

P.O. Box 171, Oshawa, Ont.

*October*EXECUTIVE1974

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LAST MEETING

OCT - 1974

Club members were invited by the President to air their views of the club and it's activities. Several interesting points came up that may be of help in the future. Everyone agreed that there should be more activity but no one wanted to be the leader.

NEXT MEETING Tues. Oct. 9 8.00 p.m. Oshawa Airport

AUCTION NIGHT is here again for it's annual return. Bring along the good stuff this time. We have seen some of that other junk at the last few auctions so bring what you can and don't forget the money. There are always a few laughs at these events so let's pack the house.

2 FM

Not too much new. There are about 27 more crystals to come but the plant went out on strike and they were just about ready for final processing. Ian, VE3EZH is on a world tour and Chris, 3GUS is trying to keep in touch with him. He is no longer employed at the crystal plant and the latest word is that he is on the Fiji islands. Chris is keeping in touch with the plant so we will know when the crystals are ready to come out. The Repeater council met on Saturday, Sept. 28 at Grimsby and it was a peaceful meeting. Lloyd, 3ERQ is in Australia so we had Bill, 3DJS as interim Chairman. There were about 35 in attendance. VE3TCR, Brantford now on 55/15 will be going to 147.75/15 very soon and VE3MOT is supposed to be going from 58/18 to 147.78/18 around the end of this year. This leaves 146.55 and 146.58 free for direct channel operation along with 49 and 52. Since 94 is a repeater output in Toronto and Peterboro, direct simplex operation should take place on 49 or 52 with 55 and 58 to come. VE3TOR which was on 34/76 is now on 34/94 and Hamilton which was on 16/79 is now on 16/76. VE3LSR, the Lake Simcoe Repeater will soon be on the air on 25/85 from the Orillia area and VE3MHZ is a new call in Brampton and they are going to try 28/88 and hope they don't get tangled up with Rochester. VE3TFM, Toronto, will be on 147.87/27 very soon now and will be located in downtown Toronto. Mike, 3FIV is going to donate the old identifier to Owne Sound, VE3OSR when the new 2 speed one is installed. VE3RPT will soon be about 95 % solid state and is creating a few problems for VE3KBR, Belleville. VE3KSR, Kitchen/Stratford has a receiver located in Guelph to help improve mobile coverage to the east. It is linked to the repeater which is located at Baden, the sight of CKCO. The repeater operates on 37/97 but has alternate input of 34/94. Ken, 3FPP has his pip-squeak sounding good now with a new crystal.

BITS N PIECES

RP, QG, DDD, CW and ATI have acquired some new RTTY units so the green keys are going to get a pounding soon but you will probably have to listen to the unused channels to hear the birdies. John, FGL is on deck once again as net controller for our regular Tuesday evening net so try and not disappoint John and remember to call in at 7.30 p.m. Harry, QG is still missing out west somewhere and we have heard not a word since he left. He will be back though for the RSO convention on Oct. 25. Eric, 3HMG shipped his Yaesu FT-101B to the west coast and they found a poorly solder joint. It was tested at ATI's shack on the dummy load and everything worked fb. Eric still has a high SWR on his trap dipole but that will be corrected. Chuck, 3DPH has a bit of a problem with his rig and we believe that Bob, 3HNH is on there plugging away on 40 and 80. RP has inherited some more parts for the repeater plus some for himself. His Heath scanner is a handy-dandy gadget and he keeps an ear on the other repeaters. It has a prime channel which it switches to provided the channel is active, otherwise it will select any other active channel in a continuous search of the ones that it is crystallized up for.

FOR SALE

DX-60 Transmitter	Heathkit
HR/10 Receiver	"

Both of these units are in good condition and going for the amazingly cheap price says Bob, for \$125 for the pair. If you are interested, call him.

Bob Williams Telephone 728-6452

We have an extract from the SARC Bulletin which is published by the Scarborough Amateur Radio Club and we are grateful to have the opportunity of adding this humorous piece to SPARKS.

From the SARC news. VE3ENO is a member of the Scarborough Amateur Club and works for the Toronto Fire Department. He is a frequent contributor to the SARC news.

A SMALL DOSE OF ENO

In one of the past issues of SARC News I mentioned that there would be an article forthcoming from me on 'Two Meter R!'.
R!

Well, I spent the Spring and Summer monitoring a lot and operating a bit. This article is for a guy, like me, who had no prior knowledge of two meters. I think that there are a few things about it that I can tell you, not of a technical nature, mind your, but what can be referred to as "truth".

All two meter operators "lie"....when their rigs aren't working, their reply is 'didn't have time to operate'. Where low Band operators lie about "S" readings, these guys lie about everything, the biggest one being "two meters is terrific". This can be interpreted as "I've got an anchor I'd like to toss you". Now, my story.

It all began last Spring when a fellow Club Member said to me "two meters is terrific", and then it started with a "prog line". Prog line is an R!rs term for a monster that can suck a battery dry faster than a kid can pull a milk shake through a straw. The hottest place this summer wasn't Florida, it was in the trunk of my car.

Well, anyway, I mounted an antenna on a roof rack "just cut a piece of wire about 19 inches long", I was told (I kid you not,...they lie). I did this, and when I pressed to transmit, the lights dimmed and the car slowed up. I got fed up operating only running (eds mistake,--that should read running down hill.... they say the beach area of Toronto is a poor area to transmit from--hell, that was the only place I could operate---Wait-one from me meant---"I've got to run back up the hill and come down again". your see, even I was lying already, but a commercial antenna fixed it.

I could work only VE3RPT. That I found, must never work properly; there is quite often a lot of 'wheezw--plop--hiss--hum'. An OM would say, "Boy, you've got a lousy signal"; they would discuss this back and forth and finally end up their QSO with 'Yeah, well, I'll call you again when the repeater is in better condition. It certainly can't be your rig--funny how RPT only acts up when you're transmitting".

Full quieting--now, quiet to me is "QUIET". I hear more "Ger-chung- wheeze--plop" (they call it "Tail") than I ever heard conversation. Speaking of converstaion my XYL said "if that guy "A1" (VE3AL) doesn't stop talking about

the repeater he's building, I'll kill you---why me?

I was told it's terrific for communications--have you ever tried to communicate inside a car and still monitor "RPT"? This XYL of one of our members summed it up in a conversation with my XYL this way. ----- "I was telling him what the Doctor said, I explained the whole thing to him, how the kids have to have, etc., etc.,--and in the middle of the whole explanation, he reached down and grabbed them--and the mike and said, 'hey, Joe, if you hook it up that way, you could ruin your rig'. Do you know he was listening to those guys talk about their stupid radios and didn't hear a thing I was saying about his own kids.

My XYL said to me once, "How do you shut this thing off, I can't stand that "Ger--chung--wheexe--plop" any longer?" I said I'd have to stop the car, lift the hood, and disconnect it from the battery (I haven't got a relay). Pointing at the speaker with her foot, she said "your're just as crazy as those guys". Just then, the car lurched, her foot went through the speaker, the rig fell silent, in fact, everything went silent. Then she said, "can't you find any other place to put a speaker except the floor of the car?" I just looked calmly at her and she looked at me with a "O", I'm 'sorry' look, and said, "you are, you know, the whole bunch of you are all crazy!!!, you really are.

I'm used to armchair copy (and transmissions). Have you ever tried to find the mike after you dropped it on the floor as you travel the 401 Highway at 70 miles an hour...write call letters in the dust on top of the dash----turn a corner and transmit at the same time---gone into an underground garage with a 5/8 whip on the roof (I took out two fluorescent lights going in and two more coming out)-----dropped the mike through the spokes of the steering wheel, or even have a spare tire that bounces around in the trunk because the rig fits best where the spare is suppose to mount? What topped it all off for me though was to have a mobile up alongside, the driver grining and waving a mike.....I tried to get him on "94" direct and, no answer! I shrugged my shoulders, waved back and, as he pulls ahead of me, on the back of his car there's something that starts with "XM" written on the trunk.

I thought of putting my call sign on the back of the car after that. My XYL suggested putting the same sign on the car that she had seen on a fire truck but couldn't remember what it was. I phoned the local Fire department and asked what the sign said, after explaining why I was interested. The reply, a bit acidly, was. "Well, Sir, I don't know why you need it, but it says "KEEP BACK 500 FEET".

So, now I've told you what I've found out about 2 meter FM, and your're still wondering if you should or shouldn't get started in it? O.K. let's be rational about the whole thing! A wise philosopher once said "seems to me that you got all this 'radio stuff' only to talk to people that you can phone without even a toll charge". No need to tell you where that truthism came from!!

Yes Sir! Two meters is terrific!!!!

Bill McDonald VE3ENO
