



# THE VOICE OF AMATEUR RADIO IN MISSISSAUGA COMMUNICATOR



VE3MIS/VE3RCX

Vol 8.3

November 11, 2004

## From the Gavel - President's Message



Once again it's time to write another column, and oh what to write about this time. For the most part the club is indeed running not too badly, the finances are in order, the membership is about where it should be for this time of the year. So indeed what should I write about? We have the same amount of problems that we have had for some time now like no club station, and we, for the most part have the same people slogging away trying to solve and do everything. But none of that is really interesting, so yes the question is what do I write about?

Well I could write about how we were involved in a reportedly successful, yet again less than organized simulated emergency test, the good that came out of it. So you might say how can good come out of one of those things? Well, the good was that this time the District Emergency Coordinators actually came to listen to our comments. I don't know if it will actually improve things, but they came and they listened. This has been rehashed now so much ... it's like mom's best mashed potatoes, beaten to death, so probably not a good thing to write about.

I could write about the Packet Working Group which we will be heading up. The group is supposed to define the procedures, structure and development of the new packet network. The key word there is "new", but we obviously have our work cut out for us if our observer at the SOPRA revival meeting gives any indication of what is to come. After all it is like breathing life into old 386's and old DOS software really isn't what I signed up for. If I went into length about this though, some members might break out into a cold sweat and faint, therefore, I won't write about that.

I could write about finding cold solder joints in two of our link radios, yet again delaying our progress. But who wants to read about how our club is plagued by the fact that people and/or companies find heating a joint of two pieces of metal enough to flow solder firmly into the joint to make a solid connection so very difficult. That would probably turn into a rant, so I won't write about that either.

I could write about how a large manufacturer of electronics like Kenwood can't fix successfully, after 3 times, our TS-50, which is one of their own radios. And to add insult to injury, they give us a hard time for not returning their defective repair faster to them. Silly me, I would have thought a repair would actually fix something. But this might just get my blood pressure up, so it is probably not a good subject to write about.

So what am I going to write about? I could write about lots of little things. But they all get said at the General Meetings, and since everyone comes out to those meetings. You all have heard all the news that is fit to print. So that is not so exciting to write about. So I guess I just won't write about anything, well at least it won't be a soapbox rant either. Maybe next month I'll have something exciting to write about.

Robin (VE3VVS)

For those of you reading this in black and white, the newsletter is available to you on the yahoogroups for club members only in living Technicolor, or some sort of impressive colour anyhow.

### This Month

2. Commentary
3. Minutes of General Meeting #03
4. Minutes of General Meeting #04
5. Minutes of Executive Meeting #05
6. BPL -FAQ's
7. RAC News
8. For Sale/ Hamfests
9. Club Calendar for 2004-2005
10. RAC Application Form

### Sunday Brunch

Sunday brunches are held on the first Sunday of each month. Time is 9:30AM at **The Pickle Barrel** located at Erin Mills Town Centre located at Eglinton and Erin Mills Parkway. All are welcome to come out and have an opportunity to chat in an informal setting..

### Sunday Brunch December 5, 2004

### Club Nets

#### 2 Metre Tuesday Night Phone Net

Join in on the chatter starting at 8:30PM every Tuesday on the club repeater. Hosted by various net controllers. Contact our VHF Net Manager, **Reg (VA3JQA)** if interested in becoming a net controller. 145.430MHz Tone 103.5 Minus (-) offset

**75 Metre Sunday Night Net** Starts at 8:30PM every Sunday. Hosted by various net controllers. Contact our HF Net Manager, **Michael (VE3TKI)**, if interested in becoming a net controller.



# THE COMMUNICATOR



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## Commentary...



To-day is November 11, Remembrance Day, the time of year set aside to remember those young men and women who fought so bravely in foreign lands. Many never came home, but remain over in the foreign lands in graves forever frozen in time. If one looks at the headstones of the graves, you will see that most are in their twenties or late teens.

So, does any of this have anything to do with amateur radio?

Well yes, I believe it does, for if all those young men and women who enlisted in our forces hadn't done so, we would be living in a very different world than that of today.

We wouldn't have the freedoms that we enjoy in this country. We wouldn't have the rights we have in this country. We wouldn't have the privileges we have in this country. We wouldn't have the traditions we have in this country. We as a nation have much to be thankful for. We as a nation must remember to thank our veterans and we must remember them every day of our lives, for without their

sacrifices and without their backbones it would be a far different world.

We enjoy the privilege of being able to obtain a radio license to operate. The right of assembly. The right to criticize our governments. The rights of a free press, open airwaves and free speech. Along with these rights and privileges comes responsibility. While pursuing our individual rights, we must always take note of those around us and what the consequences of our actions have on their rights. We have a responsibility to ensure that that all those young men and women who fought and died to protect these rights didn't do so in vain. We have a responsibility to give our veterans who spent 5 years of their youth to fight a vicious and ugly war our utmost respect and gratitude. Many of them came home physically and mentally disabled forever carrying the scars of what they witnessed and endured.

Would the Canada of today be able to muster up a one million plus volunteer combined armed forces? They did in the second world war, with a population much less than that of today. We are a changing nation, our values and traditions tend to be ignored, ridiculed and changed due to political correctness and expediency. We do no service to those young men and women who lie in war graves all over Europe when we ignore our heritage and history. We don't teach our children much about Canada's history and accomplishments. This is wrong and a disservice to those who serviced our great nation.

People now in their late teens and early twenties attend university, trade schools, or are in the work force leading productive and rewarding lives raising family's, buying cars, cottages etc. Our veterans spent that period of their lives living in foxholes under fire, traveling and fighting in mud and bog, or on the high seas and in the air, not knowing whether they would be alive at the end of the day fighting a war.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have my utmost respect and admiration. No, your efforts and sacrifices were not in vain.

73 de Tony (VA3QC)

### Mississauga Amateur Radio Club Directors and Managers PO Box 2003, Square One Post Office, Mississauga, Ont., L5B 3C6 Website: [www.marc.on.ca](http://www.marc.on.ca) Email: [ve3mis@rac.ca](mailto:ve3mis@rac.ca)

President.....: Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	905-826-6753	<b>Directors</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President.....: John Duffy	VE3DRZ	905-822-4661	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President....: Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	905-625-6846		Treasurer .....	William Bressette	VE3WPJ	
Secretary.....: Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	905-858-8594		Past President .....	Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	905-858-8594
			<b>Managers</b>	Education .....	Earle Laycock	VE3XEL	
Membership .....	John Kenzie	VE3WJK		Ed. Asst (Theory) .....	Alan Barolet	VA3AWB	
Ed. Asst (Theory) .....	Bob Hawkins	VE3AGC		Ed. Asst (CW) .....	Tony Champion	VA3QC	
Ed. Asst (CW) .....	Frank Lamb	VE3HTX		Repeater Asst 1.....	Art Sinclair	VE3SQG	
Repeater Mgr.....	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI		VHF Net .....	Reg Vertolli	VA3JQA	
Repeater Asst 2 .....	Asim Zaidi	VE3XAP		Public Service.....	Bob Boyer	VE3XBB	
HF Net.....	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI		Club Station Asst.....	Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	
Club Station.....	Rick Brown	VE3IMG		Contests .....	Rick Brown	VE3IMG	
House .....	John Duffy	VE3DRZ		Contests Asst 2 .....	Asim Zaidi	VE3XAP	
Contest Asst 1 .....	Alex Malikov	VA3UA		Special Events .....	Bob Boyer	VE3XBB	
Newsletter .....	Tony Champion	VA3QC		QSL .....	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI	
Special Events Asst :	Bob Giddy	VE3IAB		Field Day Asst 1 .....	Tony Champion	VA3QC	
Field Day.....	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI		Field Day Asst 2.....	John Duffy	VE3DRZ	
Field Day Asst 2.....	Jody Levine	VE3ION		FSV Mgr.....	Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	
Field Day Asst 4.....	Tom Godden	VE3TWG		Programmes Asst 1..:	Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	
Programmes .....	Brian Jay	VA3BLJ		Webmaster.....	Alex Malikov	VA3UA	
Programmes Asst 2.:	Bob Boyer	VE3XBB					
Document Mger .....	Tony Champion	VA3QC		<b>Public Service Events/ARES</b>			
				Emerg Asst 1 .....	Art Sinclair	VE3SQG	
Emerg Coord .....	Sean Conlin	VA3MED		Emerg Asst 3 .....	Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	
Emerg Asst 2 .....	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI		Emerg Asst 5 .....	Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	
Emerg Asst 4 .....	Bob Boyer	VE3XBB					
Emerg Asst 6 .....	John Duffy	VE3DRZ		<b>Audit Committee</b>			
				Auditor 1 .....	OPEN		
Auditor 1 .....	OPEN			Auditor 2 .....	Bill Dmytrasz	VE3DNY	



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## Minutes of General Meeting #03

**Date:** October 14, 2004

**Location:** 3535 South Common Court, Mississauga

**Time:** 7:30PM

**Officers Present:**

Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	President
Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	2nd Vice President
Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	Secretary

**Absent:**

William Bressette	VE3WPJ	Treasurer
John Duffy	VE3DRZ	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Attendance:**

- o 26 including visitors

**Opening Business – Robin (VE3VVS)**

- o Opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.
- o Robin mentioned that the MARC mugs were available for \$10.00 each.

**Repeaters – Robin (VE3VVS)**

- o All the masts, antennas and lightning arresters have been installed.
- o Link radios are ready for programming
- o Robin (VE3VVS) needs to get a Yagi installed at his location
- o Eventually hoping to use the UHF repeater to link up with the Tech net on Friday nights run by Reg Bagshaw (VE3BQQ)

**ARES – Robin (VE3VVS)**

- o There is a SET (Simulated Emergency Test) scheduled for Oct 23rd
- o Volunteers are needed for Oct 31 for the annual Goblin Patrol. Please contact Sean at your earliest if planning to come out.

**Ham-Ex™**

- o April 9, 2005 is the date to mark on your calendar.
- o Start considering what you will volunteer to do.

**New Business**

- o The subject of obtaining a much needed LCD Projector was broached by Robin. After some discussion, there was a motion by Brian (VA3BLJ) and seconded by Fred (VE3VRO) that an investigation into the requirements, source, price, etc commence right away with the purpose of making a presentation at the next general meeting to those attending with a full report on availability; whether buying used is possible or feasible; whether leasing should be considered; whether there is a possibility that one of the members can make use of their company's purchasing power to obtain a discounted price etc etc. Also the means of financing said item will be presented to the assembled throng. This item has become a priority and if the club does not obtain one, it is going to be very difficult to get people to come out and make presentations to the club. It is also not right that we rely on members to beg and/or borrow from their employers. A motion will be presented once the report has been tabled to either proceed or not with a purchase of an LCD projector.

**50/50 Draw**

- o There was no draw.

**Speaker/Activity.**

- o A video of the Heard Island DXpeditions was shown. A fascinating tape to view.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25PM

Next meeting – October 28, 2004

A.J. Champion (VA3QC) – Documentation Manager

October 15, 2004



## Minutes of General Meeting #04

**Date:** October 28, 2004

**Location:** 3535 South Common Court, Mississauga

**Time:** 7:30PM

**Officers Present:**

Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	President
Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	2nd Vice President
Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	Secretary
William Bressette	VE3WPJ	Treasurer
John Duffy	VE3DRZ	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President

**Attendance:**

- o 36 including visitors

**Opening Business – Robin (VE3VVS)**

- o Opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.
- o Robin mentioned that the MARC mugs were available for \$10.00 each.
- o Stated that the executive wanted a company to come to a meeting to demonstrate their LCD projector(s) in order that a decision could be made as to which model to buy.

**RAC**

- o John (VE3DRZ) stated that RAC has 6,500 members, there being 51,000 licensed amateurs in Canada. In the club, 60% of the club members are RAC members, and the goal is to increase that to ultimately 100%.
- o Bob (VE3IAB) reported on the RAC annual meeting which took place in Orillia on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. He advised that RAC will be providing each RAC member with a \$5,000.00 liability policy. Re the club's RAC insurance policy, the premium for such coverage will be pro rated to the percentage of club members belonging to RAC. He also mentioned that IC is again considering delegating the administration of ham radio to RAC: IC and RAC are talking about this

**ARES – Sean (VA3MED)**

- o Reported on the SET which took place on October 23<sup>rd</sup>: it was overall a success, but had some bugs, to be straightened out in a meeting with Vic Henderson to take place on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- o He also gave out the Goblin Patrol assignments

**Ham-Ex™**

- o April 9, 2005 is the date to mark on your calendar.
- o Start considering what you will volunteer to do.

**New Business**

- o John (VE3DRZ) stated that he had sold a rig that had been given to him by Jim Dean, and he will donate the \$300.00 proceeds of sale to the club.
- o

**50/50 Draw**

- o Tom Godden (VE3TWG) won \$24.00.

**Speaker/Activity.**

- o Reg Bagshaw (VE3BQQ) gave an informative talk on the GE repeaters and other related topics.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned around 9ish give or take some unknown quantity of time

Next meeting – November 11, 2004

A.J. Champion (VA3QC) – Documentation Manager with thanks from notes by Lorne Jackson (VE3CXT)

November 9, 2004



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## Minutes of Executive Meeting #05

**Date:** November 4, 2004

**Location:** John's (VE3DRZ) spacious hacienda

**Time:** 7:30PM

### Attendees:

Robin Stubbs	VE3VVS	President	Bob Boyer	VE3XBB	PSG
Lorne Jackson	VE3CXT	Secretary	Brian Jay	VA3BLJ	Programmes
John Duffy	VE3DRZ	1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Rick Brown	VE3IMG	Contests/Station
Bob Giddy	VE3IAB	2nd VP	Tony Champion	VA3QC	Doc/News Mgr
Earle Laycock	VE3XEL	Education	Michael Brickell	VE3TKI	Repeater Mgr
Sean Conlin	VA3MED	ARES/PSG	John Kenzie	VE3WJK	Membership

**Absent:** William Bressette VE3WPJ Treasurer

### Club Station

- Robin will contact a potential site that is being looked at to see what the current status is.

### Goblin Patrol

- The event went well. There were no incidents. The FSV was used with great success.

### Repeater(s)

- The link radios were removed from the repeater site and are now at Robin's 9VE3VVS). They have been repaired (cold solder joints).
- Fuses will be added to the radios for safety purposes.
- The old UHF repeater should be sold. It will first be offered to club members and if there are no takers, then it will be listed on one of the swap/sell nets.
- The Kenwood VHF repeater will be taken to Malcolm Kent for appraisal. If it is repairable for a reasonable rate, then the club will proceed to have it repaired and then will sell it as it is surplus equipment at this point.

### ARES

- FSV storage was discussed and the Transhelp site will be investigated
- The packet initiative needs some procedures written up if it is to be of use in emergencies.
- The recent SET was discussed and followed up

### Club Mugs

- 41 mugs sold thus far. No need to buy more.

### Membership (John VE3WJK)

- Announced that there are 87 members and that the Mississauga ratio is 65%
- A letter will be sent out to those who did not renew from last year in the hopes that they will signup again
- The yahoogroups will be updated to delete those who have not rejoined and to add those who have.

### Webmaster

- Robin (VE3VVS) will contact Alex to see how the transition is proceeding in the takeover of the duties from Art (VE3SQG)

### Miscellaneous

- An outstanding invoice from Goldline will be followed up and paid
- The quest for an LCD projector will also continue.

### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Next meeting will be December 2, 2004 at Lorne's (VE3CXT) magnificent manor.

Prepared by: Tony Champion (VA3QC)

November 9, 2004



## Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) Frequently asked questions (Taken from RAC Website)

### **Q What is BPL, and why is it a possible threat to Amateur Radio?**

**A** BPL systems transmit high frequency digital data over existing electricity distribution wiring. Because the wires are usually not shielded, and are widely spaced, the signals may be radiated, or coupled from the electric wires into amateur receiving antennas causing interference – most often in the HF bands between 80 and 10 metres.

### **Q What is “Access BPL”?**

**A** BPL can use your internal house wiring to link computers together, or to couple other devices to computers.

BPL can also be used on outdoor power lines to connect users to the Internet. This application is often referred to as “Access BPL”.

### **Q What is RAC doing about BPL?**

**A** RAC has been discussing BPL technology with the responsible people at Industry Canada since the first experimental systems appeared in Europe about 5 years ago. We have also been in close communication with those concerned about BPL in other amateur societies, particularly the ARRL.

We have regularly provided Industry Canada with information on BPL developments around the world, and informed them about our serious concerns that BPL may interfere with amateur operations in HF and VHF amateur bands.

We have also warned Industry Canada, that amateur stations operating in accordance with Canadian regulations, may interfere with BPL signals on the power lines.

We have discussed BPL with other HF spectrum users in international meetings, and in the Radio Advisory Board of Canada, and again raised our concerns.

And finally, through the IARU, we are attending ITU meetings and participating in studies of possible increases to the noise floor world-wide due to ionospheric propagation of radiated BPL signals.

### **Q Which amateur bands may be interfered with by BPL signals?**

**A** Most systems currently being tested, use the frequency range from about 3 to 30 MHz for their signals. Some companies are considering extending the bandwidth to as high as 80 MHz to allow increased data rates.

### **Q Is there a difference between the BPL proposed in North America, and that currently implemented in some European countries?**

**A** Yes, the physical layout of North American power distribution is much different from that used in Europe, and in most cases our wire spacing is greater, leading to a higher potential for interference here.

### **Q Can a BPL system operate without Industry Canada authorization?**

**A** Any wire communications system which does not intentionally radiate RF signals, does not require Industry Canada approval to operate, if it does not produce interference to radio services.

However, many non-intentional radiators do generate RF interference, and Industry Canada publishes standards for some types of equipment, defining acceptable emission levels. These documents are called ICES (Interference Causing Equipment Standards), and may be downloaded from the Industry Canada web site at:

[http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h\\_sf06127e.html](http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf06127e.html)

### **Q Have any operational BPL systems been authorized by Industry Canada ?**

**A** As mentioned in the above question, wire communications systems are not subject to Industry Canada authorization. However, there are several experimental trials currently undertaken by Power Utilities that are being monitored by Industry Canada with a view to determine next steps.

Industry Canada is aware that BPL has the potential to cause interference to existing users of radio frequencies in services such as Aeronautical mobile, Aeronautical radionavigation, Amateur, and Broadcasting amongst others. As this is a new technology, they are interested in those trials where the benefits of the technology as well as any possible adverse affects it may have on radio frequency users may be evaluated. RAC has been assured by Industry Canada that, in determining next steps, they will ensure consultation among all involved stakeholders before moving ahead.

### **Q Has Industry Canada issued an ICES document specifically for BPL systems?**

**A** No, at the present time, only low frequency carrier current systems are subject to an ICES standard.

[ICES-006- AC Wire Carrier Current Devices \(Unintentional Radiators\)](#) can be downloaded from the IC web site. This Interference-Causing Equipment Standard sets out limits and method of measurement of radio noise emissions and specifies maximum permissible output voltages from AC wire carrier current devices of a design for which any radiation of radio frequency energy is unintentional.

According to ICES-006,

*"Subject to further study by Industry Canada on cumulative effects of multiple devices:*

*emission of the fundamental frequency from AC wire carrier current devices operating above 1705 kHz shall not exceed a field strength of 30 microvolts/metre (quasi-peak) at a distance of 30 metres, measured over the frequency range of 1.075 MHz to 30 MHz."*

### **Q Has Industry Canada established emission limits for BPL in Canada?**

**A** As of April 2004, Industry Canada has not yet decided on acceptable emission limits for BPL systems in Canada. They monitoring international activities related to BPL, particularly in the USA in order to determine the next step.

### **Q What will my receiver S-Meter read if the interference level is 30 microvolts /meter?**

**A** That will depend on the nature of the interference, your antenna gain, your IF bandwidth setting, and the frequency of course. A source of interference, 30 metres from a half wave dipole at 7 MHz, is in the near field of the antenna, and the received signal is difficult to calculate.

Very approximately, a broad band interfering signal of 30 microvolts/meter at 30 meters from a half wave dipole at 7 MHz is equivalent to about an S-8 SSB signal, or an S-6 CW signal.

### **Q Is anyone studying the possibility that BPL systems may radiate enough energy to propagate long distances via the ionosphere, and raise the HF noise floor in countries far removed from the system?**

**A** Yes, a number of studies are taking place around the world, for example both the ITU and NATO are currently beginning studies of this potential problem. The BBC has conducted its own internal engineering study, and published the results.

### **Q Is there more than one type of BPL system on the market?**

**A** Yes, there are a number of competing technologies, some of which may cause more interference than others. This variety of systems further adds to the complexity of the interference problem.

### **Q Has anyone disagreed with the FCC proposals to set an emission control limit for BPL in the USA?**

**A** Yes, there have been many responses, to see what some of the respondents have said, download the following file - [in puff format \(about 100Kbytes\)](#)



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## RAC News and News From Here and There

Website: <http://www.rac.ca>

Ontario South Region Directors website: <http://www.qsl.net/ve3bdb/director.html>

### Broadcasters wind up the fall series of WRC planning meetings at the ITU in Geneva. 2004-11-08

During the 10 day period from October 26th to November 3rd, the Working Party of the ITU Radio Bureau which looks after shortwave broadcasting, met in Geneva Switzerland. This is the last of the fall 2004 series of meetings of interest to Amateur Radio.

Shortwave broadcasters are of course very interested in the potential for interference to their listeners from BPL, and have been busy collecting information for a study currently underway. One concern which has not been discussed previously, is the impact on the planning and scheduling of broadcasts of an increase in the background noise floor.

Broadcasters meet regularly to decide who will operate on what frequency during the next two six month periods. The plans are updated continuously to take advantages of any gaps in frequency if for some reason a station does not go on the air as expected. The plans are set up so that a broadcaster can reach a target area at a particular time of day, on an optimum frequency. Since in many cases received signals are very weak, a small increase in noise floor can completely invalidate all the careful planning work.

On the BPL front, amateurs and broadcasters are on the same side of the argument. On the other hand, proposals from broadcasters for an increase of as much as 800 kHz of new spectrum between 4 and 10 MHz are of considerable concern to the amateur service since part of our 40 metre band is vulnerable.

At the current meetings, the IARU worked hard to ensure that a report, providing advice to the world radio conference in 2007, would include the concerns of the amateur service, and in fact point out that in North America we still have a problem between 7200 and 7300 kHz with nighttime interference from broadcasters in Europe. We were successful in having the desired paragraphs added, but unless a much stronger case can be made over the next couple of years, the paragraphs may disappear. There appeared to be very little support for our 40 metre concerns amongst most of the broadcast delegates attending the meetings.

Ken Pulfer, VE3PU, represented the IARU at the meetings, and Walt Ireland WB7CSL represented the ARRL. Many other amateurs from countries around the world were present at the meetings, but they had other responsibilities, and could not speak in defense of amateur radio.

### QCWA 2004 International Convention in Ottawa great success

The Quarter Century Wireless Association held its 2004 International Convention in Ottawa, Canada the weekend of October 15. Delegates were welcomed from the United States and various regions of Canada.

Clare Fowler VE3NPC, who organized the talks, was at the audio controls. Guest speakers were introduced by Doug Leach VE3XK. Throughout all the sessions, a fascinating display of antique radios was available for viewing courtesy of the Ottawa Vintage Radio Club.

Ken Oelke VE6AFO discussed "Moonbounce Basics and Beyond", with emphasis on how to get started. This was followed by Brice Wightman VE3EDR describing the record-breaking organizational and technical achievement of Category 35A at Field Day 2000 by local Ottawa amateurs. Dick Bonnycastle VE3FUA explained the popular rechargeable battery types, and the charging methods for each. In his talk "Using RF Fingerprinting & Wireless Profiling", Elias Zaydan VE3EKZ, showed us some of the latest developments in radio frequency security and how criminals and terrorists can be located and identified. Well known for his antenna articles, Jack Belrose VE2CV, spoke on "Truths and Untruths about Electrically Small Antennas" including mini-loops. Jim Dean VE3IQ, substituting for Ken Pulfer VE3PU, spoke on "Spectrum Challenges & Opportunities" and the role of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). Don't take the amateur radio bands for granted! We are just guests in some of them.

Convention attendees met and enjoyed the evening Meet & Greet! Between

sessions and during the evenings, delegates were able to socialize in the convention hospitality suite hosted by Doreen and Ed Morgan VE3CGO and VE3GX.

Clare Fowler VE3NPC in his talk "Past-Present-Future of Amateur Satellites" provided lots of how-to and getting started information. Regrets were presented by Clare on behalf of Gerald Youngblood AC5OG who was to speak on "Software-Defined Radios for the Masses" but had to cancel his trip up from Texas. Dave Conn VE3KL presented his developing "Antenna Family Tree" web site with its overview of most antenna types, comparing the performance of each. "Super-Regenerative Receivers" by Lea Barker, reviewed this interesting technology from another era. This was followed by a nostalgic illustrated history of Airborne Radio Equipment by Ralph Cameron VE3BBM. "What's That Racket?" Ken Asmus VA3KA and Richard Bandla VE3CVG explained the various current HF Digital Modes, what they sound like, and how to get started. An informative talk on "Noise in Receiving Systems" by Dave Conn VE3KL showed what to expect and how to reduce receiver noise level at your home location. Bert Barry VE3QAA described his reversible 160 M Beverage receiving antennas to an envious audience. Larry McCalvy WA9MJO took us on an imaginary cruise, which could become real, should we attend the 2005 QCWA Alaska Cruise in August of next year!

The convention highlight was the banquet featuring a humorous and interesting tale of Canada's Secret Nuclear Bunker and Communications Centre by guest speaker Brian Jeffrey VE3UU.

Were we finished? Not quite - All Aboard for the steam train through the Gatineau hills and fall colours of Quebec to Wakefield!

In addition to Convention Chair George Roach VE3BNO and Past President Croft Taylor VE3CT, were these additional convention volunteers from host Chapter 70: Keith Bedal VE3GFI, Ernie Brown VA3OEB, Gord Grant VE3DY, Don Heaslip VE3NJK, Margaret Heaslip VE3EQE, Graham Ide VE3BYT, Guy Ladouceur VE3WGL, Marjorie Lalonde, Elsie & Joe Parkinson VE3JG, Dave Parks VE3AV, Joan Powell VE3ZC, Susan & Paul Scott VA3PFS, and Bob Ziemann, VE3ATN. Thanks to Doug Leach, VE3XK

### Many European hams get early access to 7100 - 7200 kHz 2004-11-3

After WRC 03, the European countries decided that "on condition that harmful interference is not caused to the broadcasting service, administrations may allow stations in the amateur service in Regions 1 and 3, from 1st January 2005 until April 2007, to use frequencies in the band 7100 - 7200 kHz on a secondary basis, using a total radiated power not exceeding 24dBW" (24 dBW is about 250 watts). See the RAC website for further details

### UK Hams get expanded 40 Metre Privileges

Ofcom and the Radio Society of Great Britain are pleased to announce that all necessary procedures required for early access to the 7.1 to 7.2MHz spectrum for all UK radio amateurs have been finalized and that access is allowed from 01.00 UTC on Sunday 31st October 2004. Early access is granted on a Secondary (non-interference) basis using a maximum of 26dBW (400 watts) PEP

Notices of Variation for the U.K. Foundation, Intermediate and Full licenses have been published on the Ofcom website at <http://tinyurl.com/4tuud>. It is recommended that for the time being only voice and Morse code modes are used between 7.1 and 7.2MHz. Band planning issues on MHz will be kept under regular review and will be dependent on the number of administrations granting early access to this band prior to full Primary access on 29th March 2009.

(Jeremy Boot, G4NJK)

## VE3PG - Complete Ham Station for Sale



The following items comprise a complete HF Ham Radio Station and are for immediate disposal as one complete lot. All items are in really fine shape and have been well looked after:

- Kenwood 570S (HF all band +6M) inc Kenwood PS-30 Power Supply
- Kenwood AT-180 Antenna selector and tuner plus SWR meter
- Heathkit HD-15 Phone Patch
- Heathkit SB-614 Station Monitor
- Hammond Loudspeaker
- Custom Central Control Unit (in Hammond Case)
- MFJ 1278 Multi-mode Data Controller
- ICOM IC-2100 2m transceiver
- Foot switch for 'press-to-talk'
- Automatic (Iambic) morse key with paddles
- Regular 'brass pounder' key
- Cushcraft A5 vertical 5-band antenna (no ground radials reqd.)

Plus some optional items which will be at no charge to the

purchaser of the package:

- Sturdy but attractive equipment mounting shelf unit and power bar
- Selector sw for mic/packet /patch into rig
- Most Manuals
- Oak desk (screws apart for moving)
- TUNEABLE 2m rig (Yaesu FT-221) that needs 2 new audio output transistors,
- Self-contained power supply. Great looking rig.
- Isopole "lumped constant" 40m and 80m indoor antennas
- 10m dipole (needs no radials)
- Misc coax cables
- All items can be viewed at 35 Parkside drive in Guelph. Call 519-829-1810
- or:
- [peegee@sympatico.ca](mailto:peegee@sympatico.ca)
- Price: \$1,800.00

## Upcoming Hamfests

### Big Event 27

The Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club  
Saturday, February 5, 2005, .  
St Catharines ON

### Burlington Spring Flea Market

Burlington Amateur Radio Club  
Saturday, February 26, 2005,  
Burlington ON

### HAM-EX 2005

Peel Amateur Radio Club /  
Mississauga Amateur Radio Club  
Saturday, April 9, 2005,  
Brampton ON

### Whitby Amateur Radio Clubs #3 Annual Hamfest

Whitby Amateur Radio Club  
Saturday, April 16, 2005,  
Oshawa ON

### Durham Region Amateur Radio Hamfest

North Shore ARC and South  
Pickering ARC  
Saturday, April 23, 2005,.  
Whitby ON

### Annual Spring Hamfest and Fleamarket

The Skywide Amateur Radio Club  
Saturday, May 14, 2005,y.  
Toronto ON





# THE COMMUNICATOR



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## CLUB CALENDAR FOR 2004-2005

### 2004

#### NOVEMBER

11 Thursday General Meeting #05 –  
 16 Tuesday Basic Class #07 – Receivers (note 3)  
 18 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 23 Tuesday Basic Class #08- Set-up, Operations, Regulations (note 3)  
 25 Thursday General Meeting #06 –

#### DECEMBER

02 Thursday Executive Meeting #06 at Lorne's (VE3CXT)  
 05 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 07 Tuesday Basic Class #09 – Interference & Safety (note 3)  
 09 Thursday General Meeting #07 – Annual Christmas Pot Luck gathering  
 14 Tuesday Basic Class #10 - Review (note 3)  
 18 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 21 Tuesday Basic Class #11 – EXAMINATION (note 3)  
 23 Thursday **NO MEETING**

### 2005

#### JANUARY

02 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 04 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 06 Thursday Executive Meeting #07 at Michael's (VE3TKI)  
 11 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 13 Thursday General Meeting #08 –  
 18 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 20 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 25 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 27 Thursday General Meeting #09 –

#### FEBRUARY

01 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)

03 Thursday Executive Meeting #08 at Robin's (VE3VVS)  
 06 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 08 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 10 Thursday General Meeting #10 –  
 15 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 17 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 22 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 24 Thursday General Meeting #11 –

#### MARCH

01 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)  
 03 Thursday Executive Meeting #09 at Earle's (VE3XEL)  
 06 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 08 Tuesday Code Class (note 3)- Final Class & Test  
 10 Thursday General Meeting #12 –  
 17 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 24 Thursday General Meeting #13 –

#### APRIL

03 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 07 Thursday Executive Meeting #10 at Michaels (VE3TKI)  
 14 Thursday General Meeting #14 –  
 21 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 28 Thursday General Meeting #15 –

#### MAY

01 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Pickle Barrel (note 2)  
 05 Thursday Executive Meeting #11 at Lorne's (VE3CXT)  
 12 Thursday General Meeting #16 –  
 19 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 26 Thursday General Meeting #17 –

#### JUNE

02 Thursday Executive Meeting #12 at Art's (VE3SQG)  
 04-05 Sat-Sun Bread & Honey Festival  
 05 Sunday Sunday Brunch at Vic Johnson Arena at 9:00AM  
 09 Thursday General Meeting #18 –  
 16 Thursday Public Service/ARES at RC (Cancross)  
 23 Thursday General Meeting #19 – Pot Luck End of Season  
 25-26 Sat-Sun Field Day 2005

### NOTES

1. Meetings start 7:30PM at St. Thomas A Becket Church Hall, 3535 South Common Court unless otherwise noted.
2. Brunch is at 9:30AM unless otherwise noted.
3. Classes are from 7:00PM - 9:00PM at Meals On Wheels at 2445 Dunwin Drive

Visit our website: <http://www.marc.on.ca> for any updates of the calendar.



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## Mail-in Application Form to Join RAC

New \_\_\_ or Renewal \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

1-year single at \$39.95 (GST incl.).....: \_\_\_\_\_

1-year single in NB, NS, NF \$41.43 (HST incl.).....: \_\_\_\_\_

Each additional Family member at \$20 .....: \_\_\_\_\_

(Name/Call sign of additional family members \_\_\_\_\_

Blind membership (no magazine) at \$20.....: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please provide CNIB registration number) \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign 1-year single at \$53 (US funds only) .....: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VISA/ MasterCard No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Mail to:  
Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.  
720 Belfast Road, Suite 217  
Ottawa, ON  
K1G 0Z5