



GUYWIRE

January 2016

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

Jan. 13th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Presentation:

Public Service Procedures

Terry (VE5TLW)

Help

**PROVIDE SOME GUIDANCE
FOR FUTURE ISSUES.**

1. What would you like to have as a regular topic?
2. Do you think a technical article each issue would be of interest?
3. Please send articles of interest to amateurs that you find on the internet or in publications.

Contact the editor or publisher at:
ve5rara@gmail.com

2015 PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

EVENT DATE ORGANIZER

UPCOMING

Klondike Hike - Feb. 20th - Justin VA5RED
RPS Half Marathon - May 1st - Terry VE5TLW
Cosmo Learning Centre - May ? - Harv VE5AD

COMPLETED

Maker 2015 (RPL) - Dec. 4th - Neil VA5SCA
Santa Parade - Nov. 15th - Rick VE5RJR

Meewasin Amateur Radio Society Spring Digital Radio Symposium April 30th, 2016

Martensville
Lion's Heritage Centre – 415 6th Avenue South
Space Is Limited – Don't Wait To Register!!

What's going on?

On April 30th, 2016, MARS will host what we hope to be the first annual "MARS Spring Digital Radio Symposium."

What is it? It is a day long training class on many of the current digital technologies in use today on our frequencies.

Attendees will learn:

- The difference between DSTAR, Fusion and DMR.
- Why they are missing out if they are not on APRS!
- Demonstrations of each technology.

How much?

Registration is limited to 30 people and therefore it is encouraged that you register early. Registration is \$35 and includes everything mentioned above as well as door prize entries.

We will also have snacks and beverages throughout the day that are also included.

Participants will receive electronic copies of presentations, software and documents talked about during the presentations.

For more information and registration forms go to the MARS website
<http://www.meewasin-ars.ca>

BCQP Contest

Rebecca VA7BEC here.

The BCQP 2016 promotion bandwagon has rolled out, and I would like to invite RARA to join the party. Some of the other same-day QSO parties may attract more attention, but if you guys are on the air and hear any VE7/VA7s calling CQ, please give them a shout. I've attached the official BCQP 2016 announcement. Would you pass the word along, please?

The most important thing to know is the date and time of the 2016 event: UTC 1600z Feb 6 to 0400z Feb 7. That's February 6, 10am to 10pm in Saskatchewan.

Another important point is that the list of BC districts — the multipliers in BCQP — has changed. We use federal electoral districts since BC has no counties, and with the last election, the electoral map was redrawn, resulting in not only new district names — and thus new three-letter combinations for our purposes — but also six more districts within the province. Of note, these six new districts are in the most populous areas of BC, which are also where the majority of BCQP in-province participants are located. This should help stations everywhere build bigger logs with higher mult counts. The updated multiplier list for 2016 can be found at
http://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp_districts.html

Other info, such as rules, in-depth event analysis/reports and scores from past years, is available for viewing from links on the BCQP page of the Orca DXCC website at
<http://www.orcadxcc.org/bcqp.html>

SSTV

Here is a list of SSTV frequencies that are in popular use at this time.

Provided by Bruce VE5RC

2M – 145.50

6M – 50.680

10M – 28.680, 28.690, 28.700

15M – 21.340

20M – 14.230, 14.233, 14.236

40M – 7.158, 7.170, 7.173, 7.228

80M – 3.845, 3.857

160M – 1.840, 1.865, 1.910, 1.916

Repeater NEWS

The Southwest Amateur Radio Club is embarking on several ambitious repeater and linking projects. They will be setting up a repeater at Val Marie Sask on 145.43 – mHz. linked to Swift Current.

Due to the distance to Swift Current, they will be using 6 meters for the link. Val Marie is just on the edge of the Grasslands National park near the U.S. border.

They will also be reactivating the Tompkins repeater (146.67 – mHz) by relocating it to Eastend Sask.

No word on whether these repeaters will be Irlp Capable.

Ramsay Kits QRT

We are informed that Ramsay Kits has gone out of business. Next to Heathkit they were probably the best known kit supplier. As one ham put it “thinking and building has gone out of style”.

Also TEN-TEC has been sold and the new owner has suspended operations pending reorganization. Anyone with equipment sent to Ten-Tec for repair is asked to be patient. They will inform everyone when operations resume.

Free Test Equipment

Few hams have the financial resources to buy good quality test equipment, considering a good piece of test equipment can cost \$1000 or more. Now all that is changed thanks to the internet.

As an example, an audio test oscillator program is available for free downloaded. This will not only provide audio test tones but also has a host of other features.

It can do things like:

1. Provide tuning frequencies for all common string musical instruments.
2. Time stretcher to increase the length of an audio file without changing the pitch.
3. Pitch shifter to change the pitch of an audio file without changing the length.
4. Sub woofer test.
5. Sweep Generator with three different waveforms available.
6. Hearing test – test your own hearing ability.
7. Noise Generator - both white and pink.
8. Binaural beat generator.
9. DTMF tone generator.

The generator can be downloaded free from www.onlinetonegenerator.com

As well as being helpful in the hamshack, it is fun to play with.

Planned Dxpeditions

There are planned DXexpitions in 2016 to a number of DXCC entities that have not been activated for many years. They are as follows:

Palmyra Is K5P

2016 Jan12 2016 Jan25 LotW DXW.Net
20150418 By K9CT N2TU WB9Z K9NW
K6MM W8HC W0GJ ND2T W3OA fm Cooper I;
160-10m; CW SSB + digital; 5 stations; full QSL
details on Web pages, Club Log preferred

South Georgia Is VP8SGI

2016 Feb01 2016 Feb11 LotW DXW.Net
20141215 By N6PSE K3LP N2WB N6HC
RA9USU JH4RHF K1LZ WD5COV K3VN K9CT
K4ZLE K6TD VE7CT NA6M; 160-10m; CW SSB
RTTY; QSL also OK via Club Log and N2OO

North Korea P5 2016 Feb01 2016 Feb27

TBA DXW.Net
20150310 By 3Z9DX; 20 15 10m; SSB; exact
dates not set and details are tentative and subject
to change

South Sandwich Is VP8STI

2016 Jan17 2016 Jan25 Club Log
DXW.Net
20141215 By N6PSE K3LP N2WB N6HC
RA9USU JH4RHF K1LZ WD5COV K3VN K9CT
K4ZLE K6TD VE7CT NA6M; 160-10m; CW SSB
RTTY; 8 full days, exact dates TBA

Juan de Nova & Europa FT4JA

2016 Mar31 2016 Apr14 TBA DXW.Net
20150418 By F6BEE F1NGP F2DX F5PTM
F4BKV F5CWU F4FET FM5CD F5UFX fm Juan
de Nova I (AF-012)

For a full list of DXCC operations follow this
link: <http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html>

“Official” P5/3Z9DX North Korea Activation Now Set for this Summer

Following an unexpected “demonstration”
operation from North Korea -- officially the
Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)
-- just before Christmas, Polish DXer Dom Grzyb,
3Z9DX, now expects to be back in the DPRK --
the most-wanted DXCC entity -- for his “official”
activation by late this summer, according to The
Daily DX. He initially had anticipated returning
this month or next.

P5/3Z9DX showed up on the air from the most-
wanted DXCC entity on December 20 and 21 to
demonstrate Amateur Radio for North Korean
officials. Over the course of that activation -- the
first in more than a decade -- P5/3Z9DX made
nearly 785 SSB contacts, most of them on 15 meters.
Nearly 600 of the contacts were with stations in
Asia; P5/3Z9DX worked just 26 stations in North
America. He has posted his log on ClubLog.

Grzyb recently contacted The Daily DX Editor
Bernie McClenny, W3UR, to update his situation.
During his visit, authorities were friendly and
polite, McClenny reported, noting that he was
also surprised that they allowed him to operate in
December. P5/3Z9DX was severely hampered by
extremely high noise levels on all HF bands, not
to mention a geomagnetic storm. Noise, he said
in a video posted on his website, made it “almost
impossible” to copy weaker signals in Pyongyang.

When he goes back to the DPRK this summer,
he will be operating from a far quieter location
in a rural area, Grzyb told The Daily DX. While
operating from North Korea in December,
P5/3Z9DX was running 100 W to a vertical antenna
mounted on a metal fence post some 7 feet above
the ground among government high-rise buildings.
His equipment was left behind in Pyongyang,
as was agreed to before his December visit. The
P5/3Z9DX preview was the first activation from
North Korea since the 2001-2002 operation by Ed
Giorgadze, 4L4FN. -- Thanks to OPDX, The Daily
DX

Palmyra, South Sandwich/South Georgia Will
Help Kick Off 2016 DXpedition Calendar
Let the 2016 pileups begin! Two major January

DXpeditions will be among other smaller efforts, with all aimed at providing a new one to the madding crowd. Look for the Palmyra Island and South Georgia Island/South Sandwich Islands activations, starting around mid-month. The Pacific Islands DX Group's K5P DXpedition to Palmyra hopes to be on the air on January 12 and will continue until January 25. Palmyra ranks among the Top 10 most-wanted DXCC entities. Initially a 12-member team was set to depart and activate K5P. Due to a change of aircraft that will transport the team to the island, the team has been trimmed to nine operators. The team is planning to leave Hawaii for Palmyra on January 11. The Pacific Islands DXpedition Group has been awarded permission to activate Cooper Island in the Palmyra Atoll.

The Group notes that another Palmyra Atoll activation may not take place for many years, because access is severely restricted and permission is difficult to obtain. The team said that without the cooperation and support of the Nature Conservancy and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the DXpedition would not be possible. The DXpedition's co-leaders are Craig Thompson, K9CT, and Lou Dietrich, N2TU.

Meanwhile, the 14-member Intrepid-DX Group VP8 DXpedition team to the South Sandwich Islands and South Georgia will set out on January 9 from the Falkland Islands on the R/V (research vessel) Braveheart for a 37-day voyage. Both entities are rare. The team will use VP8STI from South Sandwich and VP8SGI from South Georgia. "Our plans have us activating South Sandwich Island first, as it is the #3 most-wanted DXCC [entity] in ClubLog," the group said on its website. "We will be active on South Sandwich for 8 full days, weather and sea conditions permitting. We expect to start our activation of VP8STI on January 17." South Georgia is the 8th most-wanted DXCC entity, according to the ClubLog Most Wanted DXCC List.

The DXpedition's website describes the South Sandwich Islands as "a cold and inhospitable place," and Southern Thule Island, where the group will operate, as "one of the most remote places on Earth."

Interesting Websites

* Willis Island is a favorite DXpedition site. Watch this helicopter view of the island taken during the 2015 DXpedition:copter view www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBuKxCkfTnQ

* SSTV Demonstration on Youtube www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3k6Xt30Z7g

* The first geosynchronous satellite will soon be a reality. Read this interesting story: <http://phys.org/news/2015-12-amateur-radio-geosynchronous-orbit-aid.html>

** Catch this interesting program called Ham Sandwich at:<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/the-ham-sandwich-3-a-show-for-ham-radio-hobbiists.505389/>

** Here is a link to a publication put out on the Dutch Kingdom Amateur Radio association website:<http://downloads.dkars.nl/DKARS%20Magazine%20201504.pdf>

** **NOTE:** You may have to retype the last two web addresses to have them load properly.

Last Months Puzzler

These three musical groups have something in common, - the Eagles, N'sync and Creedence Clearwater Revival. What is it?

Answer: They all had at least one ham in the band.

January Puzzler

If you had a wire antenna that was resonating too high in frequency, would you have to (a) trim the ends of the antenna (b) add to the ends of the antenna or (c) shorten the feedle?

Answer next month