



GUYWIRE

December 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

Dec. 14th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

Face to Face QSO

Feel free to bring some munchies

Special Notice

from the Editor

The Guywire depends on submissions of articles and pictures sent in by members for most of its content. If you have a story, pictures or a favorite website, send it in to ve5rara@gmail.com.

We would particularly like to have pictures from past club events.

**I really need more content
from members.
I can't do it all.**

2016 PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

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

COMPLETED

Santa Claus Parade - Nov. 20th	- Rick VE5RJR
Terry Fox Run - Sept.	- Rick VE5RJR
MS Bike Tour - Aug. 20-21	- Rick VE5RJR
Spoke n'Hot 100km Ride - Aug.7	- TBA
Mayors Walk /Run - May 31	- Terry VE5TLW
Cosmo Learning Centre - May 13	- Harv VE5AD
MS Walk - May 1	- Rick VE5RJR
RPS Half Marathon - May 1st	- Terry VE5TLW
Klondike Hike - Feb. 20th	- Justin VA5RED

New Hall Of Fame Inductee

The Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame are pleased to appoint Phil Anderson, VE3FAS, of Amaranth, Ontario to the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame for the year 2016. Amaranth is a township within Dufferin County in south-central Ontario.

The Constitution for the Hall of Fame specifies that the appointment is made "for outstanding achievement and excellence of the highest degree, for serious and sustained service to Amateur Radio in Canada, or to Amateur Radio at large". Phil Anderson is most worthy of this honour.

Phil obtained his Amateur Radio license in 1961. After a distinguished engineering career in defence research and space design he became an instructor at Humber College. His Amateur Radio involvement includes 50 years of service with the National Traffic System and he was awarded the prestigious Brass Pounders League Medallion for outstanding achievement in passing third party traffic. Phil served with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Eastern Area, was the Manager of the Eastern Canadian Net and Transcontinental Corps (TCC), and he volunteered with the QSL bureau for over 20 years.

RAC

Radio Amateurs of Canada Welcomes New Directors

Following the call for nominations for Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada's Atlantic, Ontario North/East, Midwest and British Columbia/Yukon Regions, RAC would like to welcome the following Radio Amateurs to our Board of Directors:

- Dave Goodwin, VE9CB, elected as the new Director for the Atlantic Region
- Allan Munnik, VA7MP/VE7RMP, appointed as the new Director for the British Columbia/Yukon Region
- Bjarne (Bj) Madsen, VE5FX, was elected as the new Director for the Midwest Region

Santa Parade

To everyone who helped with the Santa Claus Parade today, thank you. Thanks also to Rick, for organizing us.

The parade went as well as it usually does, and at the usual snail's pace. I suppose that the young people participating can't go as fast as we'd like, and everyone wants a good view of Santa.

One thing Justin mentioned was that people REALLY noticed the Coro-plast Special Event sign that he mounted on his roof. We need more signs something like that. And duct tape. Next year we need duct tape at hand.

Again, thank you to all the name and hams-to-be who assisted. You're all awesome!

Sincerely,
Neil VA5SCA

Last Months Puzzler

Question?

What amateur license qualification must a person have to operate a digital repeater above 30 MHz?

Answer: Basic qualification.

The key word here is "digital". A typical analog repeater requires two discrete frequencies and a duplexer for its operation. A digital repeater uses a single frequency hence an Advanced Amateur qualification is not required. An Advanced license is still required to operate a traditional repeater which is capable of both analog and digital transmissions.

This Months Puzzler

Question?

In amateur circles what do the initials NTS denote?

Answer next month

Remembering LAKE

He wasn't a member of the club but he regularly attended club meetings where he preferred to remain as inconspicuous as possible. Despite this, he gained the love and admiration of the local amateur community.

I am referring to Lake, the Service Dog belonging to Summer VE5SDH. Sadly we must report that Lake passed away recently from cancer.

Our condolences go out to Summer on the loss of Lake. He was much more than a pet, he was an integral part of Summers' life and he will be missed.

Interesting Websites

The following links display the results from the 2016 Field Day. In order they are:

The General Results Page: http://www.arrl.org/results-database?event_id=80253

Category 3A - Power Mult 2: http://www.arrl.org/results-database?event_id=80253

Non US: http://www.arrl.org/results-database?fd_category=3A&fd_power=2&fd_sect=Div-FG&ss_call=&sort0=&sort1=&sort2=&event_id=80253

Saskatchewan Section: http://www.arrl.org/results-database?fd_category=&fd_power=&fd_sect=SK&ss_call=&sort0=&sort1=&sort2=&event_id=80253

To sum it up, VE5NN scored 3030 points, with 603 QSO's & 28 participants. VE5NN was first in Saskatchewan, 2nd in Non US & 98th out of 324 in Category 3A Power Mult 2.

VE5TLW

A short internet amateur radio promotion video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AwqhNUoY-kY>

VE5EE

The History of R.A.R.A.

In the last issue we traced the origins of ham radio in Regina. Now in part 2 of the series we look at the changes that came about in the 1960s.

The 2 Meter Explosion

Also in the 60's, the club fostered the development of VHF radio communications in the city by obtaining surplus two-way radio units from the city and converting them to amateur frequencies. Before this time the 80 Meter band was where all the local action was and VHF and UHF bands were inhabited by a few experimenters, however surplus radio equipment that became available after the war and commercial two-way radios changed all that. The radios that the club were given were large, filling most of the trunk of an average car but it was a start. Soon other hams were converting commercial radios to use in the 2 Meter band. The club also established the first VHF repeater in the province which was located on top of the Sask. Power building. It operated on 146.46/147.33 MHz. The reason for the odd frequency split is that most hams already had radios on 147.33 MHz (which was the common local frequency) so they would only have to buy one crystal to use the repeater. Later it was changed to a standard split of 146.46/147.06 MHz. Some of the people responsible for building the repeater were Bruce McCuskee VE5HI, Glen Gorham VE5GG and Sid Brander VE5DO. The repeater used the callsign VE5KE for no reason other than the then-president of the club held two calls and licensed the repeater under one of them. In the 1980's it was located at a site donated to the club by Sask. Power at Armour Siding under the callsign VE5WM. This callsign was in memory of Bill Munday, an active club member who had recently passed away. This location boasted a 300 foot tower however in time it became too dangerous to climb and a new site was obtained on the CBC TV tower just northeast of the city.

The club also established a repeater in the Dirt Hills on a commercial tower which gave the repeater a 1000 foot height over Regina making for excellent coverage in south central Saskatchewan. Unfortunately a wind storm toppled the 500 foot tower and the tower operator decided not to replace it.

To ensure continued operation the repeater, a 60 foot tower was purchased and put up at the site in place of the old tower. The site had no road to it and access was very difficult at the best of times..In winter the only way up there was by snowmobile. On one winter occasion someone with connections to the Canadian Forces base at Moose Jaw managed to have a helicopter fly a ham into the site when the repeater failed. Eventually the club decided that the repeater was too hard to service, so it was sold to a group called the Avonlea Repeater Group made up of some Regina hams and some hams who lived in the coverage area of the repeater and licensed it as VE5ARG.

The Burnside Story

The club bought an unused one room school, Burnside School north of Regina. This came about because the group who had been maintaining the school for social purposes were getting older and wanted to dispose of it. Alex Beaton VE5OI formerly lived in the area and brought it to the attention of the club. It was bought for a nominal sum with the understanding that the club would maintain the building and allow a commemorative plaque to be placed on the property. Burnside was used a Field Day location for many years until upkeep of the century old building became too expensive and the property was sold.

The club had another venture into real estate which happened some years before Burnside. It bought an old railway station. This was not the familiar two story affair that you see made into museums in many small towns. This was

a station from a very small siding that it was no bigger than a boxcar. Volunteers moved it from the original location southeast of Regina to a spot high up in the Dirt Hills on land that was owned by an uncle of a club member who kindly allowed the club to locate it there rent-free. Several tall power poles were put up by Sid Brander VE5DO, to hold the antennas and it had the potential of being a first class Field Day and contest station. Unfortunately the uncle died shortly after and the land was sold. The new owner decided to charge the club a ridiculous rental which the club was in no position to afford and the only option was to abandon the site.

Part 3 of the series will appear next month.

BULLETIN (November 18) Distracted Driving in Canada: An Update

Distracted driving regulations continue to be an area of interest for many Canadian Radio Amateurs. These regulations are made and enforced by provincial governments and can vary considerably from province to province and over time. Radio Amateurs of Canada has prepared a list of links to current regulations in all provinces that have established them. They can be found at: <http://wp.rac.ca/distracted-driving-regulations-update/>

Radio Amateurs of Canada representatives in our regions often work to clarify regulations where Amateurs may be caught up in them or when the regulations are being created or modified. A Subcommittee has been formed to monitor the legislation and work with government officials on a province by province basis to look after the interests of Canadian Amateurs. This committee is under the direction of RAC British Columbia/Yukon Director, Bill Gipps, VE7XS. Two provinces are the focus of current activity: British Columbia and Ontario.

In British Columbia, Bill Gipps, VE7XS, together with two local Amateurs, recently met with BC government

representatives to discuss BC distracted driving regulations and their application to Amateur Radio. They have had three meetings to date and recently completed two excellent working sessions. The BC Amateurs are pleased with the significant progress made through these sessions and will continue to follow the process while the BC government engages other stakeholders and solicits their input. Bill anticipates that there will be more news and clarifying material available before Christmas and we will post the information on the RAC website when it is available.

In Ontario, a temporary exemption for Amateurs in Ontario is due to expire on January 1, 2018. RAC Ontario South Director Phil McBride, VA3QR and RAC North/East Director, Al Boyd, VE3AJB, have obtained letters of support from Ontario Amateurs

and are looking for additional letters of support from organizations such as Amateur Radio clubs and ARES groups. They have also been in touch with the Minister of Transportation and have received word that the Ontario government is considering the Amateur Radio exemption issue.

RAC will continue to provide additional information about distracted driving regulations on the RAC website as it unfolds. If you have any questions or concerns or you would like to send a letter of support, please feel free to contact your Director at any time at the address shown on page 4 of The Canadian Amateur magazine and at: <http://wp.rac.ca/board-of-directors/>

RAC



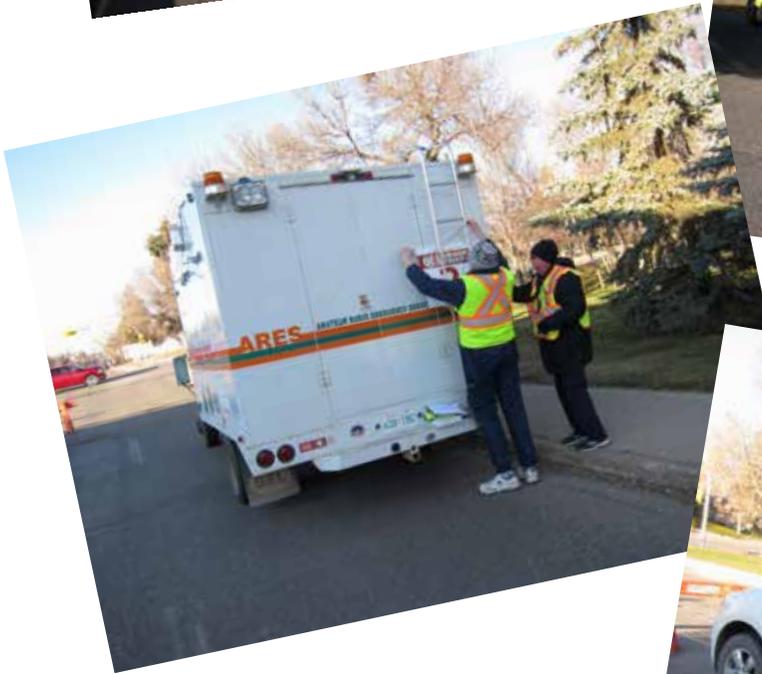
Saskatchewan's Cellphone Legislation

Prohibited effective Jan. 1, 2010	Allowed	Not impacted by cellphone legislation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a hand-held cellphone while driving for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making or receiving phone calls sending, receiving or reading text messages sending, receiving or reading emails surfing the Internet using 10-4 "push to talk" technology Hands-free cellphone devices while driving for new drivers¹ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hands-free use of cellphones while driving for experienced drivers², including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> devices that clip to the visor headsets, either wired or wireless voice-activated devices devices built into the vehicle, such as OnStar or those with Bluetooth technology Bluetooth empieces One-touch activation of a speakerphone feature on a cellphone placed within easy reach Making 9-1-1 calls on cellphones while driving, for both new and experienced drivers Making a call on a cellphone when parked on the side of the road, for both new and experienced drivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electronic devices that are not cellphones, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GPS CB radios two-way radios MP3 players/iPods satellite radio <p>Note: Law enforcement still has the ability to charge distracted drivers with driving without due care and attention if they are putting themselves or other road users at risk.</p>

¹ New drivers are drivers in Saskatchewan's Graduated Driver's Licensing (GDL) program.

² Experienced drivers are all drivers other than those in the GDL program.

2016 Santa Parade



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from
Stan (editor) & Allan (publisher)