

# Rambler

Newsletter of the  
Ottawa Valley Mobile  
Radio Club  
Incorporated



Mar 2011

Edition 55

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## President's Ramblings

Radio astronomy and amateur radio was the topic during the last OVMRC meeting, at the Science and Technology Museum. The topic was eloquently presented by Glenn, VE3XRA. Now, everyone knows what the XRA suffix in his call sign means. Thanks Glenn!

The ARRL has released their information about the 2011 Field Day. The full 2011 ARRL Field Day information packet is available for download on the ARRL web site ([www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2011/2011\\_FD\\_Packet.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2011/2011_FD_Packet.pdf)). Field Day this year is June 25-26. Our Special Events Chair Bob VA3QV is leading the organization of the OVMRC participation in the event. We need help and please do contact Bob to offer your skills and time if you are available. Without a doubt, Field Day is one of the most interesting events you can experience in amateur radio. The bands are very busy and contacts are easy to make. There are aspects of the hobby that you can learn only during Field Day. I was amazed last year by the creativity of some of our members in the deployment of their antennas.

On the agenda of the upcoming club meeting, we have the amateur radio course graduation ceremony and Home Brew Evening. Bring and present your latest amateur



Glenn, VE3XRA talking about radio astronomy and amateur radio at the February OVMRC Meeting.



The ARRL logo for Field Day 2011.

radio project. There will be prizes for winners. It is March 17, 7:30 PM at the Museum of Science and Technology. See you there!

Michel Barbeau, VE3EMB  
President  
[michel.barbeau@sympatico.ca](mailto:michel.barbeau@sympatico.ca)

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

The club's web site is hosted by:

**Magma Communications Ltd.**

[www.ovmrc.on.ca](http://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 (SK)

## OVMRC Repeaters

147.300 MHz(+)

444.200 MHz(+)

## Amateur Radio Exhibit

### VE3JW

Web site:

[ovmrc.on.ca/ve3jw.htm](http://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.*

Submit articles to the editor or by e-mail to:

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**Visit the OVMRC Store**

**at**

**<http://www.cafepress.ca/ovmrc>**

# MINUTES GENERAL MEETING

**February 17, 2011**

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Beth VA3CEW called the meeting to order at 19:35. There were 17 people in attendance.

## 2. GUESTS

Reg VA3REG

## 3. PROGRAM

### 3.1 Radio Astronomy

Glenn VE3XRA, a former radio astronomer and a member of the Club Executive, presented an illustrated talk entitled Radio Astronomy and Amateur Radio.

From the time that man first looked at the night sky until relatively recently, visible light provided the only window on the universe. Then, just before World War II, exploration of the universe started using radio signals. The new science of radio astronomy was born. This was made possible, in large part, by the work of a few amateur radio enthusiasts.

Glenn described the key roles played early on by Grote Reber (W9GFZ) and John Kraus (W8JK) and, later, by Joe Taylor (W1JT), in detecting, measuring and interpreting radio signals from space. These individuals laid the foundation for the field that is now producing the most dramatic discoveries about the nature of the universe. Their enthusiasm for electronics and for communications, combined with their ability to design and build their own equipment, allowed them, literally, to go where no one had

gone before. Now techniques for weak signal detection inspired by the demands of modern radio astronomy are finding their way into amateur radio.

Glenn talked about some of the major discoveries made through the investigation of celestial objects using radio frequencies. The initial discovery of emissions from the Milky Way in the early 1930s was followed by the discovery of quasars (quasi-stellar radio sources) in the 1950s and then by that of pulsars in the late 1960s. Later, radio astronomers began to actively search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI).

In 1932, Karl Guthe Jansky (1905-1950), a physicist then investigating static interference with a directional antenna at the Bell Telephone Laboratories, detected radio signals with a period of 23 hours and 56 minutes. He eventually concluded that these signal were emanating from the Milky Way.

Subsequently, in 1937, Grote Reber (1911-2002), a radio engineer, detected signals coming from near the centre of our galaxy. This confirmed the discovery made by Jansky. The instrument used by Reber was a home-brewed 9-meter dish installed behind his home. His instrument represents the first significant use of a parabolic reflector for a radio antenna. In 1944, Reber produced the first sky map of radio frequencies. He published his results without peer review because there were no other individuals at that time who understood both, astronomy and electronics. Today, many see the legacy of Reber in the array of dishes used for communications.

In the late 1950s, Dr. John D. Kraus (1910-2004), a physicist, designed and built the "Big Ear" radio telescope at Ohio State University. As an avid amateur radio enthusiast, he continued to operate throughout his life. He wrote articles in amateur radio magazines from the 1930s until the early 2000s. He invented the helical antenna and the corner reflector. Kraus wrote the definitive textbooks on both, radio astronomy and antennas.

More recently, Dr. Joseph Hooton Taylor Jr., who was born in 1941, received the Nobel Prize for physics in 1993 along with his graduate student Russell Alan Hulse for the discovery of binary pulsars. However, Joe Taylor is best known among amateur radio enthusiasts for the development of WSJT (Weak Signal Processing by W1JT), an open-source computer program designed to process weak signals. WSJT supports several other programs optimized for specific modes of propagation such as FSK441 (for meteor scatter), JT65 (for Earth-Moon-Earth) and JT6M (for ionospheric scatter).

Glenn kindly provided extensive references to the key topics covered in his talk:

Karl Jansky:

<http://www.enotes.com/earth-science/jansky-karl>

[http://www.nrao.edu/whatisra/hist\\_jansky.shtml](http://www.nrao.edu/whatisra/hist_jansky.shtml)

Grote Reber:

[http://www.nrao.edu/whatisra/hist\\_reber.shtml](http://www.nrao.edu/whatisra/hist_reber.shtml)

<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2003BAAS...35.1472K>

[http://www.enotes.com/topic/Grote\\_Reber](http://www.enotes.com/topic/Grote_Reber)

John Kraus:

<http://www.naapo.org/W8JK/W8JK.htm>

<http://www.nrao.edu/archives/Kraus/kraus.shtml#Biography>

Joe Taylor:

[http://nobelprize.org/nobel\\_prizes/physics/laureates/1993/taylor-autobio.html](http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/laureates/1993/taylor-autobio.html)

[http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/Moonbounce\\_at\\_Arecibo.pdf](http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/Moonbounce_at_Arecibo.pdf)

<http://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/>

The New Astronomy: Opening the Electromagnetic Window and Expanding our View of Planet Earth: This book can be downloaded at no cost from:

<http://ebookey.org/The-New-Astronomy-Opening-the-Electromagnetic-Window-and-Expanding-our-View-of-Planet-Earth-repost-1077269.html> or from [filesonic.com](http://filesonic.com).

A number of Club members had already heard Glenn speak on the subject of amateur radio and radio astronomy at other venues. Nonetheless, they came to the meeting to hear again Glenn speak on this fascinating subject. Thank you Glenn.

## 4. REPORTS FROM CHAIRS

### 4.1 Amateur Radio Exhibit

Darin VE3OIJ reminded amateurs that they are welcome as volunteer operators or as guest operators.

Licensed amateurs operating at VE3JW are not required to pay the admission fee to the Museum.

Contact Darin to make the necessary arrangements.

### 4.2 Amateur Radio Training

Ernie VE3EJJ reported that the amateur radio course offered by the Club was nearly finished and that the final examination would be held on March 1, 2011.

### 4.3 Historical

Ante VA2BBW reported that he was still in the process of familiarizing himself with the information contained on a large number of CDs and other material documenting the history of the Club. He intends to publish some of his findings in the Rambler.

### 4.4 Membership

Joe VE3EUS reported that 59 amateurs were members of the Club for the fiscal year starting on September 1, 2010 and ending on August 31, 2011. Further to the motion passed by members at the January 20, 2011 general meeting of the Club, the membership application form was revised to reflect the new fee schedule. A copy of the revised form was published in the February issue of the Rambler. A number of badges ordered by members remain to be picked up. Anyone else who wants to order a badge should see Joe at the membership table.

### 4.5 Program and Publicity

Michel VE3EMB reminded members that Home Brew Night would be held at the next general meeting of the Club. Prizes will be awarded to meritorious home brewers. As well, a ceremony will be held for the graduates of the amateur radio course offered by the

Club. Recent graduates of the satellite course will receive their certificate.

### 4.6 Special Events

Bob VA3QV informed members that the Larry Wilcox Memorial 2 Meter FM Contest would be held on Saturday, May 7, 2011. This event takes place during the weekend prior to the Smiths Falls Flea Market. Rules of the Contest will be published in the March issue of the Rambler. As well, Bob requested that members come forward to participate in the Field Day Committee. The Club plans to operate a 2-Alpha or a 3-Alpha configuration. Issues that need to be addressed by the Committee include venue, networking of logging programs and the deployment of a mess tent. Those interested should contact Bob as soon as possible.

### 4.7 Treasurer

Beth VA3CEW reported that there was no major departure from the Club budget with the exception of insurance. The cost of liability insurance sponsored by Radio Amateurs of Canada was over \$400 compared to a budgeted amount of \$150. The variance is due to the unforeseen increase in premiums.

### 4.8 Webmaster

Chris VA3SM reported that the Club website is running smoothly. Anyone not receiving the newsletter should sign up on the Club website.

## 5. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

### 5.1 Videos of Club Events

André VE3CLW inquired about the possibility of borrowing videos of Club events. These videos are

available at the Club station, VE3JW.

## 6. PRIZES

Proceeds of the 50:50 ticket sales were \$30.00. The 50:50 draw (\$15.00) was won by Michel VE3EMB. Michel graciously donated his winnings to the Club. Thank you Michel.

André VE3CLW won the door prize, a set of multi tools. That prize was supplied by the Club.

## 7. UPCOMING CLUB MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Club Executive will be held at 19:00 on Thursday, March 3, 2011. The next general meeting of the Club will be held at 19:30 on Thursday, March 17, 2011. This meeting will feature a ceremony for the graduates of the amateur radio course offered by the Club as well as Home Brew Night. All are encouraged to bring their home brew projects.

All meetings take place at the Canada Science and Technology Museum, 1867 St Laurent Boulevard, Ottawa, Ontario. All local or out of town radio enthusiasts are welcome to attend.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 20:50 at which time many of the attendees proceeded, as is customary, to the local coffee shop to talk radio.

## 9. SIGNED

Joe VE3EUS, Secretary

## VE3JW in February

VE3JW was very busy in February and all who participated deserve well-earned kudos. DX conditions have improved markedly and we have more operators who have joined the VE3JW team. The Museum has been taking a greater interest in the station as well, so it's great to have these kinds of results when people are watching!

### February Results

#### Made by Guests and Visitors:

- 4. Best Satellite QSO (Distance): VE2SUD to VE8EV, 4115 km  
Made by regular ops:
  - 6. Best SSB QSO (Distance): VE3EUS to ZS1MOK, 13200 km
  - 7. Best CW QSO (Distance): VE3VCF to S9D4, 9409 km
  - 8. Best HF Digital QSO (Distance): VE3HAZ to US2MP, 7735 km
  - 9. Best Satellite QSO (Distance): VE3OIJ to EA3GP, 6022 km
- \* Five QSO list for February 2011:  
VE3BUX, VE3VIG, VE3VCF, VE3EJJ, VE3HAZ, VA3CMD

#### Most contacts for February 2011:

- Guest op: VA3US, 4
- Regular op: VE3BUX, 54

\* Total QSOs at VE3JW for February 2011: 153

#### Volunteers hours for February 2011:

This month our operators totalled 206 hours.

Well done everyone!

Darin Cowan, VE3OIJ  
Manager VE3JW

## D-STAR IS WELL AND GROWING

Most of you have heard about D-Star (Digital Voice Mode) by now. A couple of years back, Doug VE3XK and his group, the Ottawa Digital Group, came to an OVMRC meeting to present this new project that included a VHF repeater, a UHF repeater, and a 1.2 GHz L-band repeater. OVMRC chipped in some money to help the project along.

Early trials from the VE3JW station with a personal hand-held D-Star capable radio did not fare well as the system was still being debugged. But, we did not give up. In 2010 we planned for and permanently installed a D-Star mobile unit capable of 50 watts.

Since then, many enjoyable contacts and time spent on the upgraded system have been accessible from the VE3JW station. New stations have been popping up all over this region and also Canada-wide.

It is possible to reach out to other regions and around the world using a linking system either to a reflector accommodating a large number of connections, or directly to another repeater. Canada, the US, and other continents are reachable with a simple command from your radio.

Dongles are being used to connect into the system via the Internet. The advantage of the dongle is that some regions do not have to wait until a repeater is set up for their area. It is widely prevalent in Europe where some regulators do not fully adhere to this free system. But, the UK, Belgium,

Luxembourg, Switzerland and Italy are well established with the D-Star system.

HotSpots have been added in the Eastern region and in the Western region of Ottawa providing more range for our repeater which is located in the center of the city.

Many Nets have popped up and are well attended. I, for one, participate in no less than six D-Star Nets. Starting on Tuesday evening at 8 P.M. I connect into reflector REF0005B and report in to the Quebec Net which also airs on Thursday evening equally at 8 P.M.

On Friday evening at 9 P.M., the CAN NET, a Canada-wide and international net reaches out from coast to coast, into the USA, the UK and Australia (it's noon time down there) all connected through reflector REF016B. During this net, there is a segment dedicated to all Francophones. A controller from Montréal takes over the net for a short time.

On Saturday morning, at 8:30 A.M., The CAPITAL NET also reaches out to the world through the same reflector REF016B. Interesting to note that the Mar 5, 2011 net was visited by stations in Ontario, the USA, the UK, our VE3EFF vacationing in Costa Rica, and, for the first time, from Japan. Gregg JO3SLK, near Osaka, perked up the net with his check-in. He was using one of the original repeaters that started it all in Japan. It's a four-repeater system, all connected through a 10GHz link. After the net, I connected directly to his repeater invoking the command /JP3YHJB for the linking

process. We chatted until a quarter past midnight, his time.

Then, at 10am, on Saturday, I join the D-Star International Francophone Net which welcomes all Francophones and Francophiles around the world. A very popular net. Amazing to witness the growth of D-Star in many areas, Montréal, Trois-Rivières, Québec City and around the world. All this on reflector REF005B.

On Sunday evening, 8 P.M., the Ohio State Net takes place, and there we meet many participants of our own nets and may hear scoops from the Dayton crowd. There are many other nets and they are listed at "[www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx](http://www.dstarinfo.com/nets.aspx)"

Local Ottawa activity is increasing as more stations join in. Alan, VA3STL, has a club at Carleton U and they are set up with a station. Students experiment with the many facets of Amateur Radio including D-Star. I tuned them in and connected from home and from the Museum VE3JW station as they came on at various times.

The students have shown interest in the D-RATS software that we can use on D-Star. It allows for the transfer of files, data, images, maps and includes several formats for messages. You can beacon your station and send position reports which are shown on a map system. There is also provision for chatting keyboard to keyboard via RF. D-Star and D-RATS are an excellent combination to enhance an emergency communications network.

It's time for you to join in the fun of advanced Amateur Radio. We are now working on the possibility of

putting D-Star in space. At VE3JW, we will enter into discussions about acquiring a 1.2GHz system for high speed data. Come see us at the Canada Science and Technology Museum for a glimpse at D-Star.

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG  
VE3JW volunteer

## OVMRC Course – Week 21 – The Final Session

Well this is it. The course is finished and all of the scheduled exams are written.

Congrats to all who passed their respective examinations! Ken and Kirk wrote the advanced exam and passed, so they join the fraternity of advanced licensees. And Ean met his objective of passing the Basic exam with honours!

I'd like to take a moment and thank the Club and all those individuals who made this year's session such a great experience:

- Our fearless leader, Ernie (VE3EJJ) whose wisdom and patience has no bounds. This man is truly dedicated to the hobby and offers an incredible wealth of information. Every week I would look forward to spending an evening with Ernie, and I would relish the opportunity to chat with him after the class.
- Darin (VE3OIJ) whose humour and technical sophistication are a perfect match for the format of the course. I was really pleased to see a familiar face when I showed up to the first lecture, and truthfully a bit

sad to see that Darin wasn't a "full time" instructor for the course. I hope that in the future he might consider wearing the instructor's cap – he'd do a great job of it.

- Bob (VE3SUY) is a gentleman and a scholar who lends his unique expertise in electronics to the course in a fantastic manner. There were many times when Bob would offer up a subtle snippet of wisdom that would be easily lost in the complexity of his profound understanding of the material. I often kept my pen ready for these hidden gems.
- Michael (VE3QMC) whose expert discussion of the regulatory material made 25% of the Basic exam more accessible to the radio amateur neophyte. Michel would come prepared to answer some tough questions and was always willing to offer multiple explanations of his answers.
- Ralph (VE3BBM) provided us an insight into the nature of EMC and interference issues, helping to underscore the importance of understanding this often confusing topic. It was very nice to have such expertise on-hand to speak with us.
- Michel (VE3EMB) who taught us the basics of digital communication modes in amateur radio. This topic was of particular interest to me because of my love of computers, and so it was nice to have an expert

in the field give such a great lecture.

Now that the course is finished, I will not know what to do with myself on Tuesday nights. For months now, I had the radio course to look forward to! I suppose it is now time to look for something to fill that void. It's sad really. I think that I'll ask about auditing next year's course – I really am that big a nerd! 73 to all, and thanks for reading!

**James Buck** [james@ve3bux.com](mailto:james@ve3bux.com)

All of James' articles regarding the OVMRC Course can be found at <http://ve3bux.com/>

## The Bureau is looking for...

by Beth Webster, VA3CEW

The Bureau is looking for...

### VA3AJL Andri Lafleche

The VE3 QSL Bureau has QSL cards for the above, but no mailing funds. If the ham would like the cards forwarded, he should send \$5.00 and six self-addressed adhesive labels (not the small "return address" type) showing his callsign(s) above his name. The Bureau will supply the mailing envelopes at cost. If he does not want the cards, he should inform the VE3 QSL Bureau and the Bureau will return all QSL cards back to the senders.

Gary Westhouse, VE3NIT  
VE3 QSL Bureau  
Box 157  
Downsview, ON, M3M 3A3  
[g.westhouse@sympatico.ca](mailto:g.westhouse@sympatico.ca)

## Time-limited exemption for amateur radio operators

13. (1) Until January 1, 2013, drivers who hold a valid radio operator certificate issued under the Radio communication Act (Canada) may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while holding or using a two-way radio.

(2) This section is revoked on January 1, 2013.

Are you happy with this? Do you even care? If so, get on the OVMRC forum and say something about it. We need to hear from **YOU!** The sooner we discuss, the sooner we can actually do something about it. Here are a few tips..

1. contact your local MPP, ask him/her what you can do to have this section revoked.
2. contact your local emergency group(ARES?) The gov't needs to hear from other parties that need us. It adds credibility
3. contact RAC [rachq@rac.ca](mailto:rachq@rac.ca)  
RAC is your national voice. They have successfully lobbied in Manitoba, and presently lobbying in New Brunswick, and in NW Territories.

**Make your voice be heard.  
Make some noise!**

## **RAC Bulletin 2011-004 E Request for Information, Interference from Plasma Television Sets.**

According to members of the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, noise and signals originating from Plasma Screen digital television set are causing considerable interference to their HF activities and have asked RAC for help. Complaints of this nature require specific and detailed information before RAC can consider taking this matter to Industry Canada. To gather this information, RAC invites its members that own a Plasma Screen television to report their experiences of interference from such products. Specifically, reports should describe the make and model of TV, a description of their HF station and antenna system and the exact nature of the interference (what bands, what sound etc). Remedies should also be tried and reported such as using ferrite chokes on power lines cords and signal cables if interference is detected. Amateurs with advanced instrumentation such as spectrum analyzers and calibrated antennas should measure signal intensity levels at given distances; these measurements will add credibility to our investigation. We also want to know from amateurs that can attest that operation of their own plasma TV causes no noticeable interference to their amateur radio operations. All digital domestic equipment, including Plasma and LCD television sets must comply with Industry

Canada standard ICES 003 (interference causing equipment standard for digital equipment) to be marketed in Canada. Alternately, TV sets with tuners may be certified under Industry Canada BETS 7 standard. Please indicate in any report submitted that a label on the TV or notation in the manual indicates it is indeed certificated and compliant under current issues of ICES 003 and/or the BETS 7 standards.

Send reports to Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, VP Industrial Liaison, [ve3lc@rac.ca](mailto:ve3lc@rac.ca)

## **RAC Bulletin 2011-005E Results of the 2010 IARU HF World Championship.**

The results links are available at:

<http://www.iaru.org/contest.html>

Thanks to Dave Sumner, K1ZZ for the information.

Forwarded by:

Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA  
Vice-President International  
Affairs,  
Radio Amateurs of Canada

## **North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for March, 2011**



The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on February 24, 2011 starting at 2330Z. The main item discussed was implementing changes to the membership categories. The two main categories will be Full Membership and Associate Membership. Within each class there will be sub-groups for various levels of support. The one new class of Full Membership I would like to highlight is "Maple Leaf". This allows a licensed Amateur to show their support for RAC by opting for a \$100 membership and in turn they will get special recognition and a small token of appreciation. If you think you may be able to support RAC at that level please give Chris a call at RAC Headquarters for more information. The toll free number is

1-877-273-8304

The first issue of the electronic "RAC Report" has been emailed to all members; if you have not received a copy please let me

know. If you have, let me know what you think.

As you all know Amateurs in Ontario have an exemption under the Distracted Driving Legislation, until January 1, 2013. With an election looming now is the time for all Amateurs in the Province to push for a complete exemption to this legislation. Based on experiences in other provinces we need to have letters of recommendation from outside organizations and individuals that we provide services to. This would include groups that sponsor community events of all types. If you are involved with your community's Emergency Preparedness group a letter from them would be wonderful. It would be especially beneficial if they can mention that we support their group while operating from our mobiles. We need to come across as trained, professional communicators providing a service to our communities.

While I won't discourage individual letters or petitions from Amateurs, I believe they will have the least benefit. We must convince the legislators that we provide a valuable service to many organizations and that without our services their events may not occur. If you want to contact the Minister a letter has more impact than an email.

Your letters of support should be addressed to Kathleen Wynn the Minister of Transportation

for Ontario, her contact information is:

*Honourable Kathleen O. Wynn  
Don Valley West  
Ministry of Transportation  
3rd Floor, Ferguson Block  
77 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z8*

Also remember to send a copy of any correspondence to your local MPP's, Premier Dalton McGuinty and me as well. If you have any questions or concerns please email me at [ve3xt@rac.ca](mailto:ve3xt@rac.ca).

Bill VE3XT, North East Ontario Regional Director

## **NEXT MEETING**

**17 March  
19:30 Hrs**

**Canada Science &  
Technology Museum**

**Graduation**

**&**

**Home Brew**

**See You There !!!**

### **Rambler Article Submission Schedule:**

Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor: [Robert Cherry](#) no later than the dates below:

**April 8<sup>th</sup>**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

### **Club Meeting Dates:**

**March 17<sup>th</sup>**

**April 21<sup>st</sup>**

**May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**June 16<sup>th</sup>**

### **Executive Meeting Dates:**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

**May 5<sup>th</sup>**

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## OTTAWA VALLEY MOBILE RADIO CLUB LARRY WILCOX MEMORIAL 2M FM (VOICE) SIMPLEX CONTEST

### *REVISED RULES FOR 2011*

The contest will start on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 1000 hrs Eastern Time and will run for duration of 4 hours finishing at 1400 hrs Eastern Time.

By participating in this event you agree that you are participating at your own risk and expense.

By participating in this event you agree with the following:

No operating from your vehicle while vehicle is in motion (mobile)

*Rovers must be set up in a safe location before operating. Please remember the Laws as they pertain to Private Property and act accordingly.*

You will watch out for overhead wires and other obstructions before setting up any antennas to be used in this event.

### Category Definitions

**Fixed Station**- For the purpose of this contest a Fixed Station is defined as your home station. (You are operating from home)

**Portable Station**- For the purpose of this contest a Portable Station is defined as a station you are operating from that is not at your home. A portable station must operate from the same location and not change locations during the contest

**Rover Station**- For the purpose of this contest a Rover Station is a Portable Station that changes locations during the contest. A Rover Station may not operate while moving.

**Mobile Station**- For the purpose of this contest mobile operators are not invited to participate. The mobile category has been discontinued this year. Contacts with "mobile stations" will not be counted in this contest.

**FOR THIS CONTEST THE ONLY ALLOWED MODE IS 2 METER FM SIMPLEX VOICE. NO DIGITAL, NO DUPLEX, NO REPEATERS, NO DIGITAL VOICE... 2 METER FM SIMPLEX VOICE ONLY.**

Although you are allowed by the IC regulations to operate anywhere in the 2m band (144.000 – 147.999) it is *suggested* that you operate on one of the following frequencies which would be more in line with the RAC Band Plan and local repeater inputs (which we want to avoid)

146.415, 146.445, 146.475, 146.490, 146.505

146.535, 146.550, 146.565, 146.580, 146.595

147.420, 147.450, 147.480, 147.510, 147.540, 147.570

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### **Operating in the Contest:**

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 “CQCONTEST” or work stations making such calls.

### **Pre-arranging contacts by use of repeaters, telephones, internet 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 Rover station which has moved to a different city location (see details of what is a ‘location’ in the next section).

### **Rover 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 a rover and moved to another location. Work another station first and then it is possible to make a repeat contact but only if the rover 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: call sign, contact number, location (use the city electoral ward or district for this). If you are operating VE3RAM or VE3JW then you would also let the person know you contact that you are one of the “Club Stations”. If you are an OVMRC Member please advise them as well.

Rover 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://ottawa.ca/city\\_hall/ward/new\\_structure/index\\_en.html](http://ottawa.ca/city_hall/ward/new_structure/index_en.html)

#### **Gatineau:**

[http://www.gatineau.ca/page.asp?a=culture&c=fr-CA&p=histoire\\_cartes\\_statistiques/cartes](http://www.gatineau.ca/page.asp?a=culture&c=fr-CA&p=histoire_cartes_statistiques/cartes)

Scroll down to Districts électoraux.

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

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.

## Scoring and Multipliers

Contact made with OVMRC Club Station- 25 pts (VE3JW and/or VE3RAM)

Contact made with OVMRC Member – 5 pts

Contact made with non-member – 1 pt

## Power Multipliers

You can claim the multi for the highest power level used during the contest. If you made 25 contacts and only one was at 50w and the rest were at 1w then you get to claim the 50w multi (2) for all contacts

51w to 100w – 1

26w to 50w – 2

11w to 25w – 3

6w to 10w – 4

1w to 5w – 5

Below 1w – 6

**OVMRC MEMBERS BONUS MULTIPLIER - 1**

**RAC MEMBER BONUS MULTIPLIER - 1**

**CITY WARDS COUNT AS ONE MULTI FOR EVERY WARD YOU HAVE CONTACTED**

## Calculating Scores

Member Contacts + Club Stations+ Non Member Contacts = SUB TOTAL

**SUB TOTAL X TOTAL NUMBER OF MULTIS = TOTAL SCORE**

## Longest contact

In the event two or more stations claim the same distance for the longest category the winning station would be the station claiming the highest power multi (i.e. Lowest Power Level). If after the event is still tied, then the glory will be shared and a tie declared.

Logs are to be submitted by the end of the May OVMRC Meeting so the Judge can check scores. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the June OVMRC Meeting.

Logs can use the following format:

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# Entry Form Larry Wilcox Memorial 2m FM Contest

Category (Fixed, Portable or Rover): \_\_\_\_\_

Logs for Station: \_\_\_\_\_ /Operator: \_\_\_\_\_

OVMRC Member Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_ X 5 Points = \_\_\_\_\_

Non Member Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_ X 1 Points = \_\_\_\_\_

Club Station Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_ X 25 Points = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points: \_\_\_\_\_

OVMRC Member Multi: \_\_\_\_\_ RAC Multi: \_\_\_\_\_

Power Multi:- \_\_\_\_\_ City Wards Multi: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Multis Claimed: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points (From above): \_\_\_\_\_

My Claimed Total Score (Points X Multis) is \_\_\_\_\_ Points

My furthest contact was contact # \_\_\_\_\_ between \_\_\_\_\_ and myself for an approximate distance of \_\_\_\_\_ kms.

I understand the Judge's decision is final

My logs follow below

Contact #	Station Contacted	City Ward	OVMRC Member	CLUB STATION
0	SAMPLE	99	NO	NO
00	SAMPLE 1	98	YES	NO
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				

USE EXTRA SHEETS IF NEEDED LOGS CAN BE SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL USING THE SAME FORMAT TO VA3QV@RAC.CA

Ottawa Valley Mobile  
Radio Club,  
Incorporated



P.O. Box 41145  
Ottawa ON K1G 5K9

MEMBERSHIP FORM

- The membership year starts in September and runs to the end of August of the following year.
- Regular membership is open to licensed amateurs.
- Associate membership is open to all unlicensed radio enthusiasts.
- Membership includes an e-mail subscription to the Club newsletter, the OVMRC Rambler.

Date: **PLEASE PRINT**

RENEWAL       NEW       CHANGE       OVMRC NAME TAG (COST \$10.00)       No       Yes

Call Sign	Surname	Preferred First Name
Street		Apartment Number
City	Province	Postal Code
Home Phone	Work Phone	E-mail Address
Are you a member of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> RAC ID: _____ Expiry Date: / /		

- Full Membership (Not a Member of RAC)**      \$35.00/year
- Full Membership (Member of RAC)**      \$25.00/year
- Associate Membership (Unlicensed)**      \$15.00/year

Amount Enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque  Cash

My Interests are:       VHF/UHF Phone       VHF/UHF Digital       VHF/UHF CW  
 Satellite       HF Phone       HF Digital       HF CW

Current Occupation:  
If Retired, Former Occupation:  
Skills: (Please list them all)

COMMENTS

OVMRC NAME TAG – ORDER DETAILS

First Name:

Call Sign: