

**April
2001**

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 Esso.

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. Send them to Tom



This Month

Message from the President

Minutes of the last meeting

Flowerpot Island

Ted Rogers

**5th Annual
Ontario QSO Party**

Sister City Net

President
Bernie
VE3BQM



**Vice-
President**
Bob
VE3XOX



Secretary
Susan
VE3TLK



Treasurer
Bob
VE3LKD





Message from the President

Bernie VE3BQM

April Flowers Spring Showers

The spring is playing havoc with our radio bands, solar flares making the bands drop out and noise just hitting everywhere.

Let's look on the bright side, the projects can now get done, and the bands will be renewed by having all your equipment working in tip top shape.

Are you ready for all the summer activity's, flea markets, shop until you drop or in my case until all my play monies is gone, field day in June, the best event to bring out your spouse, friends, to take part during this great social event and share your favorite past time, then Canada Day contest, this is up to you to have fun here, don't forget, if you what to get together with others and use the club station for this event do so and have fun.

Other Special events will be coming up during the summer, time and dates to be advised.

Flower Pot expedition is on track, see posting in the news letter for details. Election are coming up soon for your executive team, if you want to be nominated please give your name to the nomination committee at the next meeting on April 24, I can use all the help I can get to make your club the best in Grey county. Lets talk about the 2001 course ongoing at this time, our students are doing very well, and I know that once you hear them on the air after they get there license, you will give them a great welcome, they may be looking for advice on purchasing radios or antennas.

Talk to you soon on the air, 73 Bernie VE3BQM

Thanks
Bernie Monderie



GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of meeting, March 27th, 2001

The Meeting was called to order by President Bernie VE3 BQM at 7:30 p.m.

Bernie BQM welcomed everyone. Members and guests were introduced.

Bob XOX introduced our guests, Gary and Heather Keast. They gave an interesting and informative presentation about Flowerpot Island in preparation for our expedition on August 4, 5 and 6. They were thanked by Bob XOX and Bernie BQM.

A motion was made by John JRF and seconded by Walter FFN to accept the minutes.

Treasurer's Report was given by Bernie BQM.

Old Business

On Saturday March 24 the 1st Port Elgin A Cub Pack visited the clubhouse. Bernie BQM, Steven SEG and Barry WBG showed the cubs around the clubhouse and helped them operate the radios.

Breakfast will be held at the clubhouse on Saturday March 31. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

A committee needs to be arranged to organize Field Day.

Jim CJM will look into Tshirt silk screening prices for our Flowerpot Island trip.

Canwarn training exercise will be held in Collingwood on Sunday April 29 at 1:00 p.m. The location is to be announced. For further information contact Aubrey TUQ at (519) 374-5824.

Jack DTS and Olive will be sent a spring bouquet of flowers to commemorate their 58th wedding anniversary.

Request for ARES planning committee, if interested talk to Bernie BQM.

Moved by Gene IJD that ARES may use the VE3OSR club repeater in a real emergency, but not for training or net use. Seconded by Jim CJM. Carried.

At the last club breakfast 30 people attended.

New Business

A repeater directory 97/98 was donated to the club by Nick MWU.

The club is considering maintenance, expansion and relocation of club equipment.

Elections for the executive are coming up soon. Consider running for a position.

Remember to save your Zehr's tapes.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m. Moved by Dr. Bob DRB and seconded by John JRF.

Cruising the Air at Fathom Five National Park on Flowerpot Island

By Jim VA3CJM

Canadian Island Number - ON005

Special call sign - **CG3FP**

Grid Square - EN95

Throughout the long weekend of **August 4, 5 and 6, 2001**, we, the Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club, will be transmitting from a historic Lighthouse located on Georgian Bay, Ontario, Canada. The Club will attempt to operate most amateur bands, including VHF- EN95 grid square.

2001 celebrates the 15th Anniversary of Canada's First National Marine Park, "Fathom Five" and the 100th year of the building of the first Lighthouse Keeper's dwelling on Flowerpot Island. This 2 storey structure was built at a cost of \$ 1,396.93 in 1901. The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club in conjunction with Parks Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard and Friends of the Bruce District Parks Association are all working together to celebrate Canada's First National Marine Park with other ham operators around the world.

The park has become world famous for Scuba Diving on the various ship wrecks which have been perfectly preserved for the use of both humans and sea life. The Lighthouse was certainly deemed necessary for safety in this main shipping channel connecting Georgian Bay and Lake Huron to the continuous waterway beyond. The Friends of the Bruce District Parks Association, since 1984, have been operating as a non-profit, charitable, volunteer organization to refurbish the light keeper's house, light station, outbuildings and gardens. The volunteers are on the island for visitor information and offer sundries for hikers who wish to stop and just relax awhile.

The Friends have welcomed our club to use the facilities on Flowerpot to help promote amateur radio and enhance the public awareness of the natural, historical and cultural resources of these parks.

On leaving Tobermory, Ontario, your boat enters Fathom Five National Park which includes 29 various shoals and islands. Long considered a natural treasure island, Flowerpot, is part of this park. The key to the scenery is the natural formed flowerpot clearly visible along the shoreline surrounded by clear blue water. Most of the Bruce Peninsula consists of dolomite bedrock. This type of limestone when exposed to water in the form of glaciers, lakes, rain etc., has resulted in many special features including the "flowerpot", caves, raised beaches and surface etching.

The operating team will be taken over to the island in several vessels and will then hike on trails approximately 1.5 km carrying equipment and weekend supplies. Approximately 15 amateurs will set up in the historic

buildings for the 3 days and welcome visitors to participate on the air. This weekend usually hosts 500 to 600 visitors out of the annual 10,000 plus during a summer season.

The Georgian Bay Amateur Club was founded in 1973, located in Owen Sound, Ontario servicing the Grey Bruce area. Our clubhouse station operates under the call sign VE3 OSR and is located immediately south of the city in Rockford. For more information on this event or club activities please contact us at Box 113, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5P1 or email gbarc@bmts.com.



Anyone who works our expedition may QSL directly via the address mentioned above. (SASE).

Visit our web site at www.greynet.net/~gbarc/



ROGERS

For many, he is just a name stamped on the backs of old radios found at flea markets. However, were it not for Ted Rogers, millions of people might even still be enslaved by Eveready. By RogerAlian.

submitted by Tom VE3CVL

FEW CANADIANS today realize that one of the keys to the world wide popularisation of home radio consisted of the development of the batteryless radio, or that this invention, "Rogers' Batteryless", is included in the acrostic of one of Canada's largest radio stations, CFRB in Toronto.

Seventy years ago home radio reception was plagued with difficulties. If one were lucky, and everything was working as it should, then from one's maze of amplifying horns and earphones, wires, tubes and dry batteries, one might be able to hear a sound reminiscent of music. But in those days people had one advantage over radio enthusiasts today; everything was so new that anyone with a bit of ingenuity and a bit of spare time could not only build a receiver or transmitter, but could develop devices which could and frequently did advance radio transmission or reception capabilities.

THE HOUSE OF ROGERS

Such was the case with Edward (Ted) Rogers, and his invention of the AC tube, which forever liberated radios from the vagaries and expense of battery dependence.

The Rogers family were Pennsylvania Quakers who had immigrated to the area around Newmarket, Ontario during the American Revolution. For several generations they were successful in business, initially in lumber and farming, later in coal and fuel oil. The Elias Rogers Coal Company in Toronto, for instance, was founded by Ted Rogers' grandfather.

Rich, successful and socially prominent, the Rogers family had every intention that young Ted should enter the business world in some rapidly rising capacity as per family custom. But it was not to be. The then magical world of radio intrigued Rogers too much. A servant, for instance, is quoted as recalling that the young lad's bedroom when he was about eleven years old "was so covered with wires and gear that it was almost impossible to step around it."

He built a crystal set, and later a selective tuner with a sliding contact and two variable condensers connected to a tuned circuit. One of his earliest detectors, similar to Fessenden's, consisted of a thin platinum wire dipped into a small glass bottle containing dilute nitric acid with a thicker platinum wire mounted on the bottom. By heating the liquid, changes in resistance could be obtained. Whenever the thin platinum wire burned off, Rogers merely lowered the remainder until it touched the nitric acid again.



Like many another successful inventor, Rogers was not a particular success in the conventional school system. Educated at Pickering College, near Newmarket (built on land donated by Timothy Rogers and once part of the Rogers' farm), Rogers eventually entered the University of Toronto's School of Electrical Engineering. He quickly tired of academia, particularly as he appeared to have a better grasp of electronics than his professors, and soon dropped out. Refusing to follow his family's wishes that he take a job in business, Rogers remained firmly entrenched in the family garage tinkering with his radios. He built a transmitter. With the call sign 3BP and broadcasting on a frequency of three hundred meters from the by then abandoned Pickering College building, he radiated a half-kilowatt spark. This was sufficient for his signal to reach the Pacific and Maritime coasts.

In 1921 the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) sponsored a test in radio signalling across the Atlantic. While the ARRL technical restrictions were stiff (wave lengths of 200 meters or less, power output less than 1 kilowatt, limited transmission duration) on December 9, with a power output of fifty watts, Rogers succeeded in being heard in Scotland, the only Canadian to achieve the objective. As Scientific American reported, "For the first time in the annals of radio, short wave low power trans-Atlantic communication became a fact." One of the other twenty-nine successful operators was the American Edwin Armstrong broadcasting with a ninety-nine watt set. Armstrong later developed the regenerative circuit and is credited with being the 'father' of FM radio.

KILL THE BATTERIES TED

In 1924 Rogers decided that batteries must go. They were big, bulky, expensive, unreliable and wore out quickly. He felt that if radios were to become truly universal, then they should be reliable enough to be operated by any member of the family, and operated on ordinary household current. For this to occur, the radios needed an AC tube.

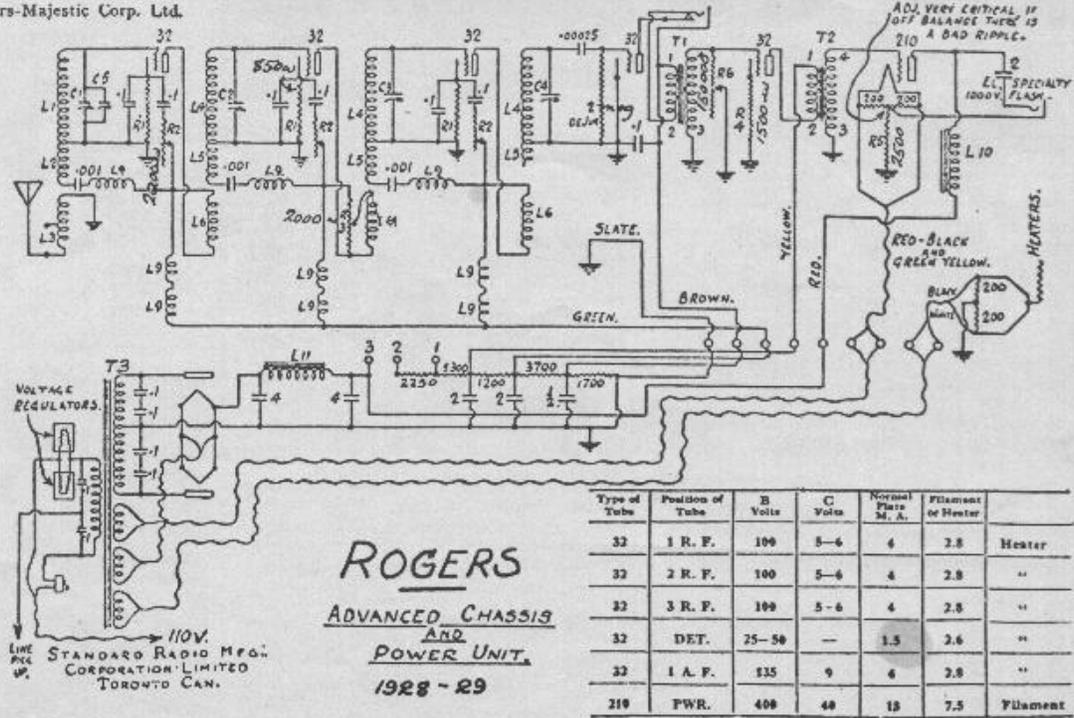
By this point in history there was a form of AC tube on the market developed by the American McCullough. It was not very good and only succeeded in removing the 'A' battery from the set. One still needed the 'B' and 'C' batteries. While in Pittsburgh, Rogers had the opportunity to examine the McCullough tube, complete with horn like filaments sticking out its top. Despite dissuasive arguments from the American engineers that it would be impossible to design a totally AC powered radio tube (due to interference from the filament inside the tube), Rogers bought the Canadian rights to the McCullough tube. In the family garage on Chestnut Street in Toronto, Rogers set out to prove the Americans wrong.

The first step was to design a satisfactory 'B' battery eliminator for the sets. At this stage, the 'A' and 'B' substitutes were in separate units. Then came the problem of assembling them in the same cabinet as the receiving set. The first efforts to do so were unsatisfactory, due to the heavy fields set up by the various transformers and chokes. It was found that both the RF and audio circuits were grossly influenced by the alternating current. In addition to this, after the alternating current had been rectified and filtered, the direct current was modulated in the choke by the field from the transformer.

—Courtesy Rogers-Majestic Corp. Ltd.

ROGERS—5

Advanced Chassis Fitted in Models 440 Console 460 De Luxe Console 430 Table 490 Console 1928-29



ROGERS
 ADVANCED CHASSIS
 AND
 POWER UNIT.
 1928 - 29

Type of Tube	Position of Tube	B Volts	C Volts	Normal Plate M. A.	Filament of Heater	
32	1 R. F.	100	5-6	4	2.8	Heater
32	2 R. F.	100	5-6	4	2.8	"
32	3 R. F.	100	5-6	4	2.8	"
32	DET.	25-50	—	1.5	2.6	"
32	1 A. F.	125	9	4	2.8	"
210	FWR.	400	40	15	7.5	Filament

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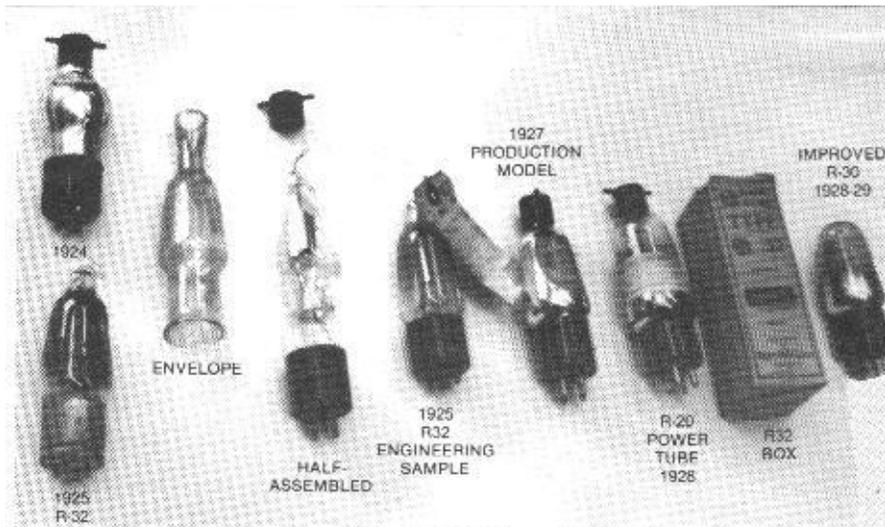


Photo by Steve Rimmer, courtesy of Mike Batch of Vintage Radio & Gramophone.

To reduce AC hum, Rogers brought the filament leads out of one end of the tube and the grid leads out of the other. This provided as much separation as was possible within the physical construction of the tube.

By the careful placement of the various parts, the use of proper shielding, the re-designing of the cores for the transformers and chokes, Rogers progressively invented the AC tube. In April of 1925 he filed a patent application on his invention, which was granted as number 269205 in March of 1927. In Roger's words:

"My invention comprises producing a rectifier which may be used to supply the anode potential of thermionic tubes directly from a source of alternating current of commercial frequencies such as 25 or 60 cycle without causing any disturbance in the radio reception or transmission circuits in which the tubes are used."

Capitalizing on his inbred business acumen, Rogers promptly founded a company to manufacture his invention, Standard Radio Manufacturing Company, later known as Rogers Majestic Corporation, which in August 1925 produced the first commercial AC tube. Within the day, Rogers' Batteryless Radios were on display at the Canadian National Exhibition.

By 1927 Rogers had upgraded the power of batteryless transmitters to the point where they could be used for commercial broadcasting. In 1927 he founded radio station 9RB, which latter became CFRB. Broadcasting on a wavelength of 291 meters from two 100-foot masts supporting a 4 wire flat top antenna, the station was powered by four 1-kilowatt water-cooled tubes. It was located in Aurora, north of Toronto, thereby sidestepping in-city regulations governing power output.

Rogers died in the spring of 1939 of a haemorrhaging ulcer.

From The Mailbox

ZEROBEAT

THE BRUCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

IS NOW POSTED 73 DE JIM COVERLEY VE3OVV

5th Annual Ontario QSO Party

Hi gang!

Just want to remind members of GBARC about the 5th Annual Ontario QSO Party coming up on the weekend of April 21-22nd starting at 1800Z (2 pm) Saturday running 24 hours to 1800Z (2 pm) on the

Sunday.

We use all HF bands 160-10 meters (except for the WARC bands) both SSB & CW and the VHF/UHF bands in FM simplex, SSB & CW.

The "OQP" is a fun contest where we try to activate folks from all of the counties, districts and regional municipalities of Ontario and needless to say we could use some folks on from up your way!

Complete info including rules, entry forms, logging software, previous scores, planned activities etc. is available at <http://www.odxa.on.ca/oqphome.html>

If you need any additional info...feel free to drop me a note at ve3sre@rac.ca

Cheers & hope to catch you all on the air on April 21-22nd!

73 de Bob Chandler VE3SRE
Contest Manager
Ontario QSO Party

----- Original Message -----

From: Gibson, Steve <SMGibson@mvh.org>

To: <ve3bqm@rac.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2001 12:31 PM

Subject: **Sister City Net**

Greetings from W8DYY, the Mound Amateur Radio Association, in Miamisburg, OH. Since Miamisburg is the sister city of Owen Sound, we thought it would be nice to meet your members on the air! We are on most Saturday mornings

around 10:00am your time, to work our fellow club members who are out of state on trips. We usually run it on 14.340Mhz. We have been able to work Carl up there in Owen Sound on 20 meters so we thought we would try this again. Please forward this email to the members of your club so we can try this. If anyone from there is coming to Dayton this year, we would like to meet with them, and show them the club shack, etc. We are at exit44, 20 minutes south of Dayton. If anyone does make it down our way, give us a call on the W8DYY repeater, 147.195 +600. Please Email me and let me know!

Thanks

N8DNG Steve Gibson Miamisburg, OH.