



# GUYWIRE

October 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](mailto:ve5rara@gmail.com)

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

## GENERAL MEETING

October 10th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

## The Future of Public Service Events

### 2018-19 RARA Executive

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

**The RARA needs a member who is willing to take on  
the position of secretary.**

**You will also become a director at large.**

**Minimal word processing skills would be an asset.**

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## Simulated Emergency

Test: October 2018

Test d'urgence simulée: octobre 2018

### For immediate release:

<https://wp.rac.ca/simulated-emergency-test-october-2018/>

**Date: Saturday, October 13**

Note: In Ontario the Simulated Emergency Test will be held on Saturday, October 13 but at Emergency Operations Centres that are located in Municipal offices, that can't get access on the weekend, the SET will also be held on Wednesday, October 10.

The Simulated Emergency Test is a North America-wide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the American Radio Relay League and the RAC Emergency Coordinators (EC) and Net Managers (NM). Both the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved.

The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community, while interacting with NTS nets. RAC administers our Canadian SETs.

Among other objectives we aim to strengthen the relationship between ARES and served municipalities and relief agencies. It is vitally important that this be done at the local EC level.

### Purpose of SET:

**1)** To find out the strengths and weaknesses of the ARES, NTS and other groups providing emergency communications.

**2)** To provide a public demonstration to served agencies, such as the Red Cross, of Emergency Preparedness and, through the news media, of the value to the public that Amateur Radio provides, particularly in time of need.

**3)** To help Radio Amateurs gain experience in communications using standard procedures and a variety of modes under simulated-emergency conditions.

For more information please visit:

<https://wp.rac.ca/simulated-emergency-test/>  
Simulated Emergency Test: October 2018  
Test d'urgence simulée: octobre 2018

For immediate release:

<https://wp.rac.ca/simulated-emergency-test-october-2018/>

## September Puzzler

Where would you use a Maxwell Bridge?

### Answer:

A Maxwell bridge is a modification to a Wheatstone bridge used to measure an unknown inductance (usually of low Q value) in terms of calibrated resistance and inductance or resistance and capacitance. When the calibrated components are a parallel resistor and capacitor, the bridge is known as a Maxwell-Wien bridge.

## October puzzler

If a ham puts the letters FOC after his or her callsign on a QSL card, what is the significance of those letters?

Answer next month

## FCC Cites Baofeng Importer for Illegally Marketing Unauthorized RF Devices

08/02/2018

The FCC has issued a Citation and Order (Citation) to Amcrest Industries, LLC (formerly Foscam Digital Technologies, LLC), an importer and marketer of popular and inexpensive Baofeng hand-held transceivers, alleging that the company

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violated FCC rules and the Communications Act by illegally marketing unauthorized RF devices. The FCC asserts that Amcrest marketed Baofeng model UV-5R-series FM hand-held radios capable of transmitting on “restricted frequencies.” The Baofeng models UV-5R and UV-5R V2+ were granted an FCC equipment authorization in 2012 to operate under Part 90 Private Land Mobile Radio Service (Land Mobile) rules.

“Under § 2.803 of the Commission’s rules, an entity may not market a device that is capable of operating outside the scope of its equipment authorization,” the FCC Citation said. “RF devices that have been authorized under Part 90 rules, such as the model as issue, must operate within the technical parameters established in those rules.” The FCC also maintained that the UV-5R 2+ is capable of operating at 1 W or 4 W, while the Part 90 Equipment Authorization limits the power output to 1.78 W

Amcrest conceded that the units were capable of operating on restricted frequencies but told the FCC that, per discussions with the manufacturer, were “only capable of operating at 1 W, the FCC said. The company instructed the manufacturer to fix the problem and later confirmed with the manufacturer that all Amcrest inventory on order and in the future would operate only on 145 – 155 MHz and 400 – 520 MHz.

While the Citation does not mention Amateur Radio, the UV-5R series radios can be programmed in a channelized configuration to function on 2-meters and 70-centimeters. According to the Citation, Amcrest had added a warning in its user manuals and marketing and sales materials implying that the UV-5R V2+ could operate on unauthorized and restricted frequencies, including Part 87 Aviation Services frequencies, Part 80 Maritime Services frequencies, and frequencies reserved for federal government use. The FCC said Part 90 radios that permit the operator to use external controls to program and transmit on frequencies other than those programmed by the manufacturer are “generally prohibited.” Amcrest told the FCC that it had ceased marketing

four models in the Baofeng UV-5R series “a few years ago,” but it did not remove them from its website until last February. Numerous online retailers continue selling UV-5R series radios for less than \$25, with some ads indicating that these are “ham” equipment.

Amcrest Industries, LLC, which owns and operates Baofengradio US, is an import, distribution, and marketing company based in Houston, Texas. It also sells hand-held transceivers under its own label.

“While we recognize Amcrest’s efforts to date to achieve compliance with the Commission’s rules, the company must nonetheless ensure the version of the UV-5R V2+ it is marketing operates only on frequencies specified in its Equipment Authorization,” the FCC said in its Citation. The FCC directed Amcrest “to take immediate steps to come into compliance with the Commission’s equipment authorization rules and cease marketing unauthorized RF devices in the United States.” Amcrest could face fines of nearly \$20,000 per day if it fails to comply.

## **Canadian Wartime Nickel Contains Morse Code**

The 1943-45 Canadian five cent coin, known as the “Victory Nickel,” is unusual in that it contains Morse Code. Most Canadians were unaware that they were carrying a Morse message in their pocket, since the code is discernible only upon close examination with a magnifying glass. It is visible on the image shown here. It’s on the reverse of the coin, and runs clockwise along the edge. It begins just to the left of the letter “N” in the word “CENTS”.

The beaver design currently appearing on the coin first appeared in 1937, but the coin was redesigned during the war. The reverse featured the letter V, with a dual significance. In addition to being the Roman Numeral for five (which was used on the U.S. Victory Nickel from 1883-1912), it was also the symbol of victory.

And with little fanfare, it also included the message, in Morse Code, "WE WIN WHEN WE WORK WILLINGLY."



## New Acting Section Manager for Saskatchewan



**Dave Scarfe, VE5UO**

I am pleased to announce that Dave Scarfe, VE5UO, has accepted the role of Acting Section Manager of the Saskatchewan Section effective immediately. Welcome aboard Dave!

Dave has been an Amateur for 30 years and is active on the HF bands, mainly on CW. He has been actively involved in teaching classes for both the Basic and Advanced Amateur certification courses for the Saskatoon Amateur Radio Club, and is the RAC Assistant Midwest Director for the Saskatoon Area. He is employed at the University of Saskatchewan as an IT Manager.

In addition Dave has been preparing the Section Reports for the Saskatchewan Section in The Canadian Amateur for former Section Manager Summer Hartzfeld, VE5SDH, who sadly became a Silent Key on August 9, 2018 at age 44.

A Tribute article to Summer is provided in the September-October 2018 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine.

Doug Mercer, VO1DM CEC  
RAC Vice-President and Community Services  
Officer



## 1. Easy Ground Rod Installation

This method works well in ground conditions that are not rocky.

Wet the area well, the ground rod is to be installed. Keep the ground wet with a trickling garden hose. Pump the ground rod up and down as if you are churning butter. With this method, one should be able to, get the ground rod about 75% - 80% of its length into the ground. At this point you are in a uncomfortable stooped position and cannot achieve enough force to drive it any further. The remainder of the ground rod can be driven into the earth using the traditional sledge hammer method.

## 2. Rise Above Your Problem

Do you need room on your power bar for a “Wall Wart” on that last available socket? Use this simple method to rise above your difficulty. As may be seen in the photos, use a 3-prong to 2 prong AC adapter to raise the wall wart higher than the plugs.

## 3. Guy Wire Safety

If you have a guyed tower, and you have to avoid the guys when walking or working in their vicinity there is a simple and inexpensive method to avoid walking into them.

Go to your local store that sells “pool noodles”. They are the long round flotation devices used in water. Buy the ones with the highest visibility colour. Just slit them lengthwise and slip it over the guys.

## 4. Proper Installation Of Cable Clamps

The illustration shows the correct way to install cable clamps on guywires. The saddle properly distributes the force (friction) on the load end of the cable. The U-Bolt goes over the dead end (non-load bearing end) of the cable.



U-Bolt of all clips on dead end of rope.

**Correct**



Staggered Clips

**Incorrect**



U-Bolt of all clips on live end of rope.

**Incorrect**

## 2018 MS Bike Tour



The MS Bike Tour in Avonlea SK. August 18th 2018  
Con VE5CON, Hugh VE5HWH & Murray VE5MC  
at the end on the Challenge Route with VE5M



Hugh VE5HWH, Con VE5CON & Murray VE5MC

If you have a few favorite hints of your own, please feel free to send them to Guywire.