

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Mar 2017

Edition 61

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President's Ramblings

March is here already! We now arise to birds chirping in the morning. This is the month when government departments are scrambling to spend the last of their budget appropriations before March 31st. At least that's the way it was when I was a working man. No such fear for the OVMRC, we have until the end of August when our fiscal year begins anew.

This month our general meeting on Wednesday, March 15 will feature a presentation by Richard Ferch, VE3KI on his recent study and work on remote control of his HF amateur radio station over the Internet. He developed the presentation for last month's meeting of the eastern chapter of the Contest Club of Ontario va3cco.com/ but I'm sure the OVMRC will be a new audience to him and his topic. His knowledge and expertise may come into play when we re-establish the club station VE3JW at the Museum of Science and Technology. It is a thought to install the new station equipment with the capability for remote control and allow its operation on a scheduled basis by the trusted and qualified souls of the Club from the luxury and comfort of their own home. More discussion and debate to determine if this is something we what to do

some time in the future. It may be especially appealing for Club members that live in apartments and condos where the installation of HF antennas is not allowed or practical.

I want to thank Denis Rule, VE3BF, for his wonderful presentation last month on the Yaesu Wires X Network routed through the Internet. Denis has now prepared an advertisement graphic for the Wires X Cross Canada Net that is now attracting check-ins from across the country. We've included Denis's "advert" notice in this issue of the Rambler. It may also be included in a forthcoming issue of RAC's TCA magazine.

As of this writing, we are stalled at 16 graduates in the Radio Course for this year, a number considerably fewer than the 35 that registered. Indeed, a number more have tried the test but unfortunately were not successful while still others still haven't written the test yet. I believe many folks over the last three years have signed up for the course as a matter of general interest and did not quite realize the scope and depth of the subject material and necessity to spend time studying between lessons in order to be successful at passing the exam. As practicing amateurs all know, it is not a trivial pursuit. And even *(Continued on [page 3](#))*

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Meeting Dates

Club Meetings:

Wednesday, Mar 15th
7:30 P.M.

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Speaker: Richard Ferch, VE3KI

Subject: Remote Control of your
HF Station

Wednesday, Apr 19th
7:30 P.M.

OVMRC Meeting

Aviation Museum

Bush Theatre

Speaker: Dave Conn, VE3KL

Subject: Simple Practical HF
Antennas for your Home Station

OVMRC Executive**2015-2016****President:** Norm Rashleigh, VE3LCve3lc@rac.ca**Vice-President:** Barry Allison, VE3NJKve3njk@rac.ca**Treasurer:** Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQovmrc.treasurer@gmail.com,**Secretary:** Frank Fullum, VE2KOIVE2KOI@rac.ca**Standing Committee
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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:

• **KENWOOD ELECTRONICS
CANADA INC.,**

Mississauga, ON

• **METAL PROS,***"The Small Quantity Metal Shop"*

Ottawa, ON

Web site: www.metalpros.com• **PEPPERS RADIO SALES,**

Rockland, ON

Email: peppersradio@videotron.caWeb site: www.peppersradio.net• **RADIOWORLD TORONTO**Web site: www.radioworld.ca**OVMRC Life Members**

Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

Maurice-André Vigneault, VE3VIG

Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM

Doug Carswell, VE3ATY

Doreen Morgan, VE3CGO

OVMRC Repeater

VE3TWO

147.300 Mhz (+) 100 Hz tone
FM & Yaesu System Fusion Digital
Operation

Amateur Radio Exhibit**VE3JW**

Web site:

ovmrc.on.ca/ve3jw.htm

Canada Science & Technology
Museum

*Is temporarily off the air due to the closure of
the Canada Science and Technology Museum*

Visit the OVMRC Store

at

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

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)

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated**PO Box 41145****Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9****www.ovmrc.on.ca**

(Continued from [page 1](#)) the folks that pass the test with flying colours don't necessarily engage in the Club or hobby afterwards. Only a few, it seems, are definite enthusiasts that have bought radios and get on-the-air and participate in Club activities and meetings on an on-going basis. In that category, two members of the graduating class last year, Frank Fullum VE2KOI and Tom Mercer VA3LJS, took on the responsibilities of Club Secretary and Club Membership Chairperson respectively. Thanks fellows!

We had to attend the repeater site the other day to fix a problem that had developed whereby the repeater would not repeat C4FM digital voice signals; it remained working fine for FM operation. I had a feeling the difficulty may have been

“finger” problems. Sure enough, a technician attending the site for other reasons had touched the “touch screen” LCD display of the Yaesu DR-1X repeater and inadvertently changed the mode of operation. We had brought the Club's spare repeater to the site and swapped it out to give the other machine a rest after almost 10 months of operation. The spare repeater was left in place and set at the 20 watts RF power output, a setting recommended by Yaesu for continuous TX operation instead of the 50 watts setting of the originally installed unit. As a consequence, folks may find the repeater about 3 dB weaker than before.

As we had indicated in last month's Rambler and meeting, we are considering the prospect of combining our Field Day efforts

this year with the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, the QRP group operators, VHF operations from the West Carleton ARC and the Manotick Amateur Radio Group. The OVMRC offered the Aviation Museum grounds as a venue for the combined effort. Unfortunately, we have just been advised our request with the Museum has been refused due to the rental of the premises and grounds to a paying customer that weekend. So we are now on the lookout for another suitable site for Field Day 2017. All reasonable suggestions appreciated.

All for this month;

See you all the OVMRC March 15 meeting.

de Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC
ve3lc@rac.ca

Meeting Minutes

Date / Time: Wednesday, Feb 15, 2017, 19:30

Location: Canada Aviation and Space Museum

1. Call to Order:

The President, Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC, called the meeting to order at 19:30. There were 23 in attendance.

2. Greetings:

Guests and visiting amateurs:

Denny Zidek, VE3OKD

Frank Stratton, VE3YY

Allan Fricker

3. Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: Moved by Marcel Lemay, VE3FNG and seconded by Steve Middleton, VE3RUU that the minutes of the last meeting be approved.

CARRIED.

4. Show and Tell:

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC gave a slide presentation and talk on www.websdr.org, an online service consisting of a list of SDR receivers available online, free for public use. Once connected to an SDR, the user has remote control of frequency tuning, bandwidth and mode.

For more information on see: www.websdr.org

Peter Cars, VE3XEM showed an inductance/capacitance measurement meter kit that he had recently built. The kit took him one evening to assemble. He also showed the case which took him a few days to machine and complete.

Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ showed a carrying harness that she fabricated from Velcro to facilitate carrying a 25Ah Gel cell battery. Note, due to the weight of the battery, the harness was stitched, even if the material used was Velcro. Nicole plans to make another, using webbed material this time, since stitching the Velcro straps was a difficult procedure.

5. Announcements and News:

Ottawa QSO Net

Denis Rule, VE3DRE, gave an update on the Ottawa QSO Net, held Wednesdays at 9 pm EST. This is a C4FM net, linked to Yaesu System Fusion Wires-X room #490249. Denis reported that there were 26 check-ins to the net, with check-ins from all provinces except Alberta and Quebec.

Update on Canada Ski Marathon

Tom Mercer, VA3LJS, gave a brief report of his experience as a volunteer amateur radio operator at the Canada Ski Marathon on the weekend of February 11 - 12. Tom was working at Gold Camp on Saturday (10 am - 8 pm), and at checkpoint 6 on Sunday (5 am - 3 pm).

Rambler notifications

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC announced that there is a new "Subscribe Now" button to the OVMRC website. The purpose of the new button is so that members can subscribe to receive email from the OVMRC when the new monthly Rambler is published. We encourage all members to subscribe.

Next radio course exams

Norm Rashleigh, VE3LC announced that there will be another round of testing conducted on Thursday, February 24, 2017. Students who took the radio course in the fall who have not yet taken the test will have an opportunity to do so at this time. Norm also invited any members who may be ready to upgrade their Amateur Radio Operator Certificate to come out and take their test at the same time.

6. Upcoming Contests:

CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 24-26
ARRL Inter DX Contest SSB	Mar 4-5
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	Mar 11-12

For information on these and many other contests, see the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal>

7. Feature Presentation:

Denis Rule, VE3BF gave a presentation on *Yaesu System Fusion Wires-X Networking*. Norm, VE3LC presented Denis an OVMRC cup for giving his presentation.

8. Prizes and Draws:

Prizes were won by many lucky individuals, but the winner's names were not recorded this month.

The 50/50 draw was won by Frank Fullum, VE2KOI

9. Executive and Chair Reports:

9.1. Treasurer - Nicole Boivin, VE3GIQ:

Nicole reported that the Club has \$ 25,596 on deposit.

The Club's corporation income tax return for the 2016 fiscal year was filed and has been assessed by CRA. No income tax was assessed, or owing.

The executive of the Club has invested some of the Club's funds into interest-bearing GICs, as follows:

- \$ 5,000 one year redeemable for \$ 25.00 (0.5 %) at maturity
- \$ 5,000 one year non-redeemable for \$ 45.00 (0.9 %) at maturity
- \$ 5,000 two year non-redeemable for \$ 110.91 (1.1 % per annum) at maturity

The club has made donations (budgeted), as follows:

- the Defense of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF) \$600.00
- the RAC Scholarship and Grant Program \$400.00

9.2. Membership - Tom Mercer, VE3LJS:

Frank Stratton, VE3YY, and Allan Fricker have joined and are now members of the Club.

10. Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Denis Rule, VE3DRE and seconded by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN that the meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED.

The meeting was adjourned at 22:30.

Minutes recorded by Frank Fullum, VE2KOI
OVMRC Secretary

Contest Calendar

For all contest information goto:

hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Mar 25-26

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

cqwp.com/rules.htm

Apr 15-16

Ontario QSO Party

va3cco.com/oqp/rules.htm

Apr 16

ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB

arrrl.org/rookie-roundup

Mar 25-26

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

cqwp.com/rules.htm

OVMRC Repeater VE3TWO :

147.300 MHz +600 kHz, 100 Hz Tone
and Yaesu C4FM Digital Voice

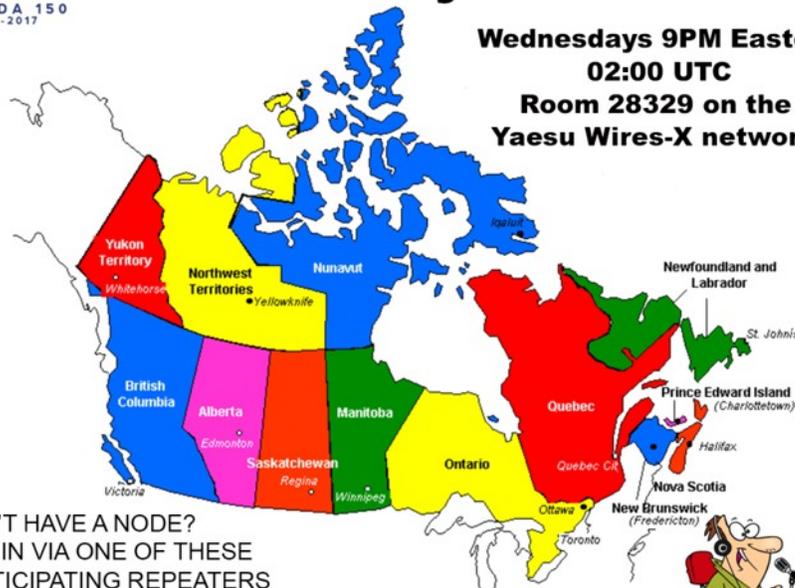
VE3TWO Scheduled Nets:

- **Wednesday Evenings, 9 PM**, Across Canada Net, C4FM Digital Voice facilitated by Denis VE3BF.
- **Thursday Evenings, 8 PM**, Club Net on Analogue FM conducted by Ken VE3EKN.
- **Sunday Evenings, 8 PM**, Ottawa Digital Voice C4FM Net conducted by Denis VE3BF.



Cross Canada C4FM Weekly Net

**Wednesdays 9PM Eastern
02:00 UTC
Room 28329 on the
Yaesu Wires-X network**



**DON'T HAVE A NODE?
LOG IN VIA ONE OF THESE
PARTICIPATING REPEATERS**

VE1XK VE1BFB VE9SUX VE3TWO VE3RIX VE3RDX
VE3RBK VE3YHD VE3YQK VE3EOD VE5MBX VA7REF



Emergency Measure Radio Group (Ottawa ARES)

Some of the new radio amateurs that have graduated from the OVMRC radio course may not yet have become aware of the Ottawa "Emergency Measures Radio Group" (EMRG). EMRG is also known as the Ottawa ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service). The organization focuses on amateur radio communications

preparedness and commitment to provide emergency radio communications for humanitarian organizations that do not have a radio system, lack capacity on their system or normally rely on regular phones or cell phones for their operations.

For complete information, OVMRC members are invited to visit the EMRG web site at www.emrg.ca

As part of the EMRG, there is a separate network of amateur radio

repeaters in the area for which there is a monthly "repeater check" conducted by Dave Harris, VE3KMOV. All amateurs are invited to check into this "repeater check" NET most often held on the first Wednesday evening of the month at 8 PM starting on VE3OCE 146.880 using a 136.5 Hz tone and moving off to the other repeaters in the system under the direction of net control station.

All the repeaters in the EMRG system are listed as follows:

Repeater	Frequency	Tone	Location
VE3OCE	146.880 -	136.5	Ottawa Fire Dispatch
VE3OFS	146.670 -	136.5	Ottawa Fire Station 44
VA3EMV/E	146.985 -	100.0`	Ottawa Fire Station 53 (Orleans - Cumberland)
VA3EMV/W	145.210 -	123.0`	Ottawa Fire Station 81 (Stittsville)
VE3OCE	443.800 +	136.5	Ottawa Fire Dispatch
VE3OCE	145.030`	Packet	Ottawa Fire Dispatch
VE3EMV/P	145.110 -	136.5	Portable repeater stored at Ottawa Fire Dispatch

Amateur Radio Stations participating in the EMRG monthly repeater test should have all the above frequencies pre-programmed into their radios.

Notice of May 4th exercise

This email was posted on the Emergency Measures Radio Group (EMRG) list server February 25, 2017. It is reprinted here by permission Richard Hagemeyer, VE3UNW:

A major City of Ottawa exercise is scheduled for most of day on Thursday, May 4. It will involve many city departments and multiple partner organizations and is regional in nature. It is a complicated exercise with many moving parts and we are very happy to be included. An outside company has been brought in to plan and evaluate the exercise on behalf of the city.

Nothing more can or will be released before the exercise.

As always, monitoring repeaters, particularly 146.880-, your email, and 580 CFRA allow us to respond quickly

when we are needed. If you want to play, be prepared and be available.

A couple of exercise related notes:

The use of "NO DUFF" indicates that the message that follows is real, and not part of any exercise. This protocol allows an exercise to proceed in a more natural format, yet recognizes that real situations may occur.

"END EX" is used at the end of an exercise to signal it's completion and that all activities and message traffic can return to normal.

73

Richard Hagemeyer
Team Leader, Emergency Measures Radio Group / ARES

OVMRC Net Activity, Check-in during the last month

Prepared by: Ken Evans, VE3EKN

OVMRC POT HOLE NET Report – 3760 kHz SSB Sundays at 10 AM local time

January 29	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
VE3EJJ	VE3NLW	VA3ZTF	VE3BAE	VE3NPO
VE3LC	VE3LC	VA3BGO	VE3LC	VE3LC
VE3BF	VE3XRA	VE3LC	VE3XRA	VE3BF
VA3BGO	VE3BF	VA3PCJ	VA3BGO	VA3BGO
VE3EKN	VA3BGO	VE3BAE	VE3EKN	VE3EKN
VE2HOG	VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VE3BF	VE3EJJ
VE3XRA	VE2HOG	VE3BF	VE3EJJ	VA3PCJ
	VE3EJJ	VE3EJJ		VE3XRA

OVMRC 2 METRE NET Report -

VE3TWO repeater 147.300 MHz + 100 Hz tone, Thursdays 8 PM local time.

January 26	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23
VE3LC	VE3BF	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3XEM
VE3KLT	VE3VHU	VA3ZTF	VE3RUU	VE3RUU
VE3RUU	VA3ZTF	VE3BF	VA3ZTF	VE3BF
VE3NJK	VE3LBU	VE3ZZU	VE3DHE	VA3ZTF
VE3BF	VE3ZZU	VA3ORL	VE3ZZU	VE3TXB
VE3GIQ	VE3DHE	VE3NJK	VE3NJK	VA3LS
VA3HWA	VA3RLA	VE3LBU	VA3ORL	VE3ZZU
VA3MPS	VA3ORL	VA3AOD	VE3LBU	VA3MPS
VE3LBU	VE3TXB	VE3EKN	VA2EEK	VA3ORL
VA3ZTF	VE3YDK		VA3QV	VA2EEK
VE3ZZU	VE3LC		VA3JYK	VE3RNM
VE3TXB	VE3RUU		VA3AOD	VA3RLA
VA3AOD	VE3NJK		VE2BJZ	VA3JYK
VE3DHE	VA3HWA		VE3EKN	VE3DHE
VE3YCB/VE2	VE3GIQ			VA3AOD
VE2BJZ	VA2EEK			VE3LC
VE3RMJ	VE3EEE			VE3EKN
VE3YDK	VE2OCQ			
VE3EKN	VE2KOI			
	VE3EKN			

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club, Incorporated
 PO Box 41145
 Ottawa, ON K1G 5K9

- ✓ *The membership year starts 1 September, and runs until 31 August of the following year.*
- ✓ *Regular membership is open to licensed amateurs.*
- ✓ *Associate membership is open to all unlicensed radio enthusiasts.*
- ✓ *Membership includes a digital subscription to the club newsletter, the OVMRC Rambler.*

NEW RENEWAL UPDATE/CHANGE

Please print legibly

Call Sign	Surname	Perferred first name
Street		Apartment
City	Province	Postal Code
Home/primary phone	Work/other phone	E-mail address
Are you a member of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)? Yes / No		
RAC ID: _____ Expiry (YYYY-MM-DD): _____		

Do you wish to order an OVMRC name tag? (+\$12.00) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Callsign for name tag	Name for name tag	

Full Membership (Not a Member of RAC)	\$35.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	Amount Enclosed \$ _____ Cheque / Cash
Full Membership (RAC Member)	\$25.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	
Associate Membership (Unlicensed)	\$25.00/yr <input type="checkbox"/>	

Circle your interests			
Bands Microwave UHF VHF HF LF and below	Modes CW Digital Phone EME Satellite Experimental	Building RX TX Antennas Test equipment Other	Other Teaching Speaking/Presenting DF/Fox hunting Contesting DXing Computers/IT Other

Signature	Date	Initials	<i>By initialing this box, I confirm that I consent to receiving e-mail messages from the Club.</i>
_____	_____		