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Community Service Events Need Your Help !

By Ken Barry VE3KJB

There are several ways we Amateurs can prove our value to the community and this is one of them. No other organization is in a position to supply radio communication the way we can. The events below are all in the interest of charity, even the Italian Festival. If we supply communication for the Italian community, they will make a sizeable donation to a charity of our choosing. All the rest are charitable organizations themselves and deserving of our support.. You don't have to be a member of any Amateur radio club to participate. The only requirement is a 2-Metre hand held radio and some free time. So come on Ladies and Gentlemen, pick the events which you will be able to serve on from the list below and give your decisions to Ken Barry at 613-746-4823 or e-mail me at kennan@storm.ca or hand me this page with your selection underlined at the next general meeting. If you don't have access to e-mail, please send it to me by ordinary mail at 454 Wolffdale Cr.Ottawa, Ont K1K 1N4

Events List for the year 2000:

Saturday, May 27th - "Ottawa Triathlon" - 8:00 a.m. - Carleton University - Ottawa
500M Swim -20Km Cycle - 5Km Run

8:00 a.m. "Ottawa Duathlon"
2Km Run -20Km Cycle - 5Km Run

Saturday, June 3rd - "Electrathon" - Stittsville - 7.00 am to 5.00 p.m.

Sunday, June 18th - "Father's day Fun Run" - 8.00 to Noon Parliament Hill

Friday, June 16th - "Italian Festival" - 6.00 p.m. to Midnight -Preston St.

Saturday, June 17th - "Italian Festival" - 6.00 p.m. to Midnight -Preston St.

Sunday, June 18th - "Italian Festival" - 6.00 p.m. to Midnight -Preston St.

Saturday, July 1st - "The Mews Run" - 8.30 to Noon Ray Friel Center, Orleans

Sunday, September 17th - "Terry Fox Run" 7.00 to ? Carleton University

Sunday, October 8th - "Ottawa Marathon" - 8.30 a.m. until 12.00 p.m. Cumberland Town Center

PRINT NAME:

TELEPHONE:CALL SIGN:



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
Field Day	Glenn McLeod, VE3GLN 746-3776, glenn.mcleod@crc.ca
Historical	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH 747-5565, ve3weh@rac.ca
Flea Market	John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV 521-8910, ve3zov@rac.ca
Membership	Tom St. Julien, VA3OFD 747-9577, va3ofd@rac.ca
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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The OVMRC website is hosted by Magma Communications Ltd.



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
Apr 20
Rambler Deadline
May 5

The *Rambler* is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc. and is published 11 times a year (monthly, except for July). Opinions expressed in the *Rambler* are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the OVMRC Inc., its officers or its members. Permission is granted to republish the contents in whole or in part, providing the source is acknowledged. Commercial use of the contents is expressly prohibited. Submit articles to the editor or by e-mail to: va3wmh@rac.ca.

Ramblings

By Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG
President, OVMRC



First, I must apologize to anyone who did not receive any information regarding the field trip to the CFRA repeater site which essentially replaced last month's regularly scheduled club meeting. While we sent out many e-mail notices, made announcements on local nets, and phoned as many people as we could, some people did not learn about the field trip until they showed up at the museum for 7:30 pm on March 16. We will do better next time!

Do make sure, however, that if you have an e-mail address and you are not receiving regular bulletins from the club, that you send a note to our Membership Chairperson, Tom, VA3OFD, at <va3ofd@magma.ca>, so we can keep you informed and up-to-date on all rapidly developing events.

Second, I wish to thank George Roach, VE3BNO, for conducting the special tour for us of the CFRA transmitter site, and Bob Shaw, VE3SUY, for organizing this event! Last June, when the Executive Committee did some brainstorming for club meeting ideas, having a field trip was proposed as something slightly different, fun, and educational for club members to enjoy. The CFRA tour was certainly all that and more, so thank you very much George and Bob!

Before the end of this club year, we have two more fun meetings for you in store, plus the Annual General Meeting on June 15. Be sure to attend "Morse Code Mania" night on April 20, during which we will be able to watch, listen, and be amazed as CW enthusiasts show off their talents. See the evening's line-up elsewhere in this edition of the Rambler, and consider adding to the fun by becoming a contestant!

We have something altogether different planned for our meeting in May. Normally, May is the month in which we present graduation certificates to those who successfully completed the OVMRC Amateur Radio course. This year, Graduation Night will actually be a dinner meeting held at Mr. Keith's on Innes Road, not far from the Museum, on Thursday, May 18 at 7:00 pm (note the early start). Tickets (\$16.00 for a full-course dinner, including taxes and service) can be purchased in advance either at April's club meeting or by contacting me at <ve3mog@rac.ca> or by phone at 833-2766 anytime on or before May 12. By all means, invite your spouse or a friend to join you for an enjoyable social evening!

Our guest speaker at Graduation Night will be Hewitt Lines, VA3HU, who is an Official Observer for Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). Hewitt will address the subject of operating procedures, a topic which, club members will recall, certainly inspired a great deal of discussion at our January meeting.

Other rapidly approaching club events you won't want to miss include our Fleamarket on Saturday, May 6, and an enormous, exciting Field Day 2000 on June 24-25. Want to participate in either of these events? Make plans now, and contact either John, VE3ZOV, about the Fleamarket, or Glenn, VE3GLN, about Field Day 2000.

Lastly, I should announce that I do not plan on running for club president next year. The timing for me this year has been quite

excellent, actually, because last summer I lost my job and suddenly had a lot of extra time to devote to the club! Now, however, I have launched my own consulting business, which is going to demand more and more of my time as it gets off the ground. While I have really enjoyed being able to serve the club as its president, I am afraid I would not be able to devote the same level of time and enthusiasm to the position next year. Rather than risk letting club members down, I would prefer to take a step back from club activities for now and allow someone else to fill this spot. If you are interesting in running for next year's Executive Committee positions, or in serving on the Nomination Committee, please let me know.

That's all for now! See you at "Morse Code Mania" night on April 20! ❖

Bursting with ideas? Looking for leadership opportunities?

Over the next few months, the OVMRC needs to find a slate of candidates to serve on the 2000-2001 OVMRC Executive Committee. If you wish to help steer the direction of the club, including serving on the Nominating Committee, please contact Susan, VE3MOG, at <ve3mog@rac.ca> or at 833-2766. ❖0

Easter Bunny Goes Missing!

One week before Easter, and the famous Easter Bunny has gone missing! Sources say the bunny, whose call sign is VE3BNE, is hiding out somewhere in the Ottawa area and must be found soon!

Hope for finding the bunny is not lost, however, with a search party being organized for Sunday, April 16, at 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. A pre-search party net will be run on VE3TWO (147.300+) from 9:30 am - 10:00 am when bunny hunters are encouraged to gather at 580 Booth St., the site of OVMRC's repeater, VE3TWO.

The bunny is said to be hiding somewhere south of the Ottawa River, West of Blair Rd., East of Merivale/Clyde, and North of Baseline/Heron/Riverside/Innes.

The first hunter to find the bunny will be rewarded! After the search (whether the bunny is found or not), all hunters will be invited to gather for Sunday brunch at a local restaurant.

If you have any questions or wish to join the search party, please contact Susan, VE3MOG, at <ve3mog@rac.ca>, or just show up at 580 Booth St. by 10:00 am on Sunday, April 16.

Good luck to all hunters! ❖

OVMRC Meeting Minutes

OVMRC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 17, 2000

President Susan opened the proceedings at 1935 hours by welcoming everyone, members and guests, to the meeting. Susan called upon Rob Ludlow to introduce our guest speaker for the evening.

Rob, in introducing Brian Biggings VE3XA/VE3BIE, pointed out that Brian was a member, the only Canadian, of the famous ZL9CI DXpedition in January, 1999. A distinguished and experienced international team journeyed to Campbell Island in the sub-Antarctic, between New Zealand and the South Pole. The DXpedition set many new records, 96,000 QSOs during the 26 days of the event, and set a new standard of excellence and performance for Amateur Radio DXpeditions.

In introducing his presentation Brian pointed out the DXpedition was in the planning stage for three years. He also stated that to be invited to participate in a world class DXpedition you must be the organizer, know an influential person or be world known as a leading Amateur. He said the group amassed and took with them to Campbell Island five and one half tons of radio equipment. The Island is strictly controlled conservation area by the government of New Zealand which was reluctant to give the group a permit to use the Island as it's base.

The government insisted that the group not stay on the island overnight, which meant they had to return to their anchored ship in the bay and they had to leave the island in the same condition as they found it upon first landing. Brian said the group had set out to be one of the best DXpedition which it was by being recognized, some weeks following their return to their respective homes, as the best DXpedition of the Year. Brian showed the Club an excellent video of the DXpedition which included gathering their equipment, loading it on their chartered ship at New Zealand, their set-up and operations at Campbell Island and finally their take-down and departure from the Island.

An interesting questions and answers session followed the video presentation. Susan thanked Brian for coming to Ottawa to make his presentation. She presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Club. John Barnhardt reminded that the OVMRC Flea Market will be held at the Stittsville Arena on Saturday, May 6th. Tables are available at \$10 each. Volunteers are needed to help in setting up tables the day prior to the Flea Market. Door prizes were won by Rob Ludlow, Ken Barry and Andre Pilon. The 50/50 draw was won by Bill Hall (\$51.) The meeting was adjourned at 2115 hours for coffee, cookies and ragchew. ❖

Circle May 18 on your calendar!

Make sure you attend a special Graduation Dinner in honour of the 1999-2000 OVMRC Amateur Radio Course graduating class.

Dinner will be held at Mr. Keith's (1220 Old Innes Rd.) at 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 18, 2000.

The evening's Guest Speaker is Hewitt Lines, VA3HU, Official Observer (OO) for Radio Amateurs of Canada.

Dinner tickets are \$16.00 (including taxes and service) and will be available at the April club meeting. For more information, contact Susan, VE3MOG, by e-mail at <ve3mog@rac.ca> or by phone at 833-2766. ❖

OVMRC GENERAL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 16, 2000

The March 16th general meeting of the Club was a tour of the CFRA AM transmitter. Some twenty members were treated to the tour conducted by the station's Director of Engineering George Roach. The transmitter is fully solid state technology which is computer automated both on site and from the radio station's studios in Ottawa. George Roach, with his detailed knowledge of the transmitter's components, responded to an endless stream of questions from the tour participants. President Susan thanked George for having given his evening to facilitate the tour and being so patient with the group. The evening concluded with a social get-together at a nearby doughnut shop for coffee and chit chat. ❖

DAN DOCTOR
VE3XDD

NOTICE TO AMATEURS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA (RAC)

So what a pleasant surprize! NO licence fee to pay for the rest of your life! So what are you going to do with the extra money? Why not put it to the best use possible and join RAC?

Do you want access to existing Amateur radio frequencies for your ragchews, nets, and contesting? Do you know RAC is representing YOUR interests at National and International levels to preserve YOUR access to existing Amateur radio frequencies? If you don't want to join RAC, I urge you to donate your licence fee to the "Defence of Amateur Radio Fund" so Ken Pulfer, Vice-President of International Affairs, RAC, your official Canadian delegate, representing YOUR interests, can attend the World Radio Conference (WRC 2000) in May, 2000.

Time is running out. Many commercial companies are determined to represent their interests at WRC 2000 and want use of our Amateur VHF, UHF and HF bands AND they are willing to pay BIG money to gain access. If you don't support RAC by joining or don't support DARF, who will protect your current government allocated radio spectrum used for your ragchews, nets, contesting and our Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, Public Service and other community events? Remember, it will cost you LESS than 11 cents a day to help ensure your interests in Amateur radio are protected. You will also receive 6 issues of "The Canadian Amateur" magazine which is full of Amateur radio news, feature articles, technical information, current concerns, contests and other interesting information.

I am a member of RAC and have donated my licence fee to DARF. If you don't take action and support RAC, who will do the job? Can you do the job alone?

Support RAC <http://www.rac.ca/whyfor1.htm>

73 Larry
VE3WEH ❖

VE3JW REVAMPED

We've had a few changes at the VE3JW demonstration station set up in the National Museum of Science and Technology and I thought members would like to be informed of them.

We had to take a look at our Volunteer's list and bring it up to par with the Museum's policy line. Some of the volunteers who had signed up some time ago did not have their volunteer card renewed by the Museum, as they did not have any entries in the volunteer's book for a period of twelve months. However, they were still on the volunteer's list at the Security Office.

When we wanted to investigate some minor security breaches such as back door left opened, switches left on, lost key, etc., we found that some of the volunteers on the list did not have a valid volunteer's card and therefore they were not covered by the Museum's insurance.

In order to ease the Security Office's task of verifying the list, we had to review the list and leave on it only those that are entitled to sign for the key to the Radio Room. The previous list had 48 names on it.

A new list was produced that contained three levels for our volunteers: the regulars, the occasionals, and the standbys. The regulars are those that come in to work the VE3JW station once a week. The occasionals are those that come in once a month. The standbys are those who prefer to come when needed and called upon for special events, for technical repairs or renovations, as climbers to the roof and tower, or to work on RFI/EMI problems. The standbys have no pass because they may not be called upon for any twelve-month period, and then, they are only called once in a while.

So, if you're one of the volunteers, it would be advisable to check with the Museum, or with me (ve3vig), before you go in. Your name may no longer be on the list at Security if you have not been around for the last twelve months.

In another light, we are forever looking to improve the Amateur Radio Exhibit. Installation of digital modes on HF now permits HF Packet, RTTY/AMTOR and soon PSK31. While still using a single TNC, the MFJ-1278, we have installed a Pentium computer and a switch box allowing selection of either computer. The 486 computer is used for VHF Packet and APRS, and the Pentium for the TS-850 logging program and HF digital modes.

We are looking into the installation of a second TNC (DXP38) to facilitate simultaneous demonstration and ease the difficulty in tuning the HF rig and the TNC located too far apart.

The Satellite Communications Demonstration Station is advancing in the Museum's Administration program. As the Museum is searching for new and up-to-date ways of interesting the visitors, we have submitted our proposal and it has been accepted as a feasible project. We hear that it has been selected for budgeting for the new fiscal year. If accepted for budget we will have to wait for the proper time frame to obtain funds.

In a previous Rambler we informed you of the Rotor repairs. We also have repaired the Yaesu FT-230R VHF Radio that had a squelch and audio amplifier problem. The Yaesu FT-757GX was sent to the Museum's shop for repairs. The power supply was repaired and is functioning quite well and the radio was tested on several bands and operating satisfactorily on the receive side but

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only putting out 40 watts on the transmit side. It is now back to the shop for further attention. Nevertheless, good world-wide contacts were made with propagation helping immensely.

We will then work on the TEN-TEC OMNI to bring it up into operation and hope to have it ready for Field Day 2000. We will also try to install the ATV as a permanent demo and ask the Museum if they are interested in purchasing a hand-held ATV unit for use in a remote area of the Museum, providing public interaction.

We will also attempt to have an APRS demo with visitor's access. It would consist of a monitor in a plastic cage with extended control buttons on the front, only the few necessary to navigate, or a mouse control for the APRS Internet connection.

Another future project for the VE3JW station is to run videos for information and demonstration purposes such as the ZL9CI DXpedition, the Club's Field Day videos and other activities.

Through this renewed planification, the support of the Museum, and with the help of the Amateur community, we hope to make of VE3JW a world class radio station.

If you're interested in helping out on a regular basis we have openings for you any mornings from nine to noon, or on Saturday afternoon. You might also like to join one of the regular crews at other times. Just contact me at ve3vig@rac.ca or at 613-749-9010 where you can also leave a message, or at the VE3JW station 613-991-6949 during the day. ❖

Maurice-André Vigneault
VE3VIG/VA2MA
ve3vig@rac.ca

OVMRC Phone Directory Additions

Additions:

VE3RKW, Eric Levin, 727-1444, elevin@regent.cc, # 150
VE3MD, Andrew Dier, , # 151
VE3ZJZ, Jordan Craig, 565-1928, rt66@nagma.ca, #152
VE3LAB, Larry Bishop, 567-2017, ve3lab@rac.ca, # 153

Changes:

VAETQX, Jake Guertin is va3txq@rac.ca or ve2twx@rac.ca
Benoit Lavigne is blavigne@videotron.ca
VE3RUU, Steve Middleton is ve3ruu@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, va3wmh@rac.ca.

FLEA MARKET - MARCHÉ AUX PUCES

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club

OVMRC FLEA MARKET

Saturday, May 6, 2000

Stittsville Arena
Stittsville, Ontario

20 minutes West of Ottawa, Ontario
2 hours West of Montreal, Quebec
2 hours Northwest of Massena, N.Y.

9:00 hrs to 12:00 hrs

Admission \$3.00 per person

Talk-In: 147.300Mhz (+)
Backup Only if Above Fails
147.030Mhz (-)

Table Rental:
\$20.00 Commercial (per table)
\$10.00 Private (per table)

Contact:
John J. Barnhardt VE3ZOV

Phone: 613/521-8910
Fax: 613/521-1398
E-mail: ve3zov@rac.ca

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

Club de Radio Mobile de la Vallée de L'Outaouais

CRMVO MARCHÉ AUX PUCES

Samedi, le 6 mai 2000

Arène de Stittsville
Stittsville, Ontario

20 minutes à l'ouest d'Ottawa, Ontario
2 hrs à l'ouest de Montréal, Québec
2 hrs au nord-ouest de Massena, N.Y.

de 9 hrs à midi

Entrée 3,00\$ par personne

Fréq. de guidage: 147.300Mhz (+)
Seconde fréquence seulement en cas de panne
147.030Mhz (-)

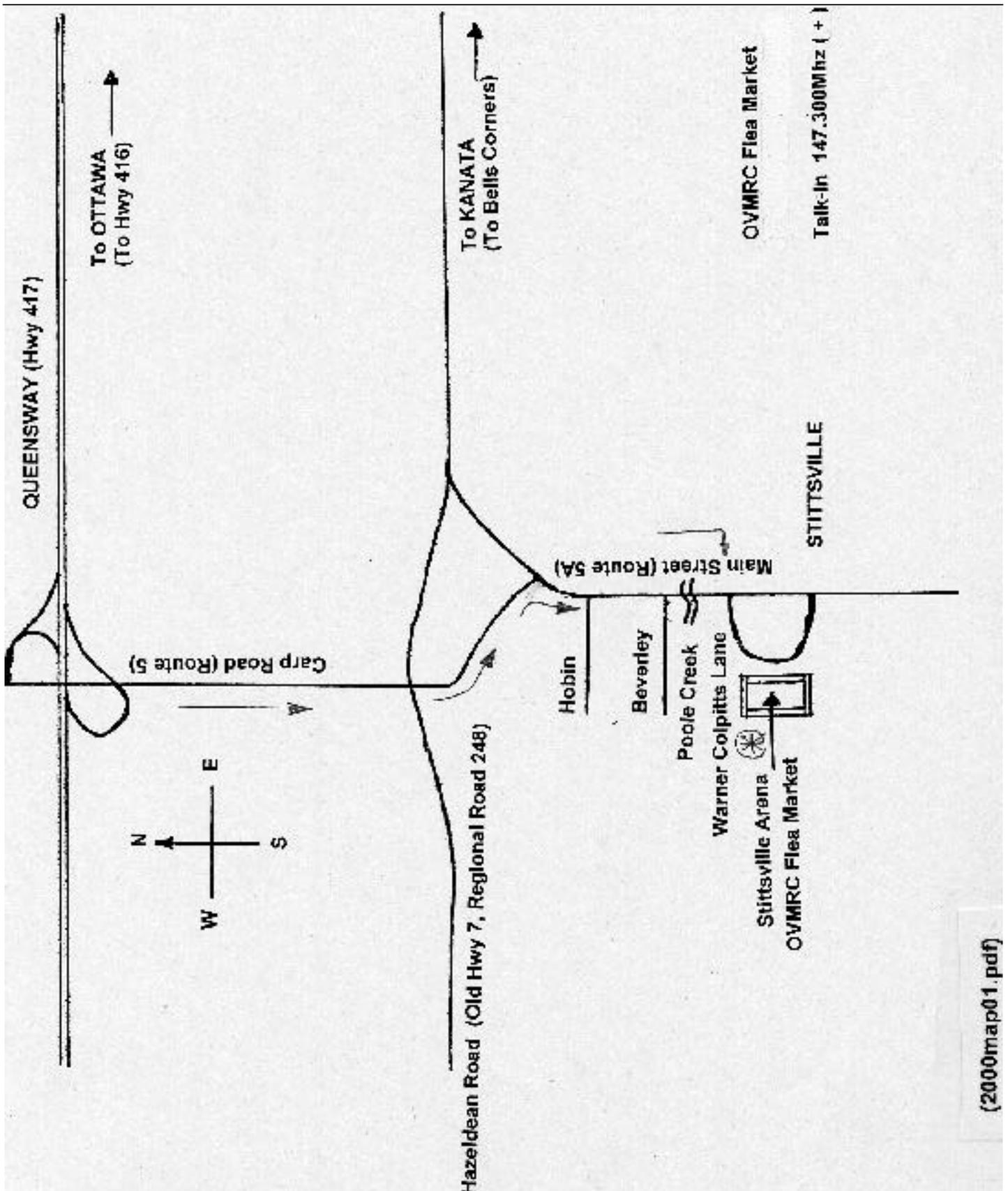
Location de table:
Vendeur commercial 20,00\$ (par table)
Vendeur privé 10,00\$ (par table)

Appelez:
John J. Barnhardt VE3ZOV

téléphone: 613/521-8910
fax: 613/521-1398
courriel: ve3zov@rac.ca

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

Flea Market Map



Morse Code Mania

**THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2000
7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AUDITORIUM

Morse Code at the Movies - Try to (a) name the movie, and (b) identify if a real message is being sent or if it's just gibberish!

It's Three Feet Long!!! - Novel CW key demonstrated by Ed and Doreen Morgan.

Morse Code Home Brew project - presented by René Beaudry, VE3JKR.

Novice Test - Students face off to see who can copy low-speed code with the fewest number of errors.

Fisticuffs - Judging panel decides who has the best fist at 12 wpm on a straight key.

I Feel the Need for Speed - Contestants copy a series of call signs, first sent at 15 wpm and then at increasing speeds. Contestants can make three mistakes before they start getting eliminated. Last man/woman left wins!

My Left Foot - QLF? Contestants square off to see who can best send code with their left foot. A panel of judges chooses the winner.

Morse Code at the Movies - Part II - Try once again to (a) name the movie, and (b) identify if a real message is being sent or if it's just gibberish!

Call for Contestants!

Think you have a good CW fist? Know how to copy CW in your sleep? Do you figure you can send code with your left foot? Then we are looking for you!

The April 20 OVMRC club meeting will celebrate the art of Morse Code, including a number of competitions (see meeting line-up) for which we need contestants! Demonstrate your skills, inspire awe, or just come out and have fun competing with other CW enthusiasts. To ensure you have a contestant's seat on April 20, contact Susan, VE3MOG, at <ve3mog@rac.ca> or 833-2766.

Prizes to be won! ❖

From: RAC Headquarters
Date: March 26, 2000
Subject: Industry Canada issues new Information Circulars

Industry Canada issues new Amateur Radio Information Circulars

Industry Canada has recently posted one new, and three revised Information circulars on their Strategis web site.

RIC 3 updates Operating Information to reflect the changes to be introduced with the new authorization process on April 1

RIC-9 spells out in detail the policies governing amateur radio call signs and special call signs and prefixes.

and RIC-7 and RIC-8 are updated versions of the new examination question banks.

Copies of the new documents in pdf format can be downloaded from the IC strategis web site at the following URL:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf01709e.html>



Subject: Industry Canada seeks comments on 2285-2483.5 Mhz

Industry Canada seeks comments on policies for the band 2285-2483.5 MHz

Industry Canada has recently released a proposed policy governing spectrum utilization in a band which overlaps the amateur 2300-2450 MHz band. If approved, the policy will make provision for other users of this part of the spectrum. At the present time, Canadian amateurs have only a secondary allocation between 2300 and 2450 MHz, and may not cause interference to primary users.

The proposed policy does not mention our current request for a primary allocation around 2400 MHz, nor does it propose any changes which would take into account our concerns.

The Industry Canada document is available in pdf format from the IC Strategis web site at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf02105e.html?he=y>

Amateurs have an opportunity to comment now, with a deadline of June 23. RAC will be discussing the implications of the proposal with Industry Canada, and submitting a response outlining our use of the band and expressing our concerns, together with our recommendations.

Guy Charron
VA3FZA Bulletin Editor
Radio Amateurs of Canada
Email: va3fza@rac.ca
Packet: va3fza@ve2wxk
WWW: www.rac.ca

Yesteryear

By Larry Wilcox VE3WEH

Merge the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC) and the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club (OVMRC)? What a question! As promised in a previous column, here is the "Editor's View," Charles King VE3PDK, from the December 1989 RAMBLER. Charles wrote about the need for goodwill, especially regarding the merger between the Canadian Amateur Radio Federation (CARF) and the Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL) which were trying to produce one organization that would better represent Amateur radio in Canada. Charles noted that goodwill would prevail and the men involved in the merger discussions would put aside their differences for the greater good of Canadian amateurs. Charles expected we would be able to give our full support to one organization, rather than grumbling about paying two membership fees and not knowing which deserved our loyalty.

It is a pity to note today, in spite of the successful creation of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), the majority of Amateurs still do not financially support RAC through membership. Maybe we will have more Amateurs join RAC now that licence fees are going the way of the Dodo bird! There should be no excuses by any Canadian Amateurs not to invest in RAC now! We can now all send our licence fees, along with a few more dollars to join and support our national organization, the Radio Amateurs of Canada!

Charles criticized the national organizations for prolonging disunity when the lack of unity in the Amateur radio clubs in Ottawa was creating the same sorts of problems. He asked the question "Why are there so many Clubs in Ottawa, some struggling to maintain membership and programs?" He acknowledged the fact that some Clubs meet the special interests of its members, such as the Telephone Pioneers (PARC) and the Royal Canadian Military Police Club. However, he wrote the OVMRC became a Club in the days when mobile radio was the exception. "Mobiling", with its own unique problems and equipment, brought amateurs together to share information and experiences. The OARC has always been a general interest Club and developed special interest groups such as the Packet Radio Group. Charles noted the OVMRC was conducting one of the best Amateur radio courses in Ottawa, while the OARC conducted an Advanced Amateur Radio Course from time to time. Charles pointed out the OARC and the OVMRC had conducted separate Field Days up until June 1989 when they held a very successful joint Field Day.

Guess what is happening this year? Have you heard that Field Day 2000 (FD2000) includes the OARC and eight other local Amateur Radio Clubs? FD2000 should not only be a very memorable event but hopefully, it will have many more stations on the air with all the combined participation by so many clubs. I see history in the making! FD2000 is going to be much greater than the sum of its parts. Will you be part of this special FD2000 and help make history? If you want to participate or learn more, you can attend the meetings being held at every second Wednesday at 7.30pm. Find out where the next meeting is going to be held, check the FD2000 Web page at: <http://hamradio.unplug.org>

Charles King VE3PDK also noted that both Clubs gave their support to VE3JW, the Emergency Measure Radio Group, the Christmas Santa Claus event for the Sick Childrens' Hospital and many other public events. With regard to a possible merger of the OARC and the OVMRC, he rationalized over the duplication of effort in newsletters, meetings, accommodation, range of services to members, and the split loyalties of many of the members of both clubs. He cited his own case as an example. He was licenced through the OVMRC Radio Course and logically gave the OVMRC his loyalty first by becoming a member but he was also a member of the OARC. Charles was invited to serve on the OARC Executive but

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declined because of his prior commitments to the OVMRC. He continued to attend meetings of both clubs and noted both were having membership renewal problems in 1989. Charles pondered the possibility of having to decide which club to drop if he could not rationalize continuing his membership in both clubs. He asked the questions, "What might be accomplished if the expertise of both Clubs were pooled? What should we do about this deteriorating situation? What do you men and women of goodwill think we should do about it?"

Today, we should ask the following questions. Has anything changed over the past 10 years to prevent merging the two clubs? Is there any interest to merge the clubs? Are we still duplicating our efforts? Are we still as loyal as we used to be? Could we merge our two clubs into one and improve ourselves as well as continue to satisfy our members' interests? Perhaps it is time to reconsider these questions. Perhaps this year's cooperative and successful FD2000 will be the showcase to demonstrate exactly how much Amateurs can accomplish and how much goodwill there really is amongst local Amateur radio clubs. If we have the desire and goodwill to do it, anything is possible. And if you don't think it can work then have a look at the Calgary Amateur Radio Association (CARA) at: <http://www.cara.ampr.org> They have a huge organization with more than 300 members and are meeting the particular interests of their members through special interest "Sections" which are meeting the specific needs of members quite well. Perhaps this is another worthy project for Glen VE3GLN to consider? He is the spark plug behind this year's FD2000 and is the Field Day Coordinator. Maybe the OARC and the OVMRC should seriously consider a merger into one new club for Ottawa? What a club that would be!

The December 1989 issue of the RAMBLER also covered some interesting news about CARA. Pat Brewer VE3KJQ, wrote in his column "News and Views From Here and There" that CARA had managed to provide communications from all one hundred and ninety one polling stations during the recent civic Elections and have been doing so since 1966! The London LARC Bulletin reported the Presidents of seven local amateur radio groups met to organize their involvement in CANWARN a severe weather watch system using amateur radio.

Pat reported that both the London and Scarborough news bulletins had covered Reginald Aubrey Fessenden, who was born in Canada and was the first person to transmit the human voice on December 23, 1900. Reginald apparently died in 1932 and was buried in St. Mark's Church cemetery in Bermuda. His epitaph was either, "His mind illuminated the past and the future and wrought greatly for the present." or "By his genius, distant lands converse and men sail unafraid upon the deep." Pat's biography of Fessenden favours the former as the true epitaph. It goes on to note that a line under the epitaph of the memorial stone is written in ancient Egyptian picture writing. It was interpreted as "I am yesterday and I know tomorrow." His genius has led us to a plethora of prolific radio transmissions, not only Amateur radio, but cordless phones, satellites, cell phones and the Internet. Someone credited Fessenden as the greatest Canadian-born scientist, inventor and engineer. We should pay tribute to him more often as does Amateur Jack Belrose who recorded a re-enactment of that first broadcast using a recreation of Fessenden's radio transmitter. You can read more about this subject and even hear the very first broadcast at the following web page:

<http://www.capcan.ca/english/canadiana/inventions/fessenden2.html> ❖

Ontario QSO Party

ANNOUNCING: THE FOURTH ANNUAL ONTARIO QSO PARTY

APRIL 29-30, 2000 18:00 UTC TO 18:00 UTC

FREQUENCIES: (Phone/CW) All HF bands 160-10 meters with the exception of the WARC bands (12, 17 and 30 meters). All VHF/UHF bands.

SUGGESTED FREQUENCIES FOR MOBILES/QRP: 1.870, 3.735, 3.860, 7.070, 7.260, 14.130, 14.265, 21.260, 28.360 on SSB, 1.830, 3.530, 3.720, 7.030, 7.120, 14.030, 21.030, 21.120, 28.030 on CW, 52.540, 146.550, 446.100 on FM

SUGGESTED MANNER OF OPERATION: Work HF SSB on the hour, work HF CW on the half hour, work VHF/UHF (either FM simplex, SSB or CW) at 15 minutes past the hour.

USE OF FM: Operators may not use repeaters for either contest contacts or for soliciting contacts. Please keep the FM simplex calling frequency of 146.520 MHz clear.

CATEGORIES: Multi-Operator, Single Operator Low Power (up to 150 watts on HF, up to 50 watts on VHF/UHF), Single Operator High Power (over 150 watts on HF, and over 50 watts on VHF/UHF), Single Operator Single Band, Mobile, HF QRP (5 watts and under), VHF/UHF FM QRP, CW, SSB or mixed mode, mobile/rover, SWL.

EXCHANGE: Ontario stations send signal report and Ontario county, district, regional municipality, (or city in the case of the amalgamated City of Toronto).

Other stations send signal report and Canadian province/territory, U.S. state or DXCC country.

SCORING: Ontario stations work everyone. Non-Ontario work only Ontario stations. Mobile/rover stations may be worked again as they change multiplier areas. Shortwave listeners log only Ontario stations.

Score 1 QSO point for every station worked on SSB per HF band.
Score 2 QSO points for every station worked on CW per HF band. (You may work each station TWICE per HF band, once on phone and once on CW).

On the VHF/UHF bands you may only work a station ONCE per band. Score 5 QSO points for each contact per band.

Score 10 QSO points for working ODXA club station VE3ODX and RAC club station VA3RAC per band. (You may work VE3ODX & VA3RAC twice per HF band (i.e. once on phone and once on CW) and once on each of the VHF/UHF bands.

MULTIPLIER POINTS: Ontario stations earn 1 multiplier point for each Ontario county, district, regional municipality and the amalgamated City of Toronto worked on each band (see multiplier list), each Canadian province/territory (excluding Ontario), each U.S. state and DXCC country worked on each band.

Non-Ontario stations and SWL's claim Ontario multipliers only.

TOTAL SCORE: Total QSO points x Total multiplier points = Your score.

MOBILE/ROVER BONUS: Mobile/Rover stations add 300 points for each Ontario multiplier activated. To earn the mobile/rover bonus a mobile/rover station must make at least three contacts with three different stations from the multiplier.

AWARDS:

CERTIFICATES: to the top scorers in each category and to top scorers in each Ontario county, district, regional municipality, amalgamated City of Toronto. Regional certificates will be awarded to the top scoring stations in each region of Ontario i.e. Northern Ontario (postal code area "P"), Southwestern Ontario (postal code area "N"), Central Ontario (postal code area "L") and Eastern Ontario (postal code area "K").

Certificates may also be awarded in other categories based on the level of activity.

BUTTONS: Each station making over 50 QSO's will qualify for an "Ontario QSO Party" callsign button. Operators at multi-operator stations making over 50 QSO's will also qualify. Please submit \$2.00 per button with your log to help defray costs.

T-SHIRTS: Each station making over 100 QSO's will qualify for an "Ontario QSO Party" callsign t-shirt. Operators at multioperator stations making over 100 QSO's will also qualify. Please submit \$15.00 per t-shirt with your log entry to help defray costs. Also please specify t-shirt size (S, M, L, XL, XXL).

OTHER AWARDS TO BE ANNOUNCED!!

LOGS: Entries should be postmarked no later than May 31, 2000. Send your logs to: Ontario QSO Party, Ontario DX Association, P.O. Box 161, Stn. A, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 5S8. E-mail logs will also be accepted. Please send them in textfile format only to: ve3sre@rac.ca.

Please include your snailmail address with any electronic entries.

Please ensure that your entry includes the class you are entering in and the multiplier area(s) you operated from.

Ontario QSO Party *(Continued)*

Entry forms are available from the ODXA website at: <http://www.odxa.on.ca/oqphome.html>, by sending an e-mail note to ve3sre@rac.ca or by sending an SASE to the ODXA. An entry is not invalid if you don't use the official forms but we would prefer that you do so.

RESULTS: Raw results will be posted on the ODXA website at: <http://www.odxa.on.ca/oqphome.html> as they come in. Results will also be published in "Listening In". Results may also be published in "The Canadian Amateur" depending on available space.

*Sudbury District	SUD
Thunder Bay District	TBY
Timiskaming District	TIM
City of Toronto (as amalgamated Jan. 1, 1998)	TOR
Victoria County	VIC
Waterloo Regional Municipality	WAT
Wellington County	WEL
York Regional Municipality	YRK

*Sudbury Regional Municipality counts as Sudbury District for the purpose of the contest.

MULTIPLIER LIST

CONTEST ABBREVIATION

Algoma District	ALG
Brant County	BRA
Bruce County	BRU
Cochrane District	COC
Dufferin County	DUF
Durham Regional Municipality	DUR
Elgin County	ELG
Essex County	ESX
Frontenac County	FRO
Grey County	GRY
Haldimand-Norfolk Regional Municipality	HNO
Haliburton County	HLB
Halton Regional Municipality	HTN
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Municipality	HAM
Hastings County	HAS
Huron County	HUR
Kenora District	KEN
Kent County	KNT
Lambton County	LAM
Lanark County	LAN
Leeds-Grenville County	LGR
Lennox-Addington County	LXA
Manitoulin District	MAN
Middlesex County	MSX
Muskoka District	MUS
Niagara Regional Municipality	NIA
Nipissing District	NIP
Northumberland County	NOR
Oxford County	OXF
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Municipality	OTT
Parry Sound District	PSD
Peel Regional Municipality	PEL
Perth County	PER
Peterborough County	PET
Prescott-Russell County	PRU
Prince Edward County	PED
Rainy River District	RAI
Renfrew County	REN
Simcoe County	SIM
Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry County	SDG

** Northern Ontario: Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Muskoka, Nipissing, Rainy River, Parry Sound, Temiskaming, Thunder Bay.

Southwestern Ontario: Brant, Bruce, Elgin, Essex, Grey, Haldimand-Norfolk, Huron, Lambton, Kent, Middlesex, Oxford, Perth, Waterloo, Wellington

Central Ontario: Dufferin, Durham, Hamilton-Wentworth, Halton, Niagara, Peel, Simcoe, York

Eastern Ontario: Frontenac, Haliburton, Hastings, Lanark, Leeds-Grenville, Lennox-Addington, Northumberland, Ottawa-Carleton, Peterborough, Prince Edward, Renfrew, Prescott-Russell, Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry, Victoria

If you plan to activate one of the above counties, districts or regional municipalities please feel free to drop us a note via e-mail at ve3sre@rac.ca. This info will be posted on our website as time permits to assist people in planning county dxpeditions.

JOIN THE ONTARIO QSO PARTY ELECTRONIC DISCUSSION GROUP by sending a blank e-mail to oqp-subscribe@egroups.com.

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Inc.
P.O. Box 5530, Stn. F
Ottawa, Ontario
K2C 3M1

Place Label Here

REMINDERS

Next Club Meeting ----- **Apr 20**
Morse Mania

Club Exec. Meeting ----- **Mar 27**

Rambler Submission ----- **May 5**

May's Club Meeting ----- **Apr 18**
Graduation Night

June's Club Meeting ----- **Jun 15**
Annual General Meeting

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