



GUYWIRE

January 2019

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

January 9th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Presentation
'Go Boxes'

RARA Executive 2018-19

President - Neil Slater - VA5SCA
Treasurer - Mark Humphreys VA5LNX
Secretary - Position to be Filled
Past President - Harvey Drinkle - VE5AD
Director - Justin Chapman - VA5RED
Director - Jerome Kuntz VE5KZ
Director - Lyle Maystruck - VE5EE
Director - Allan Tidball VE5LAT
Director - Terry White - VE5TLW

2018 -2019

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

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

COMPLETED

RPS 1/2 marathon	- April 29	- Terry VE5TLW
MS Super Cities Walk	- April 29-	Rick VE5RJR
MS Bike Tour-	August 18th	- Richard VE5RJR
Santa Parade	- Nov. 18th-	Richard VE5RJR.

December Puzzler

Beside the AM Broadcast band, what commercial radio service still uses Amplitude Modulation (AM)?

Answer:

The civil Airband service uses AM, designated A3E (double sideband, full carrier), on VHF and UHF frequencies. The VHF band is 108 - 117.95 MHz and the UHF band is 225 - 395.95 MHz. The UHF band is used by military services. The frequency of 121.5 MHz is used exclusively for emergency communications and has guard bands from 121.4 MHz - 121.5 MHz and 121.5 MHz - 121.6 MHz.

January Puzzler

Which Canadian inventor was the first person to broadcast audio (music) by radio?

Answer next month

From the Pages of History Valdemar Poulsen

Valdemar Poulsen is name lost in history, however this Danish engineer's achievements made an extremely important contribution to the early days of radio advancement.

He invented an early type of tape recorder, using magnetic wire, which he named the "Telegraphone" in the late 1890's. He developed the Poulson Arc Transmitter which was used for some of the first broadcasting stations and remained in use into the 1920's. The Poulson Arc Transmitter was the first continuous wave radio transmitter.

He died in 1942 at the age of 72.

**RAC supports the
Canadian National Parks
on the Air event (CNPOTA):
January 1 to December 31, 2019**



<https://wp.rac.ca/rac-supports-canadian-national-parks-on-the-air-event-cnpota/>

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce its support of the Canadian National Parks on the Air (CNPOTA) event which will be held next year from January 1 to December 31.

The CNPOTA Event Committee describes the event in this way:

"All Radio Amateurs worldwide will have an opportunity to operate portably from any of Canada's 48 National Parks and 171 National Historic Sites (these are 'activators'). Amateurs around the world will be able to chase these adventurous operators in an effort to confirm the most QSOs (these are 'chasers').

Activity for activators and chasers will be tracked on a dedicated website and real-time leader board and other statistics will be available throughout the year. Activators and chasers will be able to compete for and collect online awards and certificates created specifically for the event.

Come join the fun and plan to visit one of Canada's beautiful Parks and Historic sites next year!"

RAC will be assisting the organizers in promoting the event through articles in The Canadian Amateur magazine, the RAC website and in social media.

For more information about the event please visit the Canadian National Parks on the Air website at: <https://cnpota.ca/>

Alan Griffin

RAC MarCom Director

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Put A Cork On It

Do you have a mobile antenna that is driving you, around the bend, with its incessant whistling?

Enjoy emptying your favourite bottle of wine and use the cork. Just slice the cork longitudinally, half way through it, and install it on the antenna. You may have to try different locations to find the “sweet spot” to silence that annoying whistling.

Short Term Temporary Splice Protection

If there is a requirement for a temporary or short term protection for a splice or connector, one may be fashioned from a bicycle inner tube. Just cut the inner tube to a length sufficient to cover the area plus about 3 inches on each side.

Before installing the inner tube, ensure that the white powder found on the inside surface is removed, by washing it, and then passing a damp paper towel through it and letting it dry.

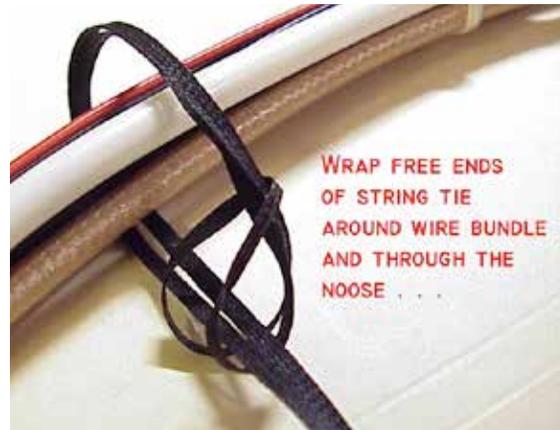
Secure the inner tube using “zip ties” and weatherproofing with a couple of layers of black electrical tape at each end.

Ensure that you do not excessively tighten the “zip ties” as they may deform the transmission line.

Dental Floss Who Knew??

If you need a very very strong cord for tying, try using dental floss. It is virtually unbreakable and it is ubiquitous.

The only issue with using dental floss it is waxed and one must use the proper method of tying, otherwise an ordinary overhand knot will slip. The illustration shows the correct method of securing the dental floss. Once you have formed the loop, pull it tight, and then secure with a couple of overhand knots.



Cable Marker Helper

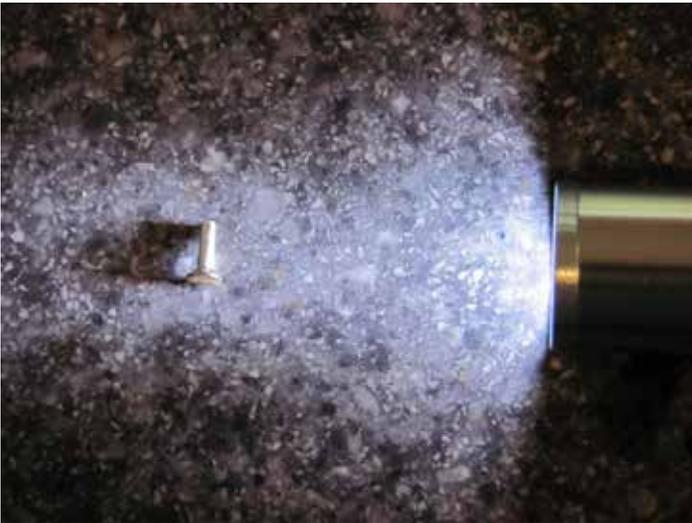
Have you ever been in the awkward position of having to crawl under a desk to plug in a USB cable or any other computer cable? It always seems that you cannot get the cable in the correct orientation, without looking for a flashlight. USB cables are notorious to orient into the right position.

For a fighting chance, a simple aid in your quest to get the plug into the correct orientation, is to mark the USB connector with a contrasting paint or “white-out”. Just dab a spot on the top side of the USB connector. So now, when you grab the cable you know which side is “up”.

How To Find A Tiny Part

Have you ever dropped a tiny item on the floor, and the old eyes aren't as sharp as they once were. That small part can very every elusive.

By using a flashlight that is held flat against the floor or workbench where the part is hiding, will exaggerate, any and all surface imperfections. As may be seen in the photo, the flashlight provides more than just illumination.



RARA President Neil Slater presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Jim MacKenzie VE5EV in recognition of his generosity and friendship so graciously offered to Summer Hartzfeld VE5SDH



VE5CON

Help the GUYWIRE

Your assistance is requested as we find it very time intensive to, monthly, search out articles of interest.

Many of you have access to the internet, read various publications and as well talk to other amateurs. Surely you come across things that might be of interest to others.

Please take the effort to send your discoveries or your comments on what you would like to see in the GUYWIRE.

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