



The Bureau is looking for...

by Beth Webster, VA3CEW

The Bureau is looking for...

VE3ETT Mildred La Rose

VA3AV Gordon Chambers

VA3AJL Andri Lafleche

VA3UN Dale Hennigar

The VE3 QSL Bureau has QSL cards for the above, but no mailing funds. If the hams would like the cards forwarded, the hams should each send in \$5.00 and six self-addressed adhesive labels (not the small "return address" type) showing their callsigns above their names. If they do not want cards, please inform the VE3 QSL Bureau and the Bureau will return all QSL cards back to the senders.

VE3 QSL Bureau
Box 157
Downsview ON M3M 3A3

g.westhouse@sympatico.ca
(Gary Westhouse, VE3NIT)

Canadian Ski Marathon

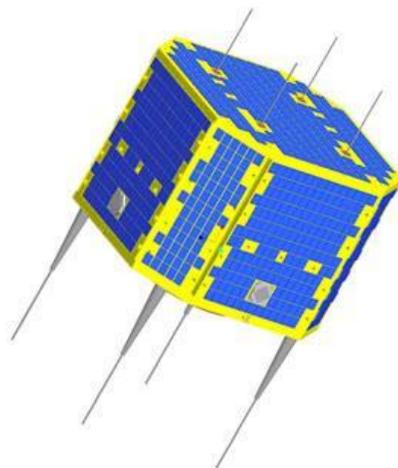
Once again the Canadian Ski Marathon is spooling up. This year we are looking forward to much more "normal" conditions and by that I mean snow!

The CSM depends on ham radio volunteers to provide important and timely safety and logistical communication for the benefit of the skiers. The amateur radio CSM web page (<http://www.radio-1.ca>) is up and running with 2010 information. The event runs between Buckingham and Lachute in western Quebec - snow or shine.

If you would like to volunteer this year, please email Harold VA3UNK (radio1@admin2.ca). Although I can't promise anything, assignment requests are generally first-come, first-served.

**Please join me the
second weekend in
February (13th-14th)
and help make 37th our
best year yet!**

CHINA - AMSAT NEW PARTNER



HO-68

On December 15, 2009, just last month, China launched and commissioned their first Amateur Radio satellite, which is now available to the Amateur Radio community worldwide.

The launch took place from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre of China, on a CZ-4C rocket. The HW-1 (Chinese designation) satellite settled on a circular orbit with an inclination of 105 degrees at 1200 kilometres of altitude for a 109-minute orbit. It weighs 50 kilograms and its dimensions are 680mm by 432mm.

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OVMRC Executive 2009-2010

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For information about the duties and responsibilities about all Executive and Chair positions, please visit the OVMRC forums, Member section or contact any member of the Executive.

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 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 Incorporated 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, 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:

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HW means, "HOPE" in Chinese. It had been requested that the OSCAR designation retains the word HOPE. Therefore, the new satellite was accorded the designation HOPE-OSCAR 68 or HO-68 by AMSAT-NA OSCAR Number Coordinator Bill Tynan, W3XO.

Congratulations to AMSAT-China and to Alan Kung, BA1DU, Amateur Satellite Project Manager and Chief Executive Officer of AMSAT-China.

At the VE3JW Amateur Radio Exhibit station, located at Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa, we had a first opportunity to work through HO-68 on Jan 9, 2010. The 1715 UTC pass allowed contacts with Kerry, WC7V in Montana and Mark, WA8SME in California. Excellent signals were reported from the satellite 1-watt retransmissions.

We also copied its beacon at 435.790 MHz. This transmission is only at the 200-miliwatt level but nevertheless, it was heard clearly all the way down to 0.5-degree elevation. The beacon is a Morse code transmission that goes like this:

BJ1SA XW XW AAA TTT AU4 TBE
TTT (8 times) XW XW

Later on, the AMSAT-China web site will give more details on the beacon information at:

<http://www.camsat.cn>

This new HO-68 satellite has an FM transponder and a Single Side Band linear transponder. For the schedule of availability of either transponder, see the above noted web site which lists the on and off times of the transponders according to regions. Otherwise listen to the downlink for FM on 435.675 MHz and for SSB/CW on 435.765 MHz.

The FM transponder uplink requires a PL tone of 67 Hertz to talk through on 145.825 MHz (Uplink) but not on the SSB Linear transponder on 145.925 MHz (Uplink).

Mode V/U is also used for the Packet BBS operating at 1 watt and which you will find at 145.825 MHz (AFSK 1200 BPS) Uplink, and 435.675 MHz Downlink.

Enjoy working or monitoring this new satellite as well as all the other Amateur Radio satellite available for your experimentation, your enjoyment, and your accomplishment of awards. An introduction course on Amateur Radio Satellite Communications is available free of charge at VE3JW.

Maurice-Andre Vigneault, VE3VIG

AMSAT Field Operations
Coordinator

About XW-1

Satellite Type: Microsatellite

Apogee: 1200km

Perigee: 1200km

Inclination: 105

Period: 109

Local time of descending node:
21:30

Weight: 50kg

Dimension: Φ 680mm×432mm

Mode V/U (J) FM Voice

Repeater (30 dbm (1 w)):

Uplink: 145.8250 MHz FM, PL
67.0 Hz.

Downlink: 435.6750 MHz FM

Mode V/U (J) Linear

Transponder (Inverting) (30
dbm (1 w)):

Uplink:145.9250 - 145.9750
MHz SSB/CW

Downlink:435.7650 - 435.7150
MHz SSB/CW

Mode V/U (J) PacSat BBS (30
dbm (1 w)):

Uplink:145.8250 MHz AFSK
1200 BPS

Downlink: 435.6750 MHz AFSK
1200 BPS

Mode Beacon (23 dbm
(200mw)):

Downlink:435.7900 MHz CW

OVMRC AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY - JUNE 26-27, 2010

by Larry Wilcox VE3WEH and
Michel Barbeau VE3BPM

What is Field Day?

Amateur Radio Field Day is an annual event of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) in conjunction with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). It is always held during the last full weekend of June. Field Day is open to all amateurs in the areas covered by the ARRL/RAC Field Organizations and countries within the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2. DX stations residing in other regions may be contacted for credit, but are not eligible to submit entries. The objective of Field Day is to work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-metre bands).

Why a Field Day?

There are several reasons for Field Day to happen. Above all, it is an activity during which we do what we like the most: communications over amateur radio. During the 27 hours of the Field Day, the amateur radio frequencies are live and busy, like no other time during the year because it is by far the largest amateur radio communication event. It is an ideal time to make contacts with

fellow amateurs in Canada, US and all over the world.

Field Day is a learning experience during which you can experiment, learn and improve skills for setting a station and operate under different modes. The set up of many types of towers, beam antennas, dipole antennas, kitchen and radio tents and other radio equipment begins on Saturday morning. At exactly 2:00 P.M., we go "on the air" for the next 24 hours until 2:00 P.M., Sunday.

Field Day helps us learn to operate in abnormal situations and less than optimal conditions. A premium is placed on developing skills to meet the challenges of emergency preparedness. Participants are strongly encouraged to deploy their station in a location other than their usual place, away from the base, and to use alternative sources of electrical power. Hence, Field Day is an occasion to exercise our ability to set up a station in conditions that occur during natural disasters where communication equipment has to be deployed at temporary locations where normal electrical power is not available. Field Day is an exercise where our state of adequate preparation is verified in case a real emergency occurs. Should an emergency ever arise in our region, local Radio Amateurs would immediately provide emergency communications whenever, wherever, and for as long as is required. For example,

vital emergency communications were provided by volunteer Amateur Radio operators throughout the duration of the Ice Storm of 1998.

Field Day is a competitive event where qualified amateurs of Canadian and American Amateur Radio clubs and individuals, set up their radio equipment in various locations to test the readiness of "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications." If you don't want to compete, Field Day can just be an occasion to make contacts, exchange information and have fun with your fellow amateurs.

Field Day simulates operating under emergency conditions. It is a good chance to demonstrate our capabilities to the local authorities and to the public. We generate our own electric power using generators, batteries and solar power and operate our radios from our communication trailer and tents to protect ourselves from adverse weather and mosquitoes. Bonus points are granted to reward efforts to acquaint the general public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio. Moreover, it is an occasion to get new people interested in our hobby.

How does it work?

It is important to know that during Field Day, Amateur Radio stations are placed into six classes, A, B, C, D, E, or F. You log your contacts

and send your log to the ARRL, and will compete with the other stations of your class as listed in Table 1. In addition to portable or mobile operation, Canadian and American Amateurs also operate from their home station.

According to the class, several transmitters may be in operation concurrently at the same station.

Class	Type of station
A	Portable with three more transmitters
B	Portable with one or two transmitters
C	Mobile
D	Home
E	Emergency operation centre

Table 1: Classes of stations.

During a contact, in addition to call signs, you exchange three items of information, namely, the number of transmitters, letter class and location. On phone for instance, a Field Day exchange looks like the following. Firstly, I would call CQ as follows:

“CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day, from Victor Echo Three Echo Mike Bravo.”

If you are operating a one transmitter home station (Class D) in Ontario and VE3WEH replies you respond:

“This is Victor Echo Three Echo Mike Bravo, please copy one delta Ontario.”

You should get a response, “This is

Victor Echo Three Whiskey Echo Hotel, please copy one Delta Ontario, good luck in the contest.” Due to noisy conditions on the band, you may have to repeat your coordinates several times in order to complete the contact.

You may decide to operate in one of the digital modes, such as PSK31 or RTTY. The structure of the dialogue is similar, but actual words are not transmitted. You may send a general call as:

CQ FD de VE3EMB K

A station replies as:

VE3EMB de VE3WEH K

You send:

VE3WEH 1D ON DE VE3BPM K

You receive:

VE3EMB 1C ON DE VE3WEH SK

Then you log the contact. The final objective for all during the 24 hour event is simple. Contact as many stations as possible during the 24 hours of operation. The final score results are submitted to the ARRL and are published in QST, one of the ARRL’s monthly magazines.

Past OVMRC Field Days

Some of our interesting highlights over the years regarding the Field Day were recorded by Ed Morgan VE3GX as follows.

JUNE 1959 - The OVMRC participated for the first time in a Field Day.

JUNE 1960 - The second club Field Day was held. We placed second in the two transmitter class. Twenty operators worked six bands to pile up a total of 494 contacts and a score of 3126 at Camp-Y. There were 246 contacts on CW and 248 on phone.

JUNE 1961 - Billings Bridge Shopping Centre was the location for a 75 metre, mobile whip tune-up. The OVMRC also entered the three transmitter class during the Field Day and came first in Ontario, fourth in Canada and 28th in North America in a field of over 200 clubs.

JUNE 1962 - The OVMRC came “First” in Canada in the two transmitter class. We gained extra points using the “under 30 watt” multiplier and were 18th in North America in a field of 228. There were only 8 operators so it was quite an accomplishment. Our very first “First.”

JUNE 24-25, 1967 - Club placed second in our class in the Canadian field of 14 during Field Day

JUNE 24-25, 2000 - We held Capital Region FD2000, under call sign VA3RAC. It was a record setting 35 Alpha stations on the air under the direction of Field Day Coordinators Glenn McLeod VE3GLN & Fernand_Pierre

Cyrenne VE2GPF held at the National Museum of Science and Technology, Ottawa. There were 152 people participating, with 35 transmitters in simultaneous operation.

The following are extracts from the December 2000 QST © ARRL Magazine

Seven Clubs + 2 Languages + 6 Months of Planning + A Pinch of Crazy = Success
By Glenn McLeod, VE3GLN

What started as a wild idea at a New Year's Day celebration, turned out to be one of the best Field Day efforts ever attempted, any way you look at it. According to the old saying, anytime you have three hams in one community you end up with two clubs. Imagine the networking necessary to bring seven active clubs together for a Field Day extravaganza. But through long hours of hard work and cooperation, seven clubs—the Capital Region DX Club, the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club, the West Carleton Amateur Radio Club, Emergency Measures Radio Group, and Le Club de Radio Amateur de l'Outaouais—came together to organize, plan and execute the largest Field Day operation ever—35A. When all the dust had settled, over 200 persons—planners, operators, support personal—had contributed to the event. We paid

great attention to small details during the planning. Many think it is an RFI nightmare to put a 3A station on the air within a 300-metre circle. Well, try managing three transmitters (CW, phone and digital) on the air simultaneously on 1.8 MHz through 432 MHz. Now throw in various assorted UHF bands, a satellite station, a Technician station, an APRS and ATV demonstrations!

One of the early tasks was securing the support of various agencies and corporations within the Ottawa Hull area. The Canada Science and Technology Museum which houses a permanent communications exhibit including an operational Amateur Radio station, agreed to allow the group to use their grounds. Agencies of the Canadian Federal Government became involved, providing Canadian Forces tents to house transmitter sites, and the Communications Research Centre (CRC), which allowed the group to borrow enough tower sections to set up 22 10-metre towers across the site. The CRC also provided the power-distribution system. The Defence Research Establishment Ottawa, provided the satellite antennas. Other support was also provided by many commercial concerns. Finally, the cities of Ottawa, Hull and Gatineau all recognized the event by declaring Amateur Radio week in their communities. Site planners Brice, VE3EDR, Ernie, VE3EJJ, and Clare, VE3NPC, developed a workable

station layout. Near-field radiation patterns were plotted and used to avoid any transmitter being placed in another near field. Getting three 160-metre antennas into a small area is not an easy task. (We finally decided to erect two dipoles at right angles at the far ends of the site, and a 160-metre GAP vertical). In addition, band pass filters were used to further reduce RFI.

At 1800 UTC on Saturday, June 24, under the watchful eye of Michael Binder, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry Canada, Capital Region Field Day 2000 was declared open. All 35 transmitters were on the air at the start of the operation and remained operational for the Field Day period. A total of 152 operators participated. Yes, Murphy did participate, too, but his challenges were met. Mother Nature decided to make certain things go along "swimmingly" as well (with several inches of overnight rainfall). But nothing could diminish the outcome of what was truly an extraordinary Field Day. The Capital Region Field Day 2000 will stand for quite a while as a tribute to the ingenuity and planning skills of the operators "north of the border" in Ontario and Quebec. Six months of planning brought together seven clubs in the Ottawa Hull, Canada area to put together a record-setting number of transmitters in simultaneous operation during the Field Day event. When VA3RAC was officially declared operational at

1800 UTC on Saturday, June 24, 35 stations went on the air simultaneously from the grounds of the Canadian Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa, the Canadian national capital. In addition, a qualifying Technician station and VHF station were also operational from the beginning of the event. A total of over 190 operators, governmental and agency officials, and visitors participated in a one-of-a-kind experience.

OVMRC Field Day 2010!

This year, Field Day is an ideal time for us to test all our communication capabilities and our equipment and to train new members of our service. Field Day provides a common focus for our service which encompasses young and old alike from all walks of life.

You are invited to participate, attend and experience our OVMRC 2010 Field Day which takes place June 26 and 27. Visitors are very welcome. Come out and help or watch our Members set up their equipment in the Technology Park of the Canada Science and Technology Museum, 1867 St Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, Ontario.

The Chair for this special event is Peter Noel (VE3DPN). You are more than welcome to contact Peter to inform him about your desire to participate and inform him of what you are willing to do during Field Day. We need Phone and CW Operators, loggers, and

many other members to assist with set up to make this a very successful Field Day. Please contact Peter by email at: dp_noel@yahoo.com.

RAC Bulletin 2010-001E Haiti Earthquake

Important information for all RAC Members:

On Tuesday, January 12 at 4:53 PM, Haiti time (2153) UTC a magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit 15 kilometers west of Port-au-Prince, the nation's capital.

Communications in and out of Haiti have been disrupted. The RAC requests that all Canadian Hams be aware of the emergency operations on the following frequencies: 7.045 3.720 MHz (IARU Region2 Nets), 14.265, 7.265 and 3.977 MHz (SATERN Nets), and 14.300 MHz (Intercontinental Assistance and Traffic Net). The International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC) is also active on EchoLink node 278173.

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January 2010 Guest Speaker

On January 21st, 2010 we will be joined by Guest Speaker: Bertrand Zauhar, VE2ZAZ who will be presenting to us on the subject of EME, entitled: "A Beginner's View of Easy Moonbouncing". Please mark your calendars to ensure you attend this fascinating aspect of our hobby.

For dates and times of our meetings visit our web site, www.ovmrc.on.ca

SEE YOU THERE!

The next OVMRC executive meeting is scheduled for January 28th.