



# GUYWIRE

May 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

May 9th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

## Planning for Field Day

### 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 - VE5SDH  
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

MS Bike Tour Avonlea - Aug. 18 - Richard VE5RJR

#### COMPLETED

RPS Half-marathon - April 29-Terry VE5TLW  
MS Super Cities Walk - April 29 - Richard VE5RJR

**Please pay your  
2018-19  
Membership Fee  
to treasurer  
Mark (VE5LNX)**

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## Upcoming Events

Field Day June 23/24

International Lighthouse/Lightship Week  
Aug.19-20

For more information go to: <http://illw.net>

Solar Eclipse Aug. 21st.

## Interview on CJTR

Summer (VE5SDH) and I were interviewed on the community FM station CJTR on April 16th.

The interview went reasonably well with a good coverage of amateur topics.

73 - Terry (VE5TLW)

## April Puzzler

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

**Answer:**

Spatial diversity employs multiple antennas, usually with the same characteristics, that are physically separated from one another. This is especially beneficial for the mobile communication industry since it allows multiple users to share a limited communication spectrum and avoid co-channel interference.

## May Puzzler

The government department that governs amateur radio was formerly called Industry Canada. What is their current name?

**Answer next month**

## Durham Radio QRT

A familiar Canadian supplier of amateur equipment has called it quits. Durham Radio is shutting down its business.

For information about outstanding orders or questions please to refer to their website.

## Royal Wedding special call sign GR9RW: May 19-23



Royal Wedding between  
HRH Prince Harry and Ms. Megan Markle

The special call sign GR9RW will be active for five days in May to mark the occasion of the Royal Wedding between His Royal Highness Prince Harry and Ms. Megan Markle, which is due to take place on May 19, 2018 at St. George's Chapel in Windsor Castle in England.

This commemorative Amateur Radio station will be operated by members of the Cray Valley Radio Society from Eltham in southeast London, in the United Kingdom.

Ofcom, the communications regulator in the United Kingdom, has issued this unique Special Event call sign to be used from May 19 to May 23 inclusive, and it is believed "it may be the first time that the 'GR9' prefix has ever been active". GR9RW will primarily use SSB and CW, and additionally FM on the VHF and UHF bands.

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Two HF stations and one VHF station will be active and will cover all bands from 80m to 70cm.

A very special QSL card will be sent on request and cards can also be requested via OQRS.

For more information visit the Cray Valley Radio Society's website at <http://www.cvrs.org/> and look on the QRZ page for GR9RW for details of the station and how to obtain the special QSL card.

Up-to-date information will also be posted on the Cray Valley Radio Society's Twitter feed: @G3RCV.

For further information about the Royal Wedding itself please visit: <https://www.royal.uk/royal-wedding-2018>

**Alan Griffin**  
**RAC MarCom Director**

## **Band Openings Using HF Beacons**

Have you ever thought to yourself "I wonder what bands might be open"? You can tune around the bands and hope to hear someone. That is one way to see what the ionosphere is doing, but there is also a way to tell not only if the band is open but to where and how good the opening is.

A beacon is a station that broadcasts a CW signal that repeats on a specific frequency. It could be said it is similar to a lighthouse that guides ships at sea. The beacon helps guide you towards openings that will do your RF signal the most good. Listening for beacons will tell you very quickly whether a particular band is open, and if so how good the propagation is.

A band can be dead because there is no

propagation or because no one is transmitting on it. Nothing can be done, on our part, for the first reason, however beacons come to the rescue. The multitude of Amateur Radio beacons ensures that there is always a station transmitting.

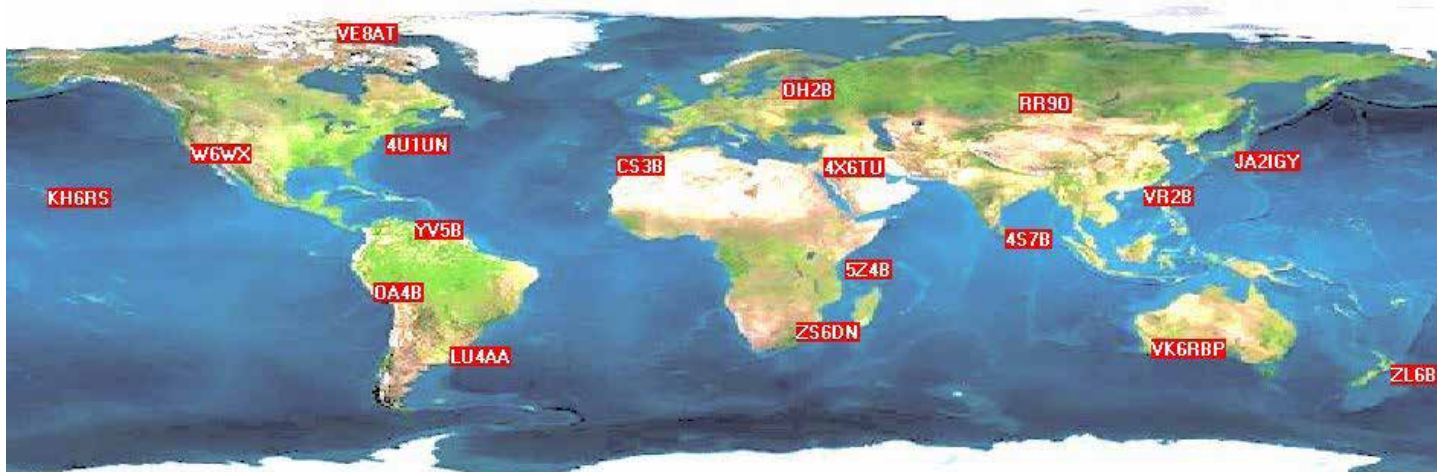
How does one locate a beacon for the band and area of interest? The best way is to become familiar with available beacons on the internet. Beacon lists can be found on the AC6V website by searching for "Beacons". A beacon list will open with links to various beacon websites. Another list may be found at the DXZone ([www.dxzone.com](http://www.dxzone.com)), listed under "DX Resources".

If you have a directional antenna, point it in the direction of interest and tune your radio to the frequency of the beacon you have selected. The majority of beacons transmit in CW. If you have trouble with reading CW, just remain on the frequency and see if the CW repeats itself (in perfect code). If so, you are on the correct frequency and beacon.

The International Beacon Project (IBP) is a system of 18 beacons located worldwide. They are organized and managed by the Northern California DX Foundation (NCDXF) ([www.ncdxf.org](http://www.ncdxf.org)). These beacons all operate on the following frequencies: 14.100, 18.110, 21.150, 24.930 and 28.200 MHz. Each of the beacons transmits every three minutes 24 hours a day. Each transmission lasts for 10 seconds and consists of the beacon's callsign sent at 22 WPM, followed by four 1 second dashes and then a 2 second pause. The callsign and the first dash are sent at 100 Watts and the remaining dashes are sent at 10 Watts, 1 Watt and 100 milli Watts. At the end of the pause the next beacon starts its transmission and the previous beacon repeats the pattern on the next frequency. Since the beacons are timed precisely, an accurate clock must be available to determine the exact beacon you are tuned to.

Refer to the diagrams for the QTH and callsigns of the beacons.

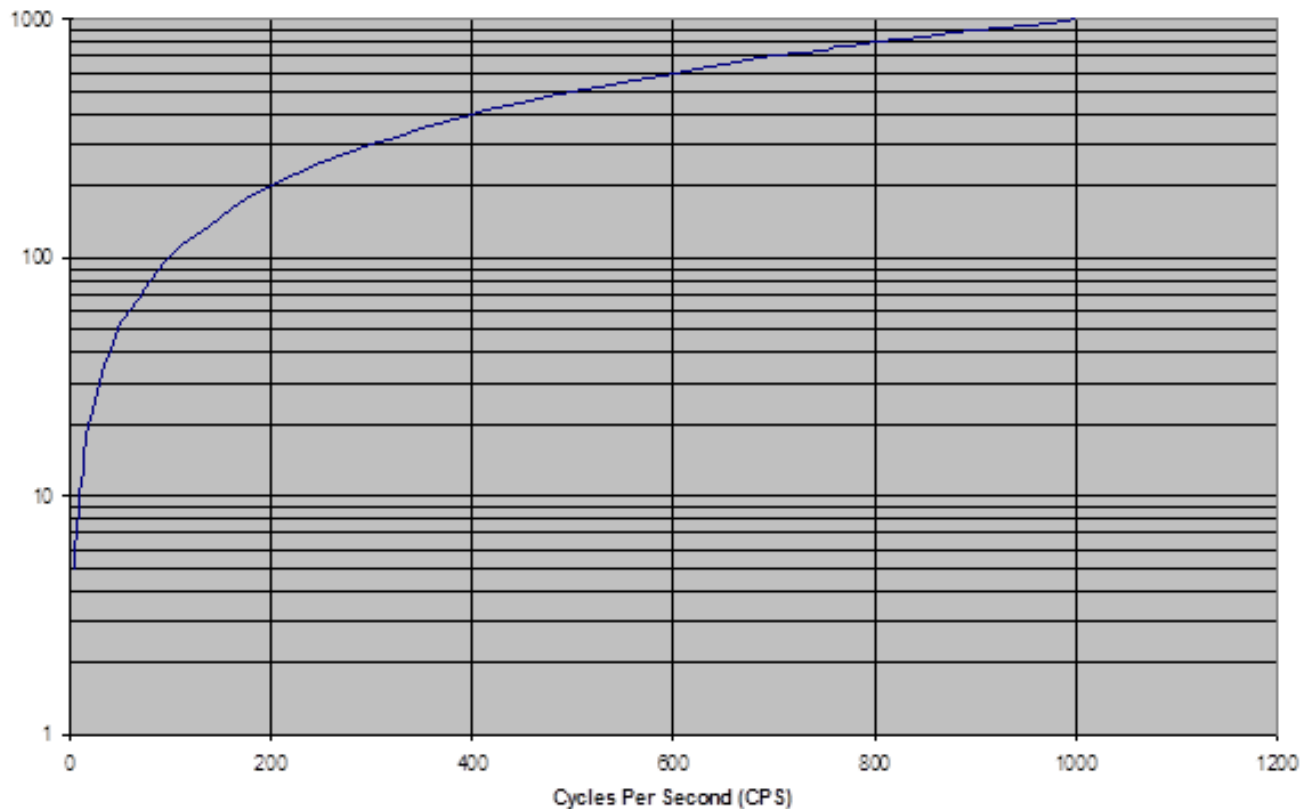
When your band sleuthing produces results, you may feel like an RF Sherlock Holmes in finding the elusive DX openings.



## VERY useful conversion graph for Cycles per Second to Hertz!!!

CPS to Hz.png

Cycles Per Second to Hertz Conversion



## Callsign

## Name

## Details

7L2NJY	Dr Mamoru Mohri	Japanese astronaut
9K2CS	Prince Yousuf Al-Sabah	
9N1MM	Father Marshall Moran	Missionary (SK)
A41AA	Qaboos Bin Said Al-Said	Sultan of Oman (In callbook as A4XAA)
EA0JC	Juan Carlos	King of Spain
FO5GJ	Martin Brandeaux aka Marlon Brando	Actor (SK), in callbook as FO8GJ (see also FO0MB below)
G2DQU	Lord Rix (formerly Sir Brian)	former actor and charity head (SK)
G3TZH	Tony Dolby	Brother of "the" Dolby
G3YLA	Jim Bacon OBE	Weatherman
GB1MIR	Helen Sharman	Astronaut
HS1A	Bhumiphol Adulayadej	King of Thailand (SK)
I0FCG	Francesco Cossiga	Former President of Italy
JA5FHB		Japanese Minister for Transport and Communications
JY1	King Hussein of Jordan	SK, JY1 also held reciprocal call EP1JY in Iran
JY1NH	Noor Alhussein	Queen and XYL of JY1
JY2	Queen of above	
K0HWY	Tex Beneke	Band leader
K1JT	Dr. Joseph H. "Joe" Taylor	Nobel Laureate (1993)
K1OKI	Mickey Schulhof	Head of Sony US
K2AES	Tom Kneitel	Author, publisher (SK, August 2008)
K2HEP	John Sculley	Former CEO of Apple
K2ORS	Jean Shepard	author (SK)
K4LIB	Arthur Godfrey	TV performer (SK)
K6DUE	Roy Neal	Television reporter
K7TA	Clifford Stoll	Author & scientist
K7UGA	Senator (US) Barry Goldwater	(SK)
KB2GSD	Walter Cronkite	News reader (SK)
KB2OOR	William T. Godbey	aka "Havana Moon" (SK)
KB6LQR	Jeanne Yeager	Voyager '86 pilot
KB6LQS	Dick Rutan	Voyager '86 pilot
KB6OLJ	Paul J Cohen	Mathematician
KC4OCA	Gordon Barnes	Weatherman
KD4WUJ	Patty Ramey,	aka Patti Loveless Country singer
KB5YSQ	Charlie Precourt	Astronaut
KC5CKM	Richard Searfoss	Astronaut
KC5ETH	Ronald Sega	Astronaut
KC5HBR	Jerry Linenger	Astronaut
KC5RSY	Scott Parazynsky	Astronaut
KC5TIE	Carl Walz	Astronaut
KC5TZQ	John Blaha	Astronaut
KD6OY	Garry Shandling	Comedian
KC7NHZ	Susan Helms	Astronaut
LU1SM	Carlos Saul Menem	KG7JF Jeff Duntemann Author Ex President of Argentina - 8 de julio de 1989–10 de diciembre de 1999
N4BQW	Charles Brady	Astronaut

N4HDP

Col (ret) Joe Kittinger, USAF Test pilot, first to cross the Atlantic solo in a balloon.

N4KET	David French	CNN newsman
N4RH	Ralph Haller	FCC PRB chief
N5FPW	Larry Van Horn	Author
N5QWL	Jay Apt	Astronaut
N5RAW	Steve Nagel	Astronaut
N5RAX	Linda Godwin	Astronaut and XYL of N5RAW
N5YYV	Kathy Sullivan,	Chief Scientist NOAA, former astronaut
N6GGM	Laura	XYL of N6FUP
N6KGB	Stewart Granger (James Stewart)	actor
N6YOS	Priscilla Presley	Former wife of Elvis Presley
NK7U	Joe Rudi	Baseball player
ON1AFD	Count Dirk Frimouth	Belgian astronaut
RAEM	Ernst Krenkel	Polar explorer and Hero of the Soviet Union [1] (SK)
S21A		Head of Bangladeshi PTT
SU1VN/P	Prince Talal of Saudi Arabia	
SV2ASP/A	Monk Apollo	
U2MIR/UV3AM	Musa Manarov	Cosmonaut
UA1LO	Yuri Gagarin	Cosmonaut (SK)
VK2BL	Graham Connelly	Radio announcer
VK2DIK	Dick Smith	Entrepreneur & millionaire
VK2IG	Dave Grey	Deputy Commissioner (???)
VK2KB	Sir Allan Fairhall	Politician
VK2YOW	Bob Hughes	Radio announcer
VP6TC	Tom Christian	Descendant of Fletcher Christian
VU2RG	Rajiv Gandhi	Prime Minister of India (SK)
VU2SON	Sonia Gandhi	XYL of VU2RG
W0ORE	Tony England	Astronaut
W2TQ	Joel Miller	IEEE lawyer
W3ACE	Armin Meyer	US Ambassador to Japan
W4LAA	Paul Kangas	Host of "Nightly Business Report" on PBS
W4ZG	Worth Gruelle	Actor
W5HLH	Harry L. Helms	(ex-AA6FW) Author (1952-2009)
W5LFL	Owen Garriot	Astronaut
W6EZV	General Curtis LeMay	SK
W6FZZ	Samuel F.B. Morse III	
W6JKV	James Treybig	CEO of Tandem
W6QHS		President of California Microware
W6QYI	Cardinal Roger Mahony	
W6ZH	Herbert Hoover Jr	Son of ARRL Pres, grandson of US President
W8JK	John Kraus	Radio-astronomer, SK
WA2MKI	Larry Ferrari	Organ player
WA4CZD	Chet Atkins	Guitarist (SK)
WA4SIR	Ron Parise	Astronaut
WA6TJM		President of ISD Inc
WB4KCG	Ronnie Milsap	Singer
WB6ACU	Joe Walsh	Singer
WB6RER	Andy Devine	Actor (SK)



# Pictures From Space

Greetings: These are some of the pictures I downloaded from the International space station last week using a program called MMSSTV.

It must have been Russian week because I think they are all Russian cosmonauts. I could download 2 pictures on every pass over Regina area.

You can download these with a hand held radio and a program running on your cellphone. Just hold the cellphone up to the radio and let the data stream do the rest. I used a more stable approach with the base radio and computer hookup with a signalink adapter. MMSSTV program running on the computer and 2 meter radio on 145.80 Mhz. FM.

Lyle -VE5EE



# Photos from April 26th Science Night



Neil's presentation on finding a hidden radio.



Justin discussing amateur radio with an interested person .