



The 4th OVMRC 2m FM Simplex Contest

Date & Time

Saturday 5th May 2007 from 12 noon to 4pm *local time*. Please note the change of day, back to a Saturday.

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 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. If you are mobile then please try and spend enough time in an electoral ward or district to complete a contact.

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

Ottawa

http://ottawa.ca/city_hall/mayor_council/wards/final_map.pdf

Gatineau

<http://www.ville.gatineau.qc.ca/cartes-ang.htm#0>

Stations outside Ottawa and Gatineau use the local town, e.g. 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.

Alternatively, for the location the district number, which is given on the Ottawa ward map, can be given.

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.

Multipliers

This comes in two stages

1. Total number of different locations contacted (not your locations but the locations of stations you contacted).

2. The highest power level you used

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

Final calculation

Final score = Total QSO points x Locations x Power

Example calculation

You contacted 8 club members, 6 non club members and

the club station VE3JW, who were in 5 different

locations (some contacts were in the same location) and

you used your handie-talkie at 5W of power.

Total QSO points = 1 x 6 + 2 x 8 + 5 x 1 = 27

Multiplier for locations: 5

Multiplier for power: 2

FINAL SCORE = 27 x 5 x 2 = 270



OVMRC Executive 2006-2007

President	VACANT
Vice-President	Jean Crepeau VA3JCN 613-
Treasurer	Robert Plante VA3SHO 613-
Secretary	Jacques Choquette VE3TSC

Standing Committee Chairpersons

Amateur Radio Exhibit
[Maurice-André Vigneault](#)
VE3VIG, 613-749-9010

Amateur Radio Training
[Ernie Jury](#)
VE3EJJ, 613-728-3666

Accredited Examiner
[Bob Kavanagh](#)
VE3OSZ, 613-225-6785
[Ernie Jury](#)
VE3EJJ, 613-728-3666

Field Day
[George Steeves](#)
VE3ZQH, 613-596-5015

Historical
[Larry Wilcox](#)
VE3WEH, 613-747-5565

Flea Market
[Jake Guertin](#)
VE2TQX, 819-684-9496

Field Day
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Membership
[Gerry Trottier](#)
VA3GLT, 613-745-5828

Publicity & Programs
[Steve Cochran](#)
VE3SBC

Radio Operations (UHF/VHF)
Matthew Hall
VA3MHB, 613-745-9752

Radio Operations (HF)
[Patrick Tunney](#)
VA3CMD

Technical
[Jake Guertin](#)
VE2TQX, 819-684-9496

Emergency Preparedness
[Ken Halcrow](#)
VE3SRS, 613-837-3261

Newsletter
[Bill Hall](#)
VA3WMH, 613-830-5580

Webmaster
[Elias Zaydan](#)
VE3EKZ

Note: all e-mail addresses are:
[callsign at rac dot ca](mailto:callsign@rac.ca)

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
- **Travel-Mor Trailer Sales**, Ottawa, ON

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

The club's web site is hosted by **Magma Communications Ltd.**

www.ovmrc.on.ca

OVMRC Life Members

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

Ed Morgan, VE3GX

Bill Wilson, VE3NR

OVMRC Repeaters

147.300 MHz(+)

444.200 MHz(+)

Amateur Radio Exhibit

VE3JW

Web site:

<http://ve3jw.tripod.com>

Canada Science & Technology
Museum

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., it's officers or it's 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

A Rambler without ramblings just isn't a Rambler. So this month I finally gave up to pressure from my peers. But I have to warn you, I sucked when I was writing in French class, and I've never written anything in English. I'm so much better at writing scripts and technical specifications. Still reading? Oh well; you've been warned.

The first item I would like to address is the vacant president position. We still need for someone to step forward and volunteer to be our club's president. If you've considered helping out, but were afraid being a president would take too much of your time, or bear too much responsibility, well all I can tell you is you shouldn't be. Being president of our club will take a few hours of your time every month (most of it writing ramblings). As far as responsibilities go, just look south of the border, you'll find one of the most irresponsible president on the planet... Being president gives you the freedom to choose how much responsibilities you want to take on, and then you can offload on the rest of the executive.

Anywho, if you have ideas on how our club should run, if you have a couple of hours to spare once a month, or even if you're just interested in all the rewards being a president has to offer, don't hesitate and give us your name.

The second topic of my ramblings has to do with next month's general meeting. At our next meeting, on Thu Mar 15, 2007 at 19:30 EDT (don't forget, we have to advance the clock on Mar 11 this year, thanks to George), Martin, VA3SIE, will give us a presentation on his portable QRP antenna designs. This is also going to be Home Brew night. For those who are not familiar with this event which we hold once a year, this is a contest where all the participants bring one (or more) home-made projects. Judges rank the projects and prizes are awarded. Although most projects are related to amateur radio, some are quite esoteric (like André's dowsing rods used to find buried electrical wires and José's slinky antenna). The only requirement is that you've put up the project yourself, or you're using an already existing product (like a slinky) in a new fashion. If you have a good idea, bring it at our next meeting!

Finally, I know I'm a bit late, but I would like to congratulate Bob Sharp, VA3QV, who received the Jerry Wells award in January and our students who also graduated in January. And one last congratulations for Robert, VE2AGE, one of our club members, who received the Joe Norton 2006 award at the OARC meeting last December.

That's it for my ramblings. 73!

Jean VA3JCN out.

RAC Director's Report

1 February 2007

by Dave Goodwin VE3AAQ
Director, Ontario North/East,
Radio Amateurs of Canada

As of 1 January, I am now your representative on the Board of Directors of RAC.

This is the first of what I intend to be monthly reports to Amateur Radio Clubs in Northern and Eastern Ontario. This will be one means by which I can keep RAC members informed of my activities on your behalf. Please consider this an invitation to contact me with your concerns and comments about RAC and Amateur Radio.

Just before I assumed office, I spoke with Bill Unger VE3XT of Thunder Bay. Bill graciously agreed to serve as an Assistant Director. Bill is well-known and well-regarded, especially among Amateurs in Northern and North-western Ontario, and brings innumerable strengths and experience to RAC.

On 16 January, I participated in the monthly RAC Board meeting by telephone conference call.

The single most important matter that came up was a report from a committee led by RAC Mid- West Director Bj Madsen VE5FX recommending a significant restructuring of Amateur Radio licensing in Canada. The key recommendation was to create a new Foundation Licence as an entryway into Amateur Radio. Many of you may have worked stations in the UK signing M3, MM3, MW3 or MI3 call signs. These are new Amateurs licenced under a process that became a model for the committee's recommendation. The full details of this proposal should appear on the RAC website in February.

I agree with the proposal, although my mind is still open to other opinions.

The key things I find attractive are:

- there is a clear requirement for any new Amateur to have a mentor, someone who will help guide the new ham's first steps in Amateur Radio
- a practical test will require the prospective Amateur to actually demonstrate the basics of connecting up equipment and antennas
- just to take the exam, a prospective Amateur must have made a certain

minimum number of contacts on both HF and VHF+ made under the guidance of a licensed Amateur

- licences expire with no renewals after three years. To upgrade to a higher, permanent class of licence, a Foundation licensee must produce a log showing at least 250 contacts getting an Amateur licence will require an investment of time and energy not only by the new Amateur, but by established Amateurs as well.

The RAC Board have asked that committee for recommendations on its implementation. The Board have not yet officially adopted the report as RAC policy, and we have not yet recommended it to Industry Canada. There's still plenty of time for you to comment, and I want to hear from you.

RAC HF Band Planning Committee

Sadly, this committee went very quiet at a critical time: our former committee chair simply failed to communicate with the members over a prolonged period. Consequently, when the major changes in US sub-band allocations on 80, 40 and 15 metres, RAC was caught flat-footed. The committee has been re-ignited by our new chair, Bob Nash VE3KZ of Milton ON.

Bob is supported by a group of dedicated HF operators from coast to coast, including Ontario representative John Connor VE3TG of Ottawa. You can contact either Bob or John with your suggestions or concerns using their @rac.ca or callbook addresses.

The matter of interference to Canadian 80m SSB nets was raised by RAC President Earle Smith VE6NM, who was a guest at the ARRL's annual board meeting in January. There have been clear cases of deliberate interference to some Canadian nets by a very few US Amateurs. RAC anticipates ARRL will take effective action on these matters very shortly.

I'd like to remind one and all that no net has any contracted right to any particular frequency at any particular time. The first person on any particular frequency at any particular moment is the only one with any priority. If a traditional net frequency is occupied by someone else at net time, you may ask the occupant to move, but if they decline, it is responsibility of the net controller to find another frequency for that session of the net. Politeness and courtesy works both ways.

RAC Staff Changes

In November, RAC lost one of our greatest strengths. Debbie Norman VA3RGM, RAC's long-serving General Manager, passed away from cancer. Debbie's corpo-

rate knowledge can never be replaced. Amateur Radio, and RAC in particular, were extremely fortunate to have such a skilled, agreeable person handling the business side of keeping RAC going.

We are also losing the services of Guy Charron VA3FZA, who has retired to pursue his many other interests. Guy was a long-time volunteer at RAC HQ, then a part-time employee, and latterly worked virtually full-time at the RAC office over the last several months. He has been a tremendous source of strength.

We have a new Treasurer: Dave Parks VE3AV of Ottawa, a former RAC Assistant Director, has taken on this critical volunteer job at a key moment in our transition. It takes money and good money management skills to keep an organisation like RAC working, and Dave bring a great deal of relevant professional experience to the task.

For now, the RAC office has some temporary assistance and the RAC Executive is working hard to come up with new ways to operate our Headquarters. We will always depend on volunteers for many things, but permanent, well-trained, professional staff are key to RAC's future success.

On the volunteer front, RAC is looking to fill a new executive position: Vice-President Public Relations (VPPR).

Appeal for new members

If you are a RAC member, thank you so much. Your membership fees do a great deal to sustain RAC in its critical ongoing mission to protect, defend and expand Amateur Radio. You also support RAC in providing services to Amateurs across Canada, such as advocacy with Industry Canada, bi-monthly issues of TCA Magazine and the QSL Bureau system, to name but a few.

If you are not a RAC member, please join. We need your help. I have been a ham for over thirty years, since I was a teenager, and I intend to keep at it at least as long.

I see RAC membership as the best insurance that I can continue to enjoy my hobby forever more. I think \$52.95, including GST, it is a bargain to get a TCA subscription, all those essential RAC membership services and a long-term future for this great hobby.

In this region I will try to get out to several clubs in our region as I can, but realistically, I'm probably not to get much beyond the Ottawa-Kingston area, due to costs and real-life commitments (I'm still a wage slave, you see). But I do want to hear from

you, both members and non-members of RAC.

Please contact me by phone, mail or e-mail. 73,

Dave Goodwin VE3AAQ
PO Box 27084
Ottawa ON K1J 9L9
VE3AAQ@rac.ca

March 15th General Meeting

1. Home Brew Night - get your projects ready to enter and maybe you will win a prize!
2. There will also be a presentation by Martin VA3SIE about his portable and pedestrian mobile QRP antenna designs.

Continued from page: 1

Disqualification

Disqualification will result if stations break the rules of the contest or the rules under which they are licensed to operate.

Some example situations that would invoke disqualification are:

- Use of a repeater to pre-arrange contacts.
- Using the 2m calling channel 146.52MHz
- Not following the band plan - do not forget the simplex frequencies are effectively 'channelized'. Do check the band plan.
- Intentional interference to other users, contesters or not.

Awards

Awards will be given to the highest score in the following categories:

- highest scoring base station (a portable station will be consider as base station),
- highest scoring mobile station,
- highest scoring newcomer.

(A newcomer is defined here as someone licensed in the last 18 months. This allows graduates from the last two OVMRC classes to aim for this award. Note: this award does not preclude the same station

The Carl & Jerry Adventures

The Carl & Jerry adventures from Popular Electronics in the '50s and '60s are being republished in anthology form (5 books). For more information, see: <http://www.copperwood.com/carlandjerry.htm>

Cheers!

73s from VA3MWL
Matthew Lange

from winning any of the other awards.)

- Contact over the longest distance (fill in your furthest QSO on your summary sheet).
- New for 2007 highest score made with a homebrew antenna. Please briefly describe your antenna when you submit your score sheet and log.

Awards will be in the form of a certificate.

All scores will be published in the Rambler.

Not got a 2m FM transceiver?

In the spirit of having fun and meeting club members it is encouraged that club members that would otherwise operate solo (base or mobile) team up with a member who has not got 2m capabilities. A pair operating as a team can submit a single entry form under both names/callsigns. To help with log checking though please use only one callsign for QSOs.

A list will be kept of club members willing to share their station with another member, or members looking for a station to operate with. These lists will only contain club members.

Finally...

Have fun and if you are a mobile unit be safe on the road.

For further information or questions see:

Alan Steele VA3STL (va3stl@rac.ca) or
Gerry Trotter VA3GLT (va3glt@rac.ca)