



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

P.O. Box 8873, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1G 3J2

CLUB EXECUTIVE

President

Ben Price, VE3CDA
(H) 729-1370
ve3cda@rac.ca

Past President

George Roach, VE3BNO
(H) 234-0885
ve3bno@rac.ca

Vice-President

Dianne Bruce VA3DB
db@heceta.db.net

Secretary/

Ian Jeffrey VE3IGJ
(H) 837-7393
ve3igi@rac.ca

Treasurer

Janice Neelands VA3PAX
(H) 236-9291
va3pax@rac.ca

Directors

Brian Campbell, VE3ZRK
(H) 737-3933
ve3zrk@rogers.com

Russ Lowe, VE3LOW
(H) 237-5093

Director Membership

Tom Johnson, VA3WTJ
(H) 225-3791
va3wtj@rac.ca

Director Groundwave

Cary Honeywell, VE3EV
(H) 590-9873
ve3ev@rac.ca

Director Technical

Harrie Jones, VE3HYS
(H) 739-9365
(W) 738-2372
hjones@chumottawa.com

Check out our Web Page: www.oarc.net

Jan 2004

Lots of member participation in the Groundwave to start off the new year. That is very encouraging. Keep it coming.

What was under the tree? Hopefully a membership in RAC. That is good value for money spent. While reading other club bulletins I note a unanimous voice in calling for all Amateurs in Canada to join RAC. And yet the numbers do not grow with any degree of significance. I'm not sure exactly what the figures are but the silent majority are riding the coat tails of the vocal minority. That doesn't seem fair. The federal government instituted a program called "User Pay" with respect to services made available to all Canadians by Crown services. The result was that those programs that failed to get serious funding by users participation and funding were dropped or severely reduced. For our purposes RAC is also "User Pay" with the exception that all programs and services are funded from a single point of entry: membership dues. Where the government can reduce or eliminate some programs and still run the country, RAC itself would be eliminated if funding from a majority of Amateurs failed to materialize. We all know how our health system has been hit by financial cutbacks. Imagine having no health system at all! Instead of everyone contributing their fair share to make the system work, we would be faced with significantly increased personal costs to keep ourselves in the game. Apply this to Amateur Radio. If RAC were to reduce services that were important to the survival of Amateur Radio in Canada because it could not meet its financial load, then we the individual Amateur would have to foot the bill. If the majority cannot find the money to support RAC, where are they going to get the money to support Amateur Radio by themselves?

Do the math. Which situation is cheaper? What do you have to lose?

VE3EV



JAN MEETING 7:30, Jan 14th in the Honeywell room at Ottawa City Hall

In This Issue....

Club Information	2	CPC Breakfast	5
Nov Meeting Minutes	3	Nets and Things	6
MK's Words	4	President's Podium	7
RAC Winter Contest	5	DC To Green Light	8
Hamsats Past and Present	5		

Membership Chair
Tom Johnson, VA3WTJ
(H) 225-3791
va3wtj@rac.ca

Groundwave Editor
Cary Honeywell, VE3EV
(H) 590-9873
ve3ev@rac.ca

Production Committee
Paul Campbell, VE3PC
(H) 733-0148
ve3pc@rac.ca

Delegated Examiner
Mike Kelly, VE3FFK
ve3ffk@rac.ca

Coffee Guy
Brian Campbell, VE3ZRK
(H) 737-3933
ve3zrk@rogers.com

Historical
George Roach, VE3BNO
(H) 234-0885
(Fax) 567-2372
ve3bno@rac.ca

Webmaster
Diana Bruce, VA3DB
db@heceta.db.net

IRLP Manager
Cary Honeywell, VE3EV
ve3ev@rac.ca



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

Jan 2004

Articles may be submitted for use in this publication provided that they portray events or activities that promote Amateur Radio. Letters and comments are also welcome. Submissions may be made by mail addressed to the Editor care of the OARC, or by e-mail to "ve3ev@rac.ca". Deadline for submissions occurs on the last Monday of the month preceding any regular meeting of the OARC.

Please support your local radio organisations. They support you!

Club Information

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club Inc. is an association of Radio Amateurs devoted to the promotion of interest in Amateur Radio communications in the National Capital Area and to the advancement and achievement of club members.

Regular Meetings of the OARC Inc. are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) in the Richmond Room (2nd floor of the Old Teacher's College) of Ottawa City Hall (formerly Regional Municipality of Ottawa Carleton Headquarters) on Lisgar Street. Meetings commence at approximately 19:30 hours. Further details about each meeting is elsewhere in this publication.

Executive Meetings of the OARC Inc. are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at 19:30 hours. Contact the President to confirm the date, time and place of the next meeting.

The CAPITAL CITY FM Net meets every Monday at 20:00 hours on the club repeater **VE2CRA** to pass traffic and to make announcements of interest to Amateurs in the National Capital Region.

The SWAP Net is a service provided and conducted by Dan Reardon, VE3GUU. This feature appears on the Capital City FM Net. To list items and make inquiries, call Dan Reardon at 721-3339 or e-mail him at ve3guu@igs.net. Also available on the web: <http://www.igs.net/~swap>

The POT-HOLE Net is a SSB/HF net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club and is conducted every Sunday at 10:00 hours on **3.760 MHz**. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

The POT-LID CW Net is an informal slow-speed CW net sponsored and conducted by Ed Morgan, VE3GX, and meets every Sunday, except during July and August, at 11:00 hours on **3.620 MHz**, to promote interest in CW and CW procedures.

The QCWA CHAPTER 70 Net meets every Thursday evening at 20:00 hours on repeater VE3TEL, **147.03** You do not have to be a QCWA member to participate.

The Ottawa Valley VHF/UHF SSB Net is sponsored by the West Carleton ARC. Look for it every Tuesday night (except the first Tuesday of the month) around 21:00 on **144.250**, (listening on 50.150, 432.150, 222.150 and 1296.100 as well.) Horizontal polarization is encouraged although vertical will work

VE3TEN

Tuning in the beacon so that it makes sense requires you tune to **28.175** on cw and read the tone that is there . The spaces between the elements are the higher tone. If that doesn't work, tune to **28.175.28** on lower sideband for better results.

The Ottawa Amateur Radio Club bulletin "Groundwave" is published and distributed to club members by mail. Publication dates may vary but it is hoped that the bulletin arrives at its destination before the events listed in it have expired. The bulletin is not published for July and August when meetings do not occur. Every effort is made to provide accurate information in the bulletin, however we are all human and mistakes can be made. The OARC accepts no responsibility for any damages that may result from this. The opinions expressed in this bulletin are only those of the author.

Voice (VHF) 146.94/146.34 100Hz output tone
(UHF) 443.300/448.300

VE3ATV Amateur Fast Scan Television Repeater
Video/audio beacon & input 439.25 MHz (audio sub. 443.75)
Video/Audio output 914 MHz (FM)

IRLP Node 2040 146.94/146.34 (VE2CRA/VE3RC)
(Code 411 for info) (Code 204 for activity)
(Code 88 for time)

For further information please contact the Repeater Chair.

Note: The IRLP link not connected to ECHOLINK. Please do not try to connect using the alpha keys on your keypad. It just confuses the operator.

Note: The IRLP link is disabled during the Capital City Net each Monday. It is disabled from 2000 to 2145 Mondays except for May to August when the link is disabled from 2000 to 2020.



Minutes of the December General Meeting

December 10, 2003 19:30

The meeting was called to order by the president, Ben Price (VE3CDA). There were 26 present including two guests, Nabil and Mitra who had stopped by the OARC booth at the St Laurent Shopping Centre in November.

There was one correction to the November minutes. Ben Price talked to the president of the Edinburgh Amateur Radio Club on 70 cm, not 70 m. It was moved by Greg Danylchenko (VE3Y TZ) and seconded by George Roach (VE3BNO) that the amended minutes of the November meeting be accepted as amended and the motion was carried.

The annual club questionnaire was handed out soliciting members' ideas for club activities.

Three nominations have been received by the executive for the Joe Norton Award. The executive will make a decision this month and make the presentation to the winner at the January GM.

The treasurer, Janice Neelands, (VA3PAX) reported that the club was slightly behind on the budget but she was expecting extra income to come in to balance things out.

Rick Furniss (VE3IHI) reminded the club about the upcoming Canadian Ski Marathon, Feb. 7 and 8, 2004. Anyone wanting to volunteer should contact Richard Hagemeyer (VE3UNW) at ve3unw@rac.ca. This year the event will be run west to east. "Morning" and "afternoon" shifts are available. As well, they are looking for extra net controllers for Sunday.

The club has been awarded the RAC callsign VA3RAC for the Canada Winter Contest on December 27. Club members will be operating from various sites using this call sign.

There is still some hope that the ATV repeater can be sold. CJOH itself may purchase it allowing it to continue operating at its present location. If this sale falls through, the equipment, especially, the antenna support structure will have to be removed. Quotes for a crane to do so are being solicited.

The Groundwave editor Cary Honeywell (VE3EV) will be resigning at the end of May. Therefore, the club is looking for someone to take on this task. Cary will still be available to contribute articles as well as provide support for the new editor. The editor is also automatically a member of the executive. This position is a good way to get experience is publishing a newsletter as well as learning about all the activities of the OARC.

Ben Price reminded the members of the planned trip to the Dayton Hamfest in May. If you are interested let Ben know. Expected cost will be about \$500. Ben is also looking for people to man the promotional booth at shopping centres this winter.

Vice-president Diane Bruce (VA3DB) is looking for ideas for speakers for the monthly meetings. If you know of an interesting speaker or would like to speak yourself, please contact Diane at va3db@rac.ca.

Diane would also like to know who would be interested in making a field trip to Almonte to hear a talk by Neil Carleton (VE3NCE) on youth education.

A copy of the updated club bylaw will be sent to members early in the new year by mail or email. A ratification vote will be held at the January GM.

It was moved by Doug Leach (VE3XK) and seconded by Wayne Getchel (VE3CZO) that a \$100 matching contribution be sent to the RAC Youth Education Program. The motion carried.

All the members present were disappointed not to hear the musical introduction to the most-interesting-contact-of-the-month part of the meeting. Hopefully, Ben will have it together next month. Best contact goes to Greg Danylchenko who bagged Zimbabwe on 15 m.

The evening's speaker was Clare Fowler (VE3NPC) who spoke on amateur radio satellite communication past, present, and future. He gave a description of some of the past present and upcoming satellite capabilities

The 50-50 draw of \$21.50 was won by Bill Roy (VE3FXG).

The next general meeting will be held on January 14. The meeting was adjourned at 22:05

Ian VE3IGJ

RAC Bulletin 03-030

RAC Radio Amateur of the Year Award for 2003



From a number of nominees, the RAC Board of Directors has unanimously selected Bill Elliott, VE1MR, as recipient of the RAC Radio Amateur of the Year Award for 2003. An engraved silver tray was presented to VE1MR by Atlantic Regional Director David Nimmo, VE1NN, and RAC President Bill Gillis, VE1WG, at the Halifax Amateur Radio Club's annual Christmas Dinner Meeting on December 10, 2003.

Currently President of Halifax Amateur Radio Club, Bill Elliott, VE1MR, has been a Radio Amateur and a member of RAC and its predecessor national organizations for over twenty years. Through that time, Bill has consistently and generously donated his considerable technical and organizational skills to significantly promoting excellence in Amateur Radio and facilitating its public service role.

For a complete story on Bill's activities and the contributions which qualified him for this prestigious award, see <http://www.rac.ca/new/canada.htm> and an upcoming issue of The Canadian Amateur.

You are getting old if.....

- you know what an 807 or 813 actually looks like (or a 1625)
- you know what clamp tube modulation is
- you owned a "Geloso" VFO
- you remember that SSB was a bad term on '75



Mk's Words

Well wasn't that a party...

Not one of the office things that goes on this time of year, not even an ARRL QSO party. This was another of the 160m CW contests that a bunch of us participates in every winter as part of the VE2OJ group, or Outaouais Contest Operators Association. The "top band" has its special



group of aficionados, much the same way that 6M, the "magic band" has. For at least a few weekends a year we, (2OJ collectively) are among them. I have mentioned the group and its trips to cottage country in rural Quebec in other years. It is a bit like a DXpedition but with great eats and a hamshack in the country squire class replacing the "roughing it on the beach" and generator drone parts.

This years' attempt had the best of everything; perfect weather for work on the antennas before the test, more and better toys and gadgets to get that last bit of signal out of the noise, good propagation and the usual easy going nature of a crew that knows what has to be done and gets things going like clockwork.

This year we had a few little snags, like an antenna tuner failure before the first dit was sent, and a main rig failure with a hectic ten hours left in the contest. Nothing like the threat of disaster to focus the mind. Nobody panics, even when their top of the line, multi kilobuck, fully loaded contest rig seizes up in the middle of the night. That's the kind of team we have. Every year we pick up a few tips and tricks along with the equipment improvements. This year, we had more and better antennas, better receivers and made better use of the internet to pick up a few critical contacts. Next time we will have even more antennas, perhaps better ones. The things that broke last time will be stronger, and the memory keyer that forgets how to send CQ will be retired in favour of one that will can handle the pace. We might get better at packing and unpacking all those bits of hardware that have to shuttle up and down the highway for these weekends. Now if only that connection between the ears and the fingers would get better, we'd be ready to take on the world.

The only other operating of any significance in the past month at VE3FFK was at the Rally of the Tall Pines, near Bancroft. This event is a lot like

the Canadian Ski Marathon, but with the skis replaced by cars that are too big, being driven VERY fast over closed roads. The safety implications are as large, and the terrain and remoteness guarantees that cellular phones become paperweights. The net operation is decidedly "casual" by CSM standards, but everything that needs to get through does so. The rally operates on several frequencies, both simplex and repeater style, making antenna and rig performance critical. With about 70 operators running for about 20 hours over three days, the whole operation hovers on the verge of radio chaos, but always manages to stay just this side of the line. You just might want to add it to your calendar for November 2004.

Now all I have to do is get ready for the Canada Winter Contest, and Straight Key Night, and maybe another transmitter hunt.

73 - mk VE3FFK

OARC and the RAC Winter Contest

This year the OARC again received permission to activate the RAC Ontario callsign, VA3RAC, during the RAC Winter Contest on December 27, 2003. The club operated a multi-operator, multi-transmitter station with hams operating from their home or other station. The main purpose of using the VA3RAC callsign is to provide a RAC presence on the air. Twelve operators operated over the 24-hour contest period on bands from 160 m to 10 m. George Roach is still collecting the logs so at this time the total number of contacts made is not known. Once the logs are collected they will be combined and submitted to the contest organizer.

The VA3RAC station operators were:

- Ken Asmus (VA3KA)
- Janice Neelands (VA3PAX)
- George Roach (VE3BNO)
- Ben Price (VE3CDA)
- Pat Nicholls (VE3DZZ)
- Mike Kelly (VE3FFK)
- Rick Van Gastel (VE3HVA)
- Ian Jeffrey (VE3IGJ)
- Dave Green (VE3TLY)
- Doug Leach (VE3XX)
- Greg Danylchenko (VE3YTZ)
- Alan MacPhee (VE3ZTU)

Thanks to everyone who participated and we look forward to doing this again.

Ian Jeffrey

Our club is only as good as the members we have in the club. We have good members! Congratulations to the Amateurs mentioned in the article above. Well Done!



CPC JANUARY BREAKFAST REPORT

2004 has started and the first breakfast is over. The weather certainly did not cooperate by giving us all a wonderful bright blanket of ice making driving a little treacherous to say the least. Even with conditions, twenty-seven brave souls made the trek to Summerhays Grill at 1971 Baseline Road East of Woodroffe Avenue. Several regulars were under the weather and could not join us. To all, a quick recovery you were missed!

This was a Second Annual Memorial Breakfast in the memory of **Ted Turner VE3LV** who suddenly left us on December 20, 2002 for the Big Shack in the Sky! Unfortunately since then two more joined him: Chuck Mouritzen VE3JDM (January 22, 2003) and Howie Foell VE3OWT (July 23, 2003). Chuck and Howie were members of the Canadian Police College Amateur Radio Club, the CPC Breakfast and the annual Field Day. Chuck VE3JDM will always be remembered for coming up with the **CRAZY PURPLE CHICKEN** for the VE3CPC call and Howie always had a quick limerick either in person or on some of the Radio Nets.

All three will be sadly missed. A moment of silence was observed for them and all the other amateur radio operators that joined them in 2003.

Now you are wondering who was there, here is the list of daredevils who attended the Breakfast: Friends, Oscar & Carol -- VA2BRR, Ron & Julie -- VA3DWC, Dennis & Shawn -- VA3FEC, Fran & Meaghan -- VA3PFS, Paul & Sue -- VE3BDK, Bill -- VE3CDA Ben & Karen -- VE3DRO, Don, Jackie & Pat -- VE3GGQ, Ted -- VE3GK, Gerry -- VE3KEL, Steve -- VE3KLT, Terry -- VE3NJH, Don -- VE3TL, Clay -- VE3WGL, Guy, Marjorie and Holly -- VE3XEM, Pete -- VE3XK, Doug -- VE3YY, Frank & Mary.

A few people are celebrating their Birthday tomorrow Sunday January 04, 2004; Happy Birthday to Carol, Mary and Bill VE3BDK. Imagine even Bill would not tell us his age but as the saying goes Age before beauty... Bill got the free breakfast!

As for the 50/50, Gerry VE3GK informed everyone that he would win the 50/50 so he was chosen to draw the lucky ticket. Well it's back to magician school next week because Ted VE3GGQ took home \$35.00 to his daughter-in-law Sue VA3SIS. Possible by next breakfast, Gerry may be able to pull a rabbit out of the box! Don VE3DRO won the breakfast for two.

Around 10:15AM people started to leave the premise with a full load of cholesterol. The group was smaller this time but it was quality instead of quantity!

Hope to see a record crowd for the February Breakfast on February 07, 2004!

73 & 88,

Guy A. Ladouceur, VE3WGL

**JOIN RAC NOW! TOMORROW MIGHT
NEVER COME FOR AMATEUR RADIO IN
CANADA WITHOUT RAC!**

Hamsats Past, Present and Future

Past:

Sputnik 1 Oct 4 1957, beacon on 20 MHz

Oscar 1 Dec 12, 1961, beacon on 2M

VE3NPC started working satellites in 1988. VE3BNO, QB, NM were active in working, designing, building and controlling OSCARS in the Ottawa area before this.

Oscar 3 1965, 50KHz 2m Transponder

Oscar 5 1970,

Oscar 6 1972, 100KHz 2m-10m Transponder

Oscar 7 1974, two Oscars up at the same time. First inter satellite communications anywhere. (Up to Oscar 7 on 70 CM, out of Oscar 7 on 2m, into Oscar 6 on 2m, back to earth on 10m)

Oscar 8 1978 first 2m up 70cm down transponder

Oscar 10 First hi orbit Oscar (40,000km apogee)

Oscar 13 1988-1996 hi Orbit, but became more elliptical, until perigee intersected atmosphere.

Present:

16 Oscars, 8 operational, 8 "partially" operational. Includes FM, Analog transponder, Digital modes, Iss (International Space Station) Some are LEO (Low Earth Orbit) (~1000km/ 100min orbits) (several thousand km radius in view at one time)

ISS ~500km/ 90min orbits Heo high earth orbit (Oscar 40 ~60000km orbit) (half of planet is in view at one time near apogee) Modern transponders are always cross band. currently 4 analog transponders, 3 digital repeaters plus ISS available

FO29 2m up 70cm down

SO41 2m FM up 70CM FM down

SO50 2m FM up with 67Hz CTCSS, 70CM down

AO7 2m up 10m down, 70cm up 2m down only on when sun hits solar panels, sensitive 70cm rx

AO40 2m,70cm,23cm(x2),13cm up, 13cm,24GHz down in any combination, usually 70 or 23 cm up, 13 cm down

Future: coming soon

AO E: American LEO Microsat HF, 2m 70,23,13cm up, 2x8W tx,digital recorder 2004 launch

VUSAT: Indian LEO Microsat 2 transponders, failed pre launch test, currently looking for another launch opportunity

P3E: German HEO (1000x36000km) 70, 23cm Rx/2m,13cm Tx 50W Launch date(?)

Eagle: American HEO, 100Kg, 100W 2m,70,23,13,6cm 2007? Launch

Provided by Mike, VE3FFK

Editor's note: Larry Kayser's call sign during the 60's and 70's was VE3QB. He is now VE3LK. Some of you might remember his QTH in Manor Park where he, single handedly, kept one Oscar going while fending off minor TVI/BCI problems with his neighbours.



Ottawa Amateur Radio Club

Groundwave

Jan 2004

Nets and Things

Thanks From RAC's Ontario North Director

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada I wish to thank Ian Jeffrey VE3IGJ of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, and all others who participated in the planning and operation of VA3RAC during the RAC Canada Winter Contest, just completed yesterday. This was most appreciated as we know you took precious time out from important holiday activities.

Once all the paper and electronic logs are delivered to RAC Headquarters, they can be merged and the total counts of stations worked on each band can be calculated. The merged log for VA3RAC can then be submitted to the RAC Canada Winter Contest Manager.

As the RAC official stations across Canada are not in competition for any awards, we can surely say that our collective purpose was entirely selfless. We did make a lot of contest participants happy, and many of them were quite open about having fun in this event. I hope that those who did operate enjoyed the experience as well. Many contestants, who are working toward the "Worked All RAC Award" will welcome the additional QSL cards they may have earned this time around.

Vy 73

Doug, VE3XK

TALK TO SANTA

The Talk to Santa was held on Dec 13 and 14th, 2003 at the Museum of Science and Technology. Our Santa was Denis Cartwright, VA3DWC, and on Saturday, Dan Doctor, VE3XDD was writing the certificates for the 81 children that the elves, Bill, VE3NOD, Maurice André, VE3VIG and I, VA3PUR talked to. On Sunday, Maurice André was writing the certificates for the 50 or so, children that talked to Marc, VE2MKE and Bill, VE3NOD. All children were given certificates and candy canes.

We also received some publicity as a reporter from Le Devoir took pictures and did an interview, which appeared in the Monday Dec 15th. On the Saturday, our faces appeared on the new RO during the news broadcast.

The Museum co-ordinator Graham Wilkes, was very pleased as the number of children participating and their parents or guardians, made up a large number of those who visited the Museum that weekend.

Just a note for next year, one does not have to be a member of the OVMRC to be an elf. It is lots of fun and you would be very welcomed.

Patricia Rowan, VA3PUR

You are getting old if.....

- your mobile rig was a "19 Set" running from a dynamoter
- the DX Century club eligible countries list had 100 countries
- you remember "Kids, Lids and Space Cadets"!

Here is a listing of nets and breakfasts that you might find useful. Provided by Guy VE3WGL

DAILY - 07:30 AM - 147.150 (+) MHz (VE3MPC)- Rubber Boot Net - Monday to Friday except Statutory Holidays. Sponsored by the two Net Controllers are VE3GX Ed and Ron VE3MJX.

DAILY - 06:45 PM - 147.060 (-) MHz (VE3STP) - VE3STP Mini-Net - 365 days a year - Sponsored by the Champlain Regional Repeater Association.

MONDAY - 08:00 PM - 146.940 (-) MHz (VE2CRA) - Capital City FM Net followed by the National Capital Swap Net sponsored by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club.

TUESDAY - 08:00 PM - 147.300 (+) MHz (VE3TWO) - News & History Net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club.

WEDNESDAY - 07:00 PM - 147.300 (+) MHz (VE3TWO) - Welcome Mat Net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club.

THURSDAY - 07:00 PM - 145.450 (-) MHz (VE3RIX) - Chatter Box Net sponsored by the Manotick Amateur Radio Group. This Net is being re-activated starting January 01, 2004. Start the Year with a Bang be There!

TURSDAY - 08:30 PM - 147.150 (+) MHz (VE3MPC) - VE3CPC Weekly Net sponsored by the Canadian Police College Amateur Radio Club. Want to find out what is going on locally and internationally, speak to friends and meet new ones. Fifty-two weeks of the year!

FRIDAY - 08:00 PM - 147.300 (+) MHz (VE3TWO) - Wise Owl Net sponsored by the Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club.

Here is a few website that are interesting to look at and full of information:

www.oarc.net Ottawa Amateur Radio Club & National Capital Swap Net

www.ovmrc.on.ca Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club

www.rac.ca Radio Amateurs of Canada

www.ve3cpc.org Canadian Police College Amateur Radio Club

www.ve3stp.com Champlain Regional Repeater Association

In the event that you Cholesterol Level may be dipping to low digits, join one of the Breakfasts:

WEDNESDAY - 09:15AM - Every Wednesday - Renfrew - Nan's Restaurant. Check in on the Tuesday Night Mini-Net to find out more information.

SATURDAY - 1st of the Month except August - CPC Monthly Breakfast @ Summerhays Grill, 1971 Baesline Road.

SATURDAY - 3d of the Month - 08:30 AM - Miller's Oven on Mill Road in Manotick.

73 & 88, **Guy A. Ladouceur, VE3WGL**
e-mail: ve3wgl@rac.ca



President's Podium

RAC Bulletin 03-032

Elected nominees for positions on the Executive of RAC for the term 2004-2005



In accordance with RAC Bylaw Section 8, the Nomination Committee met by telephone conference on December 14, 2003 to elect nominees for positions on the Executive of Radio Amateurs of Canada for the term 2004-2005. Robert T. Kirkpatrick, VE9VAR, Chair of the seven member Nominations Committee composed of RAC Regional Directors, reports the voting results as follows:

Incumbent President William Gillis, VE1WG, decided not to run for re-election.

Eligible nominees offering for the position of President were; Robert Burns, VE1VCK, and Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA.

By a vote of 4 to 3, nominee Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, is declared elected to the position of RAC President.

One eligible nomination for the position of First Vice President was received. Nominee Robert Nash, VE3KZ, is declared elected by acclamation.

One eligible nomination for the position of Vice President Regulatory Affairs was received. Nominee James Dean, VE3IQ, is declared elected by acclamation.

One eligible nomination for the position of Vice President Field Services and International Affairs was received. Nominee Pierre Mainville, VA3PM, is declared elected by acclamation.

One eligible nomination for the position of Secretary was received. Nominee Noel Marcil, VE2BR, is declared elected by acclamation.

Elected candidates will assume office on January 1, 2004.

No eligible nominations were submitted for other positions. No eligible nominee was submitted for the position of Treasurer, identified under Bylaw Section 8, Article 15. The position of Treasurer is declared vacant as of January 1, 2004.

RAC Bulletin 03-030

RAC Radio Amateur of the Year Award for 2003

From a number of nominees, the RAC Board of Directors has unanimously selected Bill Elliott, VE1MR, as recipient of the RAC Radio Amateur of the Year Award for 2003.

An engraved silver tray was presented to VE1MR by Atlantic Regional Director David Nimmo, VE1NN, and RAC President Bill Gillis, VE1WG, at the Halifax Amateur Radio Club's annual Christmas Dinner Meeting on December 10, 2003.

Currently President of Halifax Amateur Radio Club, Bill Elliott, VE1MR, has been a Radio Amateur and a member of RAC and its predecessor national organizations for over twenty years. Through that time, Bill has consistently and generously donated his considerable technical and organizational skills to significantly promoting excellence in Amateur Radio and facilitating its public service role.



RAC Winter Contest

The OARC participated in the recent RAC Winter Contest using the VA3RAC call. This was my first crack at contesting in 20 years and I learned a lot. I had the 15 metre phone slot between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. I had contacts from Europe and Canada, but the majority was from our friends south of the border. There was plenty of time to chat for a bit and still move on quickly. I did have to move a few KHz down at one point because of a Big Gun just beside me. Overall, it was a great experience and I hope to do it again next year. George Roach VE3BNO has volunteered to tally up our points to see how we did against other clubs. More info: <http://www.rac.ca.ca/CANWIN.htm>

Canadian Ski Marathon:

Last year, Karen and I participated in the Canadian Ski Marathon for the first time. We intend to sign up again this year. More info: Ve3unw@rac.ca

OARC Club Questionnaire

I have tabulated the results of the OARC Club Questionnaire and will be reviewing them at the next general meeting. No big surprises, although one suggestion was to move Dayton to Canada. And after thinking about it, I kind of like that idea.

Joe Norton

We had multiple submissions this year for the Joe Norton award. The Executive has reviewed the submissions and, following a suggestion, have decided to send all submissions to a Joe Norton committee, which will make the final decision. Due to this slight delay, the winner will be announced and the award presented, at the February meeting.

Dayton...

It's really only 4 months and a bit before we head off to the Mecca of amateur radio, Dayton. If you are interested in going, please let me know. So far I've got a few people interested for our club. Feel free to invite people from other clubs or anyone who is interested. I'd really love to see a bus rolling down the highway headed for Dayton. <http://www.hamvention.org>

All this, and MORE, can be yours...

Public Awareness Drive...

We are starting to book more events for our presentation show at shopping centers. This is where we setup of display at a shopping center and talk to people as they walk by about amateur radio. Our next target date is January 31st at the Rideau Centre. If you would like to volunteer to hang out with the coolest people on earth, then drop me an e-mail ve3cda@rac.ca or give me a telephone call 729-1370. We had a lot of fun last time and got to answer lots of interesting questions.

cont.....



Cont.....

Web-site...

We have started working on the spruced-up OARC web-site. Diane VA3DB has found an experienced web designer who has volunteered to work with us for free! If you have things you would like to see on the web-site, please let me or Diane know.

Parting thoughts...

The new year is always a time for resolutions and this year is no exception. In the past, we have all attempted resolutions that met with limited success, such as the famous quite smoking resolution, or perhaps the drinking resolution. So this year, I was looking for something that I could really commit to. Then, in a flash, it came to me. Personally, I put on about 147 pounds during the holiday season from eating turkey and ham, so I have decided that one of my resolutions should be to buy clothes that stretch. As far as I am concerned, it's kind of like using an antenna tuner. Problem solved.

Just make sure you enjoy life. It's a gift.

VE3CDA

DC To Green Light How To Make A Magazine *Cary, VE3EV*

As I pointed out in an earlier chapter, TCA started out as little more than a small periodical supporting the work of CARF. It was a way for the Federation to advertise what it was doing for Amateur Radio. The copy was gleaned from just about every available source of information on Amateur Radio in Canada and, believe me, there wasn't much of that. The driving force for obtaining copy was Doug Burrill, (VE3CDC sk) and as a journalist of sorts he was able to find many items of interest that would escape most of us. Of course this would lead to the publication of some obviously biased information but it was a good read nonetheless. The compiled version was then sent to Gil Stevens, the editor, who would tone things down and remove much that would get us all in trouble. Next it was sent to Steve Campbell, a non-Ham, near Picton Ontario, who then printed and published the issue. Since Steve wasn't totally familiar with the language spoken by most Amateurs, the occasional slip-up would occur and an article was published that made no sense. In the beginning that was a problem but as time passed Steve became more familiar with the lingo and when in doubt would call Steve or Doug for clarification. After the first few issues this problem all but disappeared. ... until later on that is.

The first few years of TCA saw the magazine evolve from a newspaper print bulletin to a flashy fine-paper magazine. A good part of the reason for this was that mailing the copy was expensive. The lighter the item the less it cost to mail. Various weights of paper were tried until we found the right combo. The cover could be harder copy with a shiny coat while the inside was still newspaper print quality. Even the number of pages was an issue. The most we could have was 66 pages. Adding one more page cost considerably more than we were prepared to pay. Or could afford for that

matter. Colour was out of the question. A colour copy was much heavier than black and white. Too many pictures or graphics could cause the weight to go up as well. Staying at 66 pages or less kept us out of the trouble and expense.

We did have advertising that help offset some costs. Heathkit was one of our first clients. Harold McFarland and Dollard Electronics in Vancouver were also on our pages. At some point in its development, Don Slater, VE3BID, became our advertising rep. Don worked advertising for CBC and this became his retirement project, a job he did very well. CARF had gone to individual memberships just after the start if TCA which gave it a mechanism for distributing each issue. For business reasons TCA was put under an "arms-length" company called CARF Publications which was set up to manage all publications produced by the federation. I believe it is still that way now.

Filling spaces in a magazine is not a simple task. Nobody writes exactly the number of words to fill a column of print. They also have a way of making sentences say absolutely nothing intelligent despite the tone of the article. This makes the job of being editor a lot of fun, if you can call pulling your hair out fun. Oxford, Webster and a Thesaurus become your best friends at times as can a bottle of painkillers and tranquilizers. While re-writing a submitted article can be one way out of the problem it is also time consuming and can be seen as an insult to the author. Amazing how many writers consider themselves a Hemmingway with articles for publishing in National Geographic, when they are really rank beginners who need a lot of help. It has a lot to do with ego. Everyone likes to see their name in print, unless you are found with a lady of the night, or they like to see their works published, unless they are writing briefs for the finance minister. As a editor you always want to spell the author's name correctly and get their approval for changes to their material. Cover it properly and everyone is happy. Nobody likes to be corrected but when it is pointed out to them that there is a better way of saying what they want to say they will usually bow to the experience of the editor. It also saves being sued for liable.

You also have to worry about timing. With club bulletins you can usually expect that whatever you print will be on time for events listed. A magazine is different. TCA had a three month lead time. Writers needed to be aware of the time lag between the submission of an article and its appearance on the subscribers desk. Publishing a magazine takes lots of time, planning and skill. It isn't a place where "Last-Minute Charlie" can work his muscle. An editor will often leave a few spaces blank until the last minute so that important and time sensitive items can make it in, but your article on how to melt snow from your tri-bander isn't going to be one of them.

If there are spaces left over just before publishing starts, editors will use whatever fill they have on hand to complete the page. The easiest one, which I use in this bulletin, is the motivational phrase. You can say something in a single line that is both motivational and space filling. Just increase the font size to suit. Another is the small advertisement block. You convince an advertiser to buy several small quarter-column spaces and then fill the blanks with money makers. As long as the advertiser is happy, so is the editor. There are many more tricks and if you look at various magazines you can pick them out.

Once the copy is finalized it will then be sent to the publisher to cut-and-past into the final product. A good publisher can be a life saver. A bad one can be murder!

Next month: Attempted Magazine Murder.

VE3EV

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Box 8873 Ottawa, Ontario K1G 3J2

Renewal New New Ham (FREE if licensed in current membership year)

Single (\$25 (\$20 after 1 Feb) Family (\$30) Junior (\$15)

Add \$5.00 if you wish to have your Groundwave mailed to you.

(Please note: membership year is 1 September to 31 August)

Family Name: _____ First Name/Initials: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ ext _____

E-mail address: _____@_____ *(For Groundwave mailing)*

Callsign(s): | _____ | | _____ | | _____ | Fax: _____

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Other Family Members

Name: _____ Callsign(s): | _____ | | _____ | | _____ |

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Name: _____ Callsign(s): | _____ | | _____ | | _____ |

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Name: _____ Callsign(s): | _____ | | _____ | | _____ |

Qualifications: Basic Advanced Grandfathered
 5 wpm 12 wpm Year Licenced: _____

Interests: _____

Comments/Suggestions: _____

Mailed Copy Emailed PDF Copy

**HF/VHF/UHF Portable Operation
Just Got a Lot More Powerful!
Meet the YAESU FT-897**

Portable/Base Station

FT-897

All-Mode 1.8-430 MHz Transceiver



**Turn your next weekend getaway into an HF DX-pedition,
and leave the power supply at home!**

Portable/Base Station
FT-897
All-Mode 1.8-430 MHz Transceiver

Shown with optional FC-30 Antenna and RA-30 AC Power Supply



**Bytown Marine Limited
5 Corvus Court
Ottawa, K2E 7Z4**

**Tel: (613) 723-8424
Fax: (613) 723-0212
gwalker@bml.ca**