

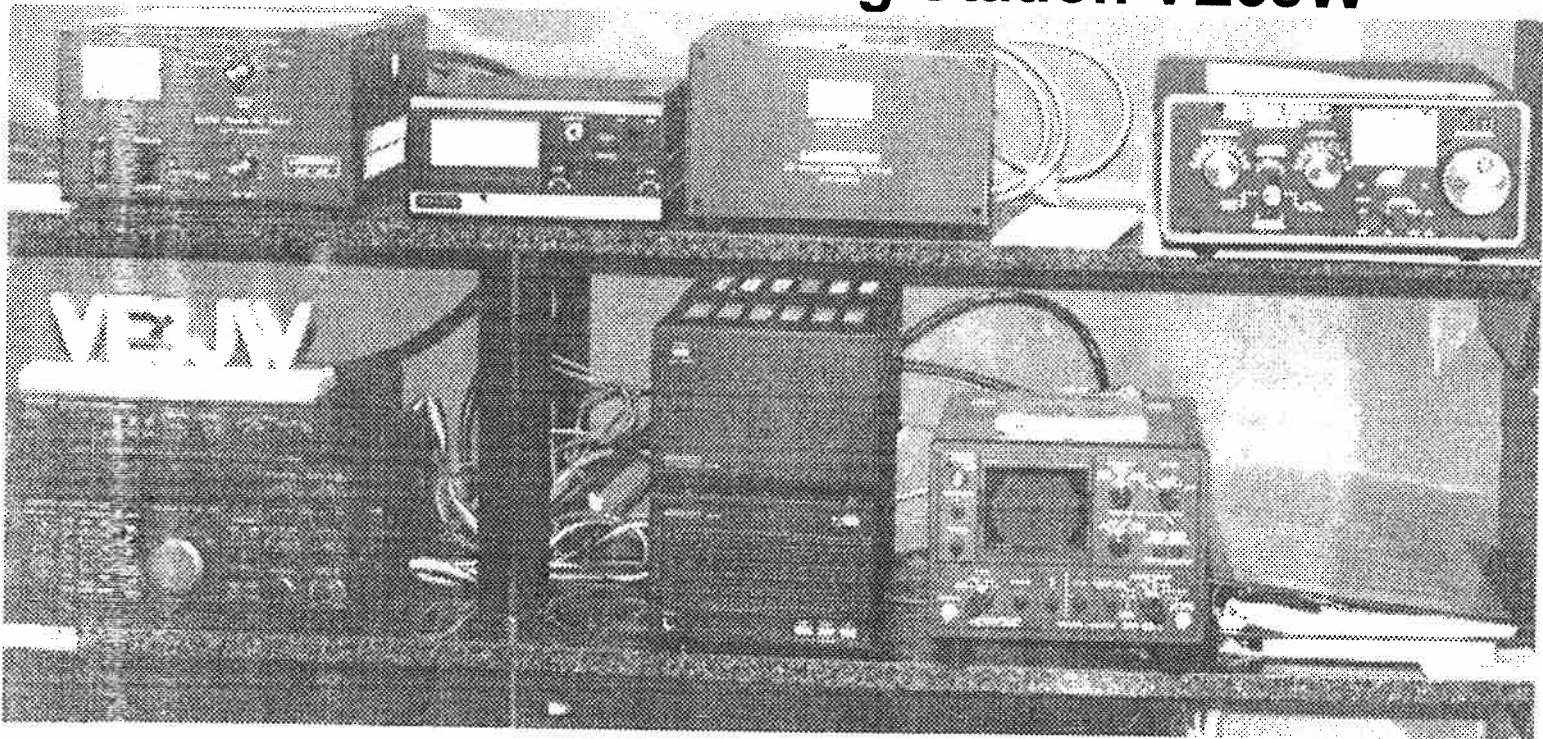
RAMBLER

VOLUME 42

NUMBER 3

OCTOBER, 1997

It's Contest Time - Using Station VE3JW



One of the many activities on the Ham bands is the contest scene. Many amateurs have never participated in a contest. With the facilities that we have at VE3JW we are in an excellent position to participate in a wide selection of contest activities. With the fall and winter season coming there are several good contests coming up.

As a first involvement in an on the air contest, the "ARRL Sweepstakes" slated for the latter part of November is a good contest in which to become involved. The rules are simple and straight forward. The object is to work as many stations as possible during a 24 hour period. All contacts must be in North America, that is the USA and Canada. Each contact is given a serial number with the year that you were first licenced and the section you are in (in the case of VE3JW that would be Ontario) The power level you are running is also exchanged. For example

when you make a contact you would say, Number 001 A VE3JW 25 Ontario. The letter A denotes power level and the 25 is the year that VE3JW was first licenced. Stations can be contacted only once regardless of band, the Warc bands are not used. What do you think? Do you feel that you would like to participate in such an activity at VE3JW? If there is enough interest we will try to arrange with the museum to operate the station for a 24 hour period.

If you are interested give me, Jerry Wells, a call at 828-3839 before the end of October.

We also need a good logging program for the computer. If any one has one we would appreciate a copy. Manual logging becomes a real chore when you get over a couple of hundred contacts. Remember, call me, Jerry, VE3CDS, at 828-3839 if you would like to be involved in these special event contests.

The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.

RAMBLER

The Rambler is published monthly by:

The OVMRC

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The 1997-1998 OVMRC Executive

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

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(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
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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, 721-9323
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, October 16th, 1997

The October meeting could be one of the most interesting the Club has had in a long time ! Antennas for restricted areas like apartments, condominiums and attics will be the featured topic and presentation. And by the way, VHF, UHF and HF antennas will be discussed. Plan now to attend this meeting.

Deadline for the next Rambler:

Friday, October 24th, 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
Surrey ARC, Surrey, 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
Information Gateway Services
TakeOne Info System

Rambollings

Comments from our President, Dan Reardon, VE3GUU

For those of you who were not able to attend the September meeting you missed a very interesting and informative demonstration of the Club's newest piece of equipment, the Willenweb. It was built by William "Wil" Warren, who has moved to California. At the meeting, I read a letter from Wil in which he donated the Willenweb to the OVMRC. In his letter he stated the Willenweb is to be used by CARBHA members in their efforts to find bunnys. I am sure good use will be made of this new piece of equipment. I was really pleased to see our members participate in our last meeting. Four of our members participated in sharing their expertise in bunny hunting by demonstrating their equipment as well as recounting their hunting experiences. The Club extends it thanks to Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH, Susan Ludlow, VE3MOG, John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV, and Mike Kelly VE3FFK. Each had home brewed their own bunny hunting equipment which stressed simplicity. I hope after this demonstration that we have more Club members participate in future bunny hunts. It is an interesting and fun way to spend a few hours with friends.

We really need your help and input in the following areas: Our Secretary, Earl Andrews, is moving to the Almonte area. He needs a volunteer to help him , maybe once or twice during the winter months to

take minutes at meetings. You would only be asked to take minutes if Earl cannot make it into the city during snow storms, etc. There must be someone in our membership who could help out ?? Please call Earl or myself if you can help out.

A second area of concern which requires a volunteer is someone to Chair our Field Day. If no one come forward we are considering canceling our participation in this major event in 1998. The Club has an excellent executive that is willing to help as much as we can but we cannot and will not do everything ourselves. This is your Club - and you will only get out of it what you are willing to put into it ! So who is going to volunteer for this ONE DAY EVENT ??? Please contact any member of the executive or myself.

We have included in previous columns and spoken about it at meetings - Special Events Stations. We would like to have two or three of these event this year. The membership have suggested we tie-in with such local events as the Tulip Festival, the steam train to Wakefield, Canada Day. We hope to have VHF , UHF, and HF operations in each of the events we hold.. However, our plans are controlled by the level of response of participation we receive from the Club's membership. If you would like to operate at any of these events please let me know and I'll put your name on

the list. Additionally, if there are any other special events in which you feel we should be involved, please let us know. We are only a phone call away.

And finally, a commercial plug!

As many of you know I look after the Swap Net which is on the Pot Hole Net, 3760 on Sunday momings at 10:00 am. The net is also conducted on Monday evenings on the Capital City Net on CRA, 146.940-. As most already know, the Swap Net lists electronic and associated items for sale, trade or are wanted by amateurs. In the past, the only way items could be listed was through a letter or telephone call. I have upgraded this procedure this year so that now you may contact me at any of the following:-

Telephone 613-836-2633

Fax 613-836-5635

e-mail ve3guu@igs.net

Rather than wait for the Sunday morning or Monday night nets, you can also check the Swap Net via RAC's home page, <swapnets> or you may use the following <http://www.IGS.net/~swap>

If you are looking for electronic equipment and accessories or want to list these items for sale use any of the above listed contact numbers. Items listed will be maintained for a period of six weeks following which they will be removed from the listings unless you renew their availability.

MINUTES

OVMRC Regular Meeting, September 18th, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Reardon at 1935 hours. The Club welcomed the following guests- Carol, VE3NBW; Jay, VA3JAY; and Jason, VA3ITB. Bob, VE3KLLK, asked for assistance with his antenna tower. President Dan said he would try to get some help for him.

President Dan said the executive is pleased with the number of suggestions received for topics to feature at Club meetings. Several of these suggestions have been included in future meetings. A volunteer is still needed to chair this year's Field Day. Volunteers are asked to contact any member of the executive. A special "thank you" was expressed to Jake, VE3TQX and Larry, VE3WEH for their work in our last Filed Day.

President Dan spoke about the Club having Special Events Stations. Possible local tie-ins included such events as the Tulip Festival, the spring Flotilla on the canal, the steam train to Wakefield. Dan displayed a few very colorful certificates he has received from U.S. stations for checking in on their special event stations. Volunteers would be welcomed for any of these special events.

President Dan reminded members that the Club's 386 computer would be sold tonight by the Treasurer

receiving sealed bids. Only bids from paid up members would be considered.

The Club Secretary is relocating to the Almonte area. This means that during the winter months, due to storms, he will probably not be able to drive to the city to attend meetings. A volunteer is needed to take minutes on those nights Earl is not able to attend. Volunteers are asked to contact Earl or President Dan.

The meeting was turned over to the Program Chairman, Dan Johnston, VA3JAR. Dan introduced this evening's program "Bunny Hunting", and the first speaker Larry, VE3WEH. Larry introduced a video on previous hunts which he labeled as a typical event. The video featured the winner of the last hunt, Susan Ludlow, VE3MOG. Susan was the second speaker and demonstrated her homebrew direction finding loop antenna which was described in an issue of last year's Rambler. John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV, also spoke of his experiences and equipment in bunny hunts. Finally, Mike Kelly, VE3FFH, showed his bike mobile and the various equipment on it. He explained how he used his mobile in bunny hunts. The meeting was introduced to CARBHA. It is a mini club for bunny hunting. CARBHA stand for Capital Area Radio Bunny Hunting

Association. The club has no membership fees or formal structure. It is an interest group devoted to bunny hunting.

President Dan thanked all those who participated in this evenings informative and interesting program. He expressed the wish that more of our members take part in future programs by relating their experiences.

Susan Ludlow announced that there will be a bunny hunt on Sunday, September 28th. The hunt will start at 1:00pm. Hunters are asked to meet in the parking lot of the Museum on Sunday for checks-in.

Dan Reardon reported that his Swap Net was now available on the internet through the RAC Homepage. He also pointed out that amateurs can now e-mail their listing of "For Sale" items, items they want or are looking for, and the deletion of items which are no longer available. The Swap Net is broadcast as part of the Pot Hole Net on Sunday mornings on HF, and the Capital City Net on VHF on Monday nights on the CRA repeater.

Several door prizes were drawn for and awarded as well as the 50 - 50 draw.

The meetings was adjourned at 2115 hours for coffee and cookies and ragchew.

Trunk Sale A Success

The sky was bright and sunny and the temperature was close to the 20's all of which contributed to making the setting for the "Junk In The Trunk" sale ideal. While the turn-out of "buyers" was light, the vendors certainly enjoyed themselves bargaining with one another for the items they were interested in.

Items for sale covered a wide gammit of parts, manuals, computers, tapes and hard-to-find electronic tubes. Many of items sold went at bargain prices, making the buyers happy and the vendors pleased to get rid of their good "junk".

Club President Dan Reardon has stated that if there is sufficient demand, a second Trunk Sale may be organized before winter sets in.

DX Column

When amateur operators get together in person or in conversation on frequency, sooner or later the conversation turns to propagation - how good or bad it is. It is natural that the conversation turns to the DX contacts one or both operators have made.

For those of you who enjoy DX operations and boasting a bit about your contacts the Rambler will, providing there is sufficient interest, start a column of DX contacts. What we would like to receive from you is your name and call sign, the DX contact you have made, and the time, date, and level of power used. Phone, write or e-mail Dan Doctor

with your data and watch for it to appear in the next Rambler. Dan's e-mail address is :- dan.doctor@takeone.com and his telephone number is 745-9214.

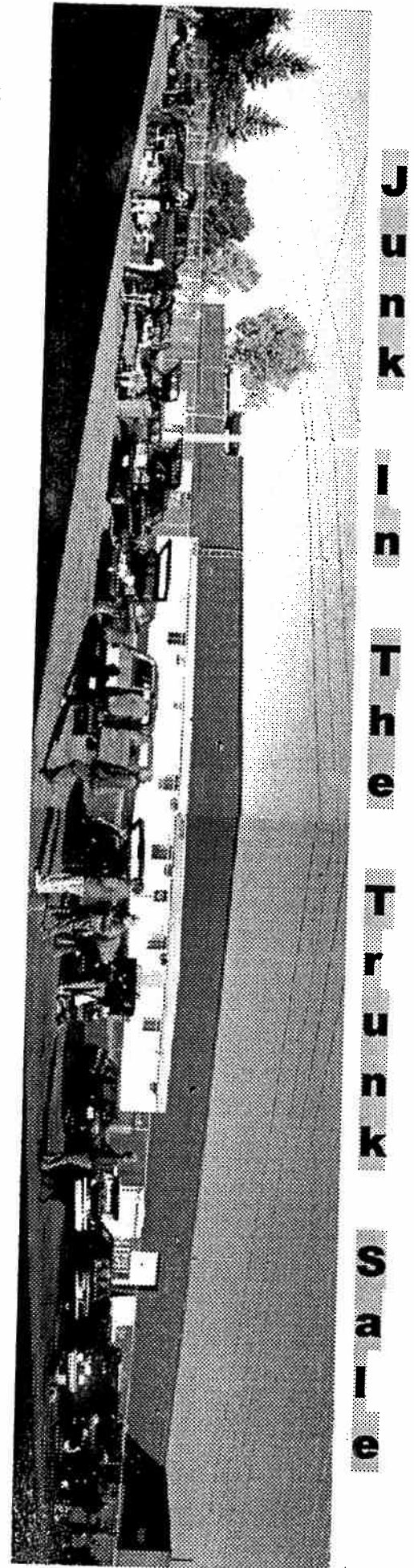
As is said, "the ball is in your court."

OVMRC's Radio Course Underway

Twelve energetic prospective amateurs have enrolled in the OVMRC's Amateur Radio Course. The twelve men and women showed up at the Museum Tuesday night, October 7th to sign up for the five-six month course. The course instructors have indicated that there is still room for further students should you know of someone who is interested in studying to join our hobby.

The course sessions are every Tuesday evening from approximately 7:00 to 10:00pm at the Museum of Science and Technology. The course covers a wide range of amateur radio subjects and includes learning Morse code. While students can take their qualifying exam at any time, most will be tested by Delegated Examiners in March and April.

Those students who successfully complete the course are invited to attend the May regular meeting of the OVMRC to be formally introduced to Club members and to receive their Certificate of Proficiency.



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Think You're Computer Literate ?

People who own computers think and do "funny" things ! Or is it simply the explanations provided in the owners manual that leaves owners totally confused ? Check-out this feature which appeared recently in the Wall Street Journal written by Jim Carlton. It's a collection of excerpts from telephone calls received by various computer firms' technical support staff. Compaq is considering changing the command "Press Any Key" to "Press Return Key" because of the flood of calls they have received asking where the "Any" key is.

AST had a caller complaining that her mouse was hard to control with the dust cover on. The cover turned out to be the protective plastic cover the mouse was shipped in.

Another AST technician received a call from a man complaining that his system wouldn't read word processing files from his 5 1/4" floppy disks. After trouble shooting for magnets and heat failed to diagnose the problem, it was found that the customer affixed labels to the diskettes and then rolled them into a typewriter to type their content on the labels.

An AST customer was asked to send a copy of her defective diskettes to the company. A few days later, a letter arrived from the customer along with Xeroxed copies of the floppies.

A Dell technician advised his customer to put his troubled floppy back in the drive and close the door. The customer asked the technician to hold on the line, and was heard getting up and crossing the room to close the door to his room.

Another Dell customer called to say he couldn't get his computer to fax anything. After 40 minutes of trouble-shooting, the technician discovered the man was trying to fax a piece of paper by holding it in front of the monitor screen and hitting the "send" button with his mouse.

Yet another Dell customer called to complain that his keyboard no longer worked. He cleaned it by filling a tub with soap and water and soaking the keyboard for a day. He then removed all the keys and washed them individually.

A Dell technician received a call from a customer who was enraged because his computer told him he was "bad and an invalid". The technician explained the computer's "bad command" and "invalid" response should not be taken personally.

A customer called Compaq to complain that her brand new computer wouldn't work. She said she carefully unpacked the unit, set it up, plugged it in, and sat there for 20 minutes waiting for something to happen. When asked what happened when she pressed the power switch, she asked "What power switch ?"

A Dell customer needed help to set-up a new program. It was suggested she go to the local Egghead. "Yeah, I got a couple of friends" she replied. When told Egghead was a software store, she said, "Oh, I though you meant for me to find a couple of geeks."

3 8 6 Computer Sold

Sealed bids for the Club's old 386 computer were opened at the executive meeting on September 25th. Upon reviewing the bids, Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, had tendered the highest and successful bid of \$160. The 386 computer had become surplus as the Club had purchased a new pentium computer.

O V M R C Flea Market

The Rambler erroneously reported in our last issue that the OVMRC's Flea Market was to be held on April 26th. The correct date is May 2nd, 1998. A contract has been signed with the Stittsville Arena reserving May 2nd for the flea market.

Antennas !

For those living in apartments, condominiums or areas where there are restrictions regarding antennas, the Club's October meeting is a "must attend" event. The topic of discussion will be antennas for restricted areas. Effort is being made to have some of the antennas used by amateurs living in apartments, and used in attics available at the meeting so that everyone can get a better appreciation of what is available for use in restricted areas. We would suggest you reserve the evening of October 16th now !

Hamming it up to CJ '97

Written by Roger Rose, VE3XRR and Ron Clement, VE2BRR

Has it been four years already? They say that time flies when you're having fun. Personally, I believe that the speed of time increases in direct proportion with the year of your birthdays. But that's another matter all together. Once again, Ron (VA2BRR, ex VE3UWR) and I (VE3XRR) packed up the van and along with 13,873 other scouts, went to Thunder Bay to attend the 9th Canadian Scout Jamboree. Since we were travelling by car and having to meet certain time restrictions, it was decided at the last minute, that we would not take along the HF rig. Having only two days to get there, which meant driving 8 to 9 hours both days, we decided to stay overnight in a motel. Somehow, I couldn't see ourselves stretching a dipole from a room window to the Comfort Inn's welcome sign. Nevertheless, we took our 2m handhelds and the repeater directory and off we went.

We left on July 8th and headed north on highway 17. Of course, with all the excitement of making such a trip, we promptly forgot (ignore might be a better word) to notify everyone on the local repeaters that we were mobile. Anyway, we ended up turning the 2m rig on while driving through Chalk River. We announced ourselves a couple of times along the way on the few repeaters but dead silence. The first contact was finally made with Norm (VE3UHY) on the Timmins repeater (147.060⁺) VA3AA. He was very helpful in providing us with information on the local historical research centre I was looking for. He also provided us with a few newly installed link repeaters frequencies between Timmins and Long Lac to the north (VE3XVE on 147.360⁺ in Driftwood, VE3XAE on 146.640⁺ in Kapuskasing and two near Hearst on 146.940⁺ and 146.700⁺). He couldn't remember the callsigns for the last two.

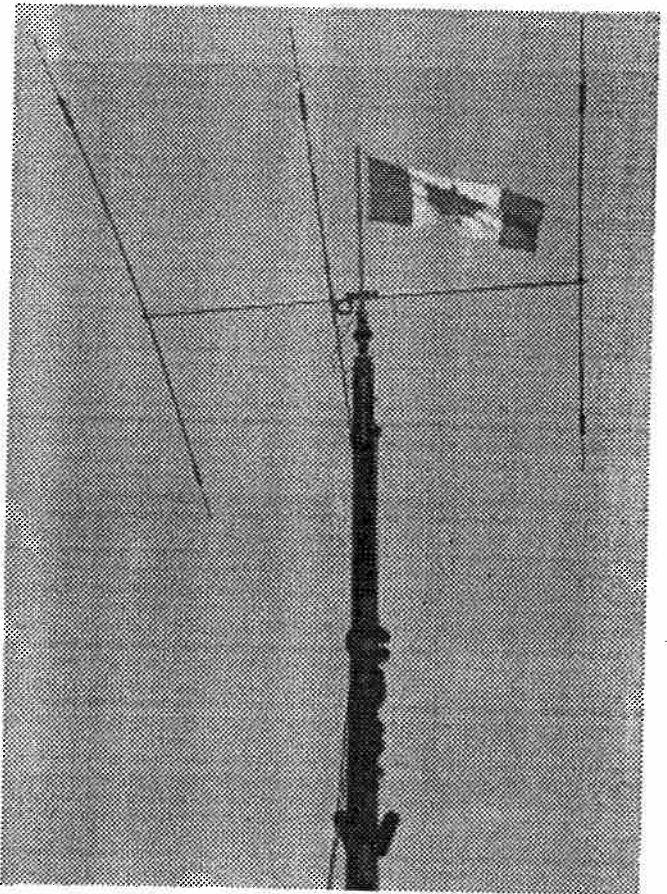
Taking highway 655 north towards Kapuskasing the next morning we tried all of the repeaters but either they were down or we couldn't hold them. Numerous calls went unanswered so after a while we gave up and enjoyed the view. We even spotted a black bear nonchalantly march across the road and disappear in the bush. Same story through Kapuskasing and Hearst on their respective repeater (VE3KKG on 146.460⁺) and 147.740⁺.

Finally, we had a good chat with Paul (VE3IKS) while driving through Long Lac on VE3LLT (147.060⁺). He also warned us about road construction ahead as we travelled westbound. There were also two bridges being worked on and traffic was very slow. We didn't get anybody else nor did we try other repeaters and by supper time, we were in Thunder Bay and the CJ '97 site.

While at the Jamboree, we were kept busy working odd hours but we managed some free time to roam around the site. From time to time, we met other Hams like David (VE3JLJ) who had problems with his 2m handheld and couldn't use it, Steve (VE3SGM) whose troop was learning how to put up a teepee, Dan (VE2KAA) who was busy working at the Québec sub-camp HQ, David (VE3ZPQ) just

walking around, Stanley (KA0JWH) who talked to us about his bike mobile set-up.

Of course, we had already spotted the antennas used by the on-site Amateur Display Station (CJ3FW, a photo of which appears below). It took us a few days to finally drop by and pay them a visit. What a set-up! The station was sponsored by the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC). We introduced ourselves and got a tour of their various stations installed in the St. Ignatius High School machine shop. First, we spoke with Ralph Jenkins (VE3RJE) who was looking after the HF set-up. A Kenwood TS930S for 10, 15 and 20m and a Kenwood TS530S for 40m. Janice (VA3JRS) was giving him a hand and made sure everyone signed the guest book. We then met Bob (VE3RVA). He gave us a run down on the LARC, its membership and activities. He recalled the involvement with the Siberian hams visiting Canada. Thunder Bay is actually twinned with Irkutsk. That visit was documented in the Sept '95 TCA.



Towering over the Jamboree site on top of a telephone pole, was the 3 element beam. While difficult to distinguish in black and white reproduction, are the station's call sign CF3FW in bright red on the telephone pole.

Continued on the next page

Hamming It Up

Continued from previous page

Then, we met with Mike (VE3ZG), a member of the EMC Committee. He told us about his involvement with the publication of the "Northern Ontario ARC Call Book" which was produced and published in 1996 by LARC. For anyone travelling the northern routes, this is a great source of information. I have a copy if you are interested to see it. We continued our tour with a quick visit at the VHF set-up where Ross (VE3WRB) and Stanley (KA0JWH) were giving a lecture to some scouts on the pleasure of operating a 2m rig. In the next room, a Short Wave Listening station was being used by some more scouts under the supervision of two other members of the club.

Outside, telephone poles were especially installed to accommodate a tri-bander and an 80m dipole. On the roof of the school, a couple of inverted Vs, another tri-bander and an R5 completed the selection of antennas.

From one of the telephone post, a huge sign advertizing their presence, it read CJ3FW, was highly visible. Overall, a superb demonstration of what Amateur Radio is. Once again, this showed how well hamming and scouting can come together. I applaud the LARC for their efforts and give thanks to the members who worked so hard to make it happen. You can find more information on CJ3FW and the LARC's presence at the Jamboree on the internet (<http://www.tbaytel.net/srobb/cj97.htm> and [srobb/larc.htm](http://www.srobb/larc.htm)). Great job guys.

A satellite detection station was also setup beside the station. It was all part of the 'Scouting Enterprise' program. Scouts had to position the satellite dish at the right coordinates in order to intercepts video signals from a chosen satellite.

The Jamboree over, we stayed in the area for a couple of days, visiting with my brother. We did a little fishing and mostly R & R. A couple of times, the rig came on. We spoke with Marc (VE4MAB) on repeater VE3YQT (147.060+) in Thunder Bay. Two nights later, while making our overnight stop in Sault-St-Marie, we checked in on the Quincy-Soo net. Fraser (VE3KOF) was net control.

Our next overnight stop was in North Bay and even tho' we monitored their repeaters on 145.110+, 147.000+ and 147.140+, there was no activities and we were too tired to bother much. Pizza and 807s for supper on our last night of travelling before heading home and a well deserved return to work. Already looking forward to the next Jamboree in Prince Edward Island in 2001. We wonder how many repeaters we can work on on that side of the country?

Buyers - - Beware !!!

If you are approached and offered amateur radio equipment at bargain basement prices by someone you do not know - BEWARE ! It seems a number of break-ins have occurred both in Ontario and across the country in which amateur radio equipment has been stolen.

The latest such break-in and theft occurred at Bytown Marine in August. Graham Walker has provide the Rambler with a list of the equipment that was stolen. Should anyone offer you any of these radios, please contact the police and report it to them. The radios stolen are :-

AH-50 Cherokee 6M Handheld transceiver. Serial No.(S/N) unknown

WS-1000 Mini Scanner, 500KHz-1300MHz. S/N 71E070498.

IC-21A 2M Icom Handheld.S/N 001512

IC-2SRA Icom 2M Handheld W/Wide band RX. S/N 004411

IC-T21A Icom 2M Handheld S/N 001086

IC-T7A Icom 2M/70Cm Handheld Transceiver S/N 001106

TM-251A Kenwood .2M Mobile Transceiver S/N 70200252

TM-261A Kenwood 2M Transceiver S/N 81200641

TS-570D Kenwood HF Transceiver S/N 80800179

HS-200 Relm Scanner, handheld S/N unknown

FT-50R Dual Band Handheld Transceiver S/N 61090816

VX-1R Micro Dual band handheld Transceiver S/N 71021557

You can either climb the ladder to success or spend your time waiting for the express elevator. But, before you decide which course to follow, try to remember the last time you saw an OUT OF ORDER sign being hung on the ladder.

A Look At Yesteryear

Written by Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

The history of an organization and its elements or parts is usually an interesting delve into the past involving people we've heard about but never met. The OVMRC's Historical Chairman, Larry Wilcox has agreed to review some of the Club's old documentation and produce a column we have titled "A Look At Yesteryear". We hope you'll enjoy it.

I have been reviewing the draft OVMRC History, reading Executive Minutes and past Rambler newsletters for historical purposes and found some very interesting information about several subjects concerning our Club. A special thank you to Jim Hamilton VE3GJY, who provided mint condition copies of the Rambler dating from 1981 to 1996, all neatly organized! In the interests of the general membership, and with the encouragement of our Editor, I decided to write this column so current members can enjoy such information. We should be aware of our roots and the efforts of those amateurs before us that contributed to the development of the OVMRC.

REPEATER HISTORY:

This first column will deal with the history of our repeater, which has been the subject of much discussion lately. The draft OVMRC History notes that in 1977, the members voted to purchase and maintain a 2M repeater. In May, the Club Repeater was licenced as VE3TWO and by November, it was on the air. I haven't finished reviewing all the club records but have found Executive minutes dating back to Dec. 1978 and copies of the Rambler dating back to December 1981.

At the Executive meeting held on 20 Dec, 1978, Mike Shacklock (VE)3LAR made a suggestion to move the repeater to The Highlands, 525 St. Laurent Blvd. It was decided this would be reviewed by the Executive at a later time. Hugh 3DWL, donated a rack for the new repeater site in May 1979 and incidently, these minutes also note that, 3GOS had the club outhouse, a tower and guys (in preparation for Field Day). Nothing further until 27 Sept 1979 when 3LAR advised that the new repeater construction was progressing well with 3FSN having two of the three PCB's etched and drilled and a work party to install the repeater would be requested.

George Morgan 3JQW, informed the Executive on 22 Nov 1979 the paperwork involved to install VE3TWO on the Sir William Logan Bldg, 580 Booth Street was underway. There seemed to have been a delay. The new Executive, in Jan 1980, wanted to send a letter to companies which had supplied assistance, advising why the

repeater was not operational yet. Russ 3FSN, also wanted to ensure all bugs were out before the move was made and George 3JQW noted the antenna would be erected the next weekend if administrative details between DPW/EMR could be worked out.

March, 1980 Executive minutes. Russ 3FSN said the repeater was working like a charm and the 23 May minutes note the Technical Advisor stated the lightning arrestor had been purchased and the repeater raising was scheduled for Sat. 31 May, 1980.

During the 25 Sept 1980 Executive meeting, Russ 3FSN, said there was a problem with the repeater being de-sensed and he was trying to borrow some cavities to see if they would help, and he was working on a power fluctuation problem. There was a discussion about selling the back-up repeater at the Museum station. Russ reported to the Executive at the October meeting that the problems with the repeater were solved but at the 27 Nov meeting, he said the repeater still needed cavities. In Jan 1981, Ray 3FN, suggested trading the old repeater for a beam. During the March meeting, the Executive decided to sell the old repeater at the auction for \$300.

The 26 Nov 1981 minutes note that a letter was required to Energy, Mines and Resources regarding a 70 metre (cm?) Repeater co-located with VE3TWO on the Sir William Logan Bldg. Paging interference was discussed, some improvement in paging operator co-operation, DOC action etc, have resulted in marginal improvement. Technical Advisor Dave VE3KLX in the Dec, 1981 Rambler stated DOC had finally been convinced of the excessive level of spurious emissions from the paging system that caused havoc in the operation of VE3TWO. Some improvement had been noticed and the subject of a suitable cavity was being investigated.

Jan 1982 Rambler, Dave reminded members at the general meeting that code practice sessions were being broadcast on VE3TWO and the schedule was published in the Rambler.

To be continued next month with further historical notations from the OVMRC's archives.

Potpourri

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

AMSAT - A press release, September 24, announced that the flight test of the second Ariane 5 vehicle would be delayed until mid-October. Some have asked if this delay means that Phase 3D may yet fly on Ariane 502. The answer to this is a definite NO. The 502 launch vehicle is already assembled on the pad and there is no chance that Phase 3D can be accommodated on it. Negotiations are proceeding between various parties in Europe concerning another launch opportunity for the satellite. It is not expected that any word on this will be forthcoming until after the launch of A-502.

Great Britain - On the 21st of September, subject to weather conditions not delaying the installation on the tower, a new 10-Gigahertz beacon GB3CCX was due to go on the air. It will operate on 10,368.940MHz. Reports go to Nick Negus, G6AWT.

Pop Comm Oct 97 & Internet - Seems that after the big push to prohibit cellular monitoring in the US, now the same "do-gooders" are asking for more. Worth watching is if this will carry on into Canada. Representative Edward Markey has introduced a Bill in the US that will, in its present form, make it illegal to manufacture/sell scanners that receive certain business band frequencies. This is in the frequencies of VHF - low, VHF-high, UHF and the 800-900 MHz area. For more

detail see
www.house.gov/markey.
Monitoring Times Sept 97 - For you tech freaks here are some new toys! A Pentium 133 MHz CPU that is housed inside a 4 inch deep 10" flat color screen for \$1500 US. No more tower or desk case! JPS have a spectrum analyser program that sends the data to a CPU for display and is used with their NIR-12 DSP noise filter unit.

Monitoring Times - Seems all sorts want to play in the sky. Sky Station International wish to set up a network of high-altitude blimps for communications in the 47 Ghz range. These balloons would be 150' wide, 450' long and weigh 15 tons and placed over major population centers at a height of 13 miles. In the event of a puncture one can wonder at the consequences. Amateur Radio Newsline - Seems that even with the satellites one can't stay from using too much power. B.J. Arts, WT0N, Official Observer says that he has received many complaints about satellite operators running excessively high power with Amateur communication satellites. In one case, two operators, who were in contact with one another, were causing Fuji Oscar 20's AGC to block out all other incoming signals operating with normal levels of transmitter power. Excessive levels of uplink power prevent other users from equally sharing the

satellite's transponder.

Amateur Radio Newsline - Another high altitude amateur radio equipped balloon (Windtrack 13) made a successful mid-West flight near Cocomo, Indiana. School students handling amateur radios collected data and talked with hams from around the midwest that checked into mission control. The flight took the balloon to over 104,000 feet before it burst and parachuted back to earth. Color pictures were transmitted from sub-orbit via amateur TV. The GPS/APRS packet transmitter sent back location data while keeping tabs on the inside and outside temperatures of each of the radio packages. Eight carloads of fox hunters from Indiana and Illinois tracked the balloon for twenty six miles seeing the packages make a soft landing in an alfalfa field.

ARRL Sept 97 - U.S. astronaut David Wolf, KC5VPF, replacing his colleague Mike Foale, KB5UAC, will now continue for four more months amateur radio aboard the Russian Mir space station. Also, NASA has added Amateur Radio to the official payload for the International Space Station - in fact, ham radio was the first payload to become official! Windsor-Another bites the dust! As of Aug30, Azden quit selling gear in the US. AES has purchased all remaining inventory.