



# GUYWIRE

January 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 January 10th @ 7:00 p.m.

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

### Discussion:

**How to encourage and attract more members as well as non-member amateurs to become active and volunteer?  
How can we attract new members?**

### 2017-18 RARA Executive

President - Neil Slater - VA5SCA  
Secretary - Terry White - VE5TLW  
Treasurer - Allan Tidball - VE5LAT  
Past President - Harvey Drinkle - VE5AD  
Director - Con Berger - VE5CON  
Director - Justin Chapman - VA5RED  
Director - Summer Hartzfeld - VE5SDH  
Director - Lyle Maystruck - VE5EE  
Director - Mark Humphreys VA5LNK

### 2018 Public Service Events

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

RPS Half-marathon - April 29-TBA

Five executive positions will require replacement in March.

Please consider what you can do to help RARA by participating at the executive level.

Remember, it's YOUR club!

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## Puzzler For Last Month

If an Ohm is a unit of measurement of resistance, what is a Mho?

**Answer:**

It is the reciprocal of an ohm, a former unit of electrical conductance.

## This month

If you were to send QRK to another station, what would you be telling them?

**Answer next month**

## Interesting Websites

The 9/11 disaster not only destroyed the World Trade building but it also destroyed a bit of radio history. Some of the buildings that housed early radio stores on what became known as Radio Row were leveled as well.

National Public Radio (NPR) in the U.S. produced an audio documentary on Radio Row and its history. It can be found at:

<https://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=3052004>

The links below are ARRL discussions concerning antenna analyzers and S-Units.

[https://www.blubrry.com/arrl\\_the\\_doctor\\_is\\_in/26176937/antenna-analyzers/#autoplay](https://www.blubrry.com/arrl_the_doctor_is_in/26176937/antenna-analyzers/#autoplay)

[https://www.blubrry.com/arrl\\_the\\_doctor\\_is\\_in/25197956/s-units/#autoplay](https://www.blubrry.com/arrl_the_doctor_is_in/25197956/s-units/#autoplay)

Terry VE5TLW

## Our Old Equipment Known As Boat Anchors

Well as you know I like the boat anchor radios that most people these days toss out the relics for the software defined radios of today. How sad it is to set aside a 30 to 40 year old transceiver that works but may need a little TLC.

How many of you have thought about the operator or operators of that very transceiver and how much fun he or she had with it exploring the bands with good propagation of the day. All the contacts they made to areas of the globe only dreamt about for non hams. How many long hours this transceiver has been on listening to foreign stations in the middle of the night with exotic call signs or passing traffic when called upon.

This passion for old radios has led me to repair a few FT-101Es, FT-901DM and FT-902DM. These relics have plug in boards that are easy to remove and work on with lots of information found on the internet. Fox Tango website is a very good place to start your search.

These transceivers output a whole 100 plus watts and have tube outputs that are very robust. Yes without noise reduction and DSP these units have a lot to be desired but they still do a good job receiving and sending out the signals. Frequency drift can be a problem as you chase the frequency up and down the band but I have installed a microprocessor called the X-lock which makes the unit very stable. I will write up a review of the X-lock VFO stabiliser in the future.

Another feature of the boat anchors is the heat and warmth they add to the shack on those cold winter nights. The glow of the output tubes can be seen on the wall next to the transceiver giving the shack

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the old rustic look of the 50's and 60's. The smell of warm tube radios fills the shack and adds to a feeling of nostalgia.

So next time you see an old radio set at your Elmer's shack or in a dusty basement think about what that radio has been thorough. What has the radio received and what has it transmitted. It perhaps has received and transmitted signals that we will never hear in our ham lifetime.

73 and warm up the shack with that boat anchor.

Lyle VE5EE

## **96th Anniversary of 1st Transatlantic Shortwave Transmission**

Monday, December 11th, will mark the 96th anniversary of the first message to ever be sent across the Atlantic Ocean using shortwave frequencies.

The original event in 1921 was called "The Transatlantic Tests" and was organized to determine if amateur radio signals could be heard in Europe using short wave frequencies.

Several stations will be participating by establishing contacts between the U.S. and Europe including:

N1BCG (Greenwich, CT - where the first successful message was sent by 1BCG)

GM7VSB (Ardossan, Scotland - where the receiving station was located)

KB3WFV (Chesapeake Bay, MD)

W2PA (Millbrook, NY)

N1ALF (Greenwich, CT)

Bands and frequencies have not been set to permit flexibility due to propagation, but will likely begin during the day (Eastern U.S.) on 20 meters USB.

Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.qrz.com/db/N1BCG>

<http://www.internetwork.com/radio/n1bcg>

<http://w2pa.net/HRH/crossingsi-aquitania>

<https://books.google.com>

courtesy Lyle VE5EE

and

Southgate Amateur Radio News

### **Help the GUYWIRE**

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.

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

Contact the editor or publisher at:  
[ve5rara@gmail.com](mailto:ve5rara@gmail.com)