

# THE OVMRC RAMBLER

Volume 41, Number 10

June, 1997

## Election of Officers For 1997-1998

The OVMRC Nominations Committee will be presenting its slate of nominees for the Club's executive for 1997-1998 at the June meeting.

At the May meeting, a motion was adopted which extended the nomination period for Vice President for one month to afford more time to possible candidates to consider accepting nomination for the position. As a result, it will be the only position open for additional nominations from the floor at the Club's June meeting.

It is also worth noting that certain of the Committees will have two nominees. The second nominee will be an understudy of the Chairperson.

The Committee's recommended slate of officers are:

President	-	Dan Reardon
Vice President		Don Lusher Steve Middleton
Treasurer		Ernie Jury
Secretary		Earl Andrews
<u>COMMITTEES</u>		
Radio Exhibit		Jerry Wells Doug Carswell
Training		Bob Shaw Bob Kavanagh
Field Day		Open
Historical		Larry Wilcox
Flea Market		Ken Barry John Barnhardt
Membership		Tom St. Julien

Newsletter	Dan Doctor Susan Mogenso
Publicity & Programs	Dan Johnston
Technical	Phil St. Germain
Radio Operations	Jake Guertin
Novice	Joe Donnelly

## New Industry C a n a d a Pamphlets

Industry Canada recently released three new pamphlet which should be of interest to radio amateurs. They are particularly well done and contain useful information.

You may wish to stop in at the Industry Canada office on Albert Street to pick up your copies of the pamphlets, or if this is not convenient, telephone Industry Canada and request that they mail the following pamphlets to you :

- "Cutting Through...Radio Interference"
- "Cutting Through...Various Solutions to Interference"
- "Spectrum Management Services"
  - Telephone & Counter Service
  - Radio Licensing
  - Radiocommunication Interference Investigations

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club  
**RAMBLER**

The Rambler is published monthly by:  
The OVMRC  
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### The 1996-1997 OVMRC Executive

President: Dan Reardon, VE3GUU, 836-2633  
Vice-President: Vacant  
Treasurer: Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, 728-3666  
Secretary: Earl Andrews, VE3AB, 828-5955

### Standing Committee Chairs

Amateur Radio Exhibit: Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, 828-3839  
Amateur Radio Training: VACANT  
Field Day: Jake Guertin, VA3TQX, (819) 684-5669  
Flea Market: Ken Barry, VE3KJB, 746-4823  
Historical: Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, 747-5565  
Membership: Tom St. Julien, VA3OFD, 747-9577  
Newsletter: Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, 745-9214  
Publicity & Programs: Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, 731-6749  
Radio Operations: Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC, 748-6597  
Technical: Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, 737-9443  
Novice: Joe Donnelly, 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.takeone.com/public/ovmrc.htm>

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

### Mark Your Calendar !

#### Next general meeting:

Thursday, June 19th at 1930 hours in the main auditorium of the Museum of Science and Technology. Our June meeting is probably the most important of the year when you will be asked to elect your executive officers for the coming year. Additionally, the OVMRC Amateur of the Year award will be presented.

#### Deadline for next Rambler:

Thursday, July 31st, 1997.

#### 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  
Metroplex 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

*Wise words from our President,*

*Dan Reardon, VE3GUU*

I want to extend many thanks to all those members who took the time and trouble to bring in their rigs for the May meeting. The variety of rigs, some beautifully restored, made for a very impressive display. There were many good comments about both the old and new rigs. It certainly provided the new students with an excellent idea of what was and is available on the used rig market. We also very much appreciated Graham Walker coming to the meeting and displaying a variety of HT's and HF radios. I believe the evening was considerably enhanced as members gave a short talk on their old rigs explaining how and where they were acquired and how they work. I was particularly warmed by the number of members who stayed after the meeting to get a closer look at the displayed rigs or to chat with their owners. I can tell those of you who missed the meeting - you missed an excellent evening.

Our congratulations to the fourteen new graduating students from the OVMRC Radio Course, 1996/97. Welcome to the world of amateur radio ! We also want to thank RAC for recognizing our graduates by presenting each with a RAC lapel pin.

I wanted to remind everyone of the importance of our June meeting. We will be electing our executive officers for the coming season. It is every members responsibility to come out and exercise their right by voting for the officers of their choice. In addition, we will be announcing who the winner is of our Amateur of the Year award.

Just a short reminder, field day is fast approaching and we still need your help to make this event a success. Your Committee has put in a number of hours of work organizing activities and rounding up equipment - but all their work will for naught without your help and participation. Mark field days on the 28th and 29th June on your calendar and join the gang at the museum for set up, etc. See you there !

## **Buyers...Beware !**

A word to the wise ... thief(s) recently broke into the newly established RAC office on Belfast Road and stole RAC's HF radio. They also tried to break into the office safe but were only successful in breaking off the safe's handle.

If anyone offers you a YAESU FT 990 HF radio, serial number 2F140299, don't buy it at any price because it is stolen property. Instead, notify the Ottawa Regional Police.

# Minutes

## OVMRC Regular Meeting, May 15th, 1997.

President Dan, VE3GUU, called the meeting to order at 1936 hours. He again welcomed a group of students from Samuel de Genest High School who were guests of the Club.

President Dan explained that voting for the OVMRC Amateur of the Year was taking place tonight. A special voting ballot listing the five nominees was distributed to members as they entered the auditorium. A ballot box was placed at the back of the room for ballots. The five candidates, in alphabetical order, are Evelyne Brien, VE3ECW; Jake Guertin, VE2TQX; Steve Middleton, VE3RUU; Dan Reardon, VE3GUU; and Jerry Wells, VE3CDS.

The members were asked if anyone required any assistance - Malles Dyer responded saying he was looking for CSR5 receiver manual.

The Technical Committee reported that they had been working on the Club's repeater. Phil St. Germain aligned the repeater's Diplexer and found that the repeater's fiberglass antenna had deteriorated to the point where it was structurally weak and generating noise. The antenna is being replaced as is the coax feedline. President Dan reminded members that as of July 1st there will be a permanent CTCSS tone on the repeater.

Ernie, VE3EJJ and Jake, VE2TQX, reported on Field Day preparations. Ernie is looking for 4 or 5 volunteers to assist in antenna erection. Jake is looking for several volunteers to assist in set-up and take-down of tents, etc.

Ken Barry, VE3KGB, reported the results of the recent Flea Market. There were 466 attendees, 86 of which were vendors or their helpers. The Flea Market provided the Club with a profit of \$2253. The draw for the ICON 2340 was won Steve, VE3SFI, of Nepean.

President Dan made a presentation of a plaque to Graham Walker of Bytown Marine in appreciation of his outstanding long-term support of our Club and Amateur Radio in the National Capital region.

Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, spoke about the upcoming election of officers. He reviewed each position and asked for nominations

from the floor. Evelyne Brien was nominated for the position of Vice President, but declined as she was not sure she could devote the time required. However, it was moved by Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, seconded by James Walker, and approved that nominations for Vice President remain open for one month to provide time for possible candidates to consider it.

Each nominee was given an opportunity of addressing the membership to promote their nomination. Dan also explained that where ever possible an understudy is being nominated to Committee Chairpersons. This will provide a year's training and will bring "new blood" into the executive.

The feature of the evening was next. President Dan invited the owner of each of the rigs on display to come on stage and make a brief presentation of the rig. Over 20 rigs, big and small, new and used were displayed ; AR88; TS-820s Kenwood Xceiver; DX60 HG10 transmitter and vfo; Ft-890 recent vintage Xceiver ; Hr 1680 rcvr and Heath HX10 Marrauder ("boat anchor"); HW-8 QRP CW xceiver; National NCX5; FR101 rcvr; FT707 ; FT- ONE; Ft-221r two meter multimode xceiver and an RCA AR88 complete with furniture castors. In addition, Graham Walker of Bytown Marine displayed a variety of new amateur radios.

Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ, one of the radio course instructors, paid tribute and thanked all of the course instructors who 'did an outstanding job". He then introduced each of the 13 graduating students presenting each with an OVMRC Course Diploma. The graduates are: Bob Atchinson, Charles Caldwell, Lise Chislette, Glen Hilliard, Dan Johnston, Norman Lautoure, Dan Madden, Alexis Milne, Peter Orbin, Alex Palo, George Steves, Diane Stumer, and James Walker.

A representative of RAC addressed the "graduating class" and then presented each of the graduates with a complementary RAC lapel pin.

President Dan adjourned the meeting by inviting the members to come on stage to view the display of rigs. Coffee and cookies were available.

# Let's Face It -- English Is A Crazy Language

Editing the Rambler over the past few years has taught me a few lessons - one of which is that the English language often does not say exactly what you think it does. There are a multitude of examples I could provide but suffice to say the following will show you what I mean.

There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.

We take English for granted. But if we explore its paradoxes, we find that quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. And why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?

If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend, that you comb through annals of history but not a single annal? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it? If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? If you wrote a letter, perhaps you bote your tongue?

Sometimes I think all the English speakers should be committed to an asylum for the verbally insane. In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Send shipments by car and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and wise guy are opposites? How can overlook and oversee be opposites, while quite alot and quite a few are alike? How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell another? Have you noticed that we talk about certain things only when they are absent? Have you ever seen a horseful carriage or a strapful gown?

Met a sung hero or experienced requited love? Have you ever run into someone who was combobulated, gruntled, ruly or peccable? And where are all those people who ARE spring chickens or who would ACTUALLY hurt a fly?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which an alarm clock goes off by going on.

English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race (which, of course, isn't a race at all).

If more than one mouse is mice, and more than one louse is lice, you must agree, that obviously more than one spouse is spice.

That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible. Words, like eggs, should be handled with care. For eggs, once broken and words once spoken are hard to repair. And why, when I wind up my watch, I start it, but when I wind up this essay, I end it.

We hope you enjoy this play on words !

## Kingston ARC Flea Market

The OVMRC has received notification that the Kingston Amateur Radio Club will be holding its 13th annual Electronic Flea Market on Saturday, September 20th, 1997, at St. Margaret's Church, 690 Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd., in Kingston. Sir John A. Macdonald Blvd. has a direct access off the 401 Highway, exit #615, making it easy to find the site. Doors open at 7:00am for vendors, 9:00am for the public. General admission is \$3.

An Optimist: One who, when he feels bad, tries to find some good in it.

A Pessimist: One who, when he feels good, tries to feel bad about it.

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1997 / 98**

	Revised 96 / 97	Est. actual 96 / 97 to 30 May	Proposed 97 / 98
<b><u>Club Operations</u></b>			
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Membership Dues	5000	3907	4000
Flea Mkt Sales and Raffle	2600	3430 <sup>1</sup>	3700
Donations	650	398	500
Sale - surplus eqpt	0	50	0
Bank & Term Dep. Interest	200	236	60
Misc. Income	0	339	0
	<u>8450</u>	<u>8360</u>	<u>8260</u>

<sup>1</sup> The Club had a much better Flea Market than was anticipated.

	Revised 96 / 97	Est. actual 96 / 97 to 30 May	Proposed 97 / 98
<b><u>Club Operations</u></b>			
<b><u>Expenditures</u></b>			
Insurance	1000	895	900
Stn. Lic. and Repeater coun.	118	97	100
Rambler	3000	2001 <sup>2</sup>	3415
Repeater	650	351	400
Field Day	500	26	660
Office Supplies	100	43	100
Name Tags	100	0	0
Flea Market	600	1122	1300
Promotion & Publty	350	384 <sup>3</sup>	350
QSL cards etc.	150	61	100
Bank Charges	50	21	50
Historical Proj.	0	0	350
Miscel. Expenses	0	695	500
New Equipment	2000	2000	0
	<u>8618</u>	<u>7696</u>	<u>8225</u>
Surplus, (deficit)	(168)	664	35

<sup>2</sup> This figure is understated as some expenses for this year were incurred in the previous year.

<sup>3</sup> This figure contains an unbugetted amount to cover an accumulated deficit on the coffee and cooky activity at meetings before the price was raised

**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1997 / 98**

	Revised 96 / 97	Est. actual 96 / 97 to 30 May	Proposed 97 / 98
<b><u>Course Operations</u></b>			
<b><u>Income</u></b>			
Course Registrtn, Material sales, Royalties.	3341	3908	3300
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>			
Course supplies, Name tags, code phone, Equipment Depn.	3341	2889	3300
Surplus (Deficit)	0	1019	0

# RAC Report

Pat Doherty, VA3GD  
Director - Ontario North

Radio Amateurs of Canada has closed down its book store. The operation was not profitable with RAC incurring a loss on operations. We were competing with retailers who were already selling publications from such sources as ARRL and margins were not sufficient to sustain the operation. RAC will still be in the business of publishing Study Guides and Answer Banks along with other future publications. Study Guides and Answer Banks are available at Atlantic Ham Radio, Downsview; Bytown Marine, Nepean; Durham Radio Sales and Service, Oshawa; V.E. Communications and Electronics, St. Catherines. Radio Shack dealers across Canada stock the Basic Textbook and Repeater Maps Directory. If a retailer in your area does not have the Study Guide ask them to contact RAC for information about stocking them.

The International Amateur Radio Union is actively pursuing a reallocation to the 7 MHz band. Before the 1938 Cairo Conference, this 300 kHz was a world wide exclusive amateur allocation. In the time leading up to the Second World War the top portion of the band was made available for broadcasting outside of the Americas. It is anticipated that at WRC 97 the United States will propose the realignment of the 7 MHz band be added to the WRC 99 agenda. The proposal is to allocate 300 KHz to the Amateur Service at 6900-7200 KHz. The proposal has received a favourable reception from Broadcast interests in Region 2. The wheels of ITU turn slowly and this project has been in the works for a number of years. Don't expect instant results, the various players are now addressing this reallocation, we could see it pushed back to WRC 2001. A harmonizing of the band could see amateur use and modes of operation standardized in all three IARU Regions.

And of course we still have the LEO's looking for frequencies. Gates and Co. have revised their plans to have 228 satellites in orbit rather than the original proposal of 840. This is a 9 billion dollar project. Iridium Inc. will putting 66 LEO's in orbit.

# Flea Market Was A Success

OVMRC Flea Market Committee Chairman Ken Barry reports now that the flea market is over for this year, that it was a success.

There were 18 commercial tables and 43 private tables rented, as well as 8 service tables available. The service tables included activities such as test tables, first aid, OVMRC and any table that wasn't selling for the vendor's benefit. The large number of tables provides shopping amateurs with a wide variety of equipment and parts to choose from. The vendors, both commercial and private, expressed satisfaction with both the location, arrangements and sales.

The main raffle prize of an Icom IC-2340 dual band mobile transceiver donated by Bytown Marine, was won by Stephen Fitak, VE3SFI, of Nepean. There were 19 other door prizes, donated by various vendors,

Overall, there were 466 people at the flea market, 86 of whom were vendors and 380 paid attendees.

Ken Barry extended thanks to all those who volunteered to help with the many chores involved in the project.

The following is a detailed financial report of the flea market;

## RECEIPTS

OVMRC Table	\$737.61
Table Rentals	\$671.23
Admissions (380)	\$760.00
Raffle Tickets (418)	\$647.85
Fleabite	\$556.00
PST Collected	\$ 57.45
	<hr/>
	3430.14

## EXPENDITURES

Petty Cash	\$150.00
Signs	\$ 90.00
Arena Rental	\$460.18
Fleabite	\$416.00
Gratuity	\$ 25.00
PST Paid	\$ 35.00
	<hr/>
	1177.05

PROFIT/LOSS	<hr/>
	2253.09

## VE3TWO Upgrade

The OVMRC's repeater, VE3TWO, has been upgraded by the Technical Committee. The repeater has been completely realigned, new connecting coax and a new antenna have been installed. The old fibreglass antenna, subjected to almost continuous winds and the full range of weather, apparently deteriorated and required replacement.

It is now planned to acquire and install a separate UHF antenna which would provide much better coverage.

Again a reminder to all that the repeater will have a permanent CTCSS tone as of 1 July, 1997. If you are having difficulty programming your HT with the tone, bring your HT and its manual to our next meeting in June where Jake, VE2TQX will assist you.

## Educate The Public

Arrangements have now been completed with the management of the St. Laurent Shopping Centre for the OVMRC to use the Community Kiosk which is located in the mall.

It is planned to staff the kiosk with volunteers from the Club to demonstrate amateur radio and explain to the public what amateur radio is all about. The latter part of September has been targeted for this activity. Efforts are also underway to ascertain whether comparable facilities are available at shopping centres in the west end of the city.

## Are You Addicted?

Are you addicted to the internet? The following may help you answer that question.

- In the middle of the night while going to the washroom, do you check for e-mail?
- Do you have a tattoo that reads "This person best viewed with Netscape 2.0 or higher."
- You decide to stay in college another year just for the free internet access.
- You laugh at people with 2400 baud modems
- You call your modem...she doesn't have a modem.

## Mysterious Guests

Written by Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

Ever wonder about those teen aged boys and girls sitting at the back of the auditorium during our General Meetings? Who were they anyway? Why did they attend our meetings? Well, the explanation is simple! They were learning about amateur radio on their way to completion of their grade 12 physics course at Samuel de Genest High School. Mr. Charles Waddell, VE2WAD, a physics teacher at the High School, is to be congratulated for taking the initiative to encourage his entire class to study for their ham ticket in conjunction with his physics class and during their lunch time!

As an incentive to take the study of amateur radio seriously, successful completion of this part of the physics course was worth 10% of the students final mark.

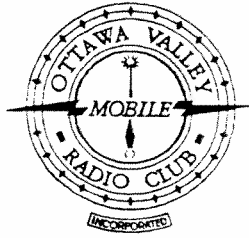
Jerry Wells VE3CDS, Delegated Examiner, with assistance from helping hams, Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC, Ken Barry VE3KJB, and yours truly, administered the "basic" exam on June 4th, 1997. The result, twenty-two young women and young men between the ages of 17-19 years passed with flying colours! An interesting aside is the fact that one of the young female students beat out all of her peers by scoring the highest mark on the test with 95%.

Since the students were studying magnetism, electricity, and radio waves in their physics course and these subjects are closely related to amateur radio, Charles decided to invite them to go a step further and learn the requirements for amateur radio. With the assistance of two manuals produced by his friend Jules Mazy VE2ZSM, Radio Information Circulars 24 and 25 (RIC -24, RIC-25), Charles encouraged and led his students into the realm of amateur radio. Inasmuch as Samuel de Genest High School is a Francophone school, the course and supporting manuals etc. was in French.

It is very encouraging to see more youth getting involved in our service and hobby. We should all encourage and entice youth to join our aging ranks! Congratulations again Charles, we need more people like you!



# Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club



Box 5530, Station F  
Ottawa Ontario K2C 3M1

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- The Membership year starts in July and runs to June 30th 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.

Call Sign	Surname	Preferred First Name	Date
Mailing Address		Apartment Number	BBN  <small>For OMBL use only</small>
City	Province	Postal Code	
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email Address	

- One year membership, Regular or Associate. Includes mailed Rambler - \$25/year
- One year membership, Regular or Associate. Without mailed Rambler - \$20/year
- Family rate. For family of current members. No mailed Rambler - \$5/year

Amount Enclosed \$
-----------------------

- My interests are:**
- |                                    |                                  |                                     |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite | <input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF | <input type="checkbox"/> Packet     | <input type="checkbox"/> HF Phone  | <input type="checkbox"/> Cheque |
|                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> HF CW   | <input type="checkbox"/> AMTOR/RTTY | <input type="checkbox"/> SSTV/FSTV | <input type="checkbox"/> Cash   |

Current Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

If Retired, Former Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Skills: (Please list them all) \_\_\_\_\_

### COMMENTS

### Order OVMRC Name Tag

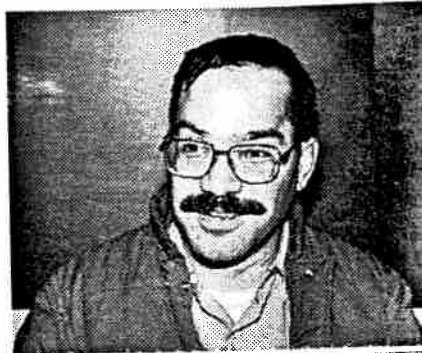
- YES
- NO

First Name	Call sign
------------	-----------

Cost: \$6.00

# Potpouri

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



QST May 97 - AEA has been sold but the name will still be used. Warranty and technical support to previously sold gear will still be available. Tempo Research purchased the line for antennas and cable testing gear. Timewave bought the right to all the other AEA products i.e. digital line, etc.

Internet - CBC now simulcasts its programs from CBC Radio/CBC Stereo which can be heard in excellent sound quality (realtime) at [www.radio.cbc.ca/realaudio.html](http://www.radio.cbc.ca/realaudio.html). Sheila Copps, Heritage Minister, mentions that CBC will have "guaranteed stable funding for 5 years". Hopefully, this will assure the continuation of RCI. (What happens if the Liberals get the boot? VE3TSC)

GB2RS News - The Radio Society of Great Britain has added a new comprehensive microwave section to its Internet site at [www.rsgb.org](http://www.rsgb.org). It has 50 pages of detailed info, component sources and illustrations.

Comox - (Popular Communications) If you use an external microphone, DON'T TRANSMIT WITH THE UNIT ON YOUR BELT !! 75% of the RF energy is soaked up by your body's water content and resonant organs. Your intestines are resonant at 155.160 MHz. The second most important part of your body to radiation (eyes are first) is very close to where your handheld is on your belt.

Ottawa Pioneers - The 1997 print version of the Radio Amateur Callbook will be the last. Starting in 1998, it will be available only as a CD-ROM.

W5YI - A group of hackers calling themselves the Kevin Mitnick Liberation Front broke into the Los Alamos National Laboratory computer system. Kevin Mitnick N6NHG is the ham hacker having a long record of infiltrating computer networks who was convicted last year of stealing 20,000 credit card numbers from America On-Line. The hackers did not do any damage but used that address to attack a San Diego Super Computer Center where they destroyed

electronic mail and other files. They also tried to break into the computer of security expert Mr. Shimomura who had helped track down Mitnick.

ARRL - The FCC was asked to strengthen the policy which applies to antennas in local zoning ordinances. The petition states that an antenna height of 60-70 feet be declared as "reasonable" accommodation for amateurs and that burdensome conditions for land use be removed. The League wants it made clear that a municipality still must make a reasonable accommodation for amateur communications even if it has denied a permit to an amateur.

New Zealand - Tiny New Zealand caused ripples in the international amateur radio community when they suggested that countries should be able to determine whether Morse Code should be a requirement for high frequency (long range) operation. The proposal had high level support and it was agreed that an upcoming World Radio Conference would address the issue.

AMSAT - Astronaut Mike Foale KB4UAC, likes ham radio and is telling the world about it. At the recent STS-84 preflight press conference Foale talked about ham radio, his stay aboard the Mir space station and that he had taken his amateur radio exam in preparations for spaceflight STS-56. Foale says that he is looking forward to using the ham radio on the Mir throughout his stay. He adds that he will talk to anybody who can speak to him in English or Russian. Foale is scheduled to be on MIR up till September.

Amateur Radio Newsline - The Phoenix, Arizona Center for Amateur Radio Learning now has a ham shack (W7ASC) on the air weekdays 0900-1700, weekends 1000 - 1700. Their goal is to expose the thousands of Arizona Science Center visitors to Amateur Radio. For more information visit [www.w7asc.org](http://www.w7asc.org).