

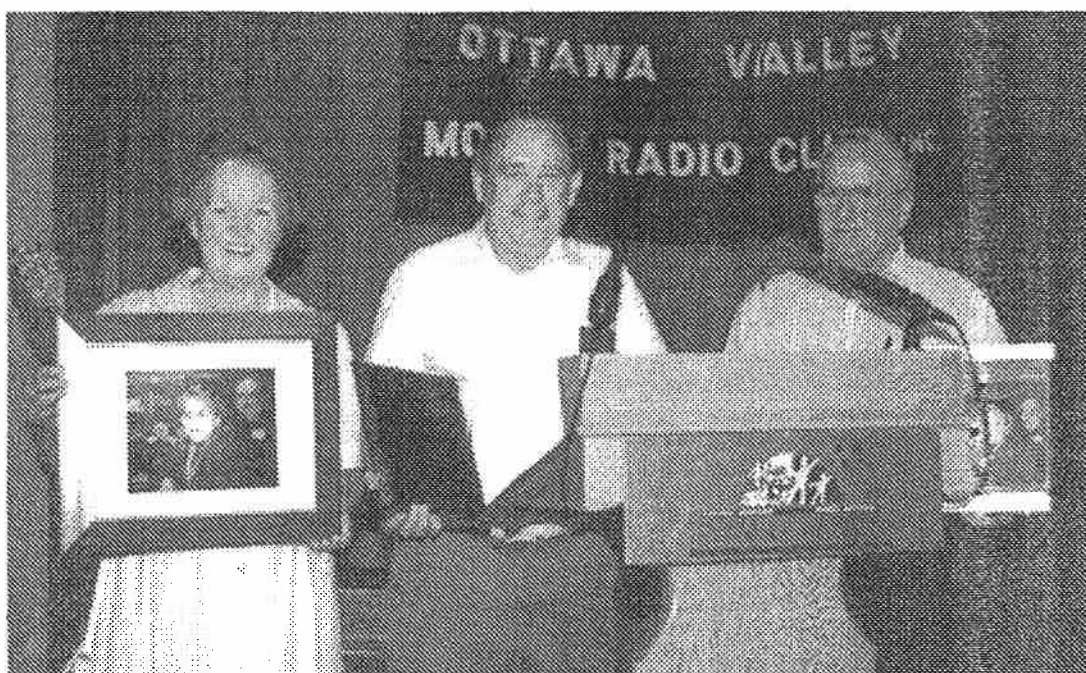
RAMBLER

VOLUME 42

NUMBER 1

AUGUST, 1997

CONGRATULATIONS "OVMRC AMATEUR OF THE YEAR"



A smiling Jerry Wells, centre, poses with his wife June and OVMRC President Dan Reardon, displaying his Amateur of the Year plaque and framed photos of him at work at VE3JW.

By popular vote, your choice for Amateur of the Year for 1997, is Jerry Wells, VE3CDS! Congratulations Jerry; you can proudly hang the award in your shack among the many other awards you have received over the years. The OVMRC Executive decided to present an "Amateur of the Year Award" to a deserving member of the club for the year 1997. All members were invited to nominate and to subsequently vote for the "Amateur of the Year."

Jerry's contribution of time, effort and devotion throughout this year to the Amateur Radio Course, his work as a Delegated Examiner and his management of Amateur Radio Station VE3JW located at the National Museum of Science and Technology, are among his many

accomplishments which make him worthy of this award. For many years, almost too numerous to count, Jerry has been teaching in various capacities with the OVMRC Amateur Radio Course. Over the years his largest contribution, in terms of time and effort, has been teaching CW to hundreds of aspiring students. Typical of his exemplary efforts was the major role he played in reestablishing the national amateur radio demonstration station, VE3JW, which officially re-opened in March 1995, in the National Museum of Science and Technology. Jerry was licenced in 1952 and for about the past 10 years he has served as a Delegated Examiner

Continued on page 5



The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.

RAMBLER

The Rambler is published monthly by:

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

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The 1997-1998 OVMRC Executive

President	Dan Reardon, VE3GUU, 836-2633
Vice-President	Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, 731-6749
Treasurer	Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, 728-3666
Secretary	Earl Andrews, VE3AB, 828-5955

Standing Committee Chairpersons

(First named member is Committee Chairperson)

Amateur Radio Exhibit	Jerry Wells, VE3CDS, 828-3839
	Doug Carswell, VE3ATY, 839-5854
Amateur Radio Training	Bob Shaw, VESUY, 737-9443
	Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ, 225-6785
Field Day	Open
Historical	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, 747-5565
Flea Market	Ken Barry, VE3KJB, 746-4823
	John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV, 521-8910
Membership	Tom St. Julien, VA3OFD, 747-9577
Newsletter	Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, 745-9214
	Susan Ludlow, VE3MOG, 833-2766
Publicity & Programs	Dan Johnston, VA3JAR, 830-2376
Technical	Phil St. Germain,
Radio Operations	Jake Guertin, VE2TQX, 744-2717
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

Practise your CW with the OVMRC Code phone -
737- 0197

Check the OVMRC Web page:

<http://www.takeone.com/public/ovmrc.htm>

Webmaster - John Rodger, VE3JR

jrodger@takeone.com

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

Mark Your Calendar !

Next General Meeting:

Thursday, September 18th, 1997.

Circle this date on your calendar as it is the date we will be holding the opening regular meeting of the season of the OVMRC. We will announce the program for this meeting in our September newsletter - watch for it, it will arrive in the mail during the week prior to the meeting.

Deadline for the next Rambler:

Friday, August 29, 1997

OVMRC's Repeaters:

VE3TWO: 147.300MHz (+)
444.200MHz (+)

Affiliated Clubs

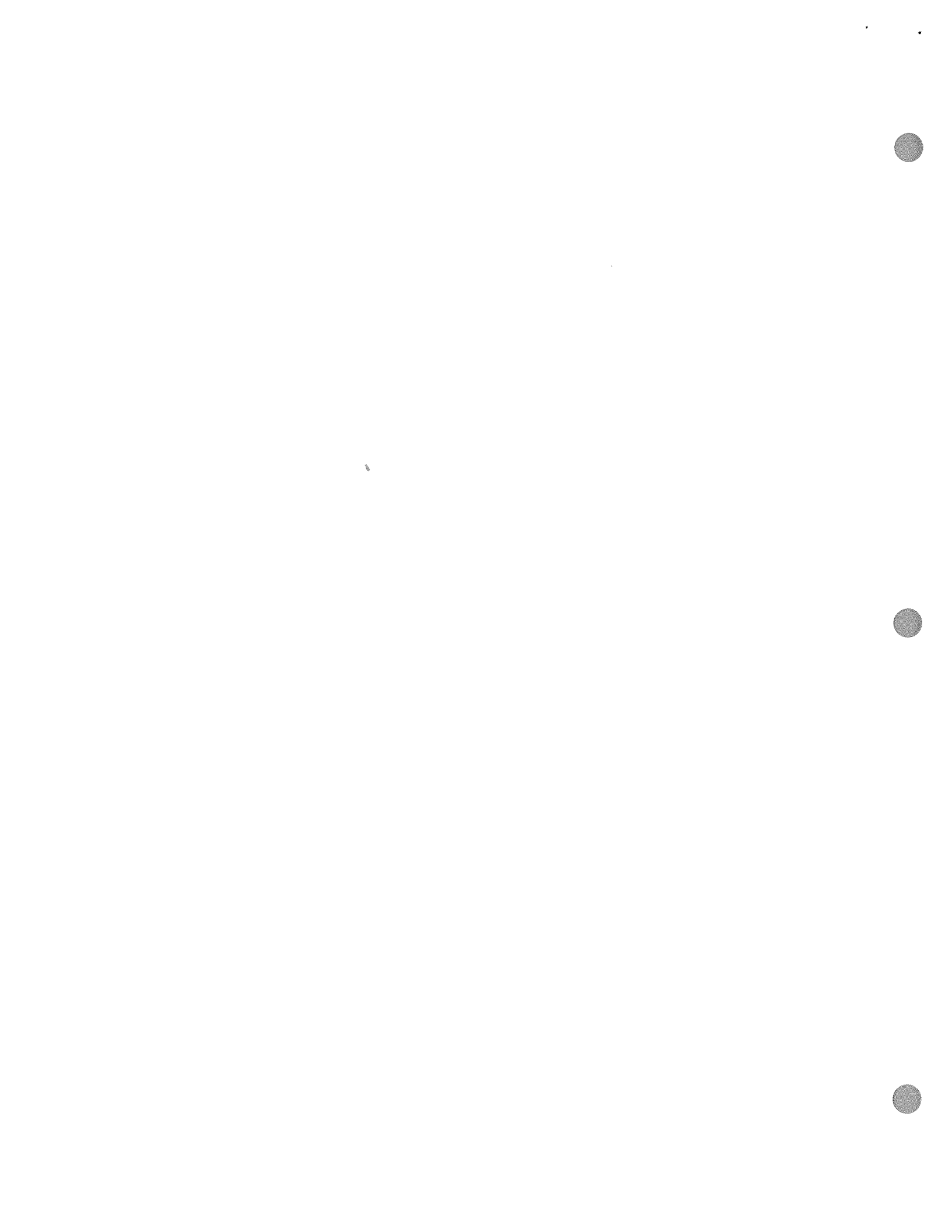
The OVMRC is pleased to exchange newsletters with the following Amateur Radio Clubs across Canada and the U.S.A.

Algoma ARC, Sault Ste Marie, ON
Augusta ARA, Augusta, ME, USA
Border City ARA, Windsor, ON
Chatham-Kent ARC, Chatham, ON
Calgary ARC, Calgary, AB
Comox Valley ARC, Comox, BC
Halifax ARC, Halifax, NS
Heritage ARC, Coburg, ON
Kingston ARC, Kingston, ON
Lambton County ARC, Sarnia, ON
London ARC, London, ON
Metroplex ACA, New York, NY, USA
Ottawa ARC, Ottawa, ON
Pioneer ARC, Nepean, ON
RAC, Ottawa, ON
Rideau Lakes ARC, Smiths Falls, ON
Scarborough ARC, Scarborough, ON
Seaway Valley ARC, Cornwall, ON
Sudbury ARC, Sudbury, ON
Surey ARC, Surey, BC
Saskatoon ARC, Saskatoon, SK
Thousand Island ARC, Brockville, ON
West Island ARC, Dorval, PQ
Winnipeg ARC, Winnipeg, MAN

Sponsors

The OVMRC acknowledges the following organizations for their support of our activities by providing them with courtesy copies of the Rambler:

Bytown Marine, Ottawa, ON
Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON
Corel Corporation, Ottawa, ON
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MINUTES

OVMRC Regular Meeting, June 19, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Reardon, VE3GUU at 1934 hours.

President Dan provided an update on the Club's repeater, VE3TWO. Dan elaborated on the reasoning for installing a CTCSS tone on the repeater. He explained that the 2 meter "repeater band" is very crowded and will likely become more so in the near future. The CTCSS tone eliminate much of the false triggering of repeaters by stray signals and inadvertent carriers. As of July 1st, there will be a continuous CTCSS tone on VE3TWO. Dan also reported that a further adjustment will be made to the repeater to lower the audio output which is presently set too high. He pointed out that a new antenna and coax have been installed and that it is planned to install separate 2m and 440 MHz antennas in the early fall. This latter installation should significantly improve signal output of the repeater.

President Dan announced that Gerry Wells, VE3CDS was the OVMRC Amateur of the Year. Gerry's wife June joined him on the dias as Dan presented him with a suitably engraved plaque as well as a framed photograph of Gerry and a young girl guide who was at the operating console of VE3JW during the Girl Guide Jamboree on the Air held

earlier this year (the photo was the same as the one which appeared on the cover of the Canadian Amateur magazine) An announcement was made on the progress made to promote amateur radio among young persons. Recently, volunteer examiner Gerry Wells went to Samuel de Genest School where he administered amateur radio examinations to 34 students Twenty-two of the students passed. Arrangements have been made for the unsuccessful students to be retested in the near future.

Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, then chaired the election of the 1997-1998 executive officers. Dan reviewed the Club's bylaws pertaining to the election of executive officers. At least 15% of the Club's 212 members must be present to declare a quorum and legally conduct the election. More than the minimum 35 members being present the election proceeded. The positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer were filled by acclamation by Dan Reardon, VE3GUU, Earl Andrews, VE3AB, and Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ, respectively. Ballots were distributed for the election of Vice President contested by Don Lusher and Steve Middleton. Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, was declared elected.

Dan Doctor, VE3XDD, substituting for Treasurer

Ernie Jury who was on vacation, presented the Club's proposed budget for 1997-1998. He reviewed projected revenue and expenditures for the coming year as they appeared in publication of the proposed budget in the June Rambler. It was moved and seconded to approved the budget as presented - unanimously approved by the membership.

Jake, VE2TQX, provided a report on Field Day preparations and asked for volunteers to help in the set-up and take down of antennas, tents, etc. He reminded members to reserve operating times in the CW and Phone tents.

President Dan advised members there would be an emphasis on getting youth involved in amateur radio in the coming year. Efforts are now underway to promote amateur radio to the young crowd by demonstrating and explaining amateur radio at community kiosks at the various regional shopping centers on the week-ends in September. He mentioned that volunteers will be required to provide the demonstration at the kiosks.

President Dan wished members a safe and enjoyable summer.

The meeting was adjourned for refreshments and ragchew.



RAMBLINGS

Comments from our President, Dan Reardon, VE3GUU

I hope everyone is enjoying a great summer, relaxing, swimming, boating, etc. and, by now, looking forward to September when the kids return to school and the OVMRC starts its regular monthly meetings.

I want to remind all members that they have a month in which to renew their membership or their names will be dropped from the Rambler distribution list. A renewal form is included in this issue of the Rambler.

I want to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Jake, VE2TQX, and Larry, VE3WEH, for the excellent organization of this year's OVMRC participation in field day. These two members deserve a tremendous amount of thanks for their well planned and executed day. I also want to recognize the other Club members who came out to help in the set up and take down of

equipment - it was a job well done !

A negative aspect to this event for me and the other operators was the fact the only station that was fully booked was the CW tent. There was only one member out of our total membership of 200 who bothered to book time on the HF phone station. A number of people dropped by the site but only a select few chose to help out and operate on HF phone. I repeat what I have said on several occasions, "You are only going to get out of the Club what you put into it !"

We all talk about the weather - it's too hot, it's too cold, it's too dry, it's too wet, but none of us can do much to change the situation. By the same token, many of us talk about attracting more people to our hobby and, again, do little about it. Your executive officers are about to change "do little about it". OVMRC volunteers will be staffing the community kiosks in

local shopping centres on the week-ends in September and will explain and demonstrate VHF and UHF to the public. Our Vice President, Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, is coordinating this activity and will welcome volunteers. You can call Steve after 6:00pm at 731-6749 and volunteer to staff a kiosk for an hour or two to demonstrate amateur radio and promote registration of those who are interested in our Amateur Radio Course which starts in October. And by the way, we do not have any volunteers to look after next year's field day. Much of detailed planning has already been outlined by Jake and Larry making the job much easier. If you would like to help out with this rather interesting job - please contact me.

I look forward to renewing friendships next month at our initial meeting of the season !



OVMRC Field Day - Unofficial Score

The OVMRC operated as a 3 A Ontario Field Day station with 3 operating stations - one phone station, one CW station and the President's station. Our unofficial score is as follows:

CW QSO's	80m= 44
	40m= 100
	20m= 136
Phone QSO's	80m= 64
	40m= 26
	20m= 57
Totals:	
CW	280 x 2 =
	560
Phone	147 x 1 =
	147

Total QSO Points:
707 x 2(Power Multiplier if 150 Watts or less power) = 1414

Bonus points of 800 which must be accepted and confirmed by ARRL; 100 points for each of the following 8 items. 100% emergency power; media publicity; located in a public place; information booth; message to Section Manager; WIAW Field Day Message; Satellite; and Packet.

If bonus points are accepted, the OVMRC TOTAL SCORE is 2,214 points.

While this year's score is slightly lower than last year's, 2860, Field Day organizers are NOT disappointed by this year's respectable score.

OVMRC Field Day organizers, Jake, VE2TQX, and Larry, VE3WEH, thank all those amateurs who participated in this event.

O V M R C Amateur of the Year

Continued from page one

having administered Amateur Radio Exams to hundreds of applicants. Just this year, he administered the exam to about 55 applicants, 36 of whom were from the Samuel Genest School.

Jerry has also spent many hours of his free time over the years as Net Manager for the Kingsmere Traffic Net, as well as having acted as Net Controller for the Military Net and the Welcome Mat Net. His leadership, initiative, dedication, teaching and encouragement have been given unselfishly throughout his many years as an amateur and have resulted in hundreds of men and women becoming good amateur radio operators. As if his devotion to amateur radio wasn't enough to do, Jerry has also been involved the past four years with the Ottawa Handicapped Association of which he is currently its President. He has also been working with the McKay United Church "High Horizons" program for the disabled. Incidentally, this is where he met June, his lovely wife.

Once again Jerry, congratulations!

Volunteers Required

Members are required to staff the community kiosks at local shopping malls on the week-ends in September to

demonstrate and explain to the public amateur radio (VHF and UHF) and promote the OVMRC Amateur Radio Course. Volunteers are asked to contact Steve Middleton, VE3RUU, telephone 731-6749.

New Format For Rambler

With the availability of the Club's new Pentium computer, we now have the facility to produce many new and interesting graphic features in the Rambler. It seemed timely during the summer hiatus for the Editor to get used to the new computer programs (Widows 95 and Corel's WordPerfect Suite 7) by developing a new design for our newsletter.

We hope you like it and find it easier to read.

Silent Key

We are saddened to report that Charles P. Caldwell, VA3CPC, became a Silent Key on July 22, 1997. He died suddenly at his home in Ottawa after a lengthy illness. Chuck was a graduate of the 1997 OVMRC Radio Course. He is survived by his wife Margaret, VE3EQE.

OARC Flea Market

The OARC has announced its flea Market will be held at the Carp Fair Grounds on Saturday, August 30th. Doors open at 7:00am for vendors and 8:00am for the public. For table rental contact Jim Cummings at 446-1225.



Can't Find It - Try Us

If you've been to a flea market and purchased some electronic equipment but couldn't get a manual, or you've purchased a rig and again could not get an owners manual, here is a source where you will probably find one. Len Gelfand has available manuals and data books for test equipment, components, miscellaneous electronic, optical, printers, computer accessories, etc. Proceeds from the sale of these manuals and books will be given to the OVMRC's treasury. You may contact Len Gelfand -telephone 613-749-5101, on the internet - ck297@freenet.carleton.ca. For a copy of a catalogue listing the manuals and books available send a 4 x 9 SASE plus fifty cents (stamps are acceptable) to OVMRC, c/o VE3LGZ, 322 Stone Quarry, Ottawa, Ontario, K1K 3Y2

A Terrific Lineup

Several members responded to President Dan's request for topics they would like to hear discussed at next year's meetings. At the Club's executive meeting on June 26, members' suggestions were reviewed and efforts will now be made to arrange for suitable speakers for our meetings next year.

The following is a list of subjects your executive will be trying to feature - A Canadian Astronaut: Antennas For Restricted Areas: QRP:Packet,Amtor, etc.: Bunnyhunting - How To: Home Brew Night : GPS - APRS:

Forecasting The Weather.

If there are topic you would like included in next year's meetings please contact President Dan and pass your suggestions along.

History Is Made Again

St. John's, NF was once again the site of a communications first when her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II transmitted a brief message via amateur radio to the people of the UK. This is the first time a reigning British Monarch has transmitted via the amateur service.

The Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) arranged the transmission between VO500JC, at Cabot Tower in St. John's, to GB500JC, in Bristol, UK in order for the Queen to make a brief transmission. Operators Paul J. Piercey, VO1HE, President of SONRA, and Dan Goodwin, VO1MX, assisted Her Majesty on the Canadian side while Martyn Phillips, G3RFX, assisted by Cyril Chapman, G2HDR, and Robin Thompson, G3TKF, were on hand in Bristol to respond on behalf of the people of Great Britain.

The Queen's message was as follows:

"I am speaking to you from Signal Hill National Historical Site, d'ou Guglielmo Marconi recu le premier message radio transatlantique. I am happy to know that Newfoundland and Labrador is still in the forefront of the communications industry, and is working closely with other leaders in this field across the Atlantic."

On the Canadian side, the equipment used was a

Kenwood TS-850 SAT, a Heathkit SB-200 amplifier running approximately 400 watts and a simple wire dipole cut for 20M about 20 feet above the Powder Magazine, an out-building which served as the shack. The UK group, operating from Martyn's home, used a Kenwood TS-950 SDX into a linear Amp UK amplifier with 400 watts output and a 3 element tri-band beam at 60 feet.

Car Trunk Sale Coming

The popularity and success of previously held "Junk In The Trunk Sale" has dictated that the OVMRC organize yet another such sale.

You will be able to browse through the vendors displays on Saturday, September 27th in the parking lot at the Museum of Science and Technology. As in previous years, there will be no charge to park and display your "junk". There will, however, be two requirements - no signs are to be hung or displayed and the parking lot is to be left in a clean condition.

Start saving those spare and duplicate items you'd like to get rid of as well, of course, of all those item that have been sitting in the corner of your shack or basement taking up valuable space and gathering dust.

A Rule to live by!

No mechanical problem is so difficult it can't be solved by brute force and ignorance.





The Castaways

The original source of this article is unknown, but it was downloaded from the Internet.

A rather inhibited engineer finally splurged on a luxury cruise to the Caribbean. It was the "craziest" thing he had ever done in his life.

Just as he was beginning to enjoy himself, a hurricane roared upon the huge ship, capsizing it like a child's toy. Somehow the engineer, desperately hanging on to a life preserver, managed to wash ashore on a secluded island.

Outside of beautiful scenery, a spring-fed pool, bananas and coconuts, there was little else. He lost all hope and for hours on end, sat under the same palm tree. One day, after several months had passed, a gorgeous woman in a small rowboat appeared.

"I'm from the other side of the island," she said. "Were you on the cruise ship, too?"

"Yes, I was," he answered. "But where did you get that rowboat?"

"Well, I whittled the oars from gum tree branches, wove the reinforced gunnel from palm branches, and made the keel and stern from a Eucalyptus tree."

"But, what did you use for tools?" asked the man.

"There was a very unusual strata of alluvial rock exposed on the south side of the island. I discovered that if I fired it to a certain temperature in my kiln, it melted into forge able ductile iron. Anyhow that's how I got the tools. But, enough of that" he said. "Where have you been living all this time? I don't see any shelter."

"To be honest, I've just been

sleeping on the beach," he said.

"Would you like to come to my place?" the woman asked. The engineer nodded dumbly.

She expertly rowed them around to her side of the island, and tied up the boat with a handsome strand of handwoven hemp topped with a neat back splice. They walked up a winding stone walk she had laid and around a palm tree. There stood an exquisite bungalow painted in blue and white.

Here's the unusual story of two people, marooned on an island in the Caribbean. The story, however, has a unique twist at its conclusion.

"It's not much, but I call it home." Inside, she said, "Sit down please; would you like a drink?" "No, thanks," the man said. "One more coconut juice and I'll throw up!"

"It won't be coconut juice," the woman replied. "I have a crude still out back, so we can have authentic Pina Coladas."

Trying to hide his amazement, the man accepted the drink, and they sat down on her couch to talk. After they had exchanged stories, the woman asked, "Tell me, have you always had a beard?"

"No," the man replied. "I was clean shaven all my life until I ended up on this island."

"Well, if you'd like to shave, there's a razor upstairs in the bathroom cabinet."

The man, no longer questioning anything, went upstairs to the bathroom and shaved with an intricate bone-and-shell device honed razor sharp. Next, he showered - - not even attempting to fathom a guess as to how she managed to get warm water into the bathroom - - and went back downstairs. He couldn't help but admire the masterfully carved banister as he walked.

"You look great," the woman said. "I think I'll go up and slip into something more comfortable."

As she did, the man continued to sip his Pina Colada. After a short time, the woman, smelling faintly of gardenia, returned wearing a revealing gown fashioned out of pounded palm fronds.

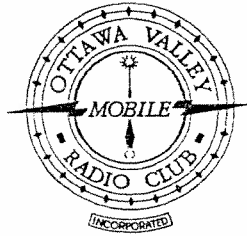
"Tell me," she asked. "we've both been out here for a very long time with no companionship. You know what I mean. Haven't you been lonely, too...isn't there something that you really, really miss? Something that all men and women need? Something that would be really nice to have right now!" "Yes there is!" the man replied, shucking off his shyness. "There is a something I've wanted to do for so long. But on this island, all alone, it was just....well, it was impossible."

"Well, it's not impossible any more," the woman said.

The man, practically panting in excitement, said, "You mean....you actually figured out some way we can check our e-mail here!!!?"



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
City	Province	Postal Code	For Office use only
Home Phone	Work Phone	Email Address	

<input type="checkbox"/> One year membership. Regular or Associate. Includes mailed Rambler - \$25/year	Amount Enclosed \$
<input type="checkbox"/> One year membership. Regular or Associate. Without mailed Rambler - \$20/year	
<input type="checkbox"/> Family rate. For family of current members. No mailed Rambler - \$5/year	

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			
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	First Name	Call sign	Cost: \$6.00



POTPOURRI

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

Pembina, North Dakota - If all else fails - be it water, phone, dikes or hydro - ham radio can still be used for communications. A farmer, a few hundred yards from the Canadian border, had a jury-rigged Kenwood mobile along with some HT's attached to an wire antenna taped to the wall. Hundreds of operators have been the last resort communications in the Red River Valley up into Canada this spring during the high level flooding. Special thanks have been handed out for communications work done..

ARES/RACES IRC Net - The Internet Relay Chat (IRC) Net is held on the DALNET servers every Sunday at 1000 hours Pacific Daylight Time. The reason for the net is for hams to meet and exchange information and ideas concerning disaster-related communications, antenna design, and backup and emergency power supplies. You can get a copy of an IRC program at the Louisiana ARES web page: www.accesscom.net/~gmccr/aw.

ARRL - US astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, aboard the crippled Mir space station, has shown that ham radio is providing a valuable supplement to conventional Russian and NASA communication systems. Foale used the ham gear aboard Mir to talk to NASA

managers and fellow astronauts and exchange health and welfare news as the crew struggled to stabilize the ship after its collision with the unmanned cargo rocket. Foale had good news about two of his major experiments being okay. The experiments are in the module where he and the cosmonauts are living until the station can be repaired. At that time, the Mir station should be able to resume normal ham radio contacts. All were very thankful for the ham radio and the excellent link it provided.

RSGB - Anyone with access to the Internet can look at the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) at www.rsgb.org. The pages include the weekly GB2RS news service script, the latest amateur radio news, information on RSGB services and books, a list of centres offering RAE, Novice RAE and Morse code courses during the forthcoming autumn term, and much more.

Voice of America - Some of Voice of America listeners may be familiar with a fascinating program called 'Communications World' which is broadcast by the VOA. It can be heard every Saturday at 1030 UTC on 5985, 11720 and 15425 kHz; at 1230 on 6160, 7768.5 kHz SSB, and 11715 kHz; at 1730 on 17895; and at 2130 UTC on 6040 kHz. It can also be found in the 9 and 15 MHz broadcast bands.

Len Umina (umina@ultranet.com) - The as yet unchallenged 'largest ham family under one roof', led by Len Umina, N1LU and Vicki, N1XYA with harmonics N1YFT, N1YGB, N1YGC, N1YHL, and N1YHO has just expanded back a generation adding KD4BCP, Anthony Umina (67) and KF6LSG, Norris Gray (65) to the list of family hams. Also those soon expecting to be licensed two nephews in California, three nephews, a niece, and two cousins in Mass., and Len's brother Mike. When asked how he's managed to get so many people working to learn technical jargon, rules and regulation, his answer is simple. "Competition". "I generally pair people of like ability and then get them to compete against each other. First it was the two grandfathers who wanted to be able to talk to their grandchildren who are now all hams. Sibling rivalry also works wonders to start ham radio fever. Kids get bored easily today, but give them something that is not school related to compete for and watch out!

Amateur Radio Newslines, July 22/96 - Packing winds over 100 mph hurricane Bertha tore into the North Carolina coastline. Ham radio operators provided communications to shelters and helped public safety officials in areas that lost hydro.

2000

