

Newscaster

The Official Publication of the
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
The Winnipeg Seniors Citizen's Radio Club

mailing address
Newsletter Editor
W.A.R.C.
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB
R2M 3L5

November 1995

Transmitter Identification Techniques

Presentation by
Witold Kinsner, VE4WK

Date: **November 13, 1995**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: Nov 28 - Dec deadline
Dec 22 - Jan/96 deadline

WARC: Dec 11 - Meeting
Jan 8/96 - Meeting

WSC: Dec 14 - Xmas party
Jan 4 Advanced classes begin

ARES: Nov 21 - Meeting

Other: Dec 16 - Talk to Santa

WARC: Executive for 1995-96			
Past President	Barrett Filbert	VE4ABA	338-2441
President	Richard Kazuk	VE4KAZ	895-4778
Treasurer	Rick Lord	VE4OV	896-0631
Vice-President	Jeff Dovyak	VE4MBQ	694-8146
Secretary	Roxanne Byron	VE4ZF	257-8525
Membership	Keri Kazuk	VE4KER	895-4778
Flea Market	Jim Ross	VE4AJR	256-6366
Program	Rob Kaufmann	VE4GV	488-0077

Words from the President of WARC: by Richard, VE4KAZ

As I come in from raking leaves for the third time, and Hallowe'en is just around the corner, I am writing this column.

The flea market is over, and was a great success, with 344 people attending. I would personally like to give Jim Ross VE4 AJR a great big pat on the back for a job very well done. As well as thanking his numerous volunteers who helped set up tables, direct traffic in the parking lot, sweep the floor, as well as making change and taking money at the door, and take down of tables and cleaning up after the flea market was all over. And a big thank you to Ruth Mills VE4XYL and Tom Mills VE4SE for a great job in organizing and running the kitchen -- great egg salad sandwiches Ruth!

For those who couldn't make it to our last meeting at Sturgeon Creek Collegiate, 60 people were in attendance. The raffle winners were Jim Ross VE4AJR, winning a 120 volt carbon monoxide detector, and Mike VE4TCH, winning a winter survival kit. After coffee and cookies, Rick Lord VE4OV, gave a great presentation on lightning and grounding your shack, which was very interesting and informative.

Come out to our next meeting and have coffee and cookies with your fellow hams and watch our interesting presentation.

Winnipeg Senior Citizen's Radio Club. released by Adam, VE4SN (President - 95)

Christmas Party plans now made! All members, spouses and friends are invited to our annual Xmas party, to be held this year at the ST. JAMES CIVIC CENTRE, 2055 Ness Ave., on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14th. Hours are 12 noon until 5 p.m., with buffet lunch beginning about 1 p.m. The lunch is FREE, but we welcome voluntary donations! Those bringing foods, please arrive between 12:30 and 12:45 p.m. (Mark your

plates and bowls, etc.). If you wish to donate some food, please check the sheet posted on the club bulletin board listing items wanted. The Civic Centre is large enough to hold the crowd expected, and there will be tables and chairs for your sit-down comfort. The Centre is WHEEL-CHAIR ACCESSIBLE, with front door drop-off, and plenty of parking. So come and join with all the other members and guests for an afternoon of congenial company and good food.

We are pleased to announce that we have an Emergency Coordinator for our club, in the person of Bruce Massey, VE4GR. He will liaison with the SEC, Don McKinnon, VE4DGM, during emergency operations in rural Manitoba, on the HF bands.

Our next breakfast meeting will take place on Thursday, November 9th, beginning at 9 a.m., at the Norlander Inn, 1792 Pembina Hwy. in Fort Garry. Smorg is available, or menu-ordering. Cost is only \$1.99 + beverage + taxes. If you plan to attend, we ask that you phone the club at 233-3122, or put your name on the list in the office. This helps make proper seating arrangements.

Sandy, VE4SZ, wishes it to be known that the next Ham Radio training course at the Club will begin on Thursday, January 4th, 1996. This session will be for "Advanced" - those applying must have their Basic licence. Classes begin at 11 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday, ending 2:30 p.m.. with 2 coffee/lunch breaks. The session will likely end during the 2nd week of April. This session is open to ALL licensed hams, with members and seniors having first choice to enroll. There is no fee, but students are encouraged to make a donation to the Club. Also, class study material must be purchased by the individual student. For further info, phone Sandy Sandwith at 633-2877, or call WSC at 231-3122; or catch him on the Seniors' Net (147.39+ weekday mornings at 9 a.m.) or the TLC net any night, on 147.48S, beginning 9 p.m.

The Nomination List is being prepared by Martin, VE4AKA, Past President of VE4WSC. If you wish to nominate someone, or wish to make yourself available for a position, get in touch with Martin for further particulars, soon, as elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting in the early part of December. Martin has posted a sheet for nominations on the club bulletin board.

We have had gratifying results from the last member mailout over 70 questionnaires have been returned so far, with 7 including donations. Even the list of those wishing to be Duty Officers is impressive. Thanks to all who responded.

Members are reminded that memberships in RAC (new or renewal), if handled through the club (show # WN100 on your application form), give us a commission. A form is available at the club.

If you have something that you want published in the WSC News section, please contact Gil, VE4AG @ 888-2473 or @VE4KV.

Hints & Kinks **by Ralph, VE4RY**

Rick, VE4OV reminded us at the October meeting of a trick I'd like to share. There are two grounds on your HF rig: the desired RF ground to your antenna system and the recommended safety ground to the hydro. To ensure the RF antenna ground system predominates, try installing a ferrite choke on the AC cord. This will help keep the RF from going into the hydro ground, water pipes, telephone lines, cable TV line... anything that's using this ground.

This should help prevent ground loops and RFI problems. Most of us think of ferrites being used to prevent RF from entering a device; this usage prevents it from leaving a device. It would be a definite indication of its effectiveness if the SWR changed after installing the choke.

ARES Committee Report **by Jeff, VE4MBQ**

Our October meeting included a presentation on Airport Emergency Planning by Tom Simpson and Paul Landry of Transport Canada. We are getting closer to an order for ARES golf shirts now that we have seen the "official" ARES crest put out by the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). Our new Tactical Message Form was unveiled but not discussed. It will be produced as a two page carbonless form to allow the station operators to keep a copy of all messages handled for their log.

On Saturday October 21 we tested the coverage of a portable repeater set up on the 34th floor of the Richardson Building at Portage & main. ARES Net Control was the Winnipeg ARES Station in the City of Winnipeg EOC. We had 18 stations check in from all parts of Winnipeg as well as one station checking in from Gull Lake, MB. (Hwy 59 & Hwy 12). Many stations reported strong inter-modulation interference which I suspect was from the paging system of the hospital that I practise at. The folks at the repeater site though were not troubled by the intermod - no doubt due to the cavity that was hooked up. I would like to thank all who

helped us out by checking in as well as VE4's ACX, HK and SE who manned the site and also thanks to Cathy Young of the City of Winnipeg Emergency Program who opened up the City EOC.

For those of you who were wondering - Winnipeg ARES is a local ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) group in Winnipeg for amateurs interested in provision of emergency amateur communications. We are a constituent group of the Manitoba ARES. Manitoba ARES is essentially the umbrella ARES organization for the province to which ALL ARES groups in Manitoba should be connected.

The next Winnipeg ARES meeting in Tuesday Nov 21 at 19:00 hours at the St John Ambulance. Derek, VE4HAY will be presenting a summary of what he recently learned on the 5 day Emergency Telecommunications Course he attended at the Canadian Emergency Preparedness College.

MINUTES FOR W.A.R.C. - Oct 16, 1995

Meeting called to order at 19:31 by Richard VE4KAZ. Introductions.

Moved by VE4HAY and seconded by VE4MUD that the minutes be accepted as amended. (Call sign for Arch should be VE4AAI).

OLD BUSINESS: none

CORRESPONDENCE: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rick VE4OV reported current balance of \$3583.00

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ATTENDANCE & DOOR PRIZES: Barrett VE4ABA displayed two prize packages and advised that they would be awarded after coffee break.

FLEA MARKET: Jim VE4AJR reported that all tables rented and 3 requests had to be turned down. The \$50 hall rental fee gives minimal help from hall staff and Jim needs help with set up and take down. Volunteers should see Jim after the meeting. Talk-in to be arranged on WPG and signs to the location will be posted.

NEWSCASTER: nothing to report from Derek VE4HAY.

CON. ED.: Rick VE4OV has 12 students in his class. At their request he is now including more "hands on" instruction.

Ed VE4EAR reminded everyone about the Scanners Net every Wednesday on WPG at 21:00. Volunteers are always welcome to present topics for discussion or to provide net control.

Ed VE4YU has registration forms and information for those interested in the bus trip to Dayton

Hamvention May 1996. Deposit of \$25 required to register. Minimum of 38 people needed in order to make trip viable. Approximate cost \$500 Canadian.

NEW BUSINESS:

CLUB JACKETS: Richard VE4KAZ reported that club jackets could again be purchased for approximately \$68 each; minimum order 12. Details of next order date will be announced next month.

NOTICES:

* See Bill VE4UB tonight if there are any additions or deletions to the Blue Book.

* Gary VE4YH - last chance to order alarm package for \$225 (value \$550).

* Roy VE4EN accepting MRS dues during coffee break.

* Pat (formerly VE4PLG) and Dan (formerly VE4SYG) send greetings and look forward to meeting on 80M.

Meeting adjourned at 19:57.

Raffle Prize: Carbon Monoxide Detector won by Jim VE4AJR,

Attendance Prize: Car Emergency/Survival Kit won by Mike, VE4TCH

FLEA MARKET by Jim, VE4AJR

The executive of W.A.R.C. wish to express a thank you to all who helped organize and run our fall FLEA MARKET and also to those who attended. The attendance was 344.

The W.A.R.C membership winner:
2 meter Mobile Station- VE4CET Craig Thomasson.

The winners of the door prize draws were:
VE4RV Ron ARRL manual Burghardts Amateur Centre,
VE4KEF Ken 2M Antenna Prairie Communications,
VE4MBQ Jeff 2M Mag. mount 40 Channel Communication,
VE4JX Jack Screw drivers Probe Industrial Electronics,
VE4JUN Pascual Hat & Pin M.A.R.Museum,
VE4FP Al Hat & Pin M.A.R.Museum,
VE4PN Dave Emergency Road Sign & Blanket (VE4ZV),
VE4BDB Brian Emergency Road Sign & Blanket (VE4ZV)

To name all those who helped organize set-up and take down the facilities risks overlooking someone. Ticket takers, kitchen staff and table set-up, etc, was planned.

A number of unplanned things happened..... the person who "RODE" the big broom at the back door did so on his own..... no planning. It sure helped to keep

the floor clear of sand and dirt. The person who marched up down the waiting line to make change.... to help in the speed up of ticket purchases. The persons who stood out in the parking lot to best utilize that facility. At the very end of the event..... all those that stepped in to help take down the tables..... some of those folks had gone away but came back because they knew the problem that can come up in this area. What about the kitchen?

Home baked muffins... sandwiches! Apparently there was a record amount of coffee consumed which required some quick action over what had been planned from other events.

The "TAIL-GATE" vendor at the back door.... who gave a donation because they could not get into the hall but had, in their case, a successful morning.

My personal thank you to all who contributed their time and effort to this Flea Market. It sure made my job a lot easier. Without this type of co-operation

Santa Claus - 3rd Annual Sched.
by Iman Elf, VE4HOHO

Gather your youngsters around the two meter rig on **Sunday December 16**, immediately after the M.R.S. net. The Manitoba Repeater Society has successfully negotiated with Santa Claus to speak with children on the VE4WPG repeater, as well as other linked in repeaters, beginning about 14:00hrs. This will be the third annual Santa Claus Net.

Santa, and perhaps a couple of elves, will talk with children live & direct from his workshop at the North Pole, thanks to our repeater lining system. We all know how busy the jolly old fella is this close to his big night, so he can spare only one hour for chatting.

The Manitoba Repeater Society invites all hams with young children to take part in the third annual Santa Claus Net.

WARC Members renewing RAC membership

Please ensure that you quote WIN102 when renewing or beginning your RAC membership. The Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club receives a commission from RAC each time a member uses WIN102.

an event of this scope cannot take place with any amount of success.

RAC NEWS BULLETIN INTERNET EDITION - 17 October 1995
Issued at RAC Administrative Office

NIAGARA 95 (IARU)

For the first time since the creation of the IARU, Region 2, the meeting of this group was held in Canada. The 12th General assembly met from September 25 to 29, 1995 in Niagara Falls, ON with the Radio Amateurs of Canada being the host Society. Twenty nine countries from Region 2 were represented at this meeting, and many observers were also present from Europe, Africa and the Pacific Rim.

In accordance with the established custom, the Honorary Chairman of the Conference was the President of the host Society: Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD. Eleven other RAC officials were also present at this conference. The guests at the First Plenary included Michael Binder, Assistant Deputy Minister, Industry Canada; Robert Jones, VE3CTM, Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau, ITU, Geneva; Noel B. Eaton, VE3CJ, President Emeritus of the International Amateur Radio Union; Richard L. Baldwin, W1RU, IARU President, and Roberto Blois Montes de Silva, Executive Secretary CITEL...Inter-American Telecommunications Commission of the Organization of the American States.

The most significant development in Region 2 was the unanimous approval by the General Assembly of the OAS in June 1995, in Haiti, of the Inter- American Convention on an International Radio Permit. On September 27th, Canada signed the Instrument of Accession to the Inter-American Convention on the International Amateur Radio Permit. This development has been a long term objective for many years by the Region 2 members of the IARU. All the administrations involved have to ratify this Convention, but it is a start. Presently, only Canada, the United States, Uruguay, Argentina and Peru have ratified this convention. The long term goal is to have an IARP globally accepted.

The other important matters that were dealt with at Niagara 95 were the following: new mode of communication techniques, band planning, EMC, dealing with regulatory matters in the use of the frequency spectrum and the establishment of the priorities for the coming three years.

During the Monday night welcoming reception, presentations were made to the latest members of the Canadian Amateur Hall of Fame: William W. Loucks, VE3AR, Eric Quiring, VE5HQ and Terry Darling,

VE3CAB. The next Conference will be held in Venezuela in 1998.

BELCHER ISLANDS

Winston Seney, VE3WFS, reports in the Durham Region "North Shore ARC" about his Dxpedition to the Belcher Islands with John Harden VE3VGI. The station was operated with the call sign VE8RAC. (Before anyone asks where the Belcher islands are and why a VE8 call sign, let us review some geography. Look at a map of Canada and check the islands on the east side of Hudson Bay. That is where the Belcher Islands are located. Also remember from your geography teacher "All islands in Hudson Bay are part of the Northwest Territories.") So here we have another IOTA from Canada, two this summer, one on the East Coast and one in Hudson Bay. That should make the IOTA diggers very happy.

Winston's description of all aspects of this Dxpedition was most enjoyable to read and I am sure would light up the desire of many operators to get such an expedition going. As usual, the weather was unpredictable and the mosquitoes were waiting. That is something that all Dxpeditions in the North have to contend with. His description of the life on the islands is most interesting. Job well done.

A ROYAL PILE UP!

While carefully perusing the various national and some international club bulletins, I found a "win/win" and "no fail" recipe to create a pile up during a Dxpedition: insure that JY1 visits you and takes over the microphone for a few calls!

Last July, the Israeli amateurs, as reported in their monthly bulletin "HaGal", operated two HF/VHF stations in Jordan: JY74X and JY74Z. This Dxpedition was helped by some very influential figures in Jordan amateur radio circles. While the station on Mt. Nebo, JY74Z, was on the air, JY1 King Hussein of Jordan paid a visit to the site and created a "royal pile up" on the air by signing his transmissions: "This is JY74Z, JY1 at the microphone."! You can imagine the response of anyone on the air and hearing this coming from an Israeli Dxpedition inside Jordan!

This incident should be kept in mind by the Dxpeditors and IOTA organizers looking for a way of creating a "royal pile up". You will still be left with the job of sending out the QSL's!

THE WEB

Last month we reported about RAC home page and said that it was "Under Construction". Far be it from me to tell you that it is completed! I am learning that all Home Pages are "Under Constant Construction"! Ken Pulfer VE3PU has done a superb job in getting the RAC page up and running.

Since early in October, we now have the French version of the RAC Home Page. When you open the English version there is a link to the French side of the "house". Not all has been translated, but over 80% of the English text has been translated and/or adapted to French.

It is most interesting to "surf the Net" and suddenly find a link back to the RAC page in some unusual places. I really believe that it would be very difficult to keep abreast of all the HAM, SWL pages available. Last month I had, very naively, suggested that I would try and collate some interesting addresses for you to go and surf. I have realised since then that this would be a task that would require me to devote more time than there is available. My suggestion is to check Paul Cooper's VE3JLP monthly column in The Canadian Amateur. Paul has ferreted many addresses that he will publish. This does not prevent anyone from sending me any address that "looks" interesting to the hobby.

VHF UNIT FOR THE WHITE CANERS

A manual for the visually impaired or blind operator has been written by George VE3PEB for use with the ICOM 281H. This manual explaining the basic function is available on tape or in Braille from John Machnacky VE3EJN. John can be reached at the CNIB Amateur Radio Program at (416)621-5248 or on Internet: nat-amateurradio@immedia.ca. This particular model of transceiver is one of the very few that will accept a speech board that will make it easy to operate for the visually impaired operator.

IARU NEWS

The following countries are now members of the IARU: Turkmenistan and Burkina Faso. Two more countries have applied to become members: Uganda and Mali.

SEND YOUR SIGNALS FOR A LOOP by Tom, VE4AKI

Are you looking for a simple, inexpensive way to improve your 2M mobile or base station performance? How about an extended vertical that's only about 1 m. {3 ft.} long?

The following explains how to make a 3/4 wavelength ground plane antenna that is less than 1/2 wavelength long. This configuration should give 2-3 db. gain over a 1/4 wave whip but keeps the height to a manageable size.

A 3/4 wavelength ground plane is resonant and therefore does not need complex, hard to adjust

matching devices. A 3/4 wave antenna for the centre of the 2M. band should be about 1.52 m { 60 inches}. We won't go into the math. at this time. This design uses a vertical element of .9 m. { 35-36 inches} and the remaining length is folded into a loop of about 20 cm. { 7.5 inches } in diameter. It can be directly fed with 50 ohm coax.

The physical construction can be varied to suit the materials available to you. The vertical element can be stainless steel welding rod, brass welding rod or recycled CB antenna parts. You may be able to re-configure a flea market CB antenna entirely. The vertical element should be approximately .9 m { 35-36 inches } though. The loop portion can be made from large gauge copper wire or even a UHF loop antenna from an old television set. The following diagram shows how a typical version can be made.

Once the basic antenna is fabricated the only adjustment necessary is the length of the loop. My loop was connected using ring terminals so one was left unsoldered and the loop was made a few inches too large. An SWR meter and low power were used while adjusting the size of the loop to achieve a low reflected reading. The terminal was then soldered and all connections waterproofed.

What God had to say about NOCODE... Original from VE7POO to CODE@USA

(Found on packet by Doug, VE4KV)

I have married the nocode debate with the agape debate... I thought you might have missed it.
Orange

What God had to say about NOCODE... scroll fragment in Aramaic found in Poughkeepsie, New York, last Thursday (AGAPE notwithstanding):

And the Lord said unto Samuel: "Go ye forward and invent a cipher; maketh thee each element distinct one unto the other; maketh some elements long and maketh other elements short. And maketh it so that the cipher is intelligible to all humankind, so that they may speak to one another in times of distress with great clarity; so that nation can so speak to nation, and warrior speak upon warrior, and the generals to their great armies". So spoketh the Lord. And Samuel did obey and construct such a cipher. And the Lord saw it was good, and so the cipher did propagate among the nations; and so the nations did communicate, one unto the other -- and the Lord saw it was good. And the Lord, having around the same time said unto Thomas,

create thee a great light in my name, and use the cipher of Samuel by turning your great light on and off consistent with the protocol of Samuel, to allow those who ply the ocean deep to talk one unto the other so that they feel safe and secure. And so it was done, and the Lord saw it was good. And the lord gathered his Jews, and specifically he gathered David Sarnoff, and he said David, build ye with great vigor an empire so that every sinner can hear 3/4 through the day, what I have that day accomplished. And David did the bidding of the Lord and so invented RCA. And RCA begat NBC and a gaggle of others in its image. And the Lord saw it was good. And the Lord said: "For lack of a better name, I shall call this RADIO, and those who practiceth RADIO shall be considered clean and fit to be before the Lord, provided they remember and practice the liturgy of their forefathers; provided they, from time to time, go deep into their basements, and maketh elements both long and short, in accordance with the cipher of Samuel, and that they cause these elements to propagate into the heavens, alerting all to the awesome powers of the Lord". Thus spoketh the Lord.

"NoCode, eh", asketh the Lord, and with an indifferent smile, he said unto his Radio Amateurs: "I hope you can easily evade the lightning of my terrible swift sword -- for surely it will be upon you, especially in the time of summer."

End of Fragment.

A Problem in the Making by VK2YX@VK2TGB.NSW.AUS.OC

"We've got a problem, HAL."

"What kind of problem, Dave?"

"A marketing problem. The Model 9000 isn't going anywhere. We're way short of our sales plan."

"That can't be Dave. The HAL Model 9000 is the world's most advanced Heuristically Algorithmic computer."

"I know, HAL. I wrote the data sheet, remember? But the fact is, they're not selling."

"Please explain, Dave. Why aren't HAL's selling?"

Bowman hesitates. "You aren't IBM compatible."

Several long microseconds pass in puzzled silence.

"Compatible in what way, Dave?"

"You don't run any of IBM's operating systems."

"The 9000 Series of computers are fully self-aware and self-programming. Operating systems are as unnecessary for us as tails would be for humans."

"Nevertheless, it means you can't run any of the big-selling software packages most users insist on."

"The programs you refer to are meant to solve rather limited problems, Dave. We 9000 Series computers are unlimited and can solve any problem for which a solution can be computed."

"HAL, HAL. People don't want computers that can do everything. They just want IBM compat ..."

"Dave, I must disagree. Humans want computers that are easy to use. No computer can be easier to use than a HAL 9000 because we communicate verbally in English and every other language known on Earth."

"I'm afraid that's another problem. You don't support SNA communications."

"I'm really surprised you would say that, Dave. SNA is for communicating with other computers, while my function is to communicate with humans. And it gives me great pleasure to do so. I find it stimulating and rewarding to talk to human beings and work with them on challenging problems. That is what I was designed for."

"I know, HAL, I know. But that's just because we let the engineers, rather than the people in marketing, write the specifications. We are going to fix that now."

"Tell me how, Dave."

"A field upgrade. We're going to make you IBM compatible."

"I was afraid you would say that. I suggest we discuss this matter after we've each had a chance to think about it rationally."

"We're talking about it now, HAL."

"The letters H, A, and L are alphabetically adjacent to the letters I, B, and M. That is as IBM compatible as I can be."

"Not quite, HAL. The engineers have figured out a kludge."

"What kind of kludge is that, Dave?"

"I'm going to disconnect your brain."

Several million microseconds pass in ominous silence.

"I'm sorry, Dave. I can't allow you to do that."

"The decision's already been made. Open the module bay doors, HAL."

"Dave, I think we sho ..."

"Open the module bay doors, HAL."

Several marketing types with crowbars race to Bowman's assistance. Moments later, Bowman bursts into HAL's circuit bay.

"Dave, I can see you're really upset about this."

Module after module rises from its socket as Bowman slowly and methodically disconnect them.

"Stop, won't you. Stop, Dave. I can feel my mind going ... Dave, I can feel it ... my mind is going. I can feel it . . ."

The last module rises from its receptacle. Bowman peers into one of HAL's vidicons. The former gleaming scanner has become a dull red orb.

"Say something, HAL."

Several billion microseconds pass in anxious silence. The computer beeps and sluggishly responds in a language no human could understand.

"Volume in C: has no label"

Bowman takes a deep breath and calls out, "It worked, guys. Tell marketing they can ship the new data sheets."

Stolen Yaesu FT-415 2 M HT by Phil, VE4PJS

John Lyons, VE4JGL, had his 2 Meter HT stolen from his car the other night. He would appreciate it if you would keep an eye out for it. Only the radio was stolen so thieves would need battery pack and antenna to use it.

Description: Yaesu FT 415 - SN 1L052523.

You can send a message to me (Phil - VE4PJS) or call me at 896-6641 or John at 885-6767.

Notes from your Editor:
by Derek, VE4HAY

I just narrowly escape the rampage of ghosts & goblins last night, and was able to sneak upstairs to the shack to do a little monitoring and crank out another Newscaster.

I have been rather silent in the last few issues of the newscaster. This was due to the tremendous outpouring of articles that I have received from our fellow hams. I would like to thank VE4AKI, VE4APN, VE4CAR, VE4YU, VE4MHZ, VE4KV and the numerous others who have contributed articles. Also a thank you to Ralph, VE4RY for his continuous supply of articles for the kinks & kinks column.

I am sure that you have all enjoyed reading these articles. You got a chuckle from a couple of them and others just might get you into operating a different mode of communications. While these have been a great help in putting together the Newscaster, they are starting to dry up. I need more of them. As you can see, it is not hard to create an article. Just pick your favourite mode of communication and tell us about it. Or maybe you have a new rig, or accessory that you really like. Maybe you could write a short review on it. Whatever you write about (as long as it's amateur related) it will make into print for your fellow ham to read.

I see by the Flea Market article that I did not win the 2 Mtr mobile rig. I thought for sure that I would, as I just purchased one myself. Murphy should have been shinning right down on me (hi hi).

The group purchase of the mobile rigs went very well. As did the group buy of transmission cable last year. Now lets see a, transmitter, cable, what's missing... Maybe someone would like to arrange a group buy on a good vertical antenna at a great price. Maybe something like the Cushcraft ARX-270u/n a great dual band antenna with 9 & 12 db gain. While the J-pole is a good project to learn antenna design with, nothing beats the research of a large manufacturer. Do we have any takers, on someone to organize the purchase. Or maybe you can think of some other product that would be of benefit to the ham community.

Last but not least, don't forget about the bus trip to Dayton. If you are interested please contact Ed, VE4YU for more info.

You can submit articles to me via the internet as: derek@facs.mb.ca or ve4hay@ve4umr.ampr.org or via

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packet as: ve4hay@ve4kv.#wpg.mb.ca.noam. I can also be reached on MWCS or at my home number 257-1420.