

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Oct 2014

Edition 59

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President's Rambling

The current word is that our temporary accommodations at

the Canada Aviation and Space Museum (CASM) will be extended into the New Year. There have been no updates in the local papers or news channels about the status of the CSTM. I'm not sure if 'no news is good news' applies however, I miss my sessions at VE3JW. The CASM staff have been very accommodating, making sure we had and knew how to use the visual aids and access to the class rooms.

"Christmas is coming and the goose is getting fat", sounds like a seasonal song however this is a heads-up for our Christmas dinner that's scheduled for Thursday evening on December 18th. We need to know if you are going to attend for planning purposes with the restaurant. We have scheduled accommodations at Louis Steak House, www.louissteakhouse.com/ it's the same place where we had an excellent meal and social gathering last year. The only

business/fun portion of the evening will be the opening of the OVMRC Time Capsule from the 2002 time period. Currently the Time Capsule is at the CSTM and will be retrieved soon. The retrieval process will be something like this; a request for the item, schedule time to enter the "contaminated" CSTM, have the item decontaminated and declared "safe" for handing without protected clothing.

Please note this evening is open to all interested persons, especially current and past members. I think that there are people who contributed to this "Time Capsule" who would enjoy the anticipation of the responses related to the content. I am sure there will be some surprises. Please send your attendance response to me via email (dah542@gmail.com).

Thanks to José Campione/VE3PCJ, for his very interesting presentation and antenna display relating to QRP activities. His experience and interest in this field of amateur radio was amplified within his detailed (Continued on [page 3](#))

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Meeting Date

Club Meeting:

**Nov 20th
Thursday**

TECHNICAL CLINIC

Norm/VE3LC

OVMRC Executive**2013-2014****President:**

Sandy Haggart, VE3HAZ

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OPEN

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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

• **KENWOOD ELECTRONICS
CANADA INC.,**
Mississauga, ON

• **TRAVEL-MOR TRAILER SALES,**
Ottawa, ON

• **PEPPERS RADIO SALES,**
Rockland, ON
Email: peppersradio@videotron.ca
WEB site: www.peppersradio.net

The club's web site is hosted by:

**PRIMUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
CANADA INC..**

www.ovmrc.on.ca

**Visit the OVMRC Store
at**

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

OVMRC Life Members

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

OVMRC Repeaters

VE3TWO

147.300 MHz(+)/100

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.

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

*[Robert Cherry, VA3AOD](mailto:Robert.Cherry@VA3AOD)
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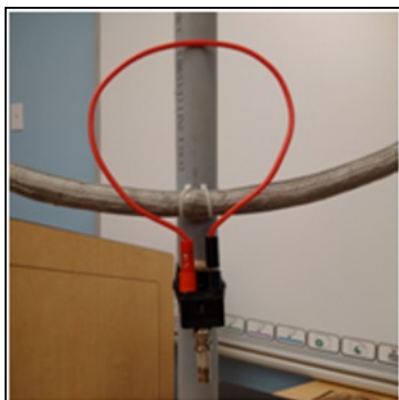
(Continued from [page 1](#))
 power point and presentation.
 (Photos by David/VE3ZZU)



1 The Hoola Loop Antenna



2 The Tuning Capacitor



3 The Inductive Loop

The fun is to experiment and design antennas with readily available

parts like a 1950s era hoola-hoop, electrical conduit boxes/parts, braided grounding wire expanded over the hoola-hoop along with a standard tuning capacitor, balun (4/1) and having the patience to make it work. An important aspect of experimenting and building is the information interchange with fellow amateur radio operators. José mentioned the support and input from fellow experimenters, Ernie Jury/VE3EIJ, Bob Shaw/VE3SUY and Bob Sharp/VA3QV.

To top off the evening, José donated door prizes that were won by Joe Lemieux/VE3EUS (TiniTrack V3 kit) and the W2NAN G5RV antenna was won by Michel Barbeau/VE3EMB who incidentally won the 50/50 draw.

Project Control Tower: An update: The initial presentation by Maurice André /VE3VIG was well received and has been discussed at other management levels within the CASM as a desired exhibit. As with most efforts associated with government dollars it will take some work to get to the final stage. The Maurice-André team of interested individuals and other amateur radio clubs, OVMRC

being one will explore different phases of the project to be implemented in achievable steps. One such phase is to integrate Amateur Radio communications capability with the International Space Station (ISS) under the NASA's ARISS program. This fits very well in to the CASM summer space camp program. More information to come on this topic as it unfolds. Interested people may contact Maurice-André Vigneault (VE3VIG@ncf.ca) or me (dah542@gmail.com).

OVMRC needs a "Secretary" to keep our information and meeting content that is more accurate than my memory. So please lend a hand-- it would be appreciated.

73 Sandy VE3HAZ

Technical information:

It pays to read the installation notes at least once to minimize 'frustration'. My effort to install Winlink, the HF Email application, was frustrated by a simple Note 1: statement:

DO NOT install the software in a directory that does not conform to DOS file names. For example,

DO NOT install the software in the Program Files directory. The blank in the directory name will cause problems.

What this means is the NTFS file system doesn't work, the 'old' formatting FAT file systems does. So after a few off and on days of working this problem, I formatted a USB memory stick as FAT and installed all programs on it and wow, all worked as advertised. It tested very well from a Winlink HF station in Florida to my brother, Ross, who's on his yacht in the South Pacific using Winlink as his only communications of this type when he's outside the WiFi world, which is most often these days. He's enamored with the South Pacific off the grid environment, people and culture. If you are interested here is his WEB site/blog www.onewhitetree.ca/index.php/map.

It pays to keep notes on what and the order changes are made on your PC with respect to your radio operations. For example, adding USB drivers for experiments on not so new PCs using current supported windows OS like Windows 8.1. I lost my digital capability for about 2 weeks before I was able to find well hidden back level USB drivers for my RIGblaster Pro USB connection. I was ready to send the unit back for 'repairs' before James/VE3MYZ told me that the RIGblaster was a solid piece of equipment. I refocused on the USB driver changes I made and solved the problem. What I learned was don't make PC changes without testing to see if the primary PC function (amateur radio functions) aren't affected. Even at my age/experience I am still learning the basics, hi hi.

What have you found or read lately that might be interesting to others. Write it up and send the information to the Rambler Editor, Robert Cherry (cw527@ncf.ca) even if it is an URL

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Hello everyone.

September 1st marks the beginning of the Club fiscal year. Membership fees are due this month. Fees for Full Members who belong to RAC are \$25.00, fees for Full Members who do not belong to RAC are \$35.00 and fees for all unlicensed radio enthusiast are \$15.00.

The Club membership form was revised during the summer. The current version of that form is available in the back of the Rambler. If you cannot attend the first meeting, please consider mailing your cheque to the Club address as shown below.

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated
P.O. Box 41145
Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 5K9

I look forward to welcoming all returning members and all new members at the membership table prior to our October meeting.

Joe VE3EUS, Membership Chairman

OVMRC Meeting Announcement

November 20th, 7 PM, Aviation Museum Classroom

Technical Clinic

1. Test the performance of your FM Gear

Bring your FM portable and mobile gear and have its performance tested to evaluate:

- Receiver 12 dB SINAD sensitivity evaluation criteria using Measurements model 800 calibrated RF signal generator.
- RF power using an accurate RF power meter.
- Transmit deviation. Are you over or under deviating? We will have available a deviation meter.
- Modulation acceptance of FM receiver. (At what deviation does squelch close?)
- Is your radio on-frequency?
- What is the amount of harmonic output of your FM transmitter determined by a Rigol DSA 815 Spectrum Analyser.
- Any defects in your FM portable radio antenna. Evaluate SWR and return loss test of portable radio antenna on test ground plane jig.
- HF portable radio "S" meter evaluation accuracy using XG3 RF signal generator. Bring your small portable or mobile HF transceiver and suitable power supply.

We will test and record the performance of your rig on an evaluation sheet and you can compare it with other radios at the meeting.

2. Help Installing Software for NooElec SDR Dongle and Up-Converter

Also, for those that purchased the SDR USB dongle and Ham-it-Up converter from NooElec, and have not got it going with their computer, we will be providing assistance at the meeting to install the necessary software. So bring along your dongle and computer and all cabling and we will try to get you going.

See you all at the meeting.

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC

2014-2015 Meeting Dates	What's Happening Elsewhere!	Rambler Deadlines
<p>November 20 Technical clinic: Topic: Is your radio within specs.</p> <p>December 18 Christmas dinner: Topic: Good cheer and friendship, location TBD;</p> <p>January 15 TBD</p> <p>February 19 Flea Market</p> <p>March 19 TBD</p> <p>April 16 Home Brew</p> <p>May 21 Show & Tell</p> <p>June 19 Annual General Meeting Elections.</p>	<p>Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC) www.oarc.net/blog/:</p> <p>Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club (RLARC) ve3rlr.dyndns.org/:</p> <p>West Carleton Amateur Radio Club www.wcarc.on.ca</p> <p>VE3ORF/3730 Group www.ve3orf.com/</p> <p><i>Check it out; let us know what's going on in your club.</i></p>	<p>Meeting date minus 13 days</p> <p>Dec 05 Jan 02, 2015 Feb 06 Mar 06 Apr 03 May 08 Jun 05</p> <p>Please submit articles for the Rambler to the editor:</p> <p>Robert Cherry</p> <p>No later than the deadline for the desired edition.</p> <p>October Rambler submission deadline is:</p> <p>Friday, 5th Dec 2014</p>

OVMRC Meetings

Location: Canada Aviation and Space Museum: [MAP](#)

11 Aviation Parkway

Ottawa, ON K1K 2X5

General meeting: Start time 19:30 hrs.

Access: via the front entrance. See map.

Meeting Room: Classroom A

Looking forward to seeing you there in our new (temporary) location!

OVMRC Repeaters

If you are interested in learning about or helping with the OVMRC repeaters contact our technical chair-person, Paul Labbé, VE3NJS, (paul.e.labbe@gmail.com). Extra pairs of hands are always welcome.



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.

PLEASE PRINT

RENEWAL NEW CHANGE OVMRC NAME TAG (COST \$12.00) 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 or Former Occupation:
Skills: *(Please list them all)*

COMMENTS:

_____ _____ Initials ***By initialing this box, I confirm that I consent to receiving e-mail messages from the Club***
Signature **Date**

OVMRC NAME TAG – ORDER DETAILS

First Name:

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