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VA3HU - Official Observer

*Mr. Keith's 1220 Old Innes Rd*

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## “AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY”

### CAPITAL REGION FD2000

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JUNE 24-25, 2000  
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
1867 St. Laurent Blvd., Ottawa, Ontario

**AMATEUR RADIO STATIONS WILL BE OPERATING FOR 24 HOURS  
USING CALLSIGN “VA3RAC”**

The Capital Region Field Day for the year 2000 is expected to be the largest that has ever been held in the area and has the potential to be the largest ever held anywhere in North American Field Day history. Between 150 - 250 participants are expected and many Amateur Radio stations will be open to the public and in operation starting at 2pm Saturday until FD2000 is over at 2pm Sunday. Stations will be transmitting on all Amateur radio frequencies ranging from 160 metres through to 2.5 GHz and using all modes of radio transmission under Amateur Radio Callsign, VA3RAC. All stations will be open to the public during the 24-hour period.

All Amateur Radio clubs in the National Capital Region and beyond are welcome to participate. Clubs and individuals from Ontario and Quebec are invited to become actively involved. The idea of having a special, unified, local and regional multi club Field Day is the vision of FD2000 Coordinator, Glenn McLeod VE3GLN and of his assistant, Pierre Cyrenne VE2GPF, FD2000 Coordinator for the Quebec Region. They are being assisted by many volunteers and Amateurs from both sides of the Ottawa river throughout the region.

The objectives of FD2000 are:

- to have most Amateur Radio clubs in the area participate,
- to be a joint effort by as many Radio Amateurs as possible,
- to operate a minimum of 12 stations but many more if possible,
- to raise the public profile of Amateur Radio throughout the region, and
- to provide as much enjoyment as possible for all participants.

The National Museum of Science and Technology has made the grounds in front of the Museum available for FD2000 and is providing a lot of other support. The grounds are an ideal and very appropriate site because the National Museum of Science and Technology is mandated to promote and exhibit Science and

*Continued on page: 5*

# Rambler

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



## OVMRC Executive (1999-2000)

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

## Standing Committee Chairpersons

<b>Amateur Radio Exhibit</b>	Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG 749-9010, ve3vig@rac.ca
<b>Amateur Radio Training</b>	Bob Shaw, VE3SUY 737-9443, lycott@fox.nstn.ca Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ 728-3666 Gilles Morin, VE3VGW 824-0018
<b>Accredited Examiner</b>	Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ 225-6785, ve3osz@rac.ca
<b>Field Day</b>	Glenn McLeod, VE3GLN 746-3776, glenn.mcleod@crc.ca
<b>Historical</b>	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH 747-5565, ve3weh@rac.ca
<b>Flea Market</b>	John Barnhardt, VE3ZOV 521-8910, ve3zov@rac.ca
<b>Membership</b>	Tom St. Julien, VA3OFD 747-9577, va3ofd@rac.ca
<b>Newsletter</b>	Bill Hall, VA3WMH 830-5580, va3wmh@rac.ca
<b>Publicity &amp; Programs</b>	Don Raymond, VE3DRO 737-7740, ve3dro@rac.ca
<b>Radio Operations</b>	Ken Barry, VE3KJB 746-4823, kennan@storm.ca
<b>Technical</b>	Jake Guertin, VA3TQX 253-3732, vatqx@magma.ca



### 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**  
May 18  
**Rambler Deadline**  
Jun 02

## 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

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  
Elkel Ltee, Trois-Rivières, QU  
Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON

The *Rambler* is produced using Corel's Ventura™ 8 software.

The OVMRC website is hosted by Magma Communications Ltd.



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](mailto:va3wmh@rac.ca).

# Ramblings

By Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG  
President, OVMRC



## The Prez Sends

Thank you to everyone (including Bob Kavanagh, Brice Wightman, Bob Shaw, and Ed Morgan) who helped put together the Morse Mania night we enjoyed on April 20. I also really appreciated the enthusiasm of all the contestants who dared put their CW skills on display before a large crowd. Congratulations, especially, go to Rod Newkirk for coming in first place in the speed copying competition. His prowess at copying some pretty tricky call signs was pretty amazing to watch.

Our next enjoyable evening together is on Thursday, May 18, when we will have dinner at Mr. Keith's restaurant at 1220 Old Innes Road. Please remember to reserve your \$16.00 dinner ticket by contacting me on or before Friday, May 12. Of course, we have to hear from you in advance in order to provide the restaurant with the correct number of attendees.

The Graduation Dinner will be a great opportunity to meet and to congratulate the graduating students of the OVMRC Amateur Radio Course. We will also get to hear some words of wisdom from RAC Official Observer (OO), Hewitt Lines, VA3HU, about operating procedures, to talk to each other around the dinner table, and once again, to have a bit of fun (I just might bring one or two tricks up my sleeve) and to win some fabulous door prizes. Contact me by e-mail at [ve3mog@rac.ca](mailto:ve3mog@rac.ca) or by phone at 833-2766 to reserve a seat!

The focus of our final meeting of the year on Thursday, June 15, our Annual General Meeting, will be to bring in the new executive committee, to deal with the budget, all remaining club business items, and to get some feedback from club members on how to proceed into the 2000-2001 club year. Do you have any ideas or suggestions on how the club should or should not proceed next year? Your participation at both our May and June meetings is both needed and wanted ... see you then! ❖

## Yesteryear

By Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH

This month, I will briefly cover the January, 1990 issue of the *Rambler*. I will cut it short due to an appeal to our members and all other amateurs in the region to get out and get involved in Field Day 2000 (FD2000). The front page featured information about the Amateur Radio Service Restructuring that took place on September 1, 1990. This as you may remember, resulted in our current Amateur Radio structure of 4 levels: 1) Basic Certificate, 2) Basic plus 5wpm CW, 3) Basic plus 12 WPM CW, and 4) Advanced Certificate. "Grand fathering" of amateurs at that time was possible. I won't go into all the details of this lengthy analysis of Amateur Radio restructuring, however, it certainly opened up Amateur Radio to many more individuals.

Jerry Wells VE3CDS (SK) and Jeff Wilson VE3RCI switched jobs. Jerry became Vice-President and Jeff took on the task of Public Relations as a result of some plans being changed. Jeff began looking after the formation of the Committee for the Amateur Radio Exhibit VE3JW, the Standing committee for liaison with the Museum and the important role in setting up the Communications Exhibit that was planned for the future.

There is an interesting note in this issue, about troublesome RFI in your mobile station. Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, wrote an article regarding this subject in the January 1990 issue of CQ and explained with illustrations, methods to avoid FRI and how to properly ground a mobile rig. Many of our members are going mobile with HF and I'm sure there must be some good basic information in his article that still applies today.

From Pat Brewer VE3KJQ, his article "News and Views from Here and There" carried a note about the establishment of IPARN (Interprovincial Amateur Radio Net) which appeared in the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club Newsletter. For those of you have never heard of IPARN, it currently is a system that links repeaters, using ground stations, and geostationary satellites through a system of codes which allows an IPARN member to talk through a Handi-talki from downtown Ottawa all the way to the East or West coast. Quite an accomplishment to say the least on FM 2metres. ❖

# OVMRC Meeting Minutes

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## How fast can you receive?

**April 20th, 2000**

President Susan opened the meeting at 1935 hours by welcoming everyone to an evening of fun and “Morse Mania”. Prior to introducing the main program for the evening, Glenn MacLeod provided an update on plans and arrangements for Field Day 2000. He urged that amateurs in the National Capital Region and the Outaouais to support this event, as it will be a united effort of all radio clubs in the area. He reminded everyone that a family chicken Bar B Q would be held Saturday evening. The BBQ will be open everyone. Brice Wightman asked for volunteer operators for phone, CW and digital and specifically operators for 15-metre phone.

President Susan called upon Bob Kavanagh to introduce the first portion of the fun program, CW Speed Copying. Bob introduced six participants Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM, Jim Dean, VE3IQ, Richard Ferch, VE3IAY, Alan Goodacre, VE3HX, Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS, and Rod Newkirk, VA3ZBB. Call signs in groups of six were sent in code at 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 WPM. Participants were permitted 3 errors in each groups transmission. The winner of this event was Rod Newkirk.

Rod Newkirk showed a “home brew” His and Her Morse key he had built especially for Ed and Doreen Morgan. He asked Ed and Doreen to demonstrate how the key worked which they did to the delight of those present. Rene Beaudry, VE3JKR, demonstrated a “home brew” project which had both a Morse sounder (clicker) and an oscillator. He demonstrated how it worked and the unique sounds it created.

The next Morse “test” was QLF - sending code with your left foot. It was explained that the heel of the left foot must not

rest on the floor, nor could participants hold onto the table (for balance). The three participants, Jim Haskill, VE3SPK, Mike Parris, VA3TJP and Pierre Cyrenne, VE2GPF, were all asked to send the same phrase - “Put your best foot forward, 73 De” The winner of this event was Pierre Cyrenne while Jim and Mike tied for runners-up.

The final code “test” was sending code at about 12 WPM. Six participants took part in this event - Susan Mogensen, VE3MOG, Betty Broom Newkirk, VE3ZBB, Mike Parris, VA3TJP, Doug Leach, VE3XK, Maurice Andre Vigneault, VE3VIG, and Alan Goodacre, VE3HX. Each participant was asked to send a separate two or three line phrase. Doug Leach was declared the winner of this event while Betty Broom Newkirk was runner-up.

President Susan thanked all of the participants for being such “good sports” and Ed Morgan and Brice Wightman for their work as judges. All of the winners were given their choice of books or a Repeater book, courtesy of Bytown Marine.

John Barnhardt reminded everyone of the OVMRC’s Flea Market on Saturday, May 6th at the Stittsville Arena. He asked for volunteers to help set-up tables on Friday afternoon preceding the event. Susan advised that the OVMRC’s May meeting will be a dinner meeting at Keith’s Restaurant. The dinner meeting is a recognition night of the graduates of the OVMRC Radio Course. Tickets for the dinner are \$16 and are available from Susan. Susan asked for volunteers to serve on the Club’s Nomination Committee, which must present a proposed slate of officers for 2000 - 20001 at the June meeting when elections take place. The door prize, a full set of screwdrivers, was won by Ken Halcrow. The 50/50 draw of \$40.50 was won by Arnold, VE3IEE. The meeting was adjourned at 2130 hours for coffee and cookies and a social hour. ❖

# Field Day 2000 (Continued)

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Continued from Page: 1

Technology. FD2000 will serve as a valuable and public display to showcase the latest and newest Amateur Radio technology. FD2000 will demonstrate the abilities of licenced Amateur Radio Operators to set up a variety of "Field" Amateur Radio Stations operating from emergency power. The talents of licenced Amateurs from around the world are well known and always in demand whenever and wherever any local, regional or national emergencies occur.

The week of June 19-25 is being declared as Amateur Radio Week in the National Capital Region. FD2000 will be attended by officials from Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), Radio Amateurs of Quebec (RAQI), American Radio Relay League (ARRL) and by local, regional, provincial, federal politicians and many other dignitaries. Radio and TV news media will provide coverage and many corporate and individual sponsors are providing much needed support and will assist in making FD2000 a resounding success. We thank our sponsors who are providing support, both financial and with resources provided at no cost to this worthy event. Our current sponsors include the National Museum of Science and Technology, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and Radio Amateur Du Quebec Inc. (RAQI), Bank of Montreal, Canon Canada, Communications Research Centre Canada, Defence Research and Development Canada, GBFERN Consulting, LOEB Inc., QSLNet, WriteLog, and many others will be joining.

Many volunteers are needed as Station Managers and phone and CW operators, along with radios, antennas and equipment, in order to make Field Day 2000 a truly memorable, record-setting and truly nonpartisan event.

Amateur Radio Clubs or individuals can obtain more information from our FD2000 Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/fd2000/>.

Amateur Radio Clubs Participating in FD2000:

Association des radioamateurs indépendants  
Club de radioamateur de l'Outaouais Inc.  
Emergency Measure Radio Group  
National Capital Region DX Club  
Ottawa Amateur Radio Club  
Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club  
Pioneer Amateur Radio Club  
West Carleton Amateur Club

If you want to volunteer, please contact either:

- FD2000 Coordinator, Glenn McLeod VE3GLN  
Email: [ve3gln@rac.ca](mailto:ve3gln@rac.ca)  
Home telephone: 613-746-3776 only between 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.
- FD2000 Quebec Region Coordinator, Pierre Cyrenne VE2GPF  
Email: [ve2gpf@rac.ca](mailto:ve2gpf@rac.ca)  
Home Telephone: 819- 671-5943

If you are unable to attend FD2000 but would like to help financially, you could make a donation by mailing your cheque, made payable to FD2000, to the following address:

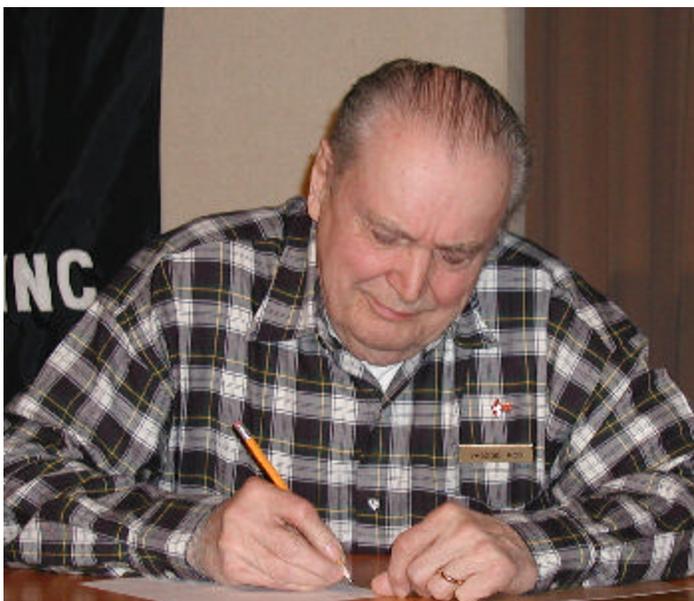
FD2000  
P.O. Box 384  
Val-des-Monts, Qc  
J8N 7X1

# Field Day 2000 *(Continued)*

All donations will be greatly appreciated. In the event that contributions exceed our expenses, 75% of the remaining funds will be donated to the Childrens' Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO) and 25% will be donated to the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF).

## "FD2000" will make history! Will you be a part of it?

by Larry Wilcox  
VE3WEH)



### Circle May 18 on your calendar!

**M**ake 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 on or before Friday, May 12.. Contact Susan, VE3MOG, by e-mail at <ve3mog@rac.ca> or by phone at 833-2766 to reserve and to purchase your ticket now! ❖

# WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?

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Now, that is a question that is being repeated often at the front counter of the Amateur Radio Exhibit in the National Museum of Science and Technology.

We try to answer that question by demonstrating the different aspects of the hobby to our visitors. For example, two ladies from Russia (it's useful to know some Russian) were offered to contact an Amateur Radio station Southeast of Moscow, where they came from. We had just signed off with Igor, an RV3 station.

A young lady student from the United States asked questions about Amateur Radio to help her complete a thesis she was writing on her visit to the Sci&Tech Museum. She was surprised to learn that we had just been talking to an Amateur in Vancouver, Washington, her hometown. (not Vancouver, BC, and not Washington, DC, as the fellow pointed out)

We provided various demos to many visitors. While explaining APRS to a group, I received a message on the APRS screen. A fellow in Liverpool, England wrote "Hi VE3JW, a lighthouse in Ottawa! Pse explain". I normally use a lighthouse as an icon to show VE3JW's location and once we send this info on air it is being distributed world-wide.

On an APRS UK map, I showed this fellow's icon at Liverpool. Then I explained to him that we were at a museum that has a real lighthouse on its front lawn. I then asked him if he had 20m capability. Two minutes later we were in voice contact on 14.250 MHz. The group sure was impressed.

But the best demo we did so far was to a group of 20 students who showed high interest when we asked them if they wanted to talk to stations around the world. Using the 15m band, and beaming to Europe, Bob, VE3AKV, assisted by Sandy, VE3AFW (just newly licensed), announced on the air that we were a museum and had a group of students waiting for contacts.

We immediately had a pile-up and we put a first student on. Thereafter, Bob requested that each contact be from a "different country"! That had the students eagerly waiting for their turn. Co-operation from our contacts was excellent and the group, and we had a ball!

A couple wanted to know what our exhibit was about. They had three young kids playing in the military jeep nearby the station and they were forever turning their heads to watch their kids. The ATV system was already set up, I pointed the camera at the jeep and they could watch their kids on the monitor while I was explaining Amateur Radio.

These are but a few examples of our daily happenings at VE3JW. In answer to the title question of this article I would like to quickly go over a list of activities that characterizes Amateur Radio.

First, here are three purposes of Amateur Radio: 1 - Emergency communications, i.e.: Eastern Canada ice storm, Winnipeg floods, Peggy's Cove crash of Flight 111; 2 - Technical experimentation, i.e.: electronic circuitry, antennas, satellites; 3 - Recreation.

*Rambler, May 2000*

Then, let's cover the civic action part where we provide services, inasmuch as we can, before, during, and after the following situations: ice storms, floods, hurricanes, tornados, forest fires, earthquakes, blizzards, train accidents, chemical spills, other disasters, public and community events.

Now comes the fun part, the different modes and activities:

HF - base or mobile: Single Side Band, Morse code, FM repeaters, Amplitude Modulation - digital modes: RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, G-TOR, CLOVER, PSK31, Packet - working: DX, DXpedition, IOTA, rare ones;

VHF/UHF - base, hand-held, mobile: local repeaters, FM, SSB, CW, high speed Packet, Amateur television, APRS, repeater links;

In addition: Amateur Satellites in orbit, Space Station, Shuttles, moon bounce (EME), balloon repeaters, meteor scatters, Spread Spectrum, Direction Finding, Spelunking (VHF underground);

Also, Home construction projects: receivers, amplifiers, power supplies, antennas, QRP kits, restoring older equipment, antiques, and radio remote controlled models

Let's not forget: scanners, contests, nets, and that welcomed yearly event, the "Field Day". This list may not be complete, I may well have missed some activities. Please add them and tell me about it.

Amateur Radio is communicating with new friends around the world. We operate diverse radio equipment from many locations or from many mobiles, and in many modes on the Amateur Radio bands. Antennas range from simple to elaborate. Equipment is home-made or commercial. Contacts are with close-by friends or new ones around the world.

We should mention that Amateur Radio is credited with many inventions such as the cell phone and the Internet and many others in earlier times, while pioneering in the field of communication. More recently, it developed APRS, PSK31, wearable radios! trunked repeaters (digital), visual reality QSO's, etc.

In summary, we provide volunteer vital emergency communications during disasters and we help in public and community events. World-wide contacts through the most advanced methods, or those of the past, are part of the enjoyment. So is experimentation.

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to demonstrate all of what Amateur Radio is, under one roof? Impossible, I know. Let's concentrate on what we have (and what we can get) in order to give our visitors an idea of what Amateur Radio can be.

Maurice-André Vigneault  
ve3vig@rac.ca ❖

## Volunteer's Needed!

Volunteer Amateur Radio Operators are required for public service events. Only Amateur Radio Operators may perform these functions. If you can help please contact the OVMRC Radio Operations manager, Mr. Ken Barry, VE3KJB, at 746-4823 or via e-mail at kennan@storm.ca,

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
Saturday, May 27th	Ottawa Triathlon	Carleton University
Saturday, Jun 3rd	Electrathon	Stittsville
Sunday, Jun 18th	Father's Day Run	Parliament Hill
Friday to Sunday, Jun 16 - 18	Italian Festival	Preston Street

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

**Place Label Here**

**"FD2000" will make history!**  
**Will you be a part of it?**