

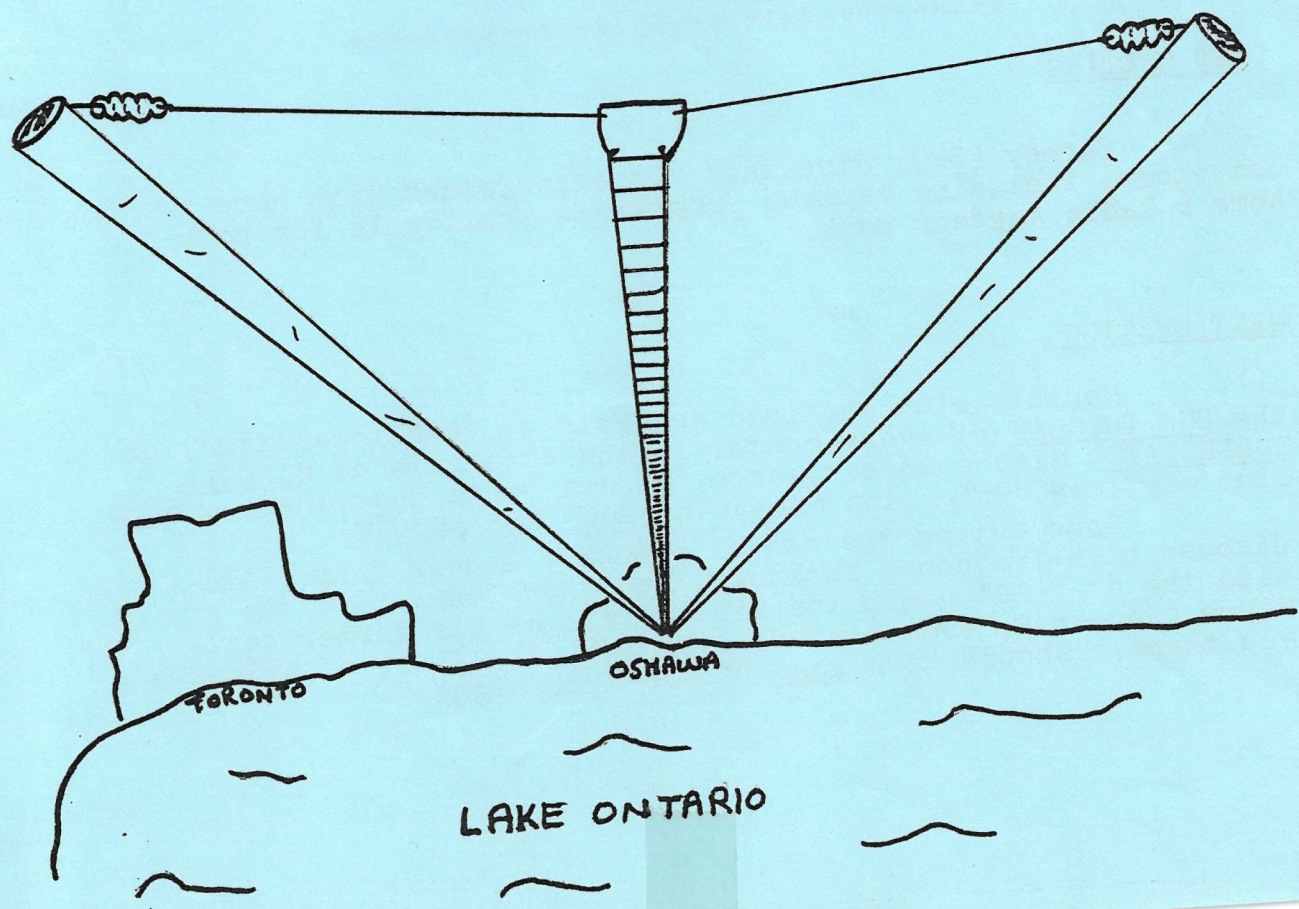
DM Box 171  
OSHAWA  
L1H 7L6

OSHAWA, ONT.  
FEB 18 1983  
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RALPH DAY  
VE3CRK  
454 HOLCAN AVE.  
OSHAWA  
L1G 5X6

VE3NSR





" S P A R K S " ...

Official Organ of  
THE NORTH SHORE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

\*\*\*FEBRUARY 1983\*\*\*

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE:

PRESIDENT.....DOUG SMITH.....VE3MKC.....786-2086  
VICE-PRESIDENT.....RALPH DAY.....VE3CRK.....576-8738  
TREASURER.....MAC McFARLANE.....VE3IKG.\*.....723-8484  
SECRETARY.....COLIN BELL.....VE3CEU.....723-7842  
REGISTRAR.....JOHN PLUISTER.....VE3FGL.....655-4269  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.....DON DEWEY.....VE3GEN.....668-0577  
GET-WELL-CARDS.....TED BRANT.....VE3ADD.....668-3561  
EDITOR.....EDDY SWYNAR.....VE3CUI.....723-4326  
\*FLASH!!!--VE3IKG now is VE3XI.  
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CLUB STATION.....VE3NSR (VE3ATI spons.)

CLUB REPEATER.....VE3OSH 147.72-MHz IN.  
147.12-MHz OUT.

CLUB NETS....."2-METERS NET" each THURSDAY via VE3OSH  
at 1930-local, Net Control VE3AAF.

"10-METERS RAG CHEW NET" each SUNDAY at  
1000-local, 28.200-MHz ( $\pm$  Beacon QRM).

"BARGAIN BASEMENT NET" each MONDAY via  
VE3OSH at 1930-local, Net Control  
VE3IKG.

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LAST MEETING

Farney (BHQ) discussed his experiences with home computers, including various programmes applicable for both home & Radio Amateur work.

NEXT MEETING

Monthly club meetings are held at 2000-local time, on the 2ND TUESDAY of every month, in the cafeteria of O'NEILL COLLEGIATE, Simcoe Street North, Oshawa (note that there are no club meetings during the months of JULY and AUGUST).

Come out on the 8th of February & hear Tony (IAT) discuss high-frequency antennae. You know Tony: he's the guy with the 8" x 10" nameplate listing all of his former call-signs (you know, common stuff like 5W8, ZL, ZL/a, et al). See you there...should be a good DX'ers-type night.



FROM THE EDITOR...

The very fine "nuts & bolts" presentation on computers by Farney (BHQ) at the last club meeting brought to mind the names of several other local Radio Amateurs well-versed in specific aspects of our grand & glorious hobby....

Vic (LNX) & Bob (ADJ) are doing their DX/homebrewing thing on the "outer limits" of our UHF frequencies (and doing it quite well, too, I might add); Eric (HMG) has ventured forth into the world of HF multi-band antennae, going so far as to design and build, himself, tuned traps using precision-cut double-sided p.c. board for capacitive elements; Harry (QG) has been known to play with phased ground plane antennae, in his quest for the ultimate low-angle 2 $\theta$ -meter radiator.

Old news to some of the brethern, sure; but to your scribe, it demonstrates that our club is indeed laden with many talented individuals, guys (and gals!) who, for too long, have been hiding their respective candles under the proverbial bushel.

What's your thing in Ham Radio? Are you on the threshold of some new (or old, for that matter) frontier in this game of ours? If so, "Come Blow Your Horn, OM!" That's one of the beauties of our common interest: the many diverse interests that compose it.

Built a new Ultimate-Phased-Signal-Transducted-Consponder lately? Proud of it? Good. Bring it along with you to the next club meeting, OM; I'm sure the gang would love to hear from you.

GUEST EDITORIAL...

Wot?! No response whatsoever to my appeal of yore, anonymous or otherwise. Is there indeed no'one of dissenting mind in the ranks at all under the protective umbrella of VE3NSR? Are things really all that good?

No QRM thus far, just beaucoup de QSB....QRZ? de

VE3CUI, "THE OL' SCRIBE",  
48 Evergreen Drive,  
WHITBY, Ontario L1N 6N6.

....\_    ....\_    ....\_    etc. etc.

QST NSR...

OK all you johnny-come-lately's, this is the moment of truth; if you haven't sent your 15-bucks' worth of dues to John (FGL) by now, this is the last Bulletin you'll ever receive (that's not to be considered a blessing in disguise-Ed.).

If you want to stay on the membership roster, send money quick to:

John "keeper-of-the-keys" Pluister,  
-VE3FGL-

R.R. # 1,  
BROOKLIN, Ontario LØB 1CØ.

An updated '83 membership list is forthcoming, hopefully in the March issue of "SPARKS".

BITS & PIECES...

Don't forget the upcoming flea market on 9th April, a joint venture between our club & that of the Pickering boys; wanta help? Wanta table? Want more info? Call Mac (IKG) 723-8484. ... Looks like F.C.C. will de-regulate Citizen's Band, a situation that has unofficially existed for some six years' now (at least in my opinion) ... The yanks now have restricted 1Ø-MHz Amateur privileges, something we've enjoyed for the past several months now (huh?) ... "CQ FIELD DAY"...get ready, gang, it's coming fast. I'm looking for good contest-oriented ops for 4Ø-meters (you know the type: chain-smoking, jaundiced-coloured, forever complaining about their liver ailments, etc.), cw only, so count me in as a tent manager, Mr. FD please; that Haggis Bashers Award looked good over my fireplace, I want it back, HI ... ARRL's DX Contest soon to arrive (consult any "QST"); I've held top place (i.e. only place-Ed.) Ontario Section 4Ø-m cw for 2-years now, & I invite any & all challengers, any or all bands, on a countries total. Throw your hat into the ring, Jeeves ... Zots! What bedlam. Odds are that station you hear under that pile-up has a "VKØ" prefix; should be 2, count 'em, Heard Island DX-peditions on by the time this hits print. How's your DX technique? ... What-ever-became-of dept....Gord (AMQ): I hear Gordie, out in Solina now, is selling his rig & getting out of Ham Radio. Too bad. I miss his big sig on 1Ø-m phone....George (GOU): another QRT-type. Rumour has it Big George has lost a lot of weight of late, & isn't in the best of health either. OT's will remember his very capable execution of duties as net control on our weekly 1Ø-meter get-together. Come back, George, we need you....N.S.R. 1Øm Net: what a pity it's fallen upon deaf ears & open mic leads. This net was once the shindig for the locals, second only to VE3ØSH. What happended? Where is everyone? Used to be fun; is anyone out there?

WHICH?...

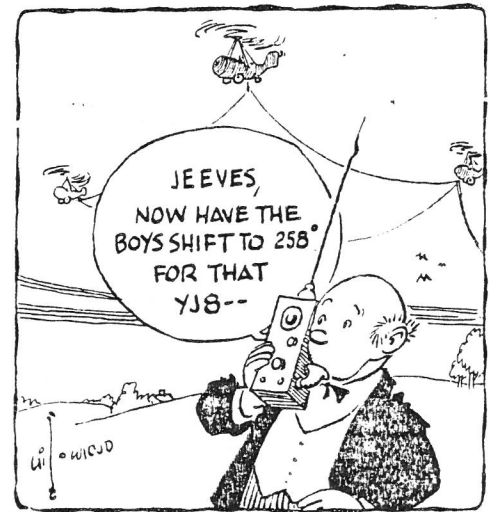
Ol' Grom never ceases to amaze. Here's a tale that I personally can appreciate, because it touches upon one of my favourite themes, i.e. antennae (reminds me, too, of the experiences of a couple of the locals, HI). To wit....

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We hadn't heard from our old pile-up buddy Grommethead Schultz for some time, so it was a delight to run into him recently on his way home from an appointment with his psychiatrist. No new problem, it seems; just the old unshakable obsession that he's fate's favourite football. Schultz blames his current jitters on the rebirth of 1Ø-meter DX.

He tells us that, a few years ago during ten's last heyday, he fell heir to some spools of copper and began playing around in his backyard with various beam antenna ideas. Nothing really high or fancy, just a few spidery webs, modified inverted vees, mutually coupled dipoles and the like. He'd doodle up a design on paper, run outside, hook it up, and return to the shack for a QSO or two to see how it went. This is no scientific approach, but Grommethead Schultz is one of the most dedicated cut-and-try men in the game.

Well, just about the time he thought he had something really interesting cooked up, 28-MHz apparently took one of its patented nosedives. His finalized configuration for Model 87G should have been a killer but nobody answered a full morning's CQ DXs. So Grommethead tore it down, went on to Nos. 88, 89, and so forth. A day or two later he discovered his receiver had subtly conked out while he was testing No. 87G. By this time he was out of fresh copper, anyway, so he quit fooling around, threw away his scribbles, and went back to the old quad.



Tnx "QST" Nov. 1948

A few days later, the s.w.l. cards started showing up. This didn't faze Grommethead at first because a few watts and a decent wire on ten always brought him mail. Some batch, though, and the income continued. Weeks later, with the stack getting out of hand, his local ARRL QSL Manager called collect and told him he'd better get over there fast. Schultz was pleased, for he had six tough ones still unconfirmed. But he returned with a station wagon full of s.w.l. cards.

Considerably shaken now, he took a week off from work to study the situation. For the first time he considered dates and





in" variety, with a separate coil/plug combo for each band. Dust off your ARRL Lightning L/C/F Calculator & come up with the proper "uh" for L2 to resonate with C1/C2 half-meshed in the centre of the band of your choice; figure-out the actual amount of turns you'll need for L2, then reduce this amount by a factor of 2.5 to compute the turns needed for L1, which is mounted a distance of one turn away from L2 (ex. you've decided L2 needs 15 turns--- L1 then, needs 15 divided by 2.5, or, 6 turns of wire).

C4 can be a cheap mica trimmer, but I suggest you use an air variable trimmer, especially if your environment is particularly humid. As a further aid to "controlled stability" (this is, after all, a regenerative circuit, maximum gain being derived on the threshold of oscillation) treat all component leads in the style of "UA" et al QSOs: short & to the point.

Once adjusted & working properly (it does take practice) I guarantee you'll be amazed with the results on weak-signal reception: barely discernable peeps become full-fledged 569/579 copy---all for the price of peanuts.

#### \$WAP & \$HOP...

**Remember, gang: written notices to yours truly each month outlining your wares\*...**

FOR SALE---TA33 Sr. with weather-sealed 2-KW traps, only \$125.00; Ringo Ranger for 2-M, brand new, just \$35.00. Tony (IAT) 668-8798.

FOR SALE---Dummy loads, 1.8-30.0-MHz at 200-watts<sup>+</sup>, ea. \$18.00 or 2/\$30.00. Mac (IKG) 723-8484.

FOR SALE---One FT-208R 2-meter transceiver with quick charger & speaker mic. All in absolutely perfect condition---sell only as a package. Make an offer. I am attending school in Waterloo but my mother has a sharp business mind, make her an offer. Brad (NIH) 723-5520.

\*Attention incurable junkologists: don't forget "Mr. Flea's" BARGAIN BASEMENT NET....details on masthead of this bulletin.

HOME BREW 2 MTR. ANTENNA

This may be the simple antenna you have been looking for. It is light, cheap and easy to build out of parts from old TV antennas. The boom is made from 7/8" tubing. The 2 directors, gamma match and reflector from 3/8" tubing and the driven element from 1/2" alum. tubing. All scrounged from old TV antennas.

The elements are secured to boom with brackets off an old colour head. The gamma match is made from 7 1/2" of RG8U with coax shield removed and slid inside the 6 1/2" long tubing. The bracket is made from a piece of 1/2" x 1/8" flat aluminum.

On test with VE3 AWC in Sutton the little beam showed a 4DB gain over a 1/4 wave ground plane. The lowest SWR reading was at 147 MHZ.

VE3 ELS  
Lorne

