

## From the Gavel...



Welcome back everyone. I hope you enjoyed your summer, I know I did. While the club was officially closed for business, we were not totally inactive over the past few months.

The summer started off with a bang at the new Field Day location, the Meadowvale Conservation area. A lot of planning went into organizing the event. Lorne VE3CXT took the reigns this year and decided to crank it up another notch. He set out to surpass last years score. He encouraged all to put in a little more operating time and to call CQ in lieu of search and pounce. No sleeping at the wheel this year! To keep sugar levels high, Lorne arranged for a wonderful Shopsey's catered dinner and breakfast. I expect when the results are published in QST, we will find ourselves in first place for our class. Well done Lorne!

A day and a half later, was the annual RAC Canada Day contest. This was operated from my place as a number of antennas were down at the club station, mainly the 160m/80m dipoles. We had to make room for the Force12 40m/80m beam that went up just before Field Day. We didn't have enough time to get the dipoles back up before the start of the contest.

The club was the recipient of a Henry 3k power amplifier. The donor wishes to remain anonymous. It took a couple of club Neanderthals to lug this boat anchor up the stairs at the club station. We had to vacuum out a couple of pounds of dust and clean the corroded contacts of the transmit/receive relay to make it work. The final tubes were tested and found to be in half decent shape. A power switch is in need of repair and it will be necessary to beef up the 220v circuit at the shack. Jerry of Danmax also purchased John

VA3JK's Alpha amplifier, which will allow us to run high power at both station positions.

The club also helped Munir VE3MYN take down and repair his HyGain Log periodic antenna. This proved to be quite a challenge due to the weigh (approximately 150 lbs), the number of elements (12) and the number of trees on his lot.

For the upcoming year, the club finds itself running 2 basic courses. I am running an accelerated basic course for 7 people who came to us via Danmax. These are mostly sailors who are trying to obtain their license for an upcoming log term sea voyage. Earl, VE3XEL will be running our annul course starting September 15.

I would like to remind all of our upcoming annual Halton Railway Special Event on September 20th and encourage all to participate. In lieu of the second meeting (as the hall is unavailable), we will be having an open house at the club station. One last housekeeping item, we are in need of a Program Manager to seek out guest speakers for our meetings. Lorne VE3CXT has been carried the ball for the past number of years and has asked that some one else take over.

So, get ready for another action packed season and I will see you all at the upcoming meetings and events.

73 ... Rick Brown VE3IMG

### This Month

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### Sunday Brunch

Sunday brunches are held on the first Sunday of each month. Time is 9:30AM at Shopsy's, 6986 Financial Drive Unit 5 Mississauga (at the corner of Mississauga Rd and Derry Rd). All are welcome to come out and have an opportunity to chat in an informal setting.

### 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. 145.430MHz Tone 103.5 Minus (-) offset. Contact our VHF Net Manager, **Lorne (VE3CXT)**, if interested in becoming a net controller.

**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.

## Commentary



What better way to start a new year than with a bang? At MARC we have more than one bang to look forward to, at the start of this year.

Our ever popular Basic Classes are starting on the 15th of September. As in the previous years we can be sure Earle VE3XEL and his team will do the club proud. When you come to think of it, not many clubs can boast this honour. And to add another feather in our cap, Rick VE3IMG is running a special course for a group of sailors! Who says we can't have too much of a good thing?

And then there is the Halton County Radial Railway Special Event that VE3MIS will run on September 20<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't been there before, I highly recommend it. Don't forget to take the kids along. They'll love the trains and you'll love operating a special event station.

The icing on the cake has to be the Simulated Emergency Test on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October. This year, Dan VE3NI is going all out to make this a fine day for all of us. He wants every able hand on deck! I believe we owe it to our club and more importantly to ourselves to participate. It is only a 3 to 4 hour exercise on a Saturday morning that will teach us a lot about emergency communication. If you don't know anything about SET, don't worry. Dan has planned a series of awareness sessions to prepare you. Read his article in this issue to get a hang of SET, and you will see it is a lot of fun.

See you at the first meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>!

Thomas VA3TMB

## Executive Directors

President Rick Brown, VE3IMG  
 1st Vice President Asim Zaidi, VE3XAP  
 2nd Vice President William Bressette, VE3WPJ  
 Treasurer Scott Gregory, VA3NMI  
 Secretary Dan Goodier, VE3NI  
 Past President Dave Harford, VA3DFH

## Club Managers

Membership Manager Dave Harford, VA3DFH  
 Education Manager Earle Laycock, VE3XEL  
 Basic Theory Courses Earle Laycock, VE3XEL  
 Basic Theory Courses Bob Hawkins, VE3AGC  
 Basic Theory Courses Jody Levine, VE3ION  
 Basic Theory Courses Basil Burgess, VE3JEB  
 Basic Theory Courses Michael Brickell, VE3TKI  
 Advanced Theory Courses Thomas Bernard, VA3TMB  
 Advanced Theory Courses Basil Burgess, VE3JEB  
 Advanced Theory Courses Earle Laycock, VE3XEL  
 CW Courses Frank Lamb, VE3HTX  
 CW Courses Earle Laycock, VE3XEL  
 House / Visitor Host Manager Robert Humphreys, VE3HOW  
 Newsletter Editor Thomas Bernard, VA3TMB  
 Researcher Kim Cheong, VE3KTC  
 Net Managers HF Net Michael Brickell, VE3TKI  
 VHF Net Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT  
 Repeater Manager Michael Brickell, VE3TKI  
 Assistant Dave Harford, VA3DFH  
 Assistant Bryan Jay, VA3BLJ  
 Assistant Bob Boyer, VE3XBB  
 Assistant Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT  
 Assistant John Duffy, VE3DRZ  
 Assistant Asim Zaidi, VE3XAP  
 Assistant Tony Champion, VA3QC  
 Assistant Robin Stubbs, VE3VVS  
 Assistant William Bressette, VE3WPJ  
 Club Station Manager Stefan Bejusca, VA3OBR  
 Assistant Rick Brown, VE3IMG  
 Assistant Asim Zaidi, VE3XAP  
 Assistant Alex Malikov, VE3MA  
 Assistant Bryan Jay, VA3BLJ  
 Field Day Manager Open  
 Assistant - Documentation Tony Champion, VA3QC  
 Assistant - Logging Jody Levine, VE3ION  
 Assistant - Refreshments John Duffy, VE3DRZ  
 Assistant - Site Thomas Godden, VE3TWG  
 Assistant - Press and Publications Reg Vertolli, VA3JQA  
 FSV Manager Dave Stubbs, VA3BHF  
 Assistant William Bressette, VE3WPJ  
 Programs Manager Open  
 Assistant Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT  
 Webmaster Manager (Source Code and DB) Dave Harford, VA3DFH  
 Assistant Dan Goodier, VE3NI  
 Assistant Rick Brown, VE3IMG  
 Legal Consultant Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT  
 Public Information & Media Relations Manager Tony Champion, VA3QC  
 Photography Reg Vertolli, VA3JQA  
 Assistant Dan Goodier, VE3NI

## Audit Committee

Auditors Coordinator Basil Burgess, VE3JEB

## Public Service

ARES Emergency Coordinator Dan Goodier, VE3NI  
 Past Coordinator & AEC Sean Conlin, VA3MED  
 Assistant EC - 1st Day Michael Brickell, VE3TKI  
 Assistant EC - 2nd Day John Duffy, VE3DRZ  
 Assistant EC - 3rd Day Bob Boyer, VE3XBB  
 Assistant EC - 1st Night Sean Conlin, VA3MED  
 Assistant EC - 2nd Night Dave Harford, VA3DFH  
 Assistant EC - 3rd Night Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT  
 CANWARN Manager Peter Mosher, VA3PKM  
 Special Events / Walks Manager Bob Boyer, VE3XBB

## CLUB CALENDAR FOR 2008 - 2009

### September, 2008

02 Tue NEWS  
02 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
04 Thu Exec Meeting  
07 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
09 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
11 Thu Club Meeting  
12 Fri Worked All Europe DX Contest  
14 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
15 Mon Basic Class 1  
16 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
18 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
20 Sat Halton County Radial Railway - Special Event  
21 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
22 Mon Basic Class 2  
23 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
25 Thu Club Meeting  
28 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
29 Mon Basic Class 3  
30 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net

### October, 2008

02 Thu Exec Meeting  
04 Sat National Simulated Emergency Test (SET)  
05 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
06 Mon Basic Class 4  
07 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
09 Thu Club Meeting  
12 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
14 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
16 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
19 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
20 Mon Basic Class 5  
21 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
23 Thu Club Meeting  
26 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
27 Mon Basic Class 6  
28 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
30 Thu ARES Meeting

Provisional Schedule Below...

### November, 2008

02 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
03 Mon Basic Class 7  
04 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
06 Thu Exec Meeting

09 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
10 Mon Basic Class 8  
11 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
13 Thu Club Meeting  
16 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
17 Mon Basic Class 9  
18 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
20 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
23 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
24 Mon Basic Class 10  
25 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
27 Thu Club Meeting  
30 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net

### December, 2008

01 Mon Basic Class 11  
02 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
04 Thu Exec Meeting  
07 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
08 Mon Basic Class 12  
09 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
11 Thu Club Meeting  
14 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
15 Mon Basic Class 13  
16 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
18 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
21 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
23 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net  
25 Thu Christmas - NO Club Meeting  
28 Sun HF - 75/80 Meter Net  
30 Tue VHF/UHF - 2 Meter Net

### January, 2009

01 Thu Exec Meeting - CANCELLED - might be moved???

05 Mon Advanced Class 0  
08 Thu Club Meeting  
15 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
22 Thu Club Meeting  
29 Thu ARES Meeting

### February, 2009

05 Thu Exec Meeting  
12 Thu Club Meeting  
19 Thu Radio Night at Club Station  
26 Thu Club Meeting

### 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.

## *The Wouff Hong*

Every amateur should know and tremble at the history and origins of this fearsome instrument for the punishment of amateurs who cultivate bad operating habits and who nourish and culture their meaner instincts on the air.

It was invented--or at any rate, discovered-by "The Old Man" himself, just as amateurs were getting back on the air after World War One. "The Old Man" (who later turned out to be Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, co-founder and first president of ARRL) first heard the Wouff Hong described amid the howls and garble of QRM as he tuned across a band filled with signals which exemplified all the rotten operating practices then available to amateurs, considering the state of the art as they knew it. As amateur technology and ingenuity have advanced, we have discovered many new and improved techniques of rotten operating, but we're ahead of our story.

As The Old Man heard it, the Wouff Hong was being used on some hapless offender so effectively that he investigated. After further effort, "T.O.M." was able to locate and identify a Wouff Hong. He wrote a number of QST articles



about contemporary rotten operating practices and the use of the Wouff Hong to discipline the offenders.

Early in 1919, The Old Man wrote in QST "I am sending you a specimen of a real live Wouff Hong which came to light out here . . . Keep it in the editorial sanctum where you can lay hands on it quickly in an emergency." The "specimen of a real live Wouff Hong" was presented to a meeting of the ARRL Board and QST reported later that "each face noticeably blanched when the awful Wouff Hong was . . . laid upon the table." The Board voted that the Wouff Hong be framed and hung in the office of the Secretary of the League and there it remains to this day, a sobering influence on every visitor to League Headquarters who has ever swooshed a carrier across a crowded band.

The Old Man never prescribed the exact manner in which the Wouff Hong was to be used, but amateurs need only a little imagination to surmise how painful punishments were inflicted on those who stoop to liddish behavior on the air.

## *2008 – 2009 Simuated Emergency Test (SET)*

**By: Dan Goodier, VE3NI**

It is a start of a new amateur radio season and from an ARES perspective we are starting off at a run. There are two SETs coming up: the Ontario Simulated Emergency Test (SET 2008) on September 27 and the National Simulated Emergency Test on October 4.

Planning has been underway within the GTA West group in preparing for the National Simulated Emergency Test since the middle of August. It is our goal to get as many club members involved as possible. As our plans are laid out Mississauga ARES will need at least 30 members involved in the exercise. Our plan is to be active on HF, VHF/UHF, and packet.

For those new members who are saying about now, "What the heck is a SET?", a quick explanation is in order. The RAC web site states "The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is a North America-wide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the ARRL and the RAC Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Both ARES and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved. The

SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community, while interacting with NTS nets."

You might be wondering about now whether you have the skills or experience to participate. Well that is what this is all about. This is an opportunity to gain some skills and insight into what it might be like if there was a real emergency. This is where we make mistakes, find the pitfalls in our plans, and get a glimpse of what a real emergency might be like.

In preparation for this event we will be taking the opportunity at Club meetings to review a couple of concepts that we should be familiar with. These will be directed nets (etiquette and protocols) and the use of radiograms for formal message handling.

We are also planning some surprises during the SET just to make things interesting.

I would ask **ALL MEMBERS** to join us on Saturday October 4 and get involved in this exercise.

Please contact Michael Brickell/VE3TKI or myself, Daniel Goodier/VE3NI if you are interested in participating.

## What is an Emergency Net?

The purpose of any net is to provide a means for orderly communication within a group of stations. An "emergency" net is a group of stations who provide communication to one or more served agencies, or to the general public, in a communications emergency. An emergency net may be formal or informal, depending on the number of participants and volume of messages.

## Net Formats

### Directed (formal) Nets:

In a directed net, a "net control station" (NCS) organizes and controls all activity. One station wishing to call or send a message to another in the net must first receive permission from the NCS. This is done so that messages with a higher priority will be handled first, and that all messages will be handled in an orderly fashion. Directed nets are the best format when there are a large number of member stations. (Be careful not to confuse "formal nets" with "formal messages." There is no definite link between the two. A formal net may handle informal messages, and vice versa.)

### Open (informal) Nets:

In an open net, the NCS is optional. Stations may call each other directly. When a NCS is used at all, he usually exerts minimal control over the net. The NCS may step in when the message volume increases for short periods, or to solve problems and keep the net operating smoothly. Open nets are most often used when there are only a few stations and little traffic.

## Checking Into an Emergency Net

There are two situations where you will need to "check in" to a net.

- When you first join the net.
- When you have messages, questions, or information to send.

If you are part of the organization operating the net, simply follow the instructions for checking into directed and open nets as discussed below.

To become part of a **directed net**, listen for the NCS to ask for "check-ins" and listen to any specific instructions, such as "check-ins with emergency traffic only." At the

appropriate time, give only your call sign. If you have a message to pass, you can add, "with traffic." If it is an emergency message, say "with emergency traffic." The same is true for stations with priority traffic. Wait for a response before offering more information. Checking into a directed net when the NCS has not asked for check-ins is usually considered a bad practice. However, if a long period passes with no request, you might wait for a pause in the net's activity and briefly call the NCS like this: "Net control, VA3TMB, with traffic."

To check in to an **open net** for the first time, briefly call the net control station as above. If there appears to be no NCS, call anyone on the net to find out if anyone is "in charge" and make contact with them. If you are already part of the net and have a message to send, simply wait for the frequency to be clear before calling another station.

## Passing Messages:

If you told the NCS you have traffic to send when you checked in, he will probably ask you to "list your traffic" with its destination and priority. After you send your list, the NCS will direct you to pass each message to the appropriate station in the net, either on the net frequency, or another frequency to avoid tying up the net. When moving to another frequency to pass the message, always check to see if the frequency is in use before beginning.

When you are asked by the NCS to send your message, the standard procedure is for the NCS to tell the receiving station to call the sending station.

The entire exchange might sound like this:

NCS: "VE3CXT, list your traffic."

You: " VE3CXT, two priority for Springfield EOC, one welfare for the Section net."

NCS: "Springfield EOC, call VE3CXT for your traffic."

Springfield EOC: "VE3CXT, Springfield EOC, go ahead."

You: "Number 13, Priority..."

(After you have sent your messages to the Springfield EOC, the NCS will next direct the section net liaison station to call you for their message.)

When you have finished, simply sign with any tactical call sign and your IC call.

## "Breaking" the Net

If the net is in progress, and you have emergency traffic to send, you may need to "break" into the net.. Procedures for doing this vary from net to net, but the most common method is to wait for a pause between transmissions and

simply say, "Break, VE3TKI." The NCS will say, "Go ahead VE3TKI," and you respond, "VE3TKI with emergency traffic."

### Checking Out of an Emergency Net

Always let the NCS know when you are leaving the net, even if it is only for a few minutes. If the NCS believes you are still in the net, they may become concerned about your unexplained absence. This could result in someone being unnecessarily dispatched to check on your well-being.

There are three reasons for checking out of (leaving) a net.

- The location of your station is closing.

If the NCS has given you directions to close the location, simply acknowledge the request, and sign with your tactical call sign, if you are using one, and your IC call sign. If the order to close has come from a local official, state that your location has been closed, along with the name and title of the official who ordered it, and sign off as above. Long "goodbyes" only tie up the net needlessly, and do not sound very professional.

- You need a break and there is no relief operator.

Tell the NCS that you will be away from the radio for a certain length of time, the reason, and sign with your tactical call sign, if you are using one, and your IC call sign.

- You have turned the location over to another operator.

Tell the NCS that you have turned the station over to (give the new operator's name and IC callsign), and that you are leaving. Sign with your tactical call sign, if you are using one, and your IC call sign

There are two special situations to be aware of:

1. If you are asked by someone in authority, such as a law enforcement officer, to move your station, then move

immediately and without argument. Notify the NCS of the situation at the first appropriate opportunity.

2. If you are requested by someone in authority to turn off your radio, or to refrain from transmitting, do so immediately and without question. Do not notify Net Control until you have permission to transmit again, and can do so safely. There is usually a good reason for such a request. It may be an issue of security, or it may be a potential hazard, such as an explosive device that could be triggered by RF energy.

### What is a Tactical Call?

A tactical call is typically a location, e.g., you would identify yourself as "Meals on Wheels" instead of using your call sign while handling messages. This is legal as long as you identify using your call sign every 30 minutes. It is easier for net controllers to keep track of operators if they use tactical calls.

### Formal Messages

One of the things we will be doing during the SET is passing messages from one location to another. This is typically done using radiograms, or formal message forms.

The originating party fills out the form and basically reads it to the receiving party over the air. Using the radiogram provides some consistency in handling messages, as well as providing a record of the message.

The main thing to remember when sending a message is that the other person is writing it down on his form. So you need to speak slowly and clearly, a few words at a time, so the other person can keep up with you.

A sample radiogram is reproduced above, with a numbered description of what goes in each part of the radiogram below.

- 1 - Number assigned at originating station
- 2 - Emergency, priority, welfare or routine
- 3 - Optional handling instructions
- 4 - Amateur call or Tactical call of originating station
- 5 - Words/groups/"X-rays" in body of text only
- 6 - City, town etc.

RADIOGRAM							
Number	Precedence	HX	Station of Origin	Check	Place of Origin	Time Filed	Date
①	②	③	④	⑤	⑥	⑦	⑧
To: ⑨			This Radio Message Was Received At				
Phone: ⑩			Amateur Station _____ Phone _____				
			Name _____				
			Street Address _____				
			City _____ ⑪				
			⑫ SIG				
			Title _____				
From ⑬		Date		Time		To ⑭	
REC'D		SENT		Date		Time	

A sample radiogram is reproduced above, with a numbered description of what goes in each part of the radiogram below.

7 - Time at originating location (24 hr clock - Indicate time zone.)  
8 - Date filed at originating location  
9 - Complete address and phone number  
10 - Text, with "X-ray" denoting a period (except at end of the text)

11 - Optional  
12 - Name and Title of originator  
13 - Station received from  
14 - Station sent to

## *The Roving Reporter*

The Roving Reporter recently interviewed Fred Dixon, VE3DVG. Fred's other hobby is digital photography and until recently he has been involved in old cars.

RR: How did you become interested in amateur radio?

VE3DVG: For a long time I had listened to short wave radio in the early 1950s or perhaps even before then. When I was 10 or 12 years old I got a Hallicrafters SW general coverage receiver (it was assembled). Back then you had to be 16 to get a licence, so 4 days after my 16th birthday I wrote the exam with a group from the Nortown Radio Club.

Normally they gave you the code test first, sent manually, with the examiner determining what the speed he sent was. But on this day a group of 6 of us from Nortown arrived. The examiner was waiting for another two to show up and decided he might as well give us the theory written test first. So he did that and when the other two arrived we all did the cw. Well all 6 of us failed the cw. We found out later that the other two were sitting the advanced (i.e. at 15 words per minute) so no wonder we failed. This was rectified later at the Nortown Field Day when we were retested by the examiner, who had a reputation that if he thought you were good ham material you passed and otherwise you did not. So we sat down in the cook tent at Field Day and all of us passed. A week later my licence arrived, back dated to the original test day. At that time you picked a call while you were waiting to write the exam. I picked DVG at random from a new block of calls.

After 5 years of working CW I wrote my advanced ticket, in January 1954.

RR: What equipment have you owned over the years?

VE3DVG: In the 1950s you went down to the local radio mecca at Yonge and Wellesley and bought war surplus stuff. My first receiver was a model 1155. These were surplus from Lancaster WW II bombers. My first transmitter was a single tube one, a 6L6, with 10 watt output and crystal controlled, and a power supply salvaged from a broadcast receiver. You collected various crystals with for different frequencies to talk to each other. You had to hope you had matching crystals. The antenna was a long wire.

Later on I got a TA32 war surplus transmitter, also crystal controlled, and also out of a bomber.

There were no automatic tuners then; you connected a neon light to the output and tuned for the brightest light. And there were no transceivers either, to change from receive to transmit you turned off the B+ battery voltage (several hundred volts) and manually switched the antenna to the transmitter.

In 1956 in Florida I built a Johnson Ranger transmitter kit and companion VFO. In 1959 I built a Heathkit Mohawk receiver and Apache transmitter.

After that I had Swan equipment, and then more recently a Kenwood TS450 which I still have. I also have an Icom Pro II and a PW-1 linear. For antennas I have a Miniquad MQ36SR and an Alpha Delta DXCC.

RR: How is it that you are a member of MARC & how did you find out about the club?

Bill Reid Senior, who was VE3VBC, and is now a silent key, was a member of the club. I joined the club as a result of his suggestion, in about 1995.

RR: Tell me about your station.

VE3DVG: My main transceiver is now an Icom 756 Pro II. I have the Icom PW1 linear connected to it. My main antenna is a TGM Communications miniquad, an MQ36SR, up about 30 feet. This is a 3 element beam antenna, which a number of people in the club have installed. As well, I have an Alpha-Delta DXCC wire antenna. My shack is in a dedicated room.

I have just bought a summer home. I have my old Kenwood TS450 there, and I am still in the planning stages, but it looks like I am going to put up a G5RV there, and perhaps a vertical covering 80m to 10m as well.

I use a laptop for logging.

I have just purchased an Icom 2200H for the car.

RR: What are your current interests in the hobby?

VE3DVG: My interest has mainly been hf dxing. I finally got my DXCC award (mixed) three years ago. My current total is 130 countries confirmed. Over all the years I have been licenced, I have not been off the air more than 6 months at a stretch. However I have moved around a lot, and the original DXCC rules were that the award was associated with a particular location. So I had to start over a few times.

In terms of qsos I have had tons of "59, goodbye" types, and an occasional good ones. I once heard an Australian ham calling "CQ Brampton, Ontario", which is somewhat unusual. No one came back to him, so I did. It turned out that a couple from Brampton, one of whom was a ham, and who were hitchhiking around Australia, had, had seen the

antennas and knocked on his door and explained that one of their parents had had a heart attack, and they did not know what condition the person was in. I was able to call the number they gave me and pass on what was fortunately good news.

RR: What do you do for logging?

I'm looking forward to the bands improving in the next sunspot cycle, and to setting up my shack in my new place which is very low noise.

Incidentally there are other hams in my family. Ruth Reid who now has Bill's VE3VBC call is a ham. She's my wife's sister. And my wife's brother and his son are also hams.

My other hobby is digital photography. And until recently I have been involved in old cars.!

### **You might be a ham if.....**

1. Your wife said "let's go see aunt Anna and you thought she said antenna!
2. Your wife said "could you cut the grass?" and you thought she said pound the brass!
3. Your wife said "we've been invited to breakfast and you thought she said ham fest!
4. Your wife said "something is wrong with the check book and you thought she said log book!
5. Your wife said "is my seam straight? And you thought she said, "is my beam straight?"

**You might be hard of hearing too!!**

## RAC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/SUBSCRIPTION TO TCA MAGAZINE

**Please enter applicable choice(s)** →

COMBINATION PACKAGE: 1 year RAC membership; (includes \$44.95 subscription for TCA) @ <b>\$49.95</b> *	
1 year RAC membership only; no subscription to TCA @ <b>\$44.95</b> *	
1 year TCA subscription; no membership to RAC @ <b>\$44.95</b> * +	
Family membership; price per extra family member @ \$20.00 per year (one TCA per family) * (Does not apply to simple subscriptions.) ( <b>\$20.00 x</b> )	
<b>GST: 5%</b>	
*Taxes applicable: 5% GST, 15% HST (NB,NS,NL) not included in the above amounts + Ontario PST of 8% applicable to TCA subscription without membership. <b>PST (if applicable): 8%</b>	

### CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>Name: Call sign:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	
<b>Province:</b>	<b>Postal Code:</b>
<b>Family Member Name</b>	<b>Family Member Call sign:</b>
If you enter something on line above, a charge of \$20.00 will be added to your membership	
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Phone #:</b>

### DONATION OPTIONS

Donation to the RAC Foundation enclosed	\$
Donation to the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund enclosed	\$
Donation to the Youth Education Programme enclosed	\$
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>

### PAYMENT OPTIONS (Cheque or)

<b>Visa/MasterCard No:</b>
<b>Card Expiry Date (MM/YY):</b>
<b>Name on credit card:</b>

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

