

Rambler

Newsletter of the
Ottawa Valley Mobile
Radio Club
Incorporated



Jan 2018

Edition 55

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Celebrating our 60th Anniversary Season of Continuous Service to Ottawa

President's Ramblings

Happy New Year folks.

I hope everybody has survived the good cheer of the festive season with limited weight gain. I trust also, we were all good boys and girls in 2017 and got the additions to our ham shack from Santa that we were hoping for. I know I've already heard a few new rigs on the air.

Thanks John:

The Club's Christmas Dinner at KS on the Keys Restaurant was a great success and a big thanks to John VA3JYK for organizing the event; we had almost 40 members and family attend the party. The restaurant put on a nice buffet for us in our own private dining room.

Radio Course Results:

We have now concluded the 2017 amateur radio course; over 40 persons were initially enrolled in September. Some folks dropped out along the way which is par for the "course". We conducted two group examination sessions on December 4th and 11th. So far, 25 have taken the test and qualified and obtained their call sign, most achieving Honours and HF operating privileges. We expect to have another examination session in January to pick up some more of

the candidates or retest some folks for higher qualification. I have included all the new radio amateur graduates (so far) from the 2017 OVMRC radio course in this issue of the Rambler; if you hear any of our grads on the air, please give them a warm welcome. We hope to add to this list in the February issue of the Rambler.

Distracted Driver Exemption for Hams:

As many already know, radio amateurs have been given another 3 year extension to the specific exemption allowing amateur radio operators to hand hold a radio microphone or "radio" while driving and not be subject to the penalties of the Ontario distracted driving legislation that otherwise requires "hands free" operation of cell phones and other electronic devices while operating a motor vehicle. You can find the specific references and wording of the exemption included in this issue of the Rambler. It is recommended that if you are going to operate a mobile amateur radio station, be very cautious and attentive while driving. Also, carry a copy of the specific Ontario exemption for operation of amateur radio while driving and a copy of your amateur radio certificate to show a law enforcement (Continued on page 3)

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Meeting Date

Wednesday, Jan 17th
7:30 P.M.

Operating CW



*What you should know besides
Morse code*

Norm, VE3LC

Aviation & Space Museum
Arrow Class Room

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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

- **RADIOWORLD TORONTO**
Web site: www.radioworld.ca

Visit the OVMRC Store

at

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

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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**OVMRC Call Signs**

VE3JW

VE3RAM

The Rambler is the official newsletter of the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Incorporated and is published 10 times a year (monthly, except for July and August). 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@ncf.ca)
cw527@ncf.ca

OVMRC Affiliations

(Continued from page 1) officer in case you are stopped.

January Meeting – Operating CW:

There seems to be a renewed interest by some local amateurs to develop proficiency in operating CW (Morse code); this especially, nowadays, when Morse proficiency is no longer a requirement to obtain an amateur radio ticket. CW, of course, is still alive and well in amateur radio and comes out in full force when there are CW exclusive contests. It remains the best way to make a lot of quick contacts when the exchange information is simple as there is never a need to clarify CW characters as there is with voice using phonetics. In Canada, we still have a Morse qualification test available for those that want a bit of prestige with another qualification element on their Amateur Radio Certificate. It also buys the candidate HF operating privileges for folks that didn't obtain 80% or more on their Basic exam. If anybody wants to take the Morse exam, let me know and I'd be glad to test you. Refer to RIC 1, section 6, for examination details.

With Operating CW as a topic, I will be giving a tutorial presentation at our January 17th meeting about the many aspects of using Morse (CW) such as smart phone apps available to learn and practice the code, types of straight and automatic keys and keyers, Morse abbreviations, prosigns, computer assisted sending and receiving code, CW contest operation and operating CW without (necessarily) knowing a "dit".

Antenna Kits:

Barry, VE3NA reports he will have the 20 m antenna kits available at the January meeting for those that placed an order as well as the remaining 2 m Slim Jim antenna kits ordered but not yet picked up by folks previously. If you ordered one of these kits, be prepared at the January meeting with the necessary funds for pay for it by cash or by cheque payable to the OVMRC. The cost of the Slim-Jim is \$25, the 20 m antenna kit comes out at \$37. Barry also has some BNC to SMA (male and female) adapters available for \$6 a pair.

Intruders on 2m:

I received an email from Dave, VE3KMV to be on the outlook for *intruders* on the 2 m band. Dave has been hearing signals on 145.000 MHz again probably from non-hams as no call signs were used and on a frequency not likely used by hams for simplex activity. The conversations heard were all about snowmobiling and trails. We've also been hearing lately what appears to be intentional disruptive signals interfering with net activity on VE2CRA, VE3MPC and VE3TWO. It was becoming so bad on VE2CRA that the repeater has been turned off except for net activities. Let's all be active observers of our amateur radio bands and log, record and report the details of anything believed to be intrusion or deliberate interference on our amateur allocations. It would be nice to have some volunteer come forward to be the receiver and tabulator of these reports for the Club. In the mean time, if you hear anything untoward, let me know:

ve3lc@rac.ca

Locate a 2m beacon transmitter exercise:

The OVMRC is planning a transmitter locating exercise to be scheduled for the last weekend of January. We intend to plant, somewhere in Ottawa, one of the Club's 2 m, 15 mW beacon transmitters and set it transmitting on a yet to be determined frequency starting around 7 am local time Saturday January 27th and ending Sunday evening January 28th. The beacon will modulate in FM MCW with the call sign VE3RAM. The means of locating the transmitter will be either a matter of triangulation using directional antennas from several different locations or by driving about trying to zero in on the location. The triangulation method may be done individually or by two or more folks working as teams from their home QTH. We will expand on the details for this exercise at the January meeting.

RAC Winter Contest:

I casually participated in the RAC winter contest (Dec 30th) making contacts using mostly CW on 160, 80, 40 and 20 metres with a few local contacts on 15. Ten metres was dead. There seemed to be a lot of popularity in the contest this year from Americans especially looking for the provincial and territorial "RAC" stations that were active during the contest. This was the last chance in the year to log these special stations call signs for the RAC Canada 150 Certificate Award. I managed to log 11 out a total 14 RAC stations during the year.

(Continued on page 4)

Return to the Museum of Science and Technology:

A meeting has been scheduled for January 11th with the folks at the Museum of Science and Technology to discuss the return of OVMRC operations to the renovated premises on St Laurent. At the present time, our agreement with the Aviation Museum terminates with our January 17 meeting but this can be extended if necessary. We will have more to report on this when details are worked out with the Museum. Ensure you consult ovmrc.on.ca to see where our February meeting will be conducted.

Two metre frequencies for Wires X nodes:

A number of folks in the Ottawa area are purchasing the Yaesu HRI-200 Internet Linking node boxes to enable access of Yaesu C4FM digital voice radios with others using the same technology worldwide. Ideally, this type linking should be done through compatible Yaesu repeaters on coordinated repeater duplex paired frequencies. However, equally, this technology can be applied to setup a "personal" node that can operate on a simplex frequency to provide access to the Wires X network that not only provides access by the node operator but also to other

hams within range of the node radio. The potential problem becomes, if the take up of deploying these nodes becomes wide spread in an urban area and especially if these nodes are left active on a popular worldwide network talk group called a "room" we will soon run into frequency sharing conflict without proper coordination. This problem is now being actively discussed in the Ottawa area. We will have more to report at a future OVMRC meeting.

So, that is about it for now; hope to see you all at the January meeting of the OVMRC.

73 de Norm
VE3LC@rac.ca

Contest Calendar

For all contest information goto:
hornucopia.com/contestcal/

Jan 20-22 — ARRL January VHF Contest,
arrl.org/january-vhf

Jan 26 – 28 — CQ World Wide 160 Metre CW Contest,
cq160.com/rules.htm

Feb 10 – 11 — CQ World Wide RTTY WPX Contest,
cqwpxrtty.com/rules.htm

Feb 17 – 18 — ARRL International DX Contest CW,
arrl.org/arrl-dx

Feb 23 – 25 — CQ World Wide 160 Metre SSB Contest,
cq160.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 FM conducted by Ken, VE3EKN.
- **Sunday Evenings, 8 PM**, Ottawa C4FM Digital Voice Round Table Net.

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 VE5GUX VE3TWO VE3RHX VE3RBX
VE3RBK VE3YHD VE3YQK VE3EOD VE5MBX VE7REF

OVMRC HF Nets

- Pot Hole SSB Net, 3760 kHz, every Sunday morning at 10 AM conducted by Ernie VE3EJJ or Glenn VE3XRA
- Pot Lid Slow Speed CW Net, 3620 kHz, every Sunday morning at 11 AM conducted by Roger VE3XRR

Informal Amateur Radio Restaurant Gatherings (All are welcome)

- QCWA Chapter 70 breakfast gathering every **Tuesday** morning at 7:30 to 10 am, Summerhays Grill, 1972 Baseline Rd., Nepean
- Orleans Coffee gathering every **Friday** morning at 9 AM, McDonalds, 2643 St. Joseph Blvd, Orleans
- QRP Group Dinner meeting, **2nd Wednesday** every month, 5 PM, Newport Restaurant, 322 Churchill Ave N., Ottawa@
- Phoenix Net monthly Breakfast gathering, usually the **second Saturday** every month at 9 AM, T-Basil Restaurant, 2440 St Joseph Blvd, Orleans. (get on Pete VE3XEM's mailing@ list for monthly reminder)

Other Local 2 Metre Repeater Nets: (all check-ins welcome)

- **Rubber Boot Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 +, work day mornings at 7:30 AM conducted by Mike, VA3TJP
- **Phoenix Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 +(now with 100 Hz tone), Tuesday evenings at 8 PM conducted by Pete, VE3XEM
- **QCWA Chapter 70 Net**, VE3MPC 147.150 + (now with 100 Hz tone), Monday evening at 7:30 PM conducted by John, VE3ZOV
- **Capital City FM Net**, VE2CRA 146.940 Mhz, – (100 Hz tone), Monday evenings at 8 PM
- **Champlain Mini Net**, VE3STP 147.060 – (114.8 Hz tone), every evening at 6:45 PM
- **Upper Frequency Net**, Simplex 144.250 MHz using USB, Tuesdays evenings at 9 PM conducted by Glenn VE3XRA. Following check in on 2 m you can check your radios on 6 m at 50.150 MHz and 70 cm on 432.150 MHz as well using USB. All check ins are welcome.

Emergency Measures Radio Group: (EMRG)

Monthly Repeater Tests are conducted by Dave VE3KMV on the first Wednesday of each month at 8 pm on VE3OCE 146.880 MHz – (136.5 Hz tone).

From initial contact on VE3OCE, you'll be asked to test VE3EMV/East 146.985 MHz – (100 Hz tone), VE3EMV/West 145.210 MHz – (123 Hz tone), VE3OFS 146.670 MHz – (123 Hz tone) and VE3OCE 443.8000 MHz + (136.5 Hz tone). It is advisable that all the EMRG frequencies be programmed into your radio. All check ins are welcome. emrg.ca/repeaters.htm

Congratulations

Congratulations for the following successful graduates of the OVMRC Radio Course – give them a warm welcome On-Air

Nicole.....	VA3NCI	Adam.....	VA3PEE
Tony.....	VE3ESB	Michael.....	VE3CUD
Kenny.....	VE3KWT	Christina.....	VE3CUQ
Jacques.....	VA3JBI	Tig.....	VE3FWS
Anton.....	VE3NZL	Alan.....	VE3VTT
John.....	VE3JHP	Marcellus.....	VE3MSL
Andre.....	VA3CHH	Chuck.....	VE3WCZ
Joanne.....	VA3LEK	John.....	VE3XWA
Sylvain.....	VE3SGG	Benjamin.....	VE3BXY
Jean-Paul.....	VA3ICI	Gopal.....	VA3GAK
		Alan.....	VE3KAE
		Roger.....	VA3EGY
		David.....	VA3NIE
		Ryan.....	VA3RYD
		Steve.....	VA3BFZ



We hope to add to this list; several candidates have deferred their test to the next examination session.

Exemption Extended another 3 Years for Hand Holding Radio Microphone for Ontario Amateurs while Driving.

Regulation (366/09) under the Highway Traffic Act of Ontario provides exemptions to the Distracted Driving legislation governing “Display Screens and Hand-Held Devices. Along with several exemptions permitting the use of 2-way radio equipment with hand-held microphones while driving for public safety and commercial operations, there has been in place a “time limited” exemption for “Amateur Radio”, since the enactment of the legislation specifically:

Time-limited exemption for amateur radio operators

13. (1) Drivers who hold a valid radio operator certificate issued under the Radiocommunication Act (Canada) may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while holding or using a two-way radio. O. Reg. 366/09, s. 13 (1), O. Reg. 253/12, s. 3 (1).

This exemption was to expire at the end of 2017 but fortunately for Amateur Radio mobile operations, this exemption has been extended to now expire on Jan 1, 2021. The current 3 years extension of the exemption is the third time the exemption has been extended and it remains to be seen if there will be a further extension beyond 2021. We can give credit to Radio Amateurs of Canada Ontario directors, Allan Boyd VE3AJB and Phil McBride VA3QR for representing radio amateurs on this

matter with the Ontario Ministry of Transport and securing yet another exemption to allow the use of Amateur Radio equipment to the general provisions of the distracted drive legislation that makes it unlawful to hand hold communications equipment such as cell phones while driving.

Radio Amateurs should also be mindful there is another exemption to Regulation (366/09) that is not “time limited” and would still permit the use of amateur radio equipment in a hands-free manner if and when the specific exemption for Amateur Radio is revoked in the future, specifically:

Exemption for pressing buttons

14. (1) A person may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while pressing a button on a hand-held wireless communication device to make, answer or end a cell phone call or to transmit or receive voice communication on a two-way radio if the device is placed securely in or mounted to the motor vehicle so that it does not move while the vehicle is in motion and the driver can see it at a quick glance and easily reach it without adjusting his or her driving position. O. Reg. 366/09, s. 14 (1).

(2) A person may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while pressing a button on a device that is worn on his or her head or hung over or placed inside his or her ear or is attached

to his or her clothing and is linked to a hand-held wireless communication device to make, answer or end a cell phone call or to transmit or receive voice communication on a two-way radio or a hand microphone or portable radio. O. Reg. 366/09, s. 14 (2).

Radio Amateurs should follow what is specified in this exemption regarding the installation of their equipment in the vehicle so that the mobile 2-way radio is mounted securely and that it can be seen with a quick glance. Indeed, this exemption should permit the continued use of amateur radio equipment by using a hands-free microphone such as coupling into the vehicle’s blue-tooth talk and listen system and activating the radio PTT with a physically mounted or body worn toggle or push button switch.

It is advisable for Radio Amateurs to have a printed copy of their amateur radio certificate and the exemptions regarding the use of amateur radio equipment while driving in case they are stopped by law enforcement for a perceived distracted driving infraction.

To download the entire Ontario Regulation 366/09 go to: ontario.ca/laws/regulation/090366

- Norm VE3LC

OVMRC Net Activity, Check-ins during the last month

Prepared by: Ken Evans, VE3EKN

OVMRC 2 Metre Net, VE3TWO 147.300+ 100 Hz tone, Thursdays 8 pm local

November 30	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 28
VE3LC	VE3RUU	VE3DHE	VE3DHE	VE3RUU
VA3ZTF	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3LC
VA2EEK	VE3TSC	VE3KTN	VA3ORL	VE3XZT
VE3BF	VE3LBU	VE3NA	VA3SPV	VA3ZTF
VE3KLT	VE3DHE	VA3QV	VE3BF	VE3LBU
VE3NA	VA2EEK	VA3ORL	VE3NA	VA3SPV
VE3GIQ	VE3GIQ	VE3RXH	VE3RUU	VE3ZZU
VE3TSC	VA3SPV	VA3SPV	VA3ZTF	VE3NA
VE3RXH	VE3ZZU	VE3ZZU	VE3LBU	VE3KAE
VE3BOE	VE3NA	VE3BF	VA3JYK	VA3JPX
VA3JYK	VA3JYK	VA2EEK	VE3TSC	VE3KLT
VE3KTN	VA3ORL	VE3LPH	VE3HVB	VA3BGO
VA3JPX	VE3HAZ	VE3TSC	VE3KAE	VE3VIG
VA3ORL	VA3HWA/P	VE2BJZ	VE3ZZU	VE3EKN
VE3LBU	VA3RLA	VE3VIG	VE3KLT	
VA3SPV	VA3ZTF	VE3OKD	VE3TXB	
VE3ZZU	VE3BF	VA3JYK	VE3VIG	
VA3AOD	VE3KTN	VE3EKN	VE3EJJ	
VE3EKN	VE3VIG		VE3LJS	
	VE3BOE		VE3EKN	
	VE2BJZ			
	VE3XZT			
	VE3XQQ			
	VE3EKN			

OVMRC POT HOLE NET – Check-ins last month

3760 kHz SSB Sunday mornings at 10 am local

December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24	December 31
VA3BGO	VA3ZTF	VA3QV	VE3RIP	VA3BGO
VE3BAE	VE3BF	VE3EJJ	VA3ZTF	VA3UW
VE3EJJ	VE3KTN	VA3ZTF	VE3BF	VE3LC
VA3ZTF	VA3QV	VE3BF	VE3LC	VE3BF
VE3KTN	VE3XRA	VE3LC	VA3QV	VE3EKN
VE3BF	VE3BOE	VA3PCJ	VE3EKN	VE3BOE
VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VE3EKN	VA3BGO	VE3KTN
VE3LC	VE3LC	VE3KTN	VE2HOG	VE2HOG
VE3RIP	VE3EJJ	VE2HOG	VA3PCJ	VE3EJJ
VE3XRA		VE3XRA	VA3UW	
			VE3NA	
			VE3EJJ	

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>
_____	_____		