



# GUYWIRE

April 2018

A monthly publication of the RARA Inc. except July and August.

If you wish to receive or be removed from the e-mailing please contact the editor/publisher at the RARA e-mail address @ ve5rara@gmail.com

NOTE: all e-mail and web addresses are active hyperlinks

## GENERAL MEETING

April 11th @ 7:00 p.m.

Regent Place Library - Regina Market Mall - 331 Albert St.

## Planning for the Science Center Adult Night

**NEW**

### RARA Executive

2018 - 2019

President - Neil Slater - VA5SCA  
Treasurer - Mark Humphreys VA5LNX  
Secretary - TBA  
Past President - Harvey Drinkle - VE5AD  
Director - Justin Chapman - VA5RED  
Director - Summer Hartzfeld -  
VE5SD  
Director - Lyle Maystruck - VE5EE  
Director - Allan Tidball - VE5LAT  
Director - Terry White - VE5TLW

### 2018 - 19 Public Service Events

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ORGANIZER</u>
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#### UPCOMING

RPS Half-marathon	- April 29-	Terry VE5TLW
MS Super Cities Walk	- April 29 -	Richard VE5RJR
MS Bike Tour Avonlea	- Aug. 18 -	Richard VE5RJR

**2018-19  
Membership Fee  
Now Due**

**Please pay treasurer  
Mark Humphreys - VA5LNX**

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Moose Jaw  
Amateur  
Radio Club



VE5MA  
Chartered  
Nov. 16, 1921



and the  
**Saskatchewan Amateur  
Radio League**



Are proud to host the  
**Saskatchewan Hamfest 2018**  
Please come out and help celebrate our 96th year  
as the longest running amateur radio club in Saskatchewan, and SARL's 66th year.

**We will have**

Fleamarket

Ladies Craft Tables (limited number available)

Ladies Forum (subject to be determined)

AGM - Avonlea Repeater Group

AGM - SARL

Display tables

Static Display Outside

Trophy Presentations

Guest Speaker

Family Photo

A catered lunch (tickets must be pre-ordered)

Museum reduced price (tickets must be pre-ordered)

This will take place at the  
**Western Development Museum**  
**Moose Jaw, May 5, 2018, from 9:00 am - 4:45 pm**

**Everyone must pre-register**  
so that we know how many tables,  
lunch tickets and Museum tickets are required.

**Registration forms at:** < <https://www.sarl.ca/index.php/hamfest-2018-information>>

**Admission to Fleamarket:** \$5.00/person, this also gives you 1 free table. Extra tables \$5.00 each.

**Lunch Tickets:** \$10.00 each. This gives you a sandwich and a bowl of soup and desert.

**Museum tickets:** \$4.00 each. You must have a ticket to give to the front desk (museum cashier)  
if you wish to go through the museum

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## Puzzler For Last Month

**What is a Selsyn Motor and what is it used for?**

**Answer:** Selsyn motors work in pairs which, when connected together if one motor is rotated the other one will follow by the same amount. They are often used as remote antenna direction indicators.

## This Month the Puzzler is:

If you were making use of spacial diversity, what would you be doing?

**Answer next month.**

## Sealing Outdoor Connectors

The following method of weather-proofing outdoor connectors was taught to me by a tower contractor.

The procedure used is the use of black electrical tape in a unconventional manner though. The first wrap of tape, in weatherproofing a connector, is to wrap the connector with the black electrical tape "sticky side" out. Ensure that the tape is stretched enough to fill the low spots on the connector. Now wrap the connector in the usual manner with the weather seal product (self vulcanizing tape). Place two overlapping layers of electrical tape over the weather seal. Self vulcanizing tape may be purchased at home improvement stores such as Lowes, Home Depot, etc.

Note: when the end of a layer is to be finished, do not pull the tape, instead cut the tape. If the tape

is pulled it will tend to shrink back and start to unravel.

If the connection must be opened, everything peels off with a careful knife cut and with no effort whatsoever and nothing sticks to the parts involved. Using black tape in this manner requires nothing more to put in your tool box.

I have opened connectors and splices after many years using this method and have seen that they looked as good as the day they were originally done.

Terry (VE5TLW)

## Digital "Flavour of the Month"

There are more than 20 Digital Modes (not including variations within each). If you listen outside of the Amateur Radio bands you will hear even more strange warblings and chirpings. After some listening, your curiosity may get the better of you and say to yourself "digital mode just isn't enough".

Whether you have the digital bug and are already watching the digital waterfall or just starting to get curious, there are resources available to satisfy your craving for more digital mode information. Although a digital setup for your radio (digital software and a sound card interface) will provide you with both a visual (waterfall display) and auditory clues to help you to identify the culprit, you can do so by ear with experience. That being said, I have seen nothing on the waterfall and heard nothing but atmospheric noise, perfect copy will appear on the screen as if by magic.

Each digital mode has unique characteristics that result in a specific visual and/or auditory fingerprint.

You can start your investigation at the [www.wb8nut.com/digital modes information page](http://www.wb8nut.com/digital-modes-information-page), which lists digital modes in use on the ham bands. The information is of a general nature and provides a link to a sound file of a typical transmission. Another useful list of digital mode sound files may be found at:

<https://www.dxzone.com/dx4657/radio-sounds.html>.

If you have a waterfall display to work with, [www.w1hkj.com](http://www.w1hkj.com) is great place to start your search. Click on the "Sights and Sounds of Digital Modes" link to open a page containing both waterfall waveforms and sound bites of 14 different ham radio digital modes.

An extensive collection of non-ham modes may be found at [www.kb9ukd.com/digital](http://www.kb9ukd.com/digital). This site includes over 100 different digital modulation sound samples covering everything from aircraft telemetry and railway crossing signal data. Also of note on this site is sound file for SSTV (Slow Scan Television).

It is now time, to tune into and enjoy the wonderful and amazing world of Digital Modes.

VE5TLW

## Interesting Websites

For anyone who missed the ham radio writeup in QC magazine, here are the websites where you can find them:

### Text article:

<<http://leaderpost.com/life/qc/ham-city-reginas-amateur-radio-operators-look-to-the-future>>

### Video:

<<http://leaderpost.com/category/life>>

VB18FIFA



## World Cup 2018 Football Amateur Radio Marathon

June 1 to July 15

### For immediate release:

The special call sign VB18FIFA will be on the air from June 1 to July 15 for the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia.

Members of the Maritime Contest Club (MCC) will represent Canada and Radio Amateurs of Canada at the request of the Russian Amateur Radio Union (SRR), the national organization of Radio Amateurs in Russia.

The SRR has partnered with Amateur organizations in 60 countries to organize special event stations. QSLs will be via Logbook of The World (LotW) only, and the award for working FIFA stations is available from the SRR online at: <http://fwc18.hamlogs.net>. Please see the VB18FIFA page on QRZ for more details.

### Background information:

"The FIFA World Cup, often simply called the World Cup, is an international association football competition contested by the senior men's national teams of the members of Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), the sport's global governing body. The championship has been awarded every four years since the inaugural tournament in 1930, except in 1942 and 1946 when it was not held because of the Second World War. The current champion is Germany, which won its fourth title at the 2014 tournament in Brazil."

Wikipedia –

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIFA\\_World\\_Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIFA_World_Cup)  
For more information visit the FIFA World Cup website at: <http://www.fifa.com/worldcup/index.html>