

FEED BACK  
GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWS

Editor Jack VE3DTS

NOVEMBER 1977

Executive

President Ian Trenholm VE3HIP  
Vice Pres. Ian Sutherland VE3HXX  
Sec. Treas. Cy Weaver VE3DQA

\* \* \* \* \*

The October meeting was attended by 25 members and 3 visitors on the 20th of the month, and was the last meeting to be held in the CIAG building. See my comments in this issue.

The Markdale class is underway with 8 students and they have had three nights in session so far. Harvey, VE3FOT is heading it up till Wes gets back. The Owen Sound Class will start in January, at Georgian Collegiate .

The Palmerston club meeting is on Nov 3rd in Listowel and our members are invited to attend. VE3GCP will be talking on CARF, so if you want to go see BIS or any of the gang on OSR for info on transport arrangements.

Heritage Weekend in Southampton will be held Feb. 17, 18, and 19th 1978. We are planning to put on some kind of show so make a point of reserving that period for club activities whether it means a snowmobile marathon or a station demo in the town hall.

The club decided that in future we will not take part in activities as a club unless the operation is approved by the club. My comments in the last issue of Feedback provoked this response and I am pleased that this has been done.

The GBARC crest designed by VE3WF was approved at the meeting and we are in the process of getting prices of crests buttons and decals.

Look for VE3EYL/W4 on 14.200mhz and 21.250mhz Tue & Thur. at 3.30 am. Again we have local time so your guess is as good as mine when we change the clocks.

Look for VE3BFZ/! on 14.150mhz Sunday at 11.30am. His new call is VE1BOM. The club voted to sponsor three solar cells on the Phase 3 OSCAR at \$10 ea. VE3CAC will look into batteries for an emergency supply for VE3OSR.

Jim, VE3BFZ gave a talk on wind generators which was very well covered and he proved that Hydro is still the cheapest way to go. There was an auction of junk and coffee was served while BIS conducted the proceedings.

\* \* \* \* \*

Jack VE3DTS is still convalescing so EFX will edit this issue and we expect to have Jack take over the December issue.

A class for prospective amateurs was started on October 4th in Kincardine with six people attending. The course is being run by Rick, VE3A3H, and he will be assisted by VE3HIR, VE3CTQ, and VE3EFK. Present plans are for instruction on Tuesday nights from 7:00 till 9pm in the W.E. Thompson school and slow code will be transmitted on 80m until the WIAW practice can be utilized. The class is all fixed up with receivers and appears to be off to a good start.

Two of the students are CBers with FT 101 rigs so they have plenty of incentive to get a ticket and operate legally.

\* \* \* \* \*

Jack, VE3DTS, was only in hospital for a couple of weeks. I visited him a week or after his operation and three days later when I went back to see him, he had been discharged and is at the time of writing, in Whitby on R&R. By the time this issue of Feedback reaches the membership, Jack will be back home again.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Canadian customs are getting more mercenary all the time. Tess had to pay nearly \$5 to get her ARRL Life Member plaque. It is amazing the lengths they are going to now to get revenue. You may have noticed that Monique Begin was removed as Minister of Internal Revenue and she is now in charge of Health services. Watch for this getting screwed up in the near future.

\* \* \* \* \*

Elsewhere in this issue I expect there will be an appeal by VE3BIS, for all you who are not members of RSO, CARF, and ARRL to get off your rear ends and give some support to the organisations that are carrying the ball for us all at WARC 79 and at national government levels, when it comes to things pertaining to Amateur Radio. It may interest you to know that if you belong to all three organisations plus the GBARC, your total outlay for the year is around \$30. throw in \$13 for the licence and you still spend less than \$1 per week. THINK ABOUT IT.

Enclosed with this issue is an ARRL membership application form for those who are not yet supporting the League. Remember that the club gets \$1.50 for each membership paid thru the club, and you will also help to maintain our club affiliation.

\* \* \* \* \*

The QSL cards for Kingman Reef are in and there are some other DX cards that we are waiting on. As far as I know, only EFK, HIR and HXX got the Kingman Expedition. VR6TC was another good one that we got but his cards take up to a year to come back. T-7 has 76 countries confirmed now so hopefully will get up to 100 soon.

## SPLIT RAIL FESTIVAL

One of our members recently mentioned that our participation each year, at the Flesherton Extravanza, is one of the best projects undertaken by the Club. That would seem to be a true statement, from the standpoint of numbers and spectators. This year, the show drew almost 10,000 visitors and again, a good many of them were keenly interested in our exhibit, in the story we had to tell, and in the contacts that were coming through on the three operating rigs.

Taking the Festival in it's entirety, there most certainly was a lot to see. A complete list of interesting events and exhibits would more than fill this page. Therefore, no matter what subject matter will hold one's attention, he is almost sure to find it there.

A goodly number of our gang were on hand to help with all of the details involved in our G.B.A.R.C. exhibit. Appreciation is extended to operators such as Ian HIP, Bill FOF, Ed GVL, Harvey FOT, Walter FFN, Ian HXX; and to Ted AEO, for capturing the display on camera; and to Wilf IYU and Stan Guzonas, for their work in setting up and tearing down; and finally, to Walter IYW, for securing newspaper publicity, taking pictures and extoling the virtues of Amateur Radio to everyone that cared to listen.

While we likely will not receive any awards for numbers of contacts, we did make a creditable showing in that department. Indeed, in the true spirit of the Festival, we did attain diversification. Locally, of course, we had two-meters, which maintained liaison with the Georgian Bay area. Provincially, we checked into Ontars, the CJ Net and the QR Net, several times and received good wishes from a number of ham friends in various parts of Ontario. On 20 meters,

our signal was loud and strong in the Prairies, the West Coast, the Maritimes and the U.S., and then, the sounds of Central and South America seemed to thrill the onlookers with "Gee, I didn't think you could talk that far away!!".

To those who seemed interested in learning more, we were able to advise them of night classes in code and theory, in the Grey-Bruce area, so we should ultimately see a few new hams proudly displaying their tickets come springtime.

See you at the 1978 Split Rail Festival!!

Dave, VE3DKO

\* \* \* \* \*

As can be seen from Dave's report on the Split Rail Festival operation, the event was a great success this year again and we have an independent report on it from an American paper elsewhere in the newsletter. I believe this type of exposure is worth all the effort put into it, and far outweighs participation in GRS Coffee Breaks.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Radio Shack people plan to have a microprocessor on the market after Xmas complete with keyboard and video readout for around \$900. Looks like this may be an interesting item if it has enough memory to justify the expenditure.

\* \* \* \* \*

The meeting in November is to be held in Kincardine town hall on the 10th which is the second Thursday of the month. Be there at 8pm prompt, there is lots of parking at the north side of the building and those who need help in finding the place can be talked in on VE3MIA 46/06.

\* \* \* \* \*

ARRL members can get their FREE Repeater Directory by sending in postage and a large envelope. This is a very handy book if you do any 2m mobiling.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bill, VE3BFZ/1 is pretty prolific on 20m these days and puts a good signal in to this area. He should be workable on 30m this winter, after supper. He and VE3HIP eyeballed the other week when Ian was down there on vacation.

\* \* \* \* \*

The GBARC Net meets on 5.783mhz Sunday morning at 9.30. Get on and participate.



## FURTHER DOWN THE LOG

By JACK T. SHEPHERD W8OMY

Amateur radio operators in this country enjoy one of the biggest advantages in the world when it comes to making contacts with foreign countries — their native language is English.

Because of the way amateur radio developed, with large numbers of English-speaking amateurs in the United States, as well as in Great Britain, Canada and the rest of the British Empire, the principal language for contacts between countries is English. In many instances, two radio operators making a contact will each be using a language which is foreign (English), but one they have in common.

IF AN AMATEUR radio operator in any foreign country wants to make contact with a great many other countries — such as by trying to obtain DXCC, the 100 country award — a knowledge of English is almost as important as a knowledge of radio. He must at least know the essentials — how to call "CQ", the general call for a contact, how to give a signal report in English, how to describe his equipment, and how to say "goodbye" and "thanks for the contact."

With these few words he can make and complete a contact with any English-speaking radio amateur.

THIS PICTURE has been changing lately, however, and more and more radio amateurs in the United States are attempting to learn at least a few words in one or more foreign languages, so their contacts will not depend entirely upon the other operator's knowledge of English. The languages heard most usually on the ham bands after English are probably Spanish, French and German.

From the United States it is common to hear stations in Central and South America conversing among themselves in Spanish, while the French and Canadians are also on the lower amateur frequencies in considerable numbers.

Jack was one of the contacts made at the Split Rail Festival. He was interested in obtaining information for his regular column in the Columbus Dispatch and was kind enough to send us this copy

# Fair, Festival Platform For Ham

During the late summer and early fall months those who monitor the ham bands occasionally will hear a station making contact after contact, each of relatively short duration, and signing from a portable location.

If the listener continues to monitor, he will find out that the portable operation is usually from a state or county fair, or from some other autumn festival. Many amateur radio clubs take advantage of these celebrations to promote the cause of amateur radio.

LAST MONTH, for example, the Central Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service once again completed a successful demonstration of amateur radio at the Ohio State Fair. This operation, which is typical of those at state fairs, not only showed amateur radio at work but also handed a number of messages for passersby, clearing them into the nationwide National Traffic Nets to locations all over the country.

The station was operated under the club call of K8DDG. The Federal Communications Commission in years past has granted a special call sign (K10 or W8OHIO) for the fair, but

## FURTHER DOWN THE LOG

By JACK T. SHEPHERD W8OMY

It currently has ceased the issuance of such temporary licenses.

Although many thousands of people have witnessed amateur radio in action at such state fairs, the festival need not necessarily be a large one. During the weekend of Sept. 23-25, station VE3DXO, operated by owner Dave Dixon of Markdale, was heard in

portable operation from the Split Rail Festival in Flesherton, Ontario.

THIS FESTIVAL, although primarily concerned with the display of antiques, also offered opportunities for other types of demonstrations, such as the Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club's decision to sponsor a radio station. Questions were answered at the station, messages were handled, and amateur radio was on display to many of the 4,000 people who attended. Since many contacts were with stations in the United States, the station also served as a goodwill ambassador between the two countries.

A related activity which also occurs during the summer and fall months is amateur operation at Boy Scout camps and jamborees. Operations this year will climax the weekend of Oct. 14-16 with the 20th annual Scout Jamboree-

on-the-air in which individual scouts and groups of scouts all over the country will exchange contacts on the amateur bands.

This activity is expected to present scouts with a fine opportunity to introduce amateur radio to new members. The headquarters station of the Boy Scouts of America, K2E5A, will be on the air making contacts with other stations staffed by scouts.

CONSIDERABLE SPECIAL event activity featuring call signs requested before the FCC has been effected was in evidence earlier this month. The Western Minnesota Steam Threshers Reunion used call sign W8OSTR for their operation. From now on, however, special event stations will have to operate using either a club call or the personal call of one of the amateurs staffing the station.

Have you noticed how the same people seem to end up doing things in the club ? Relatively few of the fifty odd members seem to carry the largest percentage of responsibility for doing and participating.

The Goderich club came up with an idea for forming their executive, and it involved everyone who was a member.

Everyones name went into the hat and the required number of names were drawn to fill all executive positions. The lucky winners then decided who among them should hold whatever position they were best suited for.

There are a number of advantages to this method; 1. Nobody is excluded who may secretly want to be nominated, and is too shy to ask. 2. Chances of the same person landing the same job twice in a row is minimal. 3. Even if a person is reluctant to stand for office, they will benefit from the experience. 4. People don't need to be present to be elected and consequently this eliminates the need for anyone to be subjected to the embarrassment of having to "Decline with thanks", if they are nominated.

Finally I would like to point out that this method is a good way to streamline the elections as it eliminates the need for nominations, votes, and the attendant electioneering, protesting, and scrutineering that wastes so much time at the club meeting. Also, excitement will run at fever pitch when the names are drawn, and a good turnout can be counted on as you can't run away and hide from the ballot. How democratic can you get?

\* \* \* \* \*

The CIAG will not be able to give us the room for our meetings in future so we must think about meeting elsewhere.

The Kincardine Town Hall is one place that we can use free of charge, and it would be quite a change to listen to the bleating of the Owen Sound gang as they drive down here all winter while making use of the expertise they claim to have in the line of bad weather navigation.

If we held the meetings in Kincardine we'd draw in all the people taking the radio class as they are from as far south as Amberly. Ten or twelve new club members would swell the coffers and infuse new blood at the same time.

\* \* \* \* \*

Comments on the above two items should be sent to the editor for the newsletter coming out in December. Incidentally, not one comment was heard about my deliberate mistake in the October issue. It was dated September.

\* \* \* \* \*

There is a membership application form in this issue. PLEASE fill it in and send your club dues to the Secy. Treas. at BOX 592, Owen Sound. If your dues are paid send the form anyway as we need the information.

The club successfully provided communications for the Port Elgin Lions Club, who sponsored a 14 mile walkathon on October 16th.

The weather was awful and this was a contributing factor to the rather poor turnout for the event. Only 42 people went in for the walk, and they had to contend with rain, hail and snow which was accompanied by strong winds out of the North. Nine club members came out with their mobiles and did a good job of controlling things and keeping track of all the walkers. Those who were on hand are due a vote of thanks for their efforts, and I believe the Lions Club was pleased with the assistance we gave.

The amateurs involved were, VE3AEO, VE3BIS, VE3CAC, VE3CTQ, VE3DGP, VE3EFX, VE3HIZ, VE3IHV, and VE3IYF.

Needless to say MURPHY struck and CAC ended up with a rig that refused to modulate but he did a good job with the EFX handheld as he travelled around with the Lions club co-ordinator, organising the food and drink vehicles.

The course lent itself particularly well to our 52 simplex operation as all the mobiles could hear all the other stations at all times and we were able to keep a close watch on all the walkers, some of whom were quite young.

The first lot set out at noon and we were able to wrap it up around 5.30.

I felt that we did more for amateur radio publicity wise today than all the GRS Coffee Break operations will ever do. I understand that the CB boys were rather put out to find that they were not asked to do the job this year and I have information that they told the Lions Club that we would be charging for our services. The Lions were informed that this was not the case and I will be looking into the matter a bit further before this issue of the newsletter goes to the membership.

\* \* \* \* \*

VE3HIP was on the net the other day commenting on his 20m sked with VE3BFZ/1 and getting all tangled up trying to get the time across in EDST. Bill is on ADST of course but all this will change in a couple of weeks when we revert to EST and AST. Why these guys don't use GMT when operating, is beyond me. I wonder if they put all these different times on QSL cards to DX stations.

\* \* \* \* \*

Harvey, VE3FOT has moved to an apartment in Markdale now. It must be nice to have it made. I hear he is sporting a new car too, and bragging about the gas milcage. Being a flag waving colonial of long standing it is surprising that he is investing in cars of Oriental origin.

\* \* \* \* \*

We had 15 checkins to the club net on the 16th of October so I hope this situation continues.

The editorial in the September issue of QST should be required reading for all of the amateur population. It compliments my comments in Feedback last month.

is also a good editorial in this month's 73 magazine, regarding the WARC 79.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Jamboree on the air produced a remarkable number of stations operating with out groups. There were a lot of DX stations in G, GM, DL, VP9, VS6, & VK coming through on 20m. Unfortunately my antenna was not moveable so I was not able to do much about it.

\* \* \* \* \*

closed with this issue will be a membership application form for ARRL and a list of publications available from the League. Hopefully we can persuade some of you to support the organization most likely to help you when you need it.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Soviets did not launch the amateur satellite as expected so we are still waiting to see when it goes up. They ran into problems with their manned launch the other day after bragging about the planned marathon trip, so likely they won't say too much about future launches. It must bug them to see the way the States announce the launches and carry the programs out with little or no serious troubles.

\* \* \* \* \*

These U60 prefixes are to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Russian revolution. Need VP8 ? there is a VP8 net on 14.120mhz daily at 20.00z.

All you guys who keep their hand in on CW can get in on the RSGB 7mhz contest Nov 7-8 or the CQ WDX contest Nov 26-27.

George Collins, VE3FXT is off to Africa again this month and he is to visit some of the Indian Ocean areas so watch for some rare ones in the DX portion of 20m. The November issue of 73 Magazine is to be a special OSCAR issue, so look for a pretty good issue coming up with a lot of antenna projects and info on the Soviet satellites as well.

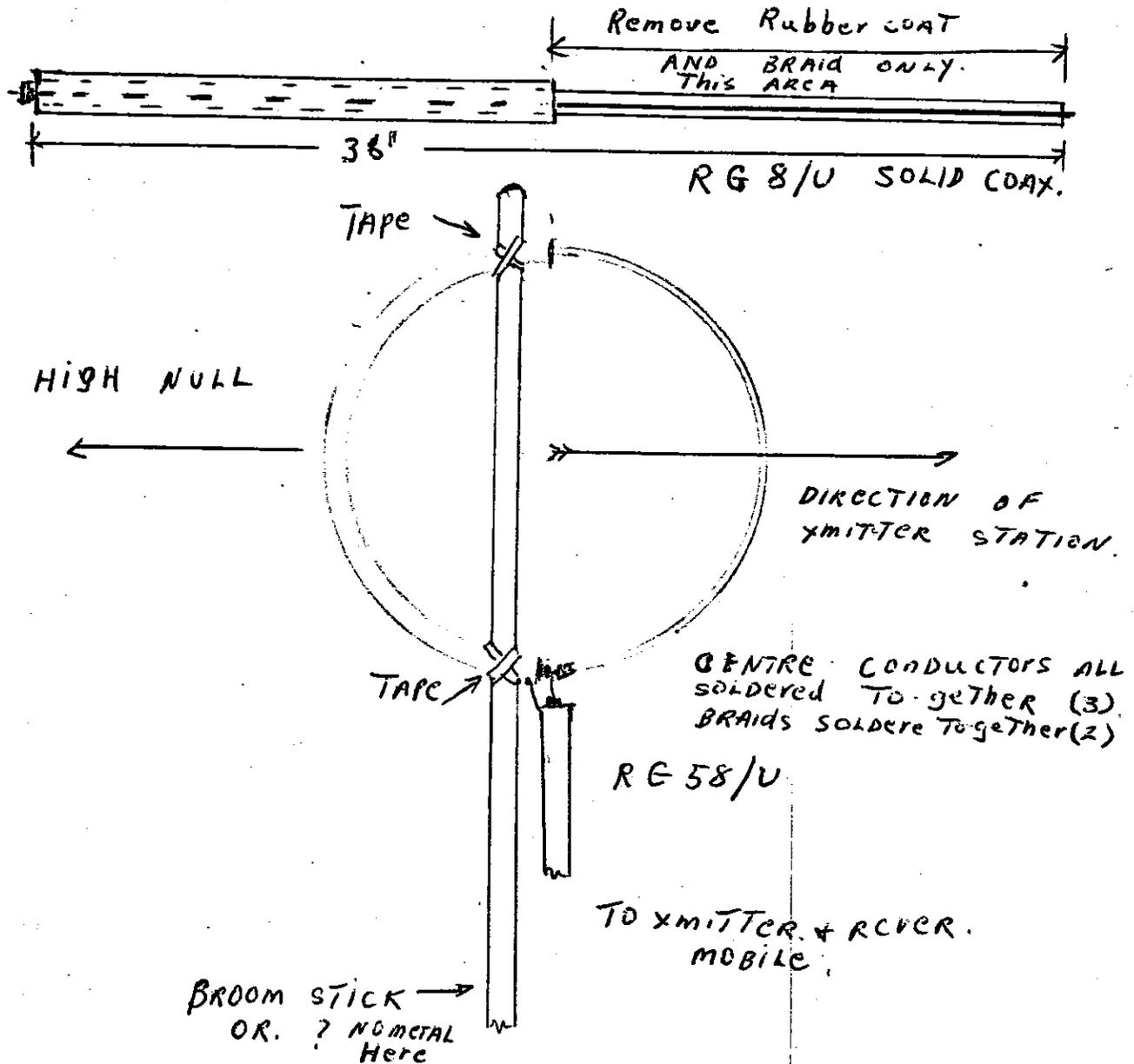
Ted, VE3AEO, has a beam up at the home QTH now so hopefully he will get in on some of the DX that is beginning to show up on 10, 15, & 20m.

Ted, VE3EQH, has a 90' tower up at the cottage and is getting out on 2m with a nice signal. The motto of this story is "Never build a cottage in a hollow".

The raspy and at times unreadable signals frequently heard on OSR these days is only Dick operating off frequency.

output of OSR appears to be about 1.5khz low. This according to the discriminator meters on a Multi 2000 and TS 700. What does it look like on the Cushman Jim ?

# DIRECTION FINDING (DF) LOOP VHF



Use RG8 solid dielectric coax. Remove 19" of the outer braid, but leave the insulation on the rest of the cable except where the two ends are joined. Bend the coax in the form of a circle and solder the two ends of the center conductor together. Attach the feedline as shown and mount the completed loop on a piece of dowel or broom handle with tape, running the feedline down the support.

If the loop is properly constructed it will exhibit one null off of the back and a peak on the front. If possible, use with a receiver that has a signal strength indicator. This loop does not receive as well as a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wave antenna, which is good for transmitter hunts.

As delegate for the northern limits of the Kitchener district, I wish to introduce myself to those of you who do not know me. I shall attempt to produce an information column for each issue of "Feedback".

The Annual Delegates meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Don Valley, Toronto on October 1, 1977, and was attended by thirty members, delegates and officials. During the 4-hour meeting, committee reports were heard and a new slate of officers were sworn in.

One of the points made during discussion was the need to have representation at government level on behalf of the Canadian Amateur. This is best provided by a representative backed by an Amateur organization.

The Canadian Amateur is a very lucky person, enjoying the freedom he does.

If you agree that we Amateurs need a strong voice to retain our privileges, join a local club and/or join the R.S.O., CARF, or the Amateur organization of your choice.

If not, join a club just because it's there; it's good fellowship, community minded and helpful to less fortunate hams.

Membership increase is the prime target effort for 1977-78 by the R.S.O. Call me on VE30SR or 75 meters for discussion.

Best 73 Dick VE3BIS

GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 1977 MEETING

The October meeting of the club was held in the CIAG bldg. Owen Sound on Thursday Oct. 20 with 22 members and guests present.

Minutes were read and on motion by Cy VE3DQA, seconded by Ian VE3HXX were adopted as read.

Correspondence from ARRL was read advising that as of now club could retain \$1.50 for each new membership or renewal paid thru the club.

A letter was read inviting the members to attend the Palmerston club meeting to be held in Listowel on Nov. 3 and a number of members indicated they would attend this meeting at which the guest speaker was to be a rep. from CARF.

Dick VE3BIS read a letter from Southampton inviting the club to participate in their Hertigae week to be held Feb. 17-19 1978. It was agreed that we should participate and on motion by VE3EFX, seconded by Ian VE3HXX, Dick was placed in charge of this endeavour. Carried

It was moved by Jim VE3CRV, seconded by Verne VE3BSF that in future club refrain from taking part in any public activities unless approved by the members at large. Carr.

The matter of buttons and crest was again raised and it was decided to obtain prices of each.

A discussion followed regarding the possibility of the club donating funds for the purchase of 3 solar batteries for OSCAR 8 at a price of \$10.00 each and on motion by Jim VE3CRV, seconded by Bill VE3EFX club will donate \$30.00 toward purchase of these solar cells. Carried

\*Emergency power for the repeater was discussed and VE3CAC volunteered to look into the possibilities.

A very interesting talk was given by Jimm VE3BFV his subject being wind powered generators and was greatly enjoyed by all Thanks Jim.

Coffee and donuts were available following which an auction was held consisting of surplus gear provided by club members and some interesting pieces of gear changed hands.

TMI We were informed that this was the last meeting we would be able to have in the CIAG bldg. and new quarters would have to be found. Since the Nov. meeting will be in Kincardine new quarters will be investigated and passed on TMI to the members.

Bal of Funds Nov. 10 1977 \$218.39