



GUYWIRE

April 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

April 13th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Folding Antenna -Video

We need your

Help

Do you have something of interest that others may like to see, then send it to the editor.

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

2016 PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

EVENT DATE ORGANIZER

UPCOMING

RPS Half Marathon - May 1st - Terry VE5TLW
MS Walk - May 1 - Rick VE5RJR
Cosmo Learning Centre - May 13 - Harv VE5AD
Mayors Walk - May 31 - TBA
MS Bike Tour - Aug. 20-21- Rick VE5RJR
Queen City Marathon - Sept. 11 - Terry VE5TLW

COMPLETED

Klondike Hike - Feb. 20th - Justin VA5RED
Maker 2015 (RPL) - Dec. 4th - Neil VA5SCA
Santa Parade - Nov. 15th - Rick VE5RJR

RPS Half Marathon Race Day - May 1

07:30 AM CST – – Walker Start
08:30 AM CST – Race Day Half and Relay
08:35 AM CST – Race Day 5k Start
09:00 AM CST – Post Race Food Tent

On race day we will meet at the ARES MCV at the Douglas Park track no later than 6:30 AM.

If you have a location preference, advise me, and I will try to accommodate your request.

73 - Terry

Moose Jaw Flea Market

The annual Moose Jaw Flea Market will be held this year on April 23rd at the usual location at the Western Development Museum.
Doors open at 9:00 AM.

World Amateur Radio Day

Every April 18, Radio Amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. It was on that day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was formed in Paris.

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the shortwave spectrum – far from being a wasteland – could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio worldwide.

-RAC

New Executive Regina Amateur Radio Association

Here is a list of the new executive who will guide the club through the next year.

Con Berger – Director (Recording Secretary)
Justin Chapman - Director
Summer Hartzfeld - Director
George Harwood - Director (re-elected)
Lyle Maystruck - Director (re-elected)
Neil Slater - Director/Officer - President (elected)
Terry White - Director/Officer - Secretary (re-elected)
Allan Tidball - Director/Officer - Treasurer
Harvey Drinkle - Past President

Last Months Puzzler

What do you measure on the RIO scale?

Answer: The Rio Scale is for ranking both the importance and credibility of claims that evidence for extraterrestrial intelligence has been found.

For more info go to: <http://www.teamseti.org/page.aspx?pid=993>

This Months Puzzler

Question: What is the maximum bandwidth permitted on the 30 Meter band?

Answer next month

R.A.R.A. History

The club is compiling a history of R.A.R.A. and are asking for help.

There are no existing records of the club in the pre-war years although we know the club was active during that time. If anyone has any information from that era, we would like to hear from you. I know that any hams who were active at that time are long gone but if you know of any relatives of hams who might have some stories or information about R.A.R.A. we would like to hear from you.

We have more information about the club in the post-war years, but if you have any stories from any era we would like to hear from you as well. Send them to ve5rara@gmail.com.

An Antenna Worth Looking Into

The Windom antenna has been around for a long time but is not that well known. It is also known as the Off-Center Fed antenna. Unlike the dipole which is fed at its' center low impedance point, the Windom is fed at a point approximately 38% from one end. There are many variations of this antenna. Some allow for 80 meter operation, while others claim good results all the way up to 2 meters.

Let's look at the advantages first:

1. The antenna is a true all band antenna designed for all harmonically related HF bands. Unlike the G5RV antenna which does not resonate on any amateur band and requires an antenna tuner, the Windom does not need a tuner, only a balun at the antenna.
2. The offset feed line may be an advantage in some cases because it allows you to use a shorter feed line. Few houses sit on the center of a lot.

3. If space is a problem, the ends of the antenna can be bent downward a certain amount to fit into tight places.

4. If you have difficulties getting an antenna up high, this antenna is for you. It works well at heights as low as 20 feet. It is an excellent choice for a Field Day station.

And the disadvantages

1. It requires a balun at the feed point to match.
2. It may require an antenna tuner if you want to use it on the WARC bands.

It is easily constructed. All you need is two insulators, a balun and some antenna wire. For the less adventurous, there are companies that manufacture antennas for sale. BEWARE. There are two distinct versions of this antenna, the Windom, and the Carolina Windom. Each manufacturer claims their model is superior to the other, so we will let the marketplace decide.

All you need to know about Windoms can be found at these sites:

<http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/5840>

<http://m0ukd.com/homebrew/antennas/homemade-carolina-windom-antenna/>

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/k4iwlnewwindom.html>

http://www.w8ji.com/windom_off_center_fed.htm

<http://www.packetradio.com/windom.htm>

The Ten COMMANDments

(by Murray VE5MC).

1. No pets are allowed in the radio room as they may cause a build up of hair in the equipment, human visitors are permitted provided that they comply with the hair net rule.

2. The operation of an Amateur radio station frequently takes place during late evening or early morning hours, if this interrupts your sleep you are instructed to use the noise canceling ear plugs provided.

3. No matter how messy the ham shack looks, it is likely very well organized and is NEVER to be tidied up.

4. Under no circumstance is the station operator to be interrupted while on the air; this includes if the house is on fire.

5. At times, station operators will be seen trying to drink and eat while screaming in the microphone with their mouth full; you are not to point out that this is a choking hazard.

6. Some seemingly none Amateur Radio related items are permitted in the shack such as a crucifix, punching bag, rabbits foot, and horse shoes. These are never to be relocated or removed as they are sometimes necessary to assist the user during stressful operating periods.

7. The use of illegal laxatives is strictly prohibited, however coffee or tea, headache medication, muscle relaxants and antacids are encouraged.

8. Under no circumstances are any rfi causing devices, such as blenders, electric razors, or garage door openers to be use while the Amateur Radio Station is being operated. Please bake, shave and park responsibly.

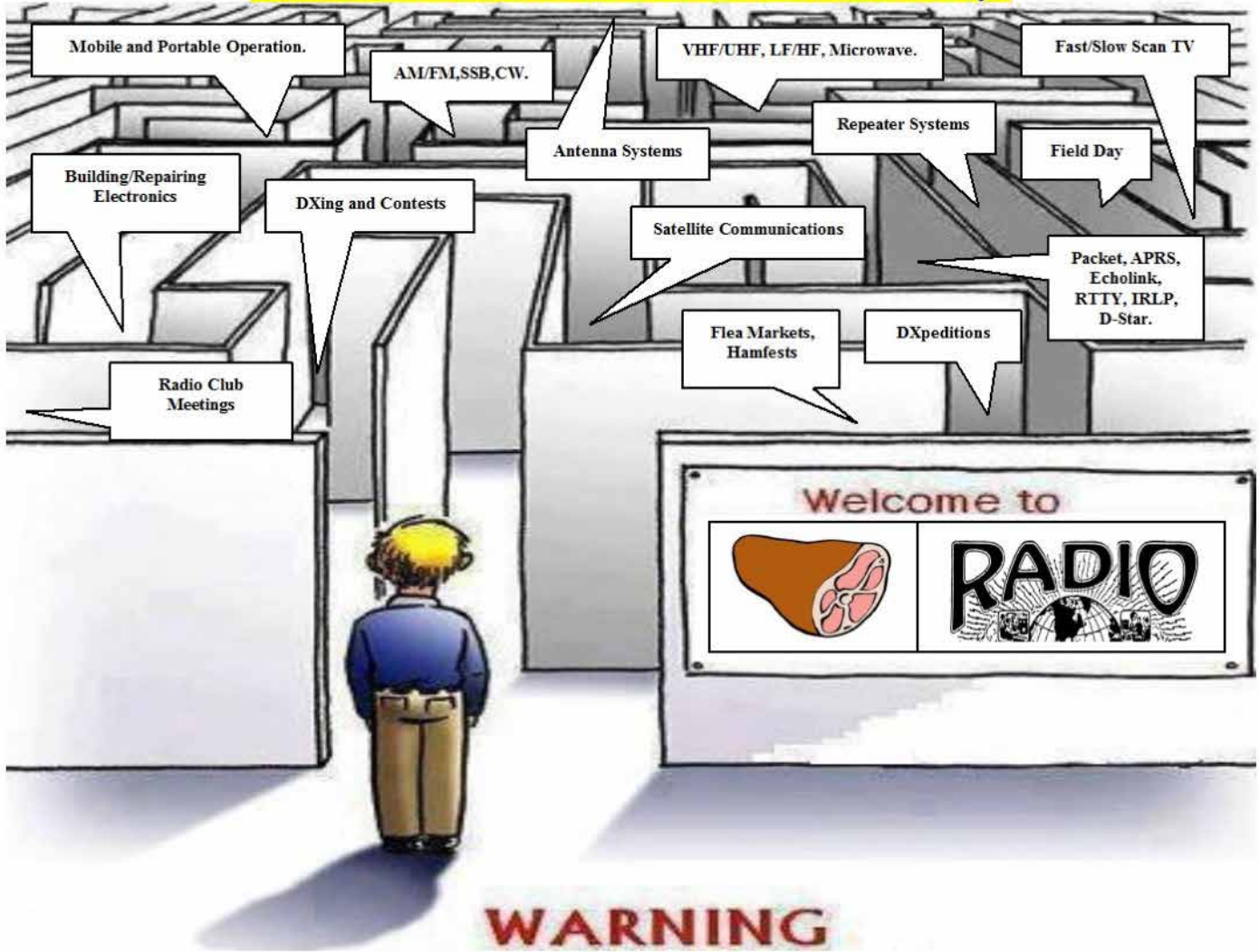
9. On occasion, alarming noises may be heard

emitting from the ham shack such as cursing and crying or screaming and yelling; Do NOT contact the authorities as this is perfectly normal and often occurs preceding and after a contact is made.

and finally,

10. The bathroom is to be evacuated no longer than one minuet after notice of an Amateur's need is given. Other users should be ready to GET OUT at all times, this is especially important during context periods.

AMATEUR RADIO...a life time hobby:



Once you get into it, you'll never get out...

Murray VE5MC