

# Rambler

Newsletter of the  
Ottawa Valley Mobile  
Radio Club Inc. (OVMRC)  
Volume 50, Issue No 8



## Summer 1940...

After the spectacular Blitzkrieg through Europe by the Nazi juggernaut, Britain stood alone to face the onslaught of the fearsome German Luftwaffe. Without adequate night fighters, the British were unable to stop the Luftwaffe bombers from striking vital targets in the dark of night. At our meeting on Thursday, 16 March, Al Penney, VO1NO, will tell us the story of how one man, Dr. R. V. Jones, overcame scepticism and resistance to discover the new German electronic navigation systems and jam them, thereby winning the **“Battle of the Beams”**. In doing so, he earned Prime Minister Churchill’s praise as **“the man who broke the bloody beams”**, and saved Britain from certain defeat. Amateur Radio operators played an important part in this fascinating account, so don’t be late - see you at the meeting on Thursday!

73

Al

### Inside...

Next Meeting Intro .....	1
Ramblings .....	3/4
Meeting Minutes .....	4
2m Contest .....	4 & 6
Echolink on VE3TWO .....	5/6

### Reminders...

Club Meeting .....	Mar 16 7:30 P.M.
Executive Meeting .....	Mar 23
Rambler Deadline .....	Apr 7
Apr Club Meeting .....	Apr 20
2m Simplex Contest .....	May 7
Field Day .....	Jun 24/25



# Rambler

## OVMRC Executive (2005-2006)

## OVMRC Life Members

<b>President</b>	Bob Sharp, VA3QV 733-4475, <a href="mailto:va3qv@rac.ca">va3qv@rac.ca</a>
<b>Vice-President</b>	Gerry Trottier, VA3GLT 745-5828, <a href="mailto:va3glt@rac.ca">va3glt@rac.ca</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Gil, VA3KJG 748-0218, <a href="mailto:va3kjg@rac.ca">va3kjg@rac.ca</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacques Choquette, VE3TSC <a href="mailto:ve3tsc@rac.ca">ve3tsc@rac.ca</a>

<b>Maurice André</b>	<b>VE3VIG</b>
Ralph Cameron	VE3BBM
Doug Carswell	VE3ATY
Doreen Morgan	VE3CGO
Ed Morgan	VE3GX
Bill Wilson	VE3NR

## Standing Committee Chairpersons

<b>Amateur Radio Exhibit</b>	Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG 749-9010, <a href="mailto:ve3vig@rac.ca">ve3vig@rac.ca</a>
<b>Amateur Radio Training</b>	Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ 728-3666, <a href="mailto:va3ejj@rac.ca">va3ejj@rac.ca</a>
<b>Accredited Examiner</b>	Bob Kavanagh, VE3OSZ 225-6785, <a href="mailto:ve3osz@rac.ca">ve3osz@rac.ca</a>
<b>Field Day</b>	Alan Steele, VA3STL <a href="mailto:va3stl@rac.ca">va3stl@rac.ca</a>
<b>Historical</b>	Larry Wilcox, VE3WEH 747-5565, <a href="mailto:ve3weh@rac.ca">ve3weh@rac.ca</a>
<b>Flea Market</b>	Jake Guertin, VE2TQX 819-684-9596, <a href="mailto:va3tqx@hotmail.com">va3tqx@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Gerry Trottier, VA3GLT 745-5828, <a href="mailto:va3glt@rac.ca">va3glt@rac.ca</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Bill Hall, VA3WMH 830-5580, <a href="mailto:va3wmh@rac.ca">va3wmh@rac.ca</a>
<b>Publicity &amp; Programs</b>	Duane Avery VA3ODD 599-8409, <a href="mailto:DuaneEAvery@Rogers.com">DuaneEAvery@Rogers.com</a>
<b>Radio Operations UHF/VHF</b>	Matthew Hall, VA3MHB 236-5283,
<b>Radio Operations HF</b>	José Campione, VA3PCJ 523-3011, <a href="mailto:va3pcj@rac.ca">va3pcj@rac.ca</a>
<b>Technical</b>	Jake Guertin, VE2TQX 819-684-9596, <a href="mailto:va3tqx@hotmail.com">va3tqx@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Emergency Preparedness</b>	Ken Halcrow, VE3SRS 837-3261, <a href="mailto:ve3srs@rac.ca">ve3srs@rac.ca</a>

## Club Web site

The OVMRC **Rambler** is available on-line at the club Web site:

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

## Sponsors

The OVMRC acknowledges the following organizations for their support of our activities:

Acceptable Storage, Ottawa, ON  
Bytown Marine, Ottawa, ON  
Elkel Ltee, Trois-Rivières, QC  
Kenwood Electronics Canada Inc., Mississauga, ON  
[Ottawa Camping Trailers](#) Ltd, Ottawa, ON  
[Ottawa Metro Towing](#), Ottawa, ON  
[Travel-Mor Trailer Sales](#), Ottawa, ON

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



Amateur Radio Exhibit  
**VE3JW**  
Web Site

<http://ve3jw.tripod.com>

Canada  
Science & Technology  
Museum



Next meeting  
Mar 16  
Rambler Deadline  
Apr 7



OVMRC Repeater

147.300 MHz(+)  
444.200 MHz(+)



OVMRC web page

<http://www.ovmrc.on.ca>  
Webmaster: Elias Zaydan,  
VE3EKZ [elias@canada.com](mailto:elias@canada.com)

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).

AW SHUCKS...I guess this month I better start with an apology as I have no explanation of why the February Rambler was very delayed making it to the club web site and therefore to you the membership. I know that our editor e-mailed it out to the Webmaster. I know the Webmaster never received it and I also know that in a comedy of errors that would make "Abbott and Costello" proud, the delivery of the February Rambler was delayed. Somewhere in "Cyberspace" drifting around is an email from Bill, addressed to Elias with a .PDF file attached. It makes you wonder if there is an Internet "Dead Letter Office".

Your club executive has already discussed this at the executive meeting that was held a week after the February General Meeting and are taking steps to ensure that this does not happen again.

But February turned out to be a month to be remembered as just about everything we planned just would not go smoothly. We had a guest speaker cancel on us; the Rambler was late and just to add the icing on the cake... A last minute work issue cropping up made my attendance questionable although thanks to some support from club members and my employer the phrase "better late than never" comes into mind. But we were able to muddle through and next month has to be better.

## ITS ALMOST SPRINGTIME...

This is the time of the year to be thinking about new projects that you want to get up before the leaves arrive on the trees and make it harder to erect antennas. This hobby of ours is truly a wonderful and marvellous hobby. Where else can you make a \$2000.00 radio work when it's attached to \$20.00 worth of wire.

HOME BREW NIGHT – And I don't mean 807's! This is your reminder that we will be holding our annual Home Brew Night at our March Meeting. By now your projects should be finished and you are getting ready to accept the award along with the "bragging rights" that go along with it.

Spring Activities- Now that the snow has started to melt anyone interested in going out to play radio in the great outdoors. I was thinking of Britannia Park (Lakeside Gardens) on a Sunday afternoon. The location is accessible by bus and there is also lots of parking. The Lakeside Gardens Pavilion should be open so we even would have access to indoor plumbing.

This could be a fun way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

If you are in favour let me know and we can set it up.

The date today is actually February 11th and I am writing this while doing duty in the Canadian Ski Marathon Radio Room at the Chateau Montebello. The time is 2000hrs and things are just starting to wind down for the evening. The day started at 0330 for us and it was a very good day for Amateur Radio. The VE2CRA/VE3 Repeater moved to Sarsfield Ontario worked like a charm. The operators all showed up and there were no serious injuries to the participants on day one.

Day two ran as smoothly as Day One. Repeater VE2RM, with a frequency of 147.0 (-) once again served us well. This wide coverage repeater (accessible from Ottawa) has been serving the public and the Amateur Radio Community for many years now and is still going strong. Radio Operators showed up from Montreal to Carp and were members of many different clubs who all showed up to support a "Canadian Tradition". Most of the participants were from "That other Ottawa Club" (OARC) as it's their premier Public Service event, but there were also participants from the OVMRC, Prescott-Russell ARES, CASARA Ottawa and several Montreal Radio Clubs. It was a team effort and a job well done.

At the February meeting we discussed the ECHOLINK project and we are patiently awaiting the technical committee to return to us at the March meeting with a proposed operating budget for

VE3RAM-L. At this time Paul VE3CPH is doing a study to determine if he can host the node at his QTH. If he can operate with a dependable signal to the UHF side of VE3TWO with no noticeable interference there is a good chance he will be able to host our node. There will be more information on ECHOLINK following in the next few months as we continue with the proposal for this project.

UPCOMING EVENTS- Your club is planning several events. The first of which is our "Home Brew Night" which has already been mentioned. I am still waiting to hear back from some of you who have previously mentioned a need to string some wire in a Public Park and play radio for an afternoon. May is our world famous Mobile Judging Contest and will take place in the Museum Parking lot at 1830hrs local time before our General Meeting on May 18th.

ALL SHOOK UP- Wouldn't you know it...The day after Ken VE3SRS gave us that wonderful talk on Emergency Preparedness and right in the middle of the Wise Owl Net the "Shake, Rattle and Roll" started. Fortunately from all initial reports it was minor with no damages. I was pleased to hear some immediate traffic on the Emergency Measures Radio Group main frequency of 146.880. Amateurs from outside the "Greater Ottawa Area" also checked in to our "Wise Owl Net" on VE3TWO. It does serve as a reminder and a "wake up call".

AND THEN A "BLAST FROM THE PAST" The Saturday Morning Pothole net on Saturday Feb 25th had an old friend drop in for a visit. Hugh Clark VE9HC (ex VE3WM) (who used to be very active in the Ottawa Area before he headed east for retirement) checked in with a "Booming" signal from Hartland NB. You can often hear Hugh on the Maritime Net on 3.750 at 1800hrs eastern, on the Ontario Phone Net on 3.742 at 1845hrs eastern as well as on the Comsont Net or the Trans Provincial Net on 40M during the daytime. To the best of my knowledge it's the first time the Section Manager for the Maritimes has checked in to our net since he gave up residence in the Ottawa Area. It's always good to hear old friends and that's what Amateur Radio is all about...

On the APRS scene, I was watching the CASARA crew cover the area west of Ottawa this weekend (February 26th) and I noticed a few new stations filling in blanks on the map. North Bay and Sudbury both seem to have functioning Digi's and IGATES. The map of Northern Ontario is starting to expand. The Digi in Sault Ste Marie is still up and running fine so now most of the major centres have some sort of coverage. The network is growing in leaps and bounds...

The new TCA for March-April arrived in the mailbox today and as always it makes for some "might fine reading." One item of note out of many is that our FM Simplex Contest this year is on May 7th. This date also happens to be the day of the RAC annual General Meeting, which this year is being held in Cornwall Ontario starting at 10am. The down side to this is that some people might want to go to the meeting rather than participate in the contest. On the plus side there now is the chance that amateurs on the way to Cornwall might be scanning the simplex frequencies as they travel to the AGM. If you are active on HF spread the word that while travelling back from the AGM to call "CQ OVMRC Contest" on the simplex frequencies and see what happens. If any of you check into the Champlain Mini Net on VE3STP repeater remind all those good folks up the valley to give a listen as they drive back from Cornwall. In the spirit of the contest don't ask them to call you... ask them to listen for a contest station calling CQ. Allan VA3STL who is organizing the contest will have more information for us both in the Rambler and at the March and April meetings.

## Parting Shots-

From the EMRG Mailing list I see that Tom VA3NFA/VA3TRZ has been doing some AX25 Packet testing from Portable Locations. You might remember Tom as the "Psycho Rover" From our

November Meeting. I'm glad to see that Tom is still working on our hobby and as he is doing "Portable Packet" in the wintertime still "Psycho".

Our Guest speaker for the March Meeting is AI V01NO who will be giving us a talk on "The Battle of the Beams" which is on how both sides used RDF Techniques in WW2. I have heard good things about this talk from other amateurs who have heard AI speak at various other Club Meetings across Canada and the US.

VE3TST joins us on ECHOLINK- while looking through the ECHOLINK list I noticed that VE3TST-R (UHF) is now on line. This gives us VE3RIX, VE3TST (UHF) and of course VE3TWO (VA3QV-L) all accessible via ECHOLINK. Other local repeaters in our area are VE3SEX in Carleton Place via VE3HOA-R and VA3PRV-R in Prescott Russell. In addition the CASARA Portable Node VA3SHQ-L is usually available as well on whatever frequency that Bill needs at the time.

The Final Word- SPRINGTIME- Springtime is that small season between "Its Cold" and "Summer Vacations". It is the time that we as amateurs get to install antennas and find the time to play radio because the lawn is still too wet to rake, too wet to cut, the kids don't need a ride to Soccer practice or track tryouts etc. Make the most of your free time and try to play some radio. See you at the March Meeting.

73bob

---

## Third Annual OVMRC 2m FM Simplex Contest

### Date & Time

Sunday, 7th May 2006 from 12 noon to 4pm local time.

### How to participate

Using the 2m simplex frequencies (check the RAC band plan) and avoiding the 2m calling frequency of 146.520, make contact with as many stations as you can. Call "CQ OVMRC contest" or "CQ contest" or work stations making such calls.

Pre-arranging contacts by use of repeaters, telephones or otherwise is not allowed, nor in the spirit of the contest.

Once you have logged a particular station you cannot log it again, unless it is a mobile station which has moved to a different city location (see details of what is a 'location' in the next section). Mobile stations calling CQ may want to indicate their current location.

Note, there is a condition on a repeat logging. A repeat logging cannot be made if it results in a station being the same consecutively in the log. For example, if contact 6 is with VA3STL you cannot log that station again as contact 7, even if the station is mobile and moved to another location. Work another station first and then it is possible to make a repeat contact but only if the mobile station is in a different location to the earlier logging(s).

If you decide to call CQ, listen first to see if a frequency is in use. Remember, just because you cannot hear anything does not mean that a QSO is not going on, you may not be in range of one of the stations but you could be within the other's range. Follow good operating practice; listen, ask if the frequency is in use and listen again, then repeat the process until satisfied it is not in use.

### What to exchange

When a contact is made you need to exchange the following information: callsign, contact number, location (use the city

---

## Meeting Minutes

Vice President VA3GLT opened the meeting at 730 pm as Club President VA3QV Bob was delayed.

There was one visitor YVES (No Callsign YET...But he was interested)

The notice of motion posted in the February Rambler regarding an unbudgeted expense of \$100.00 in support of the AMSAT Program was approved by the general membership. The OVMRC will be donating the amount of \$100.00 to AMSAT.

Vice President VA3GLT cheerfully turned the meeting over to Bob VA3QV when he arrived at 7:45pm

While VA3QV was getting the laptop set up for the ECHOLINK Presentation the Publicity and Programmes Chair Duane VA3ODD explained what was planned for Door Prizes for the future.

VA3QV made a presentation to the General Membership on the ECHOLINK Project. After the presentation, there was a Question and Answer period then some friendly discussion.

The question was posed to the general membership for them to decide if they wanted to pursue the ECHOLINK Project and if they did then they must direct the Technical Committee to return to the membership at the March Meeting with an operating budget. A show of hands gave the technical committee the go ahead and an operating budget will be brought to the general membership at the March general meeting for a vote.

VA3QV asked the Committee chairs if they had anything to report and no detailed reports were given. Status Quo for all committees.

After the ECHOLINK topic had been covered we were treated to an excellent presentation by Ken VE3SRS on Emergency Preparedness.

At the end of the presentation during the Question and Answer session some of our newer members showed an interest on this topic.

We were then treated to a "Trailer" or "Teaser" by our Webmaster VE3EKZ Elias of his upcoming presentation at the May General Meeting on Suitsat-1. It was interesting and has us waiting patiently for the May General Meeting

The door prize was a bag of BNC Connectors which was won by Gaitin (whose call I can't remember)

The 50/50 draw was won by Bob VE3OSZ who promptly donated the \$23.00 back to the club.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45pm

---

electoral ward or district for this) and whether or not you are a OVMRC club member or if you are operating a club station. Mobile stations give their current location. The location is important for the location multiplier and longest distance QSO award.

Maps of the wards or districts of Ottawa and Gatineau can be found, at the following web locations;

Ottawa:

[http://atlas.city.ottawa.on.ca/mapping/atlas/maps/wards/Ottawa\\_Wards\\_Councilors\\_Urban\\_Photos.pdf](http://atlas.city.ottawa.on.ca/mapping/atlas/maps/wards/Ottawa_Wards_Councilors_Urban_Photos.pdf)

Gatineau:

[http://www.ville.gatineau.qc.ca/gatineau/pdf/districtsn\\_ouveauxnom.pdf](http://www.ville.gatineau.qc.ca/gatineau/pdf/districtsn_ouveauxnom.pdf)

*Continued on page: 6*

# Echolink on VE3TWO

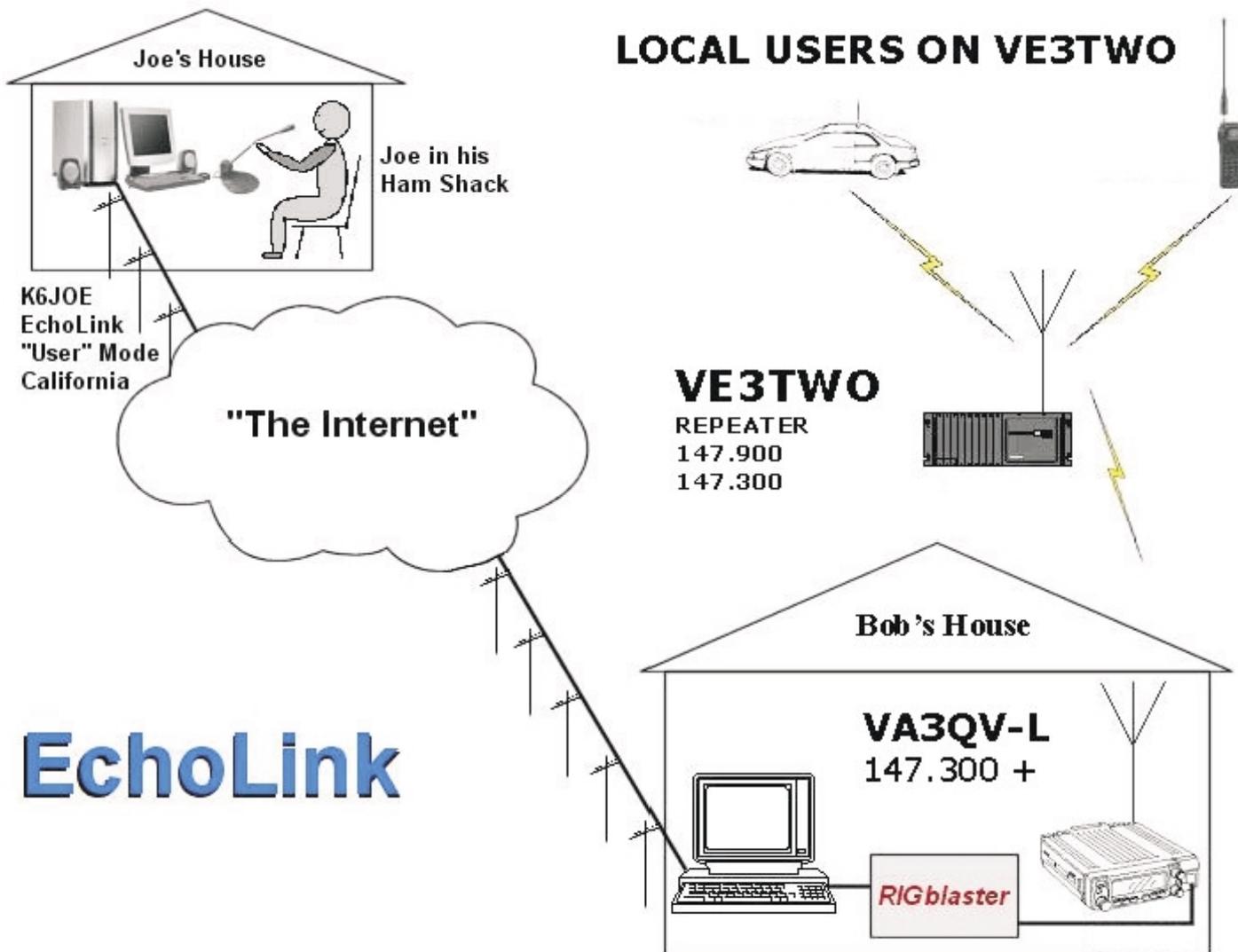
Bob Sharp  
VA3QV

As we mentioned in the February Rambler and as discussed at our General Meeting in February, we now have an ECHOLINK node sitting on VE3TWO. The node is currently using the node id of VA3QV-L (If you wanted to connect to VE3TWO using the ECHOLINK software you would look for and then connect to VA3QV-L) The temporary node number is 281944 (that is the number you would dial up using your radios DTMF Pad if you wanted to connect to VE3TWO from another repeater that was connected to the ECHOLINK.

Right now our setup looks very much like this:

At the February meeting the General Membership gave the Technical committee a directive to return to the General Membership at the March Meeting with a proposed operating budget for an ECHOLINK station. At the same time the Technical committee will be looking for a suitable location to relocate the node. The definition of a "suitable location" would be a location that had a good line of communications to the VE3TWO Repeater site along with a very stable high-speed Internet connection.

The proposed budget will include the purchase of a link radio (either VHF or UHF) along with an appropriate antenna and power



# Echolink on VE3TWO (Cont'd)

supply. The Node will also need a "Rig Blaster style" interface and a computer that has the capabilities to connect to the Internet (and the faster the better)

One of our club members has offered to host the ECHOLINK node and at the time of writing this article is conducting testing to see if his location is suitable. Unfortunately due to deadlines for publication of the Rambler I am unable to let you know how the testing went but I will have a full update for you at the March General Meeting.

If the General Membership agrees to and approves the operating budget submitted by the technical committee then the technical committee will then purchase the equipment necessary to put the node on the air (staying within the operating budget). At the same time they would be applying to ECHOLINK to use the Callsign VE3TWO-R or VE3RAM-L. This would signify that the equipment was owned and operated by the club and associated with our club repeater. At the time that ECHOLINK authorized the Callsign allocation they would also then issue a node number for our new ECHOLINK Node.

ECHOLINK is locally on Repeater VE3RIX which is owned and operated by the Manotick Amateur Radio Group, repeater VE3TST (UHF) and also is used by CASARA as a "Portable Node". Other area Repeaters with ECHOLINK are VE3SEX in Carleton Place (VE3HOA-R) and the Prescott Russell ARES Repeaters VA3PRV/VA3PRA and of course VE3TWO currently operating as VA3QV-L.

ECHOLINK is quite similar to IRLP as it is VOIP based but is a bit more flexible in usage. The cost of setup is also a bit cheaper as compared to IRLP.

Using ECHOLINK our members will have the ability to link into VE3TWO from any location that they have access to a computer (with appropriate software) with Internet access. This is a big plus for those travellers and snowbirds that might not have access to an IRLP source or might not be able to get a signal out to a specific repeater to link back to Ottawa.

If the General Membership approves the ECHOLINK Project then all should be in place and operational within 45 days as all the equipment needed is readily available from suppliers in Ottawa and Toronto.

I am far from an expert on this topic as I have only recently started operating on ECHOLINK as well as operating the club's temporary node VA3QV-L. I will do my best to answer any questions you might have, but I suggest you "Google" ECHOLINK and do your own research, as you should find it interesting to see how the VOIP Technology has progressed.

I sincerely hope that we will have a good turnout for our upcoming March General Meeting so that this topic can be given the proper attention it deserves.

73bob

---

*Continued from page: 4*

---

Stations outside Ottawa and Gatineau use the local town, eg. Carleton Place

Do not feel that this is all you should exchange, you are encouraged to talk to the other station if you want - find out how long they have been a member, for example.

Record each contact on a log sheet and number it sequentially.

Example 1

VA3NEK from VA3STL, please copy number 4, Osgoode member.

Example 2

VA3STL from VE3%%%, please copy number 1, Kemptville, non-member.

Example 3

VA3GLT from VE3JW, please copy number 23, Alta-Vista, club station.

## Power Limit

For this contest the maximum power you can use is 50W

## Scoring

QSO points

Contact type	Points
Non OVMRC member	1
OVMRC member	2
Club station	5

Club stations are VE3JW and VE3RAM. Note VE3RAM will be the emergency trailer and it will likely move its location during the contest.

## Multipliers

This comes in two stages

1. Total number of locations contacted
2. The highest power level you used

Power	Multiplier
10W or less	2
over 10W to 50W	1
over 50W	0

More details to follow next month.