contact Ernie. Two volunteers have offered to assist a chairman.

The Club is still looking for an Editor designate. Dan is stepping down at the end of June and this would give the designate a chance to work alongside Dan for a few months. Anyone interested please contact any member of the executive.

Ken has now completed arrangements for the club's variety evening to be held April 18th. It will be open to all members YLs, XYLs and siblings. A piano will be rented but Ken needs assurances from the club that any damage caused to it during transportation and use would be covered by the club. John (VE3TTX) moved that the club support a contingent liability on the rental of the piano. Steve (VE3RUU) seconded the motion. A show of hands revealed unanimous support. MOTION CARRIED.

The museum is organizing a car rally, possible date August 9th and would like the assistance of 30 or so communicators to man the check points, etc. If you are interested please call Jacques (VE3TSC) in the evening at 748-6597.

The club's May meeting has been moved back one week to be held on the 9th of May. The May Executive meeting will be held a week later on the 16th.

The club congratulates June and Jerry (VE3CDS) on their recent wedding and 73 from the membership.

Larry (VE3WEH) has call signs cut out of bass wood. They are going for five bucks a piece - one dollar on each order going to the club. If interested, place your order with Larry.

David (VE3UES) is collecting pop tabs to support the wheelchairs program. Any donation of tabs will be appreciated. Please write your name and call sign on your package for Dave's recognitions. Denis (VE3ASO) and Elaine (VE3UXZ) are still working on a two year project towards a space

shuttle contact. They are in need of an education co-ordinator and anyone willing to help can call Denis at 748-6597 or Elaine at 721-7070.

Ed announced that the Flea Market will be held in the cafeteria of Algonquin College. Lees Avenue campus, on June 8th at 9am. Doors will open at 7am for helpers and vendors. To reserve your table please call Ed at 828-4804.

The 'Junk in the Trunk' event will be held Saturday at 11am in the North parking lot behind the museum. Participants are asked to leave the site clean, free of any debris.

John, VA3LAR, advised that a program sponsored by the Heritage Ministry offers free Canadian Flags to anyone who has a flagpole (or tower!). To get your free flag, call 1-888-359-3524.

Jacques (VE3TSC) reminded everyone that the museum station's first re-opening anniversary is coming up April 14th. The station (VE3JW) will operate as a special event station between 9am and 5pm. The frequencies are published in this month's QST and will appear in the Rambler. Volunteers to operate the station can call Jacques. Leonard had not yet arrived so the President asked for volunteers to judge the Homebrew presentations. Ed (VA3CEJ) came forward as head judge while Bill (VE3NR) and John (VA3JBS) volunteered to assist in the judging.

Ernie, (VE3EJJ) presented two items: a channel memory board for a transceiver and a 5v set of power supplies connected in series to produce a 13.8v 40a power supply. He also reminded the members that there were still some 5v power supplies available.

Peter (VE3EPB) showed a Ramsay kit 2m 40w amplifier he made.

Mike (VE3FFK) had a 50ohm dummy load made of four 130ohm 10w resistors. His second item was a DSP-3 kit Digital Signal Processor for VHF/UHF audio signals

André (VE3CLW) entertained us with his HF 'Spherix noise' Bug killer, his first gismo and his version of the 'V' chip called the 'F' chip.

Gerry (VE3GK) displayed two versions of a 'Screwdriver' type antenna good for 5-30Mhz, driven by finger motors and producing 1:1 across the bands. "What's that noise?"

Dan (VE3GUU) described his 2m RV antenna for
Continued on next page

Minutes

Continued from previous page

condos and marine use. You can get in touch with Dan (on the swap net) if you want a diagram of this beauty.

Baba (VE3KX) had a number of items dealing with a variety of interference to telephones, TV/VCR, bedroom lamps and bed springs. He also made camping antennas and working on a 'bed sheet' antenna for next year. He closed with a 'Junkbox' Linear, an 'Antenna Switch box' and a 'walk around the apartment 2m coax line'.

Jake (VA3TQX) created what he called a 'Dual Cat' system made of chicken wire wrapped around the balcony of his apartment. He knows if the antenna works when the cat sprints back in the apartment...

Jake (VA3TQX) announced that Field Day will be held June 22/23rd at the museum. We will have a 2m, 6m, UHF/VHF, CW, SSB and Packet stations. Volunteer operators are needed and can contact Jake for scheduling.

Ken reminded the membership that the variety show will be next month's general meeting and free coffee and cookies will be offered after the show.

The judges announced the winners:

One prize (a gift certificate from Swiss Chalet) to the most humorous presentation went to André (VE3CLW); HF - 1st prize (ARRL antenna book) went to Gerry (VE3GK) and 2nd prize (Swiss Chalet gift certificate) was won by Baba (VE3KX); VHF - 1st prize (Swiss Chalet gift certificate) went to Mike (VE3FFK) and 2nd prize (2 pairs of mini plyers) went to Dan (VE3GUU).

Thanks to all the contestants and to the judges for a job well done.

The door prize (Repeaters Directory) donated by Joe (VE3JJD) was won by VE3MJT.

The 50/50 draw made \$54; of which \$27 went to Colin (VE3UZU).

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:25. Coffee and cookies were served for the social hour.

A TOY 'HAMRICK'

A ham at a fest saw a treasure,
Which he knew would give him much pleasure,
Ere long, that toy he did buy,
But when his wife it did spy,
She cut him an inch short of measure.

Wedding Bells

The Rambler is pleased to include in this issue a social announcement.

The OVMRC's immediate Past President, Jerry Wells, married June Knight in a quiet ceremony at McKay United Church on March 12th. Jerry met June at the McKay United Church's High Horizon Handicapped Group where they both helped out on a regular basis as volunteers.

The wedding ceremony was unique in that beside their families being present, Jerry and June invited the members of the High Horizon Handicapped Group as their special guests. Jerry's Best Man was his friend, Paul Duguay, VE3NPD, who, by the way, originally introduced Jerry to June some time ago.

On behalf of the OVMRC, congratulations and best wishes Jerry and June !

Field Day Taking Shape

Arrangements for this year's Field Day, June 22 - 23, are quickly taking shape. As previously announced, the Museum of Science and Technology will be the site of this year's OVMRC event. Field Day chairman, Jake, VE3QTX, is looking for volunteers to assist in the set-up and take down of equipment. In addition, Jake requires a cook to prepare nourishment for participants. And, not to be forgotten, volunteers to operate voice, cw and packet, and loggers.

Orientation for those who would like to participate but are reluctant because they don't know what to expect or how to go about doing what is necessary, relax ! A training session is planned for a Saturday morning in June at the museum which will provide a complete Field Day operating procedure review . The training session will be "Everything you wanted to know about Field Day operating procedure and were too shy to ask !" Even the experienced Field Day operator will benefit from attending this training session to ensure his/her skills and knowledge are current with ARRL Field Day requirements.

Part Two

Amateur Radio Operating Procedures

Written by Hugh Clark, VE3WM

How To Start a Contact

It is quite likely that your first contact will be with another ham in your immediate area, and most likely a friend, a person with whom you took the course, or even your instructor. Let's say that his name is Joe and his call is VE3XXX and your name is Jack and your call sign is VE3ZZZ. On what frequency does he normally listen, and is it a repeater? First you select the appropriate frequency. Each radio is different in this respect, so all we can advise you to do is read your manual for the equipment. Joe has told you that he listens on the VE3TWO repeater, the frequency is 147.300MHz. This is a repeater, so to be heard on the repeater output, you must transmit on the input frequency for the repeater. You must select the proper offset (+600 in this case). Normally you will transmit 600kHz lower in frequency below 147.000MHz and +600 above 147.000MHz. Note that in eastern Canada some repeaters in the 147.000 to 147.100MHz use a -600 kHz offset.

You are now set up to listen to 147.300MHz and transmit on 147.900MHz (offset +600 kHz) so that everyone else can hear you on the repeater. If the repeater is being used by others, you can try calling after they have finished their contact or you may wish to join the current conversation (more on this later). If you listen for at least 30 seconds to a minute and hear nothing, you can assume that the frequency is not in use and is available for a call.

When calling another station, give their call first and your call last. When you are ready to transmit, press the transmit button, and speak clearly about two inches away from the microphone:

You: (transmit) "VE3ZZZ, this is VE3XXX" (unkey)

If the repeater has heard you and is retransmitting your signal you should hear a squelch tail (a "kerchunk") as the repeater still transmits for a second or two after you have unkeyed. Most repeaters in this area have a courtesy tone (a beep) which indicates

that a transmission is finished. If your friend Joe is listening, he would reply :

Joe: "VE3ZZZ - VE3XXX (beep)"

At this point you have established contact, and now you can talk to your heart's content. If your conversation becomes long-winded, remember it is mandatory to identify yourself with your call sign at least every 30 minutes.

Variations On A Theme

Of course there are many variations for each of the previously outlined steps. You don't have to say "this is" . Just the other station's call sign followed by your's is enough. You can use phonetics for one or more of the call signs.

"Victor Echo Three X-Ray, X-Ray, X-Ray - Victor Echo Three Zulu, Zulu, Zulu"

You can repeat his call sign when you are calling him, in case reception conditions are marginal.

You may also repeat your call sign, especially when the receiving station is having trouble hearing you. This often happens when you are far from the repeater or using a handheld transceiver inside a building, which may cause your signal to be weak into the repeater. It is more prevalent on HF especially if conditions are marginal because of interference or poor propagation.

Next month we'll get a little deeper into establishing contacts, changing frequencies and joining a conversation in progress

SWR Kit Building

All the parts for the SWR Winkman have arrived. Due to the number of people who registered to build a unit and the complexity of the project, it has been decided to divide the project into two sessions. The first session will be held on 27th April to get the main parts and other components ready for soldering. The second session will be held 2 or 3 weeks later. Dates, time and location will be announced on the various local nets.

DONT FORGET

THE

OVMRC

VARIETY NIGHT

APRIL 18TH, 1996

1930 HOURS

(THAT'S NEXT WEEK'S MEETING)

**YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR FUN, MUSIC,
SINGING AND GOOD FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT!**

FREE COFFEE, TEA, JUICE AND COOKIES

**MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
ST. LAURENT BLVD.**

New Prefixes For New UK Hams

Reprinted from QST, April, 1996

Don't think it's the latest DXpedition when the new M-prefix calls signs start popping up on the bands this spring. The United Kingdom is running out of the familiar G-series call signs the government there has issued since the 1920s for most UK stations. The Radiocommunications Agency will begin issuing the M-series calls starting April 1 to all new full licences (both Class A and B). The first call sign, MOAAA, has already been awarded to the Reading and District Amateur Radio Club (on behalf of the Reading Novice Amateur Aerial Association). RADARC reports it will use the club station version of the call sign, MXOAAA, beginning April 1 and will offer a special QSL card to mark the occasion.

The RADARC reports the UK's Radiocommunications Agency will follow the same prefix pattern it's used for the G-series calls over the years: MW stations will be in Wales, MM will be Scotland, MI for Northern Ireland, etc. Existing G stations are not affected by the move to the new call sign block.

Also you can look for so called "short" call signs like GM6A or GJ6C to start springing up after May 1. The Radio communications Agency has agreed to let UK stations use such calls during major contests. The RSGB HF Contest Committee will administer the system. With the new M-series prefixes, contesters might hear call signs like M6A (England) or MW6D (Wales) emanating from the UK during the next operating event.

Please, Don't Blame Us !

"Addressee Unknown". "No Longer At This Address".

These are the notations on the envelopes we receive, returned, from the post office. It is the result of some members who have relocated and have forgotten to provide a

"change of address" notification to the OVMRC.

Once settled in their new abode, members suddenly realize they are not receiving their monthly edition of the Rambler. After complaining to various Club executive officers of their oversight, members are embarrassed when it is explained they have forgotten to advise us of their new address. PLEASE DON'T BLAME US ! If you relocate - remember to provide the Club with your new address so that you can continue receiving the Rambler.

You can help us keep our mailing list up-to-date ! We are looking for the mailing address of :

GLENN LINDSEY, VE3GRO

If you can help, please contact Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, at 745-9214.

A New Stealth Antenna

Reprinted from QST, April, 1996

More and More hams these days have to contend with antenna restrictions and covenants. Hamco has a new product to help these poor folks - a hidden antenna that takes a very ingenious approach. Hamco's TapeTenna antenna kit contains 108 feet of space age conductive copper foil tape, connectors, and an instruction manual. The 1/2 inch wide tape and its adhesive are both strong and durable, and Hamco says the antenna will adhere to most household surfaces, both indoors and outdoors. The copper foil can be used to make any sort of antenna you would normally construct from wire (dipole, J-pole, quarter-wave, vertical, etc.). After adhering the foil to the supporting surface, you can paint the antenna with the same paint used on the surface and render it virtually invisible.

TapeTenna kits are available for \$29.95, plus \$4 S/H (U.S. funds), from Hamco, Dept M, 3333 W. Wagon Trail Dr., Englewood, CO 80110. telephone 1 - 303 - 795-9466

It's Flea Market Time

April

- 13 Durham ARC Hamfest
Toronto East Trade Centre
Pickering, Ontario
- 27 Liverpool ARC
Syracuse, NY

May

- 04 Skywide ARC Hamfest(Toronto)
Westway United Church,
8 Templar Drive
Etobicoke, Ontario
- 04 Rideau Lakes ARC Flea Market
Lombardy Fair Grounds
- 3-5 Ont. DX Assoc. Convention
Holiday Inn, Kingston, Ont.
- 17-19 Dayton Hamvention
Dayton Hara Arena
Dayton, Ohio
- 25 Saint John ARC Flea Market
Loch Lomand Villa Mall
Saint John, New Brunswick
- 31 Rochester ARC Hamfest
Monroe County Fair Grounds
Rochester, NY

June

- 01 Georgian Bay ARC Hobby Market
Bayshore Arena, 3rd Ave. East
Owen Sound, Ont.
- 01 Montreal and Cote St-Luc ARC's
Hamfest-Flea Market & ComputerFair
Samuel Moskovitch Arena,
Cote St-Luc, Quebec
- 08 Central Ontario AR Flea Market
Bingeman Park, Kitchener, Ont
- 08 OVMRC Flea Market
Algonquin College,
Lees Avenue Campus
Ottawa, Ont
- 15 Marmora Hamfest
Marmora Area Curling Club
Marmora, Ont

July

- 06 Burlington ARC Hamfest
Milton Fair Grounds
Milton, Ont

August

- 17 Brantford ARC Flea Market
Burford Fairgrounds,
Burford, Ont

September

- 07 Victoria Haliburton ARC Flea Market
Lindsay Fairgrounds
Lindsay, Ont
- 21 Buffalo ARC Hamfest
Buffalo, NY

October

- 12 Hamilton ARC Hamfest
Ancaster Fair Grounds
Ancaster, Ont

Are You Tired?

Tired ? Rundown ? Overworked ?

Some irrefutable statistics show why this is the case in the United States. The population of the U.S. is 270 million, but 90 million are over the age of 65, leaving 180 million to do all the work. People under the age of 21 total 95 million, which leaves 75 million to do all the work.

But the U.S. federal government employs 40 million, leaving 35 million to do all the work. Fifteen million are in the armed forces, leaving 20 million to do all the work. Deduct those in state and city offices, hospitals, psychiatric institutions, etc., and you have 815,000 to do all the work. But 462,000 of these are bums or vagrants who refuse to work and are satisfied to live off social services, which means that 353,000 are left to do all the work.

Now it may interest you to learn that there are 352,998 people in jails across the U.S. leaving just two people to carry the entire load. What with coffee breaks morning and afternoon, lunch breaks, sick leave, statutory holidays, vacation, educational leave, occupational training and upgrading, maternity and parental leave - all of which makes us wonder who does all the work?

Some History

The OVMRC's first general election was held in January, 1958. Gerry Erland, VE3BBY, was elected the Club's first President. Membership totaled 69 members.

Potpouri

*A sampling of news and comments
from newsletters and newspapers
from across the country - written
by Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC*



Pioneers - Ham Radio Online mentions a couple of Web sites which give information on the construction of a simple backup system using deep cycle batteries and a solar panel. This info can be found at www.accessone.com/~vbook/hronline.htm. Information on solar panels can be found at www.igc.apc.org./hp/.

W5YI - It seems that with all the snow storms this winter, people not being able to go to work used their home computers for entertainment, e-mail and work. The Internet had slowed by 15% and telephone use up by 60%!!

Metroplex, New York - Q. Sometimes I hear people talking to "jammers". We are supposed not to do that, right?

A. Unless you are a ham radio operator with a bad brain, you should NOT recognize a jammer in any way, shape or form. This includes TALKING to them. If I was a jammer, hearing stuff like: "We know who you are", "We know where you live", or insulting my family would be my reward for jamming you. If I were jamming you and got you talking to me, that would make my day.

Sarnia - A report from a Health Protection labatory has confirmed reports that EMI from nearby digital phones can affect the operation of some implanted cardiac pacemakers. The EMI effects occured during transmissions from the phone and when it was within 4.5 cm of the pacemaker. An analog phone did not produce this effect. (Makes us wonder on use of our handhelds in a hospital environment! - VE3TSC)

West Island (Montreal) - A couple of highly recommended sites for interesting SW radio info: Shortwave Radio Catalog -

> itre.ncsu.edu/radio, Simon Collins -> www.ibmpcug.co.uk/~g4sgl.

Halifax - They now also have a gateway between packet and Internet. This link avoids the slow data transfer on HF due to small bandwidth or bad propagation. To access you can Telnet to VE1SNG.CS.DAL.CA, use packet AX.25 to connect to VE1SNG-1 or use netrom to find the node with NSGATE:VE1NSG.

Ottawa - Seems all the lobbying by us SW fanatics has helped to keep Radio Canada International on the air for at least another year. Also not to be forgotten is the effort by Sheila Copps, Heritage Minister in finding the money. Question now is whose budget got raided for \$16.5 million to keep us on the SW airwaves?

Monitoring Times (Mar/96) - An Oswego, New York man has been sentence to a year of probation and 10 hours of community service for monitoring cellular phone calls. He had "intercepted and divulged to other people info from cellular phone communications without the permission of senders". (WHO wanted to retire to Florida? <hi hi> - VE3TSC)

Monitoring Times (Mar/96) - It seems after 80 years of complaints, residents do not wish the Navy to tear down certain no longer used towers. These 19 towers ranging in height from 60 to 1200 ft. at the Naval Radio Transmting Facility at Annapolis, Maryland were part of a global communications network. In an area where cellular companies are desperate for tower space, people wish them to be kept up due they are "considered part of their culture"!