



Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club Inc. (OVMRC)
Volume 47, Issue No 5



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Next Meeting

Mr. Claude Lefebvre, Manager Operations Centre, Government Emergency Operations Co-ordination Centre (GEOCC) Office of Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Preparedness (OCIPEP) will be our guest speaker for the December 12th meeting.

The presentation will focus on the OCIPEP mandate, pertinent legislation and the GEOCC operations. All members are cordially invited to hear about a very critical Federal department concerned with Emergency Preparedness.



Christmas Day Net

There will be a special Christmas Day edition of the Wise Owl Net and all radio amateurs are encouraged to join in. This net gives you an opportunity to tell everyone about the new amateur gear that Santa is going to bring you; on the other hand, if you haven't been a good amateur this year, and Santa does not bring you a new rig, you are still welcome to

join the net, if you promise to be better behaved next year. You can also convey Christmas greetings to all your friends.

This is an opportunity as well to introduce any visitors you may have over Christmas in your home to amateur radio, in a fun and informal way.

The net starts at 0930 hours EST on the OVMRC club 2 metre repeater VE3TWO, 147.30 receive, 147.90 transmit. It will be just about as informal as a net can get. See you then. I will be net controller, as I have been for more years than I can remember, but it must be getting near 20 years. Ho ho ho!

Sydney Moorcroft.
VE3GVI
ve3gvi@rac.ca



OVMRC Executive (2002-2003)

President	Mike Kennedy, VA3TEC godtec@bigfoot.com
Vice-President	
Treasurer	Ken Gill, VA3KJG 748-0218,
Secretary	Ken McKenzie, VA3NEK 829-4884, va3nek@rac

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Amateur Radio Exhibit	Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG 749-9010, ve3vig@rac.ca
Amateur Radio Training	Bob Shaw, VE3SUY 737-9443, lycott@istop.com Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ 728-3666
Accredited Examiner	Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ 225-6785, ve3osz@rac.ca
Field Day	Matthew Lange, VA3MWL 821-1814,
Historical	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH 747-5565, ve3weh@rac.ca
Flea Market	Vacant
Membership	Adam King, VA3PIP 831-9970,
Newsletter	Bill Hall, VA3WMH 830-5580, va3wmh@rac.ca
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Radio Operations	Vacant
Technical	Jake Guertin, VA3TQX 253-3732, va3tqx@sprint.ca
Emergency Preparedness	Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS 837-3261, ve3srs@rac.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

Club Website

The OVMRC *Rambler* is available on-line at the club website:
<http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/rambler.htm>

Sponsors

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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

Dec 12
Rambler Deadline
Jan 3

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.



Mike thanks Mr. Gillis, RAC President, and other members of the RAC National executive after Mr. Gillis' informative presentation at our last meeting



Maurice-André, VE3VIG with Mr. Gillis, VE1WG, RAC President & Mr. Jim Deans, VE3IQ, Regulatory Affairs VP at VE3JW

Fred Noble, VE3BAJ — SK

Regret to advise that OVMRC Life Member and old friend, Fred Noble, VE3BAJ is now SK. Fred spent many hours at the OVMRC Membership table greeting members.



European IRLP Meeting
2003

European IRLP meeting 2003

Gothenburg Sweden
April 25th to April 27th.

More info can be found on our website www.irlp.tk

People with questions can always reach me on IRLP node 8020 as I am the node owner or via the Scandinavian reflector (IRLP node 9800) .

Currently HAMS will come from USA, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and of course a whole bunch of European countries.

Short facts :

Start date: April 25 2003

End date: April 27 2003

QTH : Gothenburg - The west and best coast of Sweden.



Well here we are with another Christmas approaching fast. I expect you have all completed your Christmas shopping by now or, are you like some people I know, yours truly included, just doing your shopping at the last minute?

There were 85 people attending our last General meeting and our guest speaker, Bill Gillis VE1WG, President of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) certainly gave us an update on the status of Amateur Radio and of RAC. There were some interesting questions from the floor about spectrum allocation and other questions which are being considered or presented at the upcoming World Amateur Radio Conference 2003. Some of the questions were answered very well by Jim Dean VE3IQ, Vice-President. Many people had an opportunity to meet chat with our President during the coffee and refreshments time following the meeting. I certainly enjoyed meeting him and I'm sure all of the rest of you agree, he is a very nice man to say the least. Maurice-André VE3VIG, Manager of our National Amateur Radio Demonstration Station VE3JW, gave Mr. Gillis and Jim Dean a quick tour of the new station. Mr. Gillis was noticeably impressed and signed our guest book before he left, promising to return when he is in Ottawa next April. He would like to make a tour of the Museum and also spend some time at VE3JW when it is in operation during the day.

RAMBLER JANUARY 1993

The front page "HAPPY 1993! President ponders past projects - proudly predicts positive prospects!"

Bob Sharp VE3YBC, touted the first six months of club activities and events. The club promoted Amateur Radio to the public by providing communications or displays for the following events: Gloucester Soccer Club 12th International Tournament, Italian Festive Cycle Race, 1992 Cycle for the Kids, National Museum of Science and Technology "Techno Days," National Museum of Science and Technology "Talk to Santa," DOC Car Rally, Ottawa General Hospital "Rattle Me Bones Fun Run." We also ran a very successful Field Day, published a members' phone directory, and our Seniors Group received a \$6998 New Horizon grant to help re-equip the Museum station. VE3TWO was also successfully upgraded and VE3RVI was added to the site. We sponsored four nets during the time also and the Education Committee published their own training manual which was being distributed by CARF. Thirty people also attended our Amateur Radio Training course. During the December meeting, our members also brought in about 200 items for donation to the Ottawa Food Bank. Since the coffee and cookies were free during the December meeting, members donated about \$20 which was given to the Shepherds of Good Hope.

In his January 1993 RAMBLINGS, President Bob Sharp wrote the upcoming January meeting would feature a Home-Brew contest. He noted the rules would be:

1. Entries must have something to do with amateur radio.
2. Entries must be done in accordance with our operating privileges. (Don't make a 10m dipole if you can't legally operate on 10m)
3. Your project must work, and if asked, you must be able to prove it.

4. Judges' decisions are final.
5. When in doubt, see rule #4
6. Prizes will be given for the best entry in six categories.
7. You must be a member of the OVMRC to enter.

Bob encouraged members to come out and dazzle the judges, John VE3ACI, Jerry VE3CDS, and Wil VE3XMT.

Speaking of Home Brew Night, ours is going to be held on March 20, 2003 and you might be busy working on your project now. Before the end of January, would you please let our President know if you are going to be a participant by sending an email to Mike: < or to <

Mike would like to know how many are going to participate in order to plan for prizes, etc. It seems the popularity of "Home Brew Night" has diminished over the last several years and in the event that we don't have anyone interested, your Executive will have time to make other plans for the March meeting. So send in your emails or telephone Mike to let him know.

The January 1993 RAMBLER featured an invaluable lengthy article by Doug Bannard VE3SPF, entitled, "Technical topics - boat battery basics". Doug pointed out the basics of proper lead acid battery maintenance including the reasons why lead acid batteries fail prematurely from high temperatures, overcharging, infrequent charging or undercharging, lack of proper maintenance, and using the wrong kind of battery. He also covered the Five Common Myths associated with using batteries and types of batteries to use for different applications, including the GEL-CEL. Since we are always using batteries in Amateur Radio, I think this would be a good item to re-publish in some future issue of the RAMBLER when we are short of topics from members.

Another article by Ron Howe VE3MUD, entitled "Doggone mobile rigs make MUD mad!" Ron wrote about his misadventures with the theft of his 10m mobile antenna on Labour Day and his 2m mobile radio stolen in December. Imagine, being hit by theft on two separate occasions and the proud owner of two 150 lb Newfoundland dogs that were silent during both capers! He offered the following advice following these experiences and it is still valid today.

1. Always write down your rig's serial number.
2. It's handy to keep receipts.
3. Advise your insurance company you have a mobile rig and confirm that you policy covers it.
4. Photograph your mobile rig in-situ.
5. If you own a mag-mount, consider locking it in your trunk at night or when parked in "questionable" areas of town.
6. Always lock your car.
7. See item 6.

The last page, featured an item by Neil Herber VE3PUE, Editor, (I'm sure it reflects our current Editor's philosophy and desire also) "Rambler readers riled - "stop stupid squibs" squawk subscribers". Neil certainly had a way with words! He wrote about the difficulty of getting enough good material to fill each issue even though he had an "oversupply" of good stuff. However, he encouraged that



you, "Please write something for the RAMBLER. We give priority to new authors and technical articles."

My plug of the month. Although your new Executive are doing an excellent job, there task would be much easier if we had a few more people volunteer to serve on the Executive. We still have high hopes a new Vice-President will provide the necessary support for President Mike during the 2002-2003 club year. We are still looking for people to volunteer for our Flea Market, Publicity and Programs, and Radio Operations Chairs. Please step forward and offer your invaluable services, we need your help. Contact any member of the Executive if you are interested in serving your club.

Last but not least, our "Talk to Santa" event is taking place Saturday, Dec. 14, 2002 & Sunday, Dec. 15, 2002,

from 1:00pm to 4:00 p.m. We will have four or five "Santa's Elves," operating their 2m radios throughout the Museum looking for children to "Talk to Santa." Our bilingual "Santa Claus" will be at the "North Pole" chatting with the children. Once again this year, the Museum is providing small candy canes for the children when they picked up their own personal Certificate which verifies they spoke by radio to Santa at the North Pole.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all of you for reading "Yesteryear". I hope you have learned something about our past history or have been reminded of some of the events you participated in ten years ago. I wish you all a "HAPPY CHRISTMAS" and a "MERRY & SAFE NEW YEAR" ❖



Member Recognition Reward Program

While the new membership campaign ended on August 30, 2002, RAC will continue to have an on-going membership campaign!

Besides attracting new members, RAC will recognize and reward those members who continue to renew their annual memberships on time by providing them with incentives. Those incentives will include quarterly draws, featuring prizes which will vary, depending upon dealer participation. While there could be more, we are promising at least twenty-five (25) prizes four times a year. However, the more members that RAC has, the more prizes that can be offered.

Here's how it will work: anyone who has been a RAC member for at least one year immediately preceding will be entered automatically into the draw during the quarter in which his/her membership expires.

For example, if a membership expires in August, a renewal notice is sent out by RAC in early June, advising of a "return date" which will be in advance of the renewal date. The member must respond by renewing on or before the "return date" in order to be eligible for the incentive draws. If not received by that date, the renewal will not be considered for the draw.

The intent of this program is to encourage annual membership renewal on time. It also, importantly, rewards those loyal members who have continued to renew RAC membership and thereby support Amateur Radio in Canada, year after year. Even with a "return date" slightly in advance of the normal renewal date, the renewing member will still have from six to eight weeks to reply and the renewed membership will still be for one full year. The early return date is needed to allow RAC HQ staff to deal with the membership processing in advance of the next issue of TCA, thus ensuring that magazine delivery to the member is uninterrupted.

Those members who joined RAC during the recent membership campaign, thereby having a chance at the eighty-one (81) prizes in that effort, will not be eligible for the new Reward Program until renewal after one full year of membership. Watch for the program to begin soon!

This is an exciting time in RAC's history and, truly, there NEVER has been a better time to join or to renew. Radio Amateurs of Canada is pressing forward with innovative ideas and contemporary thinking. Our email and telephones and postal boxes are open for your active participation. We want to hear from you so that we may give Radio Amateurs the best service and representation possible. "

We're ALL about Amateur Radio!" And we thank YOU for continuing to be part of it.



We just recently had a meeting with the Museum Staff, which is busy establishing a budget for the coming year. They wanted to know what activities the VE3JW Station was ready to take on for the coming year.

We have always had Special Events at VE3JW and we are continually searching for new ways to interest the visitors and demonstrate the capabilities of Amateur Radio. Therefore, it was easy enough to provide them with a list of events that we are normally planning to conduct at the station and we found a couple more that may just interest the Museum as well.

We provide a list of these events here to inform the Amateur Radio community so that you can mark your calendar and come join us for a fun year.

Dec 14 and 15 - TALK TO SANTA

Feb 1 to 9 - WHITE CANE WEEK

Feb 18 and 19 - GUIDES ON THE AIR

Jun 21 and 22 - YOUTH ON THE AIR (St John Ambulance Cadets)

Jun 28 and 29 - FIELD DAY

Aug 16 and 17 - LIGHTHOUSE

Oct 18 and 19 - JAMBOREE ON THE AIR (Scouts)

In addition, this year, we would like to join the KIDS DAY special event. This is an event where any youth can be given an opportunity to come on the air and communicate with other youths around the world. This is a recent event and it takes place on the first weekend of July.

Also, we are trying to develop a schedule with other Science Museum across North America which have an Amateur Radio station. And there are several. The purpose would be to have a monthly contact involving pre-registered young visitors to talk with other pre-registered young visitors at a distant Museum. Before the ON AIR time, the groups would be sent on a scavenger type hunt to answer specific questions i.e. what is the oldest artifact in the Science Museum? what is the largest artifact? etc..and then they could swap answers with their contacts.

The Museum Staff likes these ideas and is willing to help put them on, budget permitting. We also hope that you like these ideas and would be willing to help by participating at the Radio Station in handling some contacts.

So keep this list handy, and we will publish other reminders and announce these events on the local radio nets, with further news on the new developments.

73!
de m.a
Maurice-André Vigneault
Amateur Radio Exhibit Group



Mr. William J. Gillis, VE1WG, RAC

President speaks at our last club meeting.