January 2005

FEEDBACK

The **OFFICIAL** Newsletter

of the

Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club Inc.

P.O. Box 113, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5P1

GBARC Meetings
are held on the 4th Tuesday of every month except July and August in our CLUBHOUSE, Unit 6 Rockford Plaza, Rockford On. 5km S of Owen Sound.7:30 p.m.

Breakfast Anyone?
Any Saturday 9:00 a.m., at the Rockford Restaurant.

Nets
80 metre net on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on 3.783 Mhz. Two metre net on Thursday at 9 p.m. on VE3OSR 146.94-Mhz.

Submissions
are always welcome.

This Month

NEXT MEETING will be on Febuary 22 2005 at the Rockford Restaurant

President
Gene VE3IJD

Vice-President
Bob
VE3XOX

Secretary
Tom VA3TS

Treasurer
Bob
VE3LKD

Newsletter Team
Editor
Barry VA3WBG
Steven VE3SEG
Tom VE3CVL

Program Director
Jim VE3CJM

GBARC 30 Years Ago

While looking for articles to put into the GBARC newsletter the suggestion of putting articles from past newsletters was suggested. On the GBARC website we have newsletters posted from back in November 1973 and are still working on earlier ones. So here's are first look back into the past. This article is taken from the January 1974 newsletter.

VE3OSR - AS I SEE IT

by Terry VE3CAB

Our 2m repeater is now just over a year old. We all have used, or at least listened to it at one time or another. If it wasn't for VE3OSR the amateurs in this area would not be as united or as active as they are today.
Even though I am new to the 2m syndrome I would like to pass along to the other GBARC members some facts about VE3OSR, beginning with a brief history.The repeater was first installed Dec. 26th 1973 at Woodford on the Grey County tower by a crew which was just recovering from Xmas. The crew consisted of VE3CC, 3B1S, 3CRV, 3DTS, 3HGQ, 3DIQ, and 3CAB. At that time the Rx and TX antennas were installed at the 120' and 80' levels respectively, the base of the tower being at 1225' ASL. The repeater identified for a time as VE3CRV until our assigned call, VE3OSR, was granted.

The XMTR antenna has since been raised to the 155' level on the tower. On Nov. 9th / 74 the RCVR antenna was raised to the 185' level, These alterations improved communication throughout the rugged terrain of Bruce and Grey counties as well as mobile communication within the city of Owen Sound. The reliable range of our repeater is contained within a 30 mile radius of the site. This means that reliable communication can be acheived anywhere within this range , but it can also be carried out beyond this range if careful location of the mobile with regard to the repeater is followed. eg:on high ground, away from metal obstructions etc. I worked the repeater quite well from Barrie which is 46 air miles from OSR. .

The logic (brain) of the repeater controls the most important part of the system. Time out of the repeater or "shutdown" will occur if anyone talks for four minutes or more without letting the tail drop. At the 3,5 minute mark the identifier will come on and from the end of the ID you only have 30 sec. to let the tail drop or the repeater will shutdown. Should the repeater shutdown, it will not reactivate till 4 min. after the offending carrier is removed. Therefore if someone accidentally leaves their XMTR "on" they would shut down the repeater after 4 min. and lock out the system to everybody until they released the carrier or their final went up in smoke .
Many mobiles are visiting the coverage area of OSR even though skiing is poor just now. I worked 3FOK, 3CAQ, 3HFP, 3ARV, 3FHM, 3GOT, and 3AWB, all mobile one weekend in the region. A big hand should go to Jim VE3CRV who maintains the system and contributes much time and effort to it. All of us have learned a great deal in the operation of OSR and an all important asset is the unification and flurry of activity the repeater produced among the local hams.
UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL

Amateur Radio -- A Career Starter?

Back in 1954, I became interested in Electricity, when I saw a black and white film in grade school, about hooking a flashlight bulb to a battery. I sweet-talked mom into buying a 1.5 volt dry cell battery and light bulb for me at Sears. My neighbor was a Ham Radio operator. He soldered wires onto the flashlight bulb, so I could hook it to the battery.

While I was in his Ham shack, I became fascinated with the racks of glowing homebrew and military surplus gear that he was using. It was `magic' to me when he talked to people in other states and countries. I really wanted to do that!

I got hold of a used dog-eared License Manual, and studied for the Novice exam. In those days, you had to know how to draw the basic schematics of a transmitter, and know what all of the components were for. The Morse code was learned by memorization, and practice was provided with a code practice oscillator.

I took the Novice exam, and received my `ticket'. I didn't ask for WN7DUD! I built a Heathkit DX-35 transmitter, and obtained a National SW54 receiver. I was on the air!

At this time, I enjoyed building various items, including a single 5763 tube oscillator transmitter for CW. It was fun to hold an NE-2 neon lamp near the tank coil, and adjust the tank tuning for maximum glow. I worked quite a few CW stations with that little transmitter.

The Radio Amateur RF experience got me interested in commercial broadcasting, and I took the test to obtain my First Class FCC license. I held jobs with several local Radio and TV stations as a Broadcast Transmitter Engineer in the early 1960s.

My job was to properly adjust, troubleshoot and maintain the station transmitting equipment. At one station, the Dumont visual transmitter operated AM, and the RCA aural transmitter operated FM. The visual transmitter used 4W20000A water cooled final. It was fascinating to turn up a small ¼ watt pot, and watch the visual transmitter go up to full output (50kw I believe, but it has been a long time).

One day, as I was tuning the color band pass, to allow the 4.8 MHz color burst signal to get through, on the Dumont visual transmitter; I decided that I absolutely wanted to know how the transmitter transmitted a video signal, what components were used, and how to calculate their values. I arranged other part time work, and enrolled in the university ASEE degree program. In addition, I began to repair TV, Radio, CB, and commercial communications equipment for Radio Shack, Lafayette Electronics and city agencies.

After I completed most of the ASEE degree, and had a stint at Signetics Corporation, I felt I had not satisfied my Electronics curiosity enough. I wanted it to be much more theoretical. I enrolled in the University BSEE program.

My EE442 final exam was an oral one and heavily weighted. That is, the EE professor took us into his office, one at a time, and drew random circuits on the board. We were to tell him what they were, what all the components were for, and how to calculate their values for given frequency, power supply voltage and circuit Q. To my considerable surprise, one of the circuits was class C Vacuum Tube RF amplifier with a PI network output. I had seen it many times, including in Amateur Radio transmitters. I `nailed' the final exam. This led to

a very satisfying EE career as a Senior Staff Electrical Engineer.

Having not thought about it before, I now believe that Amateur Radio probably got me where I am today. It made Electronics come `alive' for me at a very key time in my life.

Would I have done the same things without Amateur Radio? It is difficult to say. My personal opinion is that it was the critical `catalyst' that made me successful in choosing a correct and enjoyable career.

SWAP SHOP

TS-690
HF plus 6 Meters
Asking $1000.00
John Fox
R.R.#2
Tara, Ontario, Canada
N0H-2N0

Kenwood TS-520
HF Transceiver
Asking $275.00
Bob Vary
R.R.#8
Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada
N4K-5W4
519-376-8060

REIS 25 Amp P.S.
German Made
Asking $100.00
Bob Vary
R.R.#8
Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada
N4K-5W4
519-376-8060

Icom IC-551d
100 watt 6 Meter All Mode
$550Bob Vary
R.R.#8
Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada
N4K-5W4
519-376-8060

MFJ Antenna Tuner
MFJ-901b
Asking $40.00
Bob Vary
R.R.#8
Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada
N4K-5W4
519-376-8060

HAM RADIO TRIVIA

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1. What is IR compensation?

Amplifier circuit used to boost Infra-Red diode output.

Device that compensates for voltage drop due to current flow.

A red lens designed to filter emitted IR light.

Night vision sensitivity control.

2. What radio was the Heathkit SB-100 reversed engineered from ?

KW electronics KW-1000

Collins KWM-2

Yaesu FT-101

Hallicrafters SX-110

3. In what year did Samuel Morse applied for a patent on his new invention ,the telegraph?

1830

1837

1840

1845

Answers for the December edition of Ham Radio trivia

1. 5

2. 6JS6C

3. Radio Society of Great Britain

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

Have you made an interesting contact or read a really interesting article that you think others would like? well then what better way of doing that then in the GBARC newsletter. The GBARC newsletter is always looking for interesting stories so if you have one done be a chicken be a ham and send it to Steven VE3SEG and Barry VA3WBG at ve3seg@rogers.com

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From The Mailbox

ZEROBEAT

THE BRUCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

IS NOW POSTED 73 DE JIM COVERLEY VE3OVV

http://www.brucearc.on.ca

When in Barrie stop in at the Barrie Amateur Radio Club Meeting

Georgian college, Rowntree Theatre
Date: TBA Time: 7:30 PM
73 de ken ve3kpp