

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club Inc. (OVMRC)
Volume 44, Issue No.8



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WHITE CANE WEEK

“Too late! You’ve missed it!” That’s what we should have written when announcing the White Cane Week in the February issue of the Rambler.

The WCW week-long special event took place from 6 to 11 February 2000, at the VE3JW Amateur Radio Exhibit Station. Well, if you were not one of the small crew who participated, you’ve missed a good event.

The week started on Sunday when Ernie, VE3EJJ accompanied George, VE3XS. It carried through with Don, VE3DRO, providing transport for Ian, VE3PSK, and Keith, VA3KER, assisting. Then, yours truly met with Bob, VE3AAB. On Friday morning, John, VA3LAR, brought Duncan, VE3GXU, who renewed long-time friendship with Graham, VE3GBD driven in by Larry, VE3WEH, and teaming up with Ken, VE3KJB.

Two other white-caners, who were signed in, could not make it due to other commitments, Roger, VE3NPO, and Bob, VE3EEK. Nevertheless, we managed to “sign in” one more than last year.

We were fortunate to have good propagation that provided for some enjoyable contacts, and even rare ones, on many bands including the 10-meter band.

This was my first turn at the WCW and I would like to share some of the things I’ve learned during this special event:

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Rambler

OVMRC Executive (1999-2000)

President	Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG 833-2766, ve3mog@rac.ca
Vice-President	Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS 837-3261, kenh@intranet.ca
Treasurer	Peter Hafichuk, VE3LBW 745-0608
Secretary	Dan Doctor, VE3XDD 745-9214, ddoctor@magma.ca

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Amateur Radio Exhibit	Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG 749-9010, ve3vig@rac.ca
Amateur Radio Training	Bob Shaw, VE3SUY 737-9443, lycott@fox.nstn.ca Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ 728-3666 Gilles Morin, VE3VGW 824-0018
Accredited Examiner	Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ 225-6785, ve3osz@rac.ca
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Historical	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH 747-5565, ve3weh@rac.ca
Flea Market	John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV 521-8910, ve3zov@rac.ca
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Newsletter	Bill Hall, VA3WMH 830-5580, va3wmh@rac.ca
Publicity & Programs	Don Raymond, VE3DRO 737-7740, ve3dro@rac.ca
Radio Operations	Ken Barry, VE3KJB 746-4823, kennan@storm.ca
Technical	Jake Guertin, VA3TQX 253-3732, vatqx@magma.ca

OVMRC Life Members

Ralph Cameron	VE3BBM
Doug Carswell	VE3ATY
Gerry King	VE3GK
Doreen Morgan	VE3CGO
Ed Morgan	VE3GX
Fred Noble	VE3BAJ
Bill Wilson	VE3NR

Note: Affiliated Clubs

The OVMRC no longer exchanges newsletters with other Amateur Radio Clubs. The *Rambler* is available on-line at the club website:

<http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/rambler.htm>

Sponsors

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OVMRC code phone

Practice your CW
737-0197



OVMRC Repeater

147.300 MHz(+)
444.200 MHz(+)
53.030/52.030 MHz



OVMRC web page

<http://www.ovmrc.on.ca>
Webmaster: John Rodger,
VE3JR.jcr@magma.ca



Next Meeting

Mar 16
Rambler Deadline
Apr 7

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Ramblings

By Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG
President, OVMRC



What a treat, at our February meeting, to have Brian Biggings, VE3XA, join us with a presentation on his participation in the ZL9CI DXpedition to Campbell Island last year. I would like to thank Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC, who drew my attention to the professionally produced video we saw of that DXpedition, and Rob Ludlow, VE3YE, who approached Brian via

e-mail and on the air about the possibility of making the trip to Ottawa to address our club.

The February meeting was evaluated highly by club members. With a score of one (1) representing strong agreement, up to five (5) representing strong disagreement, the average scores from those evaluating the meeting were as follows:

- a) Overall, I found the meeting enjoyable and entertaining. (1.2)
- b) The meeting was a good social opportunity for me. (1.75)
- c) The meeting seemed well-organized. (1.35)
- d) The length of the meeting was just right. (1.45)
- e) I learned something new from the presentation. (1.3)
- f) The presentation was interesting and entertaining. (1.0)
- g) It was easy to hear and to understanding the presenter. (1.3)

Some of the comments were:

“Great guest speaker”;

“Excellent video/audio, and very informative camera angles”;

“Brian is a very nice and informative speaker. Great to hear his personal comments”;

“Most impressive video I have ever listened to on DX & Amateur Radio.”

The challenge with which we’re faced with, however, is coming up with the programming ideas that at least match, if not improve upon, the club’s expectations. Luckily, we’ve been able to work on a great set of ideas proposed by the Executive last June, but I’m always glad to receive to new ideas and suggestions from club members.

According to the evaluations, the most consistent weakness in our meetings so far this year has been item (b) above, the social element. While the time set aside for refreshments at the end of each meeting does give everyone the opportunity to socialize with other club members, we could probably do more during each meeting to increase the level of interactivity and participation. Don’t be surprised, therefore, if I spring something a little different on you at meetings to come!

Along with the fun aspect of planning club meetings, we also have to deal with a number of serious issues. For instance, as I’ve suggested before, I think the by-laws need work. I also believe our Directors should develop a set of policies that are separate from and more flexible than the by-laws. In other developments, the new module has been installed on our repeater, but we’ve hit a bit of an unforeseen bureaucratic snag with regard to the phone patch and are working on a number of possible solutions. We have to work with the museum, also, to ensure VE3JW is properly maintained, and improved, where possible. And, two of our largest projects this year – the fleamarket in May, and Field Day in June – are approaching quickly, and require a great deal of planning and energy.

So much to do, and thankfully, so many hard-working volunteers to help. But we can always use new recruits, and soon it will be time to strike the Nominating Committee, whose job is to search for next year’s Executive. Want to get involved? The ways in which you can contribute are limited only by your imagination and your time. By all means, if you wish to participate in the club’s endeavours in any way, big or small, please let me know. If all you can do, however, is to come out to the meetings, that is great too. It’s an exciting time to be an OVMRC member.

See you on March 16! ❖

Field Day 2000

Large, multi-club Field Day planned for Capital Region Volunteers needed for Field Day 2000

By Rob Ludlow, VE3YE

A large, multi-club Field Day is shaping up for the Capital Region this June 24 and 25. It's expected to be the largest ever in the area and it has the potential to be the largest ever anywhere in Field Day history, based on the possible number of transmitters and participants.

More than 100 participants are expected with stations operating from 160 metres through 2.5 GHz on all modes as VA3RAC. The minimum target is Class 12A but considerably more transmitters are expected to be in operation.

Plans are well under way and a growing organizing committee has already held several meetings. The concept of mounting a special, unified, regional Field Day effort for the year 2000 is the vision of Field Day Co-ordinator Glenn McLeod, VE3GLN.

Québec Region Co-ordinator Pierre Cyrenne, VE2GPF is assisting Glenn, with a growing band of enthusiasts and volunteers on both sides of the river throughout the region.

The objectives for Field Day 2000 are:

- to have all Amateur Radio clubs and organizations in the area participate;
- to be a joint effort by as many Radio Amateurs as possible;
- to operate a minimum of 12A and probably many more transmitters;
- to provide publicity and raise the public profile of Amateur Radio; and,
- above all, for everyone to have fun!

While Field Day 2000 is planned for the large open area in front of the National Museum of Science and Technology on St. Laurent Blvd., it is not a single-club or Ottawa-only event but rather an undertaking with the co-operation and assistance of any and all Amateur Radio clubs and Amateurs around the Capital Region in Ontario and Québec.

The Museum is seen as an ideal and appropriate venue because of its mandate to promote and exhibit science and technology. It will

also serve as a valuable and accessible display to showcase Amateur Radio technology and emergency preparedness to the public.

More than half-a-dozen clubs and organizations from Ontario and Québec have already indicated willingness or agreed to participate and are committed to this event. More clubs and individuals are signing on every day.

All clubs in the National Capital Region and beyond are welcome to participate - whether up the Ottawa River Valley to Renfrew; south-east of the city out to Lanark, Smiths Falls and Perth; down to the St. Lawrence and Brockville, Iroquois and Cornwall; or out east to Hawkesbury and beyond. Amateur Radio clubs and organizations in Québec are also committed and all are welcome. Individual Amateurs are also welcome to set up or work the stations of their choice.

Many volunteers will be needed as station managers and operators along with radios, antennas and equipment to make Field Day 2000 a truly memorable, record-setting, and non-partisan event.

Other initiatives under way:

- A web site will be operating soon (<http://hamradio.unplug.org/>);
- It is hoped to have the week of June 19-25 declared Amateur Radio Week in the National Capital Region;
- Local, regional, provincial and federal politicians, other dignitaries, the news media and community (cable) television will be invited to attend;
- Corporate and individual sponsors are needed and welcome to make this project a success; and
- Regular organizational meetings are being held by the steering group.

Clubs or individuals wishing more information or wishing to become involved are invited to contact Field Day Co-ordinator Glenn McLeod, VE3GLN, at home at 613-746-3776 (between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. please)

Field Day 2000 will happen. Will you be a part of it? ❖

Field Day Station Managers Required

Need Station Managers - Besoin des gérants de poste

[français au dessous]

Although the FD2000 effort is a joint effort, it is likely that clubs will want to sponsor a station or stations in all aspects including equipment and operators. Glenn has directed me to assemble a roster of station managers as soon as possible. If your club would like to sponsor a station, please advise your choice(s) of band and mode and the names of station managers who will be responsible. A band plan is provided as well as a job description for Station Manager.

À tous: Même si l'effort de FD2000 soit coopératif, probablement il ya des clubs qui veulent faire fonctionner une/des poste(s) leurs-meme. Glenn m'a demandé à rassembler une liste des gérants de poste aussitôt que possible. Si ton club voudrai supporter une poste, svp repondre a ce message précisant tes choix des gammes et des modes et les noms des gérants de poste qui seraient responsable. Un fichier du plan des gammes est ci-inclu et aussi un description des devoirs.

73 Brice, VE3EDR ❖

OVMRC MILLENNIUM CONTEST

When: January 1, 2000 at 00:01 EST
until March 31, 2000 at 23:59 EST

Where: On VE3TWO Repeater 147.300 MHZ (+),
EXCLUDING OFFICIAL NETS

How: Make repeater contacts with other OVMRC members

Who: OVMRC members only

HOW TO SUBMIT TO QUALIFY:

Please keep your log it may have to be submitted for verification at a later date.

You may submit your log totals either by mail to the club address: ATTENTION VE3TWO CONTEST or by E-mail to: Tom St Julien:

“GOOD LUCK” ❖

Terms of Reference

STATION MANAGER

The Station Manager is the person in charge of a particular station. This person is responsible to the Field Day Co-ordinator and/or the Operations Manager for the proper operation and manning of their particular station. The Station Manager will be responsible for the following:

- a) Appointing an Assistant Station Manager to assist in their duties, either the Station Manager or the Assistant Manager is to be available on the field day site for the entire event;
- b) Supplying the necessary radio equipment (with the exception of the Antennas and feedlines) for the assigned band and mode;
- c) Ensuring that other equipment, as required by the Station Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), are available for their station;
- d) Ensuring that a sufficient number of qualified operators are available to meet the manning schedule as laid down by the Operations Manager or the Operations Manager's representative;
- e) Ensuring that the operators for that particular station are versed in the proper operation of that station and any idiosyncrasies associated with that station;
- f) Liasing with the Site Manager with regards to assignment of space for their particular station and the provision of appropriate services for that station (power, antenna feed, table, chairs, etc.);
- g) Liasing with the Kitchen staff for required refreshments for their operators;
- h) Reviewing his copy of the Station SOP's with an eye towards correctness of the information contained and making such modifications as is deemed necessary;
- i) Assisting the Operations Manager as required; and
- j) Any other duties as may be assigned by the Operations Manager. ❖

Field Day 2000 - Band Plan

Field Day 2000 Station Managers

Low Bands

Band	Mode	Name	Call	Telephone	Email
160	CW	Bob Kavanagh	VE3OSZ	235-6785	ve3osz@rac.ca
	Phone				
	Digital				
80	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital				
40	CW	Brice Wightman	VE3EDR	745-1192	ve3edr@rac.ca
	Phone				
	Digital	Jim Cummings	VE3XJ	446-1225	ve3xj@rac.ca
20	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital	Jim Cummings	VE3XJ	446-1225	ve3xj@rac.ca
15	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital				
10	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital				

High Bands

Band	Mode	Name	Call	Telephone	Email
6	CW				
	Phone	Jake Guertin	VA3TQX		va3txq@magma.com
	Digital				
2	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital				
220	CW				
	Phone				
440	CW				
	Phone				
	Digital				
1.2	CW				
	Phone				

Other Stations

Station	Name	Call	Telephone	Email
Novice	Bob Shaw	VE3SUY	737-9443	lycott@fox.nstn.ca
ATV ?				
Satellite	Clare Fowler	VE3NPC	232-0181	ve3npc@rac.ca

RAC Bulletin

From: RAC Headquarters
Date: March 3, 2000

Subject: Amateur Streamlining Becomes Effective April 1, 2000

As part of an initiative to streamline the administrative process for the amateur radio service and remove duplication, Industry Canada will be introducing regulatory amendments as was previously outlined in the discussion paper released last year. A new amateur operator certificate will become the sole document required for the operation of amateur radio equipment. It will replace both the traditional amateur radio licence and operator certificate. Amateurs will no longer be required to pay a licence issuance fee or annual licence renewal fee. However, amateurs will still be required to advise Industry Canada of a change of mailing address.

A new certificate, consisting of both diploma and wallet size, will be mailed to each amateur currently holding a radio license. All call signs currently held by amateurs will now appear on the new certificate. Amateur clubs will receive an amateur registration identifying the call signs currently issued to clubs on behalf of the sponsor.

Any amateur that did not hold a radio license prior to March 31, 2000 will be eligible to apply for a call sign. There will be no charge for the initial call sign however, additional or specially requested call signs will now cost \$60.00. If amateurs move from one call sign region to another, they will still be required to change their call sign but no fee will be charged for such changes. Likewise, there will be no charge for an amateur updating their mailing address.

For additional information regarding this new streamlined procedure, amateurs should contact the Amateur Service Centre of Industry Canada at:

Industry Canada Amateur Radio Service Centre
P.O. Box 9654 Postal Station "T"
Ottawa, ON K1G 6K9

E-Mail address:
<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/radioamateur.e>
Telephone: 1-888-780-3333 (Toll free)
Fax Number: 1-613-991-5575

Guy Charron VA3FZA
Bulletin Editor
Radio Amateurs of Canada
Email: va3fza@rac.ca
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WWW: www.rac.ca ❖

White Cane Week Continued from Page: 1.

- Patience and persistence will land you that special contact; - How important Amateur Radio is to a white-caner; - How they like to do things without help (first, show them the location and function of the controls, guide their hand initially for them to acquire orientation and sensory perception, then stand back); - The difference between visually impaired, which is a condition of diminished ability to see, and blindness, which is a condition of total sight disability and where this condition may have been present since birth.

Each white-caner brought me something to reflect on, and contributed to my edification. George appreciates the richness of a CW contact, (unfortunately that Sunday, the CW portion of the bands were covered "wall-to-wall" with many contests). Although, his very first contact was a station in Victoria, South Africa. Ian showed me how important each contact is by having confirmation cards prepared for each stations that checked into his special Trans-Provincial Net. Ian also had a contact with a station near Sydney, Australia.

Bob is a self-doer and enjoys minimum help. Amongst his contacts, he much enjoyed a station in Italy. Duncan's patience and enthusiasm, coupled with his love for CW, had plenty to be contented. In 27 years of Amateur Radio, he bagged his first-ever Hong Kong contact, a VR2 station. Graham has a healthy, proud and joyful, attitude toward Amateur Radio. The Bahamas was one of his contacts.

On behalf of the OVMRC, I would like to gratefully thank the drivers, the hosts, the escorts and those who provided assistance to our blind or visually impaired Amateur friends. I'm sure they are also thankful for your efforts.

Throughout this special week I was present at the VE3JW station whenever we had a white-caner in, and was ready to provide assistance whenever needed. It's been a most rewarding experience to witness our guests' satisfaction and joy brought on by their accomplishments on the bands.

May be you would like to enjoy this as well, come next year. ❖

Maurice-André Vigneault
ve3vig@rac.ca ❖

The Runs

Summer is close at hand and the charitable events will be starting soon. There are several Runs schedule for this summer starting in May and going right through to October. Also there is a soccer game scheduled for September the 17th 2000.

This is our chance to show the people of our city what we can do and to demonstrate the services our organization can supply to justify our existence.

We will require Amateurs with two meter radios to man check points on these events.

The job of these people will be to report any emergencies and any other traffic to the central control station.

All Amateurs are welcome to volunteer whether they belong to the OVMRC or any other Amateur radio club or no club at all.

Anyone interested in volunteering Contact Ken Barry ve3kjb at 613 746 4823 or by e-mail at kennan@storm.ca.

So far the scheduled events are listed below:

Events List for the year 2000

- Sunday May 27th Rideau Canoe Club
- Sunday June 18th Father's day Fun Run
- Saturday July 1st The Mews Run
- Sunday September 17th Cumberland Duathlon
- Sunday September 17th Terry Fox Run
- Sunday October 8th Ottawa Marathon

Ken Barry, VE3KJB
kennan@storm.ca ❖

End of an Era

With the end of the millennium came the end of another era. The OVMRC has participated with RAC in the creation and distribution of the study guide "Amateur Radio for Beginners." Many of our newer members have used the manual as the basis for their introduction to Amateur Radio. In early February the President of OVMRC, Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG received a letter from RAC containing the final royalty cheque to the OVMRC for the sale of the study guide. Over the years this agreement has provided additional revenue to the club. The RAC will no longer be selling the publication.

The publication was created by members of the club and has been used as the basis for our own educational program. The following people were involved with the production of the 1st draft of the OVMRC "Amateur Radio for Beginners" and many of them were also instructors for the course. The manual was in fact being written, produced and printed as the course progressed. The course was held over 22 weeks from September 1991 until it was completed in April of 1992.

Doug Carswell VE3ATY - Wrote much of the manual
Charles King VE3PDK - Editor
John Pope VE3ACI - Technical Accuracy
Peter Noel VE3DPN - Illustrations
Allen Ablett VE3SUP - Printing
Brice Wightman VE3EDR - CW Operating Procedures
Jerry Wells VE3CDS (SK) - CW practice and assistance
Pat Brewer VE3KJQ - CW Training Package and Regulations
Dennis Rule VE3JGR - Training Aids
Ralph Cameron - TVI Specialist (TVI, Television Interference is now referred to as EMI, ElectroMagnetic Interference)

The contribution of the above members and the many others who contributed in so many ways to the creation, revision and publication of the study guide is greatly appreciated.

Bill Hall, VA3WMH
va3wmh@rac.ca ❖

OVMRC Phone Directory Additions

Additions:

VE3MD, Andrew Dier, Mbr No: 151

Page 4:

VA3COA, Miles Copeland
Change e-mail to: va3coa@rac.ca

Please send changes or corrections to Membership Chairman, Tom St Julien, VA3OFD, va3ofd@rac.ca with a CC to Rambler Editor, Bill Hall, VA3WMH,