



VE3WEH and VA3OFD

At Field Day 2010

As Field Day 2010 came to a close on June 27th, we realized that the holders of callsigns VE3WEH and VA3OFD were both present with us in the persons of Cindy and Graham. In fact, shortly after Tom "Ottawa Fire Department" (OFD) passed away some time ago, Graham, VE3GBD applied for his callsign VA3OFD and is now the present holder of it.

Cindy, VE3EQU, Larry's daughter, immediately applied and was awarded her father's callsign "We Eat Hamburgers" (WEH).



In the pictures, we can see Cindy in the 20m tent making several contacts for the OVMRC VE3RAM team on SSB voice, accompanied by Patrick, VA3CMD, who was logging for her.



It was a pleasure to host Cindy who came around at noon on Sunday and handled the 20m station for a while. It was even nicer to hear her say that she intends to become more active with the Club and she mentioned that we could save her a spot for the 2011 Field Day.

Graham visited us on Sunday as Joe, VE3EUS brought him in, He was active on 20m SSB voice and Joe logged a bundle of contacts for him then took him around to the other stations.



It was easy for Graham to operate the Kenwood TS-570D as it is the same unit that he used in his residence.

Another guest was Roger, VE3NPO, who came in on Sunday morning and gave it a good go on 20m SSB voice while Patrick, VA3CMD was doing the logging.



We had some other guests visiting, some choosing just to look around.

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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.

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Bill Wilson, VE3NR (SK)

OVMRC Repeaters

147.300 MHz(+)

444.200 MHz(+)

Amateur Radio Exhibit VE3JW

Web site:

ovmrc.on.ca/ve3jw.htm

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.

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MINUTES, OVMRC GENERAL MEETING,

June 17, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President, Michel VE3EMB, called the meeting to order at 19:40. There were 35 people in attendance.

All regular business was deferred so that the Club might celebrate the contributions made by the late Larry Wilcox (VE3WEH) in service of the Club, in service of the local amateur radio community, and in service of the broader community.

2. GUESTS

Members of Larry's family and members of High Horizons, a volunteer organization providing recreational opportunities to the physically handicapped and to which Larry was an active participant, were invited as special guests. Larry's family was represented by his wife Paulette, their children Bill, Cindy (VE3EQU) and Susan, as well as by Paulette's sister, Aline. High Horizons was represented by Audrey, June, Kitty, Lillian, Toni and Yvonne.

3. PROGRAM

3.1 Amateur Radio Accomplishments of the Late Larry Wilcox (VE3WEH)

Michel welcomed the special guests and introduced each one of them to the Club. He outlined the program for the evening.

Joe VE3EUS presented an overview of some of Larry's many accomplishments in service of the amateur radio community. That text appeared in the June 2010 edition of the Club newsletter, the Rambler at <http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Ram2010-06.pdf>.

Cindy VE3EQU read a poem entitled Don't Quit written many years ago by Larry. That poem which reflects the essence of Larry's philosophy of life appears on the Club website at <http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/larry-wilcox-ve3weh.htm>.

June introduced Lillian who described the objectives of High Horizons in serving the physically handicapped in the region. Both of their late husbands were amateur radio operators. Lillian talked about the many contributions that Larry made to High Horizons in his role as friend of the handicapped, secretary, entertainer, teller of jokes, auctioneer and member of the choir. She also reminded the audience of the long-standing association of amateur radio operators from the Club with High Horizons. In addition to Larry, these include Paul

VE3NPD, the late Jerry Wells, Graham VE3GBD, David VE3ZZU and Joe VE3EUS.

Graham VE3GBD played Last Post, one of Larry's favourite pieces of music from Graham's large repertoire on the harmonica.

Maurice-André VE3VIG presented a large collection of photographs entitled Larry at Work, Awards and Good Times. These photographs documented the many facets of Larry's involvement in amateur radio with the Boy Scouts, the Girl Guides, the blind, the Club executive, Field Day, lighthouse/lightship weekend, the Champlain Trail and many other special events. They also documented some of the public recognition which Larry obtained for his dedication including receipt of the Jerry Wells OVMRC Amateur of the Year Award, receipt of an award for contact with the International Space Station and receipt of a plaque marking 1,500 hours of volunteering at the Club station VE3JW.

Chris VA3SM presented the family with a CD of selected photographs of Larry in various amateur radio roles over the years.

Members of the audience were then afforded the

opportunity to share some of their memories of Larry, and several of them did.

Michel VE3EMB concluded the meeting by thanking all guests and members for attending this celebration.

4. UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Club executive will be held on Thursday, June 24, 2010 at 19:00 at the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

Field Day will be held June 26 and 27, 2010 near the lighthouse on the grounds of the Canada Science and Technology Museum.

Because the Museum is closed for maintenance during part of September, the next general meeting of the Club will likely be held on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 19:30. This is one week later than normally scheduled.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 20:40.

6. SIGNED

Joe VE3EUS, Secretary

NOTICE

RAMBLER NO LONGER DISTRIBUTED BY SNAIL MAIL

At the meeting held on January 28, 2010, the Executive of the Club decided that, starting in September 2010, the Rambler would no longer be distributed by snail mail.

Signed Joe VE3EUS,
Secretary

Ramblings

*By Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB
President, OVMRC*

Summer 2010 is almost gone. I hope you had a good one. On the amateur radio side, I used my summer spare time to brush up my CW skills. With CW, there is always room for improvement.

In June, we had a wonderful Field Day on the grounds of the Canada Science and Technology Museum. I would like to thank all the club members and guests who made this event a success. They are numerous. I officially recorded 30 active participants, not counting the visitors. We operated a 4A station and made a score of 938 QSO points together with 820 bonus points. The 4A designates a four-transmitter station set up specifically for the Field Day,

not at a regular station location and independent of commercial power. We got 400 bonus points solely due to the use of emergency power. We also obtained bonus points for our set-up in a public area, handling of NTS traffic, receiving the W1AW message and Web submission of our results. We made a total of 469 contacts, after deletions of dupes. We had many visitors. The museum is a great venue for that. A big thank to the students of the Carleton University Amateur Radio Club for coming. For more details, please read online Field Day reports authored by VA3QV (va3qv.wordpress.com/2010/06/29/field-day-2010-report/) and VA3STL (va3stl.wordpress.com/2010/07/04/cuarcs-first-field-day).

In August, the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend had been another fun adventure. This time, weather wasn't on our side at all. On the Saturday, we managed to operate a station for a few hours. We operated SSB and PSK-31. We made 23 contacts in total. Six of them were with registered lighthouses: four in US, one in Canada and one in Scotland. I would like to acknowledge the commitment of Joe (VE3EUS) and Bob (VA3QV) in the organization of this

event. Bob has posted a lot of pictures on the event on his blog (va3qv.wordpress.com/2010/08/22/1st-set-of-pictures-from-lighthouse-event).

Our first meeting this fall is September 30th at 7:30 PM. We will hand out the prizes to the winners of the last Show n Tell competition. The budget for the new club's fiscal year will be presented. Finally, we will proceed with the election of the new club's executives.

We are starting a new year. The first meeting will be the time to register with the club. You may download the membership form from the club's website (www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Membership-Form.pdf) and fill it out before the meeting. Please provide your RAC membership number. As a RAC affiliated club and we obtain insurance coverage through their policy. We pay our premium according to the ratio of RAC and non-RAC members in our club. The more members of OVMRC who are also members of RAC helps reduce our fees to RAC. Please help us by joining RAC before the next meeting (if you are not a member already). The OVMRC membership fees have not changed: \$20.

We are looking for speakers for the various club meetings over the next fiscal year. If you are interested to give a talk on amateur radio or any other related topic, please let me know.

Meeting Reminder

Just a short reminder that the next OVMRC meeting is to be held on Thursday, September 30, 2010 at the Science and Technology Museum, 19:30h. Since we are beginning a new season it will be time to register with the club. Be sure to download the membership form from the website www.ovmrc.on.ca/Rambler/Membership-Form.pdf and be sure to fill it out. This should include your RAC membership number. As you know, we are a RAC affiliated club which means we obtain insurance coverage through the RAC policy. We pay our premium based on the ratio of RAC and NON-RAC members in our club. The more members of OVMRC who are also members of RAC helps reduce our fees to RAC. Please help us by joining RAC before the next meeting (if you are not a member already). Our membership fees have not changed, so bring a \$20 bill and a few toony's for the door prizes/draw.

June Door Prizes

Last June we had our outdoor Show n' Tell meeting, which was held in the parking lot of the Science and Technology Museum. I am told that there are five(5) winners, and prizes are to be awarded to same. If we announced that you are a prize winner, please ensure you attend the next OVMRC meeting on September 30, 2010 to collect your prize.

2010 Club Meeting Dates:

- September 30
- October 28
- November 18
- December 16 (Christmas Party)
- January 20, 2011
- February 17
- March 17
- April 21
- May 19
- June 16

2010 Exec Meeting Dates:

- September 9
- October 7 (auditorium)
- November 4
- December 2
- January 6, 2011
- February 3
- March 3
- April 7
- May 5

Continued from Page: 1

I had a simple set up to cover the 20m band only, with the possibility to work CW, SSB phone, and PSK31 (which we did not use).

The first thing to go up was the fully protected screen shelter to keep us out of the drizzle. Then, we combined two 18-foot painter's poles for a centre-hold of the 20m inverted-V dipole. We used a 1 to 1 current balun at the top end. 50 feet of coax was enough to bring it into the tent.



Chris, VA3SM and Michel, VE3EMB are helping to set up.

Next, the generator was set up. This is a small 1000 watts four-cycle, very quiet, Honda generator, enough to run the Kenwood TS-570D. A grounding rod was installed at the back of the tent, and a deep-cycle marine battery for back up was brought in.



A radio table and logging table were put in place and we then set up inside. The radio was the trusty Kenwood TS-570D used during the Champlain Trail Expedition. The generator fed a Daiwa 35A Power Supply. A ground, antenna coax, microphone, CW paddle and speaker were installed, making the station ready to go.



Arriving just shortly after noon for our set-up, we had about a half-hour wait before the 2pm start signal. The tent and the antenna were the two time-consuming chores, but the whole set-up can be ready in 45 minutes.

Ed and Doreen Morgan, VE3GX and VE3CGO came to visit on each day but did not sit down to log a few QSOs. They were just happy to witness others handle the situation. David, VE3ZZU was around all through the activities and provided us with some fine pictures of the event.

Here is a picture of the 20m tent as it stood at the beginning of the event.



Fortunately, the rain did not show up after the 2pm start. I had put in for the 2 to 8pm shift on Saturday and for the 8am to 2pm shift on Sunday, a total of 12 hours of operation. Even with breaks and time to address visitors, we managed the most contacts for one of four stations. The heavy part was done on CW. We had 77 CW contacts and 55 SSB phone contacts.

Operators at the 20m tent were:

Maurice-André VE3VIG,
Wayne VE3QO,
Joe VE3EUS,
Graham VE3GBD,
Roger VE3NPO,
Patrick VA3CMD,
Cindy VE3EQU.

And finally, thanks to Tim for being nearby, we did not need a kitchen.



73, till next year! Your 20m band captain.

“VE3JW 2010” Project Completion

At the beginning of the year, OVMRC embarked on a project to renovate and enhance our Amateur Radio Exhibit station located at the Canada Science and Technology Museum in Ottawa. The project was named “VE3JW 2010”.

It consisted mainly of acquiring radios, antennas, and display monitors. A budget was presented and accepted by OVMRC. We then presented the project to the Museum’s Administration in order to gain support. With the Museum’s acceptance, the budget was then split. OVMRC bought the radios and antennas, and CSTM bought the monitors.

We now have in service and operation a D-Star radio ICOM ID880H, an SDR (Software Defined Radio) Flex-Radio 3000, three 19 inch LCD computer monitors and a huge, 55 inch, Toshiba LCD display screen. The radios were installed by your VE3JW volunteer team and the Museum’s technicians mounted the main screen on the centre wall of the exhibit.

In the first few days, we immediately noticed the increase in interest by visitors, who were more numerous and stayed longer at the exhibit chatting with our volunteers. A project that surely enhanced our presentation of Amateur Radio and associated activities. We’re all looking forward to many exciting hours spent demonstrating and operating state-of-the-art, cutting edge communications technology.

An ALPHA-DELTA 40/80m coil loaded dipole antenna was mounted on the roof of the Museum and we still have to gather a small crew to put up a dual band Cushcraft X50A vertical for D-Star application on the same roof. The Flex-3000 uses the same 7-element beam as the TS-850, through a two position antenna switch. Both radios are in the same bay and they share the same power supply. Only one of these radios is used at a time. The Flex-Radio is especially adapted for digital modes.

There are a few loose ends to tie up, a possible ARISS display, an ExHammer, wireless mouse and earphones, automatic continuous CD or DVD, but hey! we have to keep busy with a view to improvement.

Thank you OVMRC. Thank you CSTM. Good luck DXing to all our volunteers. Come join in the fun, there’s a place for you.

Maurice-Andre Vigneault,
VE3VIG

Amateur Radio Exhibit
Group VE3JW

MONTHLY MERIT AWARDS at VE3JW

June 2010 results (not counting Field Day)

1. Best SSB - VE3VIG to KI4QVZ, >2000 km

2. Best CW - none in June

3. Best HF Digital - VE3EJJ to UA3ON, <7700 km

4. Best Satellite - VE3OIJ to WD9EWK, > 3200 km

5. No IRLP / Dstar recorded.

* 5 QSO list for June: VE3LTN, VE3EJJ, VE3OIJ, VE3VIG

* Most contacts for June: VE3LTN - 15

* Total QSOs at VE3JW - 53

Volunteers hours for June:

8 regular operators totalled 132 hours and 45 minutes.

The reason for listing regular operators this month is that there were no guests operators during the month. As more guests show up and log contacts, the regular operators will be dropped from this list. This first publication is to give you an idea of what goes on at your Amateur Radio Exhibit station. Please visit us and log some contacts. We now have the D-Star and the SDR radios in operation. Come get acquainted.

JULY RESULTS

Here are the results for the VE3JW Monthly Merit Award for the month of July 2010.

Contacts made by Guests and Visitors:

1. Best SSB QSO (Distance): VE3GDB to TI8II, 4032 km

2. Best CW QSO (Distance): W2IG to VO2RP, ~1000 km

3. Best HF Digital QSO (Distance): VE3VCF to YO5OEF, 7035 km

4. Best Satellite QSO (Distance): No Satellite logged

5. Best D-Star QSO (Distance): No D-Star logged

Contacts made by regulars ops:

6. Best SSB QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to UT7UV, 7176 km

7. Best CW QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to 5N7M, 8760 km

8. Best HF Digital QSO (Distance): VE3OIJ to UA3PI, 7330 km

9. Best Satellite QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to WC7V, 3115 km

10. Best D-Star QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to M0GRU, 5328 km

* Five QSO list for July 2010: VE3OIJ, VE3VIG, W2IG.

* Most contacts for July 2010: Guest op, W2IG - 6, Regular op, VE3VIG - 54

* Total QSOs at VE3JW for July 2010: 95.

Volunteers hours for July 2010:

This month our operators have totalled 137 hours and 55 minutes.

All are welcome to join in.

AUGUST RESULTS

August was a slower month at VE3JW. Although we had many visits by members of the public, we had no guest operators in August. Consequently, we had a lower than usual number of contacts, and they were all made by the usual team of volunteers.

That said, there were some good operating conditions in August, and we got to make some nice

contacts. TA3AX in Turkey has been very active lately on CW and digital modes. We had a good opening to South America on 21 August as well. Russia and Ukraine have also been providing some long-range contacts. August results

Contacts made by Guests and Visitors:

** no guest operators **

Contacts made by regular ops:

6. Best SSB QSO (Distance): VE2AGE to KD4CMV, 1888 km

7. Best CW QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to TA3AX, 7757 km

8. Best HF Digital QSO (Distance): VE3OIJ to LU1BR, 9060 km

9. Best Satellite QSO (Distance): VE3VIG to KL7XJ, 5013 km

10. Best D-Star QSO (Distance): none logged

Looking at the log, a number of special event stations were worked through the month as well.

*Five QSO list for Aug 2010: VE3LTN, VE3HAZ, VE3OIJ, VE3VIG.

*Most contacts for Aug 2010: Guest op, none - Regular op, VE3VIG 35.

Good work all, and let's see some visiting operators making contacts!

*Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG
Amateur Radio Exhibit Group VE3JW
Canada Science and Technology Museum*