

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
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January 1996

Radio Amateurs Of Canada

Presentation by
Dave Panting, VE4EF
Midwest Regional Director

Date: **January 8, 1996**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

Articles: Jan 31- Deadline for Feb meeting
Feb 28 - Deadline for Mar meeting
Mar 28 - Deadline for April meeting

WARC: Feb 12 - Meeting
Mar 11- Meeting

WSC: Jan.17/96 - Board meeting
Jan.11/96 - Breakfast (at the Norlander)

ARES: Jan 16 - Course - Basic First Aid

Other: Mar 9 - Fargo's HAM Radio & Computer Fair

WARC: Executive for 1996

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

Well, Christmas has come and gone for another year, and we've rung in the New Year. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas and are now busily planning great new projects for the New Year.

Thank you to all who braved the extreme cold and came out to the WARC Christmas party on December 11, 1995. We had a good turn out considering the miserable weather conditions. There was plenty of food and cheer for all and some terrific prizes.

Thank you to the members of the Executive for their efforts in making the Christmas party such a success, and congratulations to all the prize winners. My wife, VE4KER, is busy planning her Xmas mug for next year in hopes that she will be able to beat out Roxanne, VE4ZF, who won the Christmas mug contest with her brightly decorated Mug.

I would also like to take a moment to congratulate all the students from Rick Lord's Amateur Radio Class who recently wrote and passed their exam and are now licensed operators. I encourage you all to come out to our monthly meetings, and to become members of the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club.

Each month we have had special door prizes at the meetings. To be eligible to win one of these special prizes you must first be a member of WARC and second you must also be in attendance at the meeting. This is done in hopes of persuading more members to attend the meetings. Of course the regular door prize is still available for those who wish to purchase a raffle ticket.

I hope to see everyone January 8, 1996, our next WARC meeting.

The executive of WARC wish all members a very great New Year. With the New Year coming in let us also hope the Sun Spot activity also is on the rise and that the Bands finally open up.

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

On Wednesday, Dec. 20/95, the Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club VE4WSC Inc. held its Annual General Meeting, with 24 in attendance. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m., by Adam, VE4SN, the President, who then read his annual report. Albert, 4AX, thanked Adam for a fine, all-inclusive report. Other reports were then given by the various committee heads. A vote was taken to accept 7 new members: Jack Chapman, 4AE; Gladys Haldane-Wilson, 4GLA; Alan Haldane-Wilson, 4ALN; George Moodie, 4GOM; Alan Evans, 4ECA; Fred G. Zeltins, 4MX; and Donald McLean, 4MCL. Acceptance was unanimous.

Acknowledgement was made of two new members accepted in November: Chick Chackowsky, 4AFD; and Kate Palsson, VE4CDK. Arch, VE4AAI, made the motion to transfer the following names to the Silent Key list: Robert Crampton, 4CN; Bill Crooks, 4JR; Chuck Walkey, 4CEW; Bill Panting, 4KX; George Glackin, 4GMG; and Jim Riddle, 7WPG (ex-VE4JC- a founding and charter member).

We are missing address & telephone info on these two members: VE4JSR and VE4GAW. Can anyone help?

Currently, the club membership stands at 162.

VE4APN (Alexander Parkinson) sent the following message, via SCIP, which was relayed to Ian, VE4MAC: "Greetings. I took the opportunity to visit the VE4WSC home page on BSCN this evening. As an amateur historian, as well as radio amateur, it was a real eye-opener to read how WSC got started and the folks behind it all. With the encouragement of Alf, VE4ALF, I squeezed in time to attend the seniors' luncheon at the St. James Civic Centre last week. I couldn't stay very long, but long enough to sample the fare (delicious by any standard). The overall impression I got - WSC is a very special group of people who know how to organize and enjoy each other's company. To all, I extend best wishes for the season and continued health and happiness in the New Year. Keep up the good work folks ..."

The attendance at the WSC Christmas Party was 92; somewhat more than attended last year at the clubrooms, due in part to the easy accessibility of the meeting place. A letter has been sent to reserve the St. James Civic Centre for next year - Thursday, December 12th. A vote of thanks was given to all the people, (especially Alf, 4ALF and Jim Ross, 4AJR), the ladies

and members, who were involved in the organizing, and food preparation, for this very successful gathering; as well as other functions, such as the WSC picnic at St. Vital Park. What a marvellous crew we have!

Ruth, 4RMB is to be commended for her excellent work as phone committee head, along with 4EI, 4MPE, 4PJ, 4CCW, 4JEM, 4REP, 4AND, 4BAG, 4ATP, 4PEG, 4NA and 4QA. Lorne, 4RLK, supplied the up-to-date membership list.

This meeting also saw the election of the new Board. Martin, 4AKA, Past President and Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, gave his report, which listed the following as the new Executive and Directors for the year of office beginning Jan. 1/96 and ending Dec. 31/96: President- Alf Keber, 4ALF; Vice-President- Tom Faulkner, 4PEG; Treasurer- Tom McRae, 4TSM, and Past President- Adam Romanchuk, 4SN. Ian Rollo, VE4MAC, consented to remain as Secretary, with Ed Henderson, 4YU acting as alternate in Ian's absence. Directors returning include: J. Agar, 4EI; W. Davis, 4WU; A. Diamond, 4AX; M. Fedak, 4ABV; L. Forrester, 4LIL; H. Godavari, 4SAI; L. Kristjansson, 4RLK; C. McBeath, 4JCM; E. Schumann, 4ZI; A. Tingley, 4AAI, and I. Rollo, 4MAC. New Directors include: L. Whittaker, 4SW; Mitchell, 4CCW; E. Henderson, 4YU; G. Frederick, 4AG; and J. E. Morris, 4JEM. Sadly missed on the Board will be Martin Boyd, 4AKA and Jim Ross, 4AJR. Both will remain as staunch members, and will lend their expertise as required. A big vote of thanks was given to Jim, 4AJR for his zealous work as Finance Committee Chair and Auditor over the past years.

We were saddened to learn of the passing of one of our Directors, Harvey Hanson, 4CK, who became a Silent Key on December 20. He was the teacher who drilled the code into the minds of many of our members, and he will be sorely missed.

Dates to be kept in mind: Next Board meeting: Wed. Jan.17/96; next WSC Breakfast (at the Norlander): Thursday, Jan.11/96.

So to all members - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

More Hints & Kinks by Dick, VE4HK

If you want to solder a PL259, and don't have a SP120 or SP175 Weller iron, you can use a UT100 master butane iron or equivalent. Use the biggest tip available. The advantage of the Master butane iron is that it heats up virtually instantly. The Weller irons take quite a while. Thanks to Rob, VE4ROB at Prairie Communications for this tip.

ARES Committee Report **by Jeff, VE4MBQ**

Our December meeting featured a presentation by Tom Mills VE4SE on what Winnipeg ARES members could expect in the event that we get involved with assisting the Red Cross with LOCAL amateur communications. Tom also provided an overview of the Red Cross Registration & Inquiry (R&I) System so that we could get a better understanding of their tasks in a disaster situation.

We are getting closer to ordering Black Winnipeg ARES Golf Shirts with Gold lettering. The approx. cost per shirt will be \$25.00 (100% pre-shrunk cotton). Much of the business portion of the meeting was spent discussing how an Amateur paging system might be brought into operation for the use of ARES members as well as the general amateur radio community in Winnipeg.

The next Winnipeg ARES meeting will be Tuesday January 16, 1996 19:00-22:30 hrs. at St John Ambulance, 535 Doreen Street. This meeting will be devoted entirely to a refresher First Aid Class. This session is open only to Winnipeg ARES members. Members unable to attend this session are requested to notify Richard, VE4KAZ as soon as possible.

MINUTES FOR W.A.R.C. - Dec 11, 1995

Meeting called to order at 19:30 by RICHARD VE4KAZ. Introductions.

Moved by VE4MUD and seconded by VE4GV that the minutes for November be accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

CLUB JACKETS: Anyone wanting to order a club jacket can go to the Shanter's shop between 10AM and 4:30 PM weekdays. Expected delivery in February

CORRESPONDENCE: none

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rick VE4OV reported balance of \$5471.00 less expenses for December meeting's food and prizes.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ATTENDANCE & DOOR PRIZES:

Membership prize and raffles prizes will be awarded after business meeting. All members reminded to sign in for membership draw and everyone welcome to purchase raffle tickets.

NEWSCASTER: Derek VE4HAY looking for articles for Jan issue.

CON. ED.: Rick VE4OV reported 14 students wrote the exam and all passed. A notice regarding upcoming 5WPM Code Course will be in the Jan Newscaster.

ARES: Jeff VE4MBQ expressed the need for a 4WD vehicle and driver as emergency transport by ARES.

PROGRAM: Rob VE4GV advised that the RAC mid-west director, Dave VE4EF, will be at the Jan meeting to pass on information and to answer questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

NOTICES:

* Sean VE4FH reported on price for dual band antenna (\$256.00)

* Proposal from Ian that time be set aside during meeting for anyone to express their need for help and to arrange for assistance.

Meeting adjourned at 20:20

PRIZES: Membership draw - Antenna won by VE4JS
Raffle prize #1 - Electric screwdriver won by George
Raffle prize #2 - Storage drawers won by _____
Raffle prize #3 - Clock won by Don
Raffle prize #4 - Wall clock won by Bill VE4AKJ
Raffle prize #5 - Cordless drill won by Al VE4QEW
Raffle prize #6 - Ceiling fan won by Derek VE4HAY
Coffee Mug - Thermos won by Roxanne VE4ZF
Recorded by VE4ZF and VE4KER.

5 - Word Per Minute Morse Code

Now you can upgrade your skills with this new course to learn 5 wpm CW sending and receiving! This course is your next stepping-stone to full HF privileges. Your New-Years resolution to "*Learn the Code*" is about to come true. Your instructor Rick Lord, P.Eng, VE4OV is delegated by Industry Canada to administer your exam.

Tuesday, 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm,

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Hints & Kinks by Derek, VE4HAY

For owners of the radio HTX-212 mobile 2M radio, I have found a very useful method of changing from one repeater to the next. It seem there is direct access to the memory location settings. In other words you can simply enter '02' on the mic keypad to change to memory location #2, or '18' to change to memory location # 18. This sure makes it more convenient than hitting the up or down button several times or turning the channel knob and then having to look at the display while you are driving. Simply put the mic up in front of you and as you look out the windshield glance at the mic for the 2 digits you must press. Remember safety first. Happy mobile'ing !!

RAC NEWS BULLETIN INTERNET EDITION - 16 December 1995 Issued at RAC Administrative Office

Editor: Jacques d'Avignon VE3VIA
<monitor@limestone.kosone.com>
Internet Transmission: Steve Cutway VE3GRS
<cutways@qucdn.queensu.ca>

SURVIVAL, THE SEQUEL!

Following my two editorials of last month on the survival of the amateur radio hobby, I have received some very "interesting" comments from many quarters. It would be impossible for me to reproduce all of them. One message from VE1ELK pointed out the fact that Industry Canada will be "devolving" some of its work to RAC. In fact this devolution will be done through a new corporation operating at arms length from RAC.

This is nothing new, many governments world-wide are doing the same thing: using one, and only one, "national" organization to do the work done by one department for a very specific group of users, in our case the amateur radio operators. Governments are getting out of certain areas in order to save money and spend money for the "good of all the population", and

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.

not of a small group. This is happening for the amateur radio operations in South Africa, there are similar rumblings in the USA with the ARRL being the "chosen" organization. In Canada, even with RAC having only a membership of 18% of all the hams, Industry Canada considers this organization to be "representative" of all the Canadian amateur operators. It is important for the ham community to rally behind RAC, become members of the association and participate in its operations. Industry Canada has no intention whatsoever of withdrawing its decision to contract out some of the services that it presently offers free of charge to the ham community. We had better get used to this type of government operation!

Some of the comments received over the past few weeks have been most illuminating and it is apparent that some members still believe that it may be possible to form "another" national association and then become the "chosen" national organization. If RAC cannot entice (coerce!) more than 18% of the Canadian amateurs to become members of the association, I really cannot see how a new association can even think of getting better numbers in a very short time before the devolution of some of Industry Canada services become a new fact of life in 1996.

I have read some grumbling about the composition of the RAC Board. Elections have been held in all regions since the formation of RAC. From the results that I have seen, the present incumbents have won fair and square in all regions, BUT the percentage of returned and valid ballots is nothing to be proud of! In the last electoral round the highest percentage of valid returned ballots from one region was 59%... This is poor, very poor. If you feel strongly enough that the RAC Board has to be changed and that new blood has to be injected into the organization, please ensure that you nominate and/or support new young candidates for the next round of election and return your valid ballots.

"MONTHLY BULLETIN" DISTRIBUTION

Over the last few years the distribution of this Monthly Bulletin has taken many routes and followed many circuitous paths. Because of the time and the efforts involved in the distribution, it has become necessary to review the distribution networks of this publication and try to rationalize the efforts of all the volunteers involved.

Steve, VE3GRS, and I have identified all the distribution modes that we "think" are being used and they are listed below:

1. Hard copies are mailed from RAC Headquarters to a list of subscribers upon payment of the nominal annual fee.

2. E-mail directly to individuals. Steve has advised me that there are presently more than 150 addresses on his mailing list. It would appear that this mode of distribution became necessary because of the unavailability of suitable and/or reliable packet connections in certain areas.

3. Packet network. The Bulletin is sent across Canada and part of the USA each month.

4. The Internet Newsgroups. The RAC Monthly Bulletin is inserted in many Newsgroups for world-wide distribution.

5. Finally, for the last few months, the Bulletin is inserted in the RAC Home Page on the World Wide Web. (Check <http://www.rac.ca>)

It is felt that presently there is a serious duplication of effort in this very elaborate distribution network. Every month there are more than 20 volunteer-hours devoted, by many individuals, strictly to the distribution of the Bulletin by mail, E-mail, packet, Internet Newsgroups, and the World Wide Web. I personally consider this amount excessive.

The number of available "volunteer" hours is seriously decreasing, as employers are asking "more for less," from their employees, thus it is important that we budget and spend those "free" hours as frugally and as efficiently as possible to better serve the membership. Let's not forget, without the "volunteers" not only the Bulletin but many of RAC's other services would not be available.

This should be kept in mind the next time you feel like harassing or giving a piece of your mind to a volunteer! "Flaming of volunteers is unacceptable"

Below is a survey that, with your help, will help us better understand how we should efficiently distribute the Bulletin and what changes are to be made starting with the 1996/97 season.

A. Hard copy distribution. We have a list of current hard copy receivers. If you are a "hard copy" subscriber/receiver", please advise the RAC office if you will still require hard copy distribution service after September 1996 as being your ONLY avenue to receive the Bulletin.

B. E-mail ONLY recipients should advise Steve VE3GRS at cutways@qucdn.queensu.ca if they still require monthly a personal copy of the Bulletin because there is no other way for them to secure a copy of the Bulletin in a timely fashion.

C. Packet recipients ONLY should send a short message to VA3RAC@VE3CDY and state clearly that the packet distribution mode for the Bulletin is their only reliable distribution mode available.

D. If you get the Bulletin ONLY on the Internet Newsgroups, please send a short message to [VE3VIA at: monitor@limestone.kosone.com](mailto:VE3VIA@limestone.kosone.com) stating that the Internet Newsgroups is your only means of securing a copy of the Bulletin, and specify which Newsgroup you use.

E. If your ONLY mode of accessing the Bulletin is via the Radio Amateurs of Canada Home Page on Internet, please advise Neil Herber, VE3PUE, at nherber@igs.net clearly stating this fact.

F. If you get the Bulletin via more than one mode described above, please send a message to VE3GRS or VE3VIA or VE3PUE (see above for the addresses) stating exactly by which modes the Bulletin is reliably reaching you and which mode you would prefer be retained for your delivery.

G. Finally, to all recipients: what should be the regular content of the Monthly Bulletin?

We are expecting to receive all your answers no later than March 1st 1996, so that the Executive can decide what will be done for the next Bulletin's season. We will have the results of this survey and a list of the decisions that will be implemented during the next season in the June 1996 issue of the Bulletin, the last issue of the present season.

It is very important that we get as many answers as possible, and not only from RAC members, so that the proper decisions made will reflect the requirements of all Canadian Amateurs or readers/users of the Bulletin.

WORDS FROM RAC
by Dave Panting, VE4EF
Regional Director
76554.1043@compuserve.com

I will be at the January WARC meeting to report to you about the many things that RAC has been doing over that past few months. During the past 12 months as your regional director I have been actively involved in many meetings and discussions with the RAC executive and board and I look forward to the opportunity to share our progress with you. To those who are unable to attend the January WARC meeting, I hope you had a Merry Christmas and all the best for the new antenna season. As for those who will be at the meeting, I intend to don my Kevlar Suit for the question and answer portion of my presentation. So come on out and let's have a good time!

MRS - auto-patch frequency has changed to 145.450 Mhz simplex. Effective Xmas day

MAIL ORDER HOMEBREW by Tom, VE4AKI

If you would like to try your hand at homebrewing a project but are reluctant to undertake building from scratch, why not consider building a kit?

Years ago many amateurs started out by building their stations from kits made by a variety of kit manufacturers such as Heathkit, Eico, Viking and many others. This served not only to save money but to give some valuable experience at developing electronic skills and knowledge. Building a modern solid state transceiver from a kit would be quite a challenge for the any ham [though such kits are available]. But, there are many simple kits still available to develop these skills. A quick look through a recent ham magazine turned up at least ten suppliers of kits for a wide variety of receivers, transmitters, keyers, amplifiers and other accessories.

Not having built a kit since my early days in ham radio, I decided to try the kit building experience again. I ordered a "Budget Electronic Keyer Kit" from T-Kit [a division of Ten Tec. Inc.] to replace my aging Heathkit keyer. A few weeks later a small package arrived by mail. Upon opening the package I found the typical components of a modern B.O.P. kit- a bag of parts! This included, thank goodness, a set of instructions. The instructions are not as detailed as the classic Heathkit instructions of yore, but are entirely adequate for such a simple project. The instructions included: a circuit diagram, a circuit description, a parts list, a x-ray view of the board, assembly instructions, and some tips on using the completed project.

The kit went together using simple tools [mostly nippers and a soldering pencil] quickly, and worked on the first test. Although the board is very small [barely 50mm. by 50 mm.], I chose to mount the board along with a small AC supply in a larger enclosure I had on hand. Switches, jacks, etc. for the project came from the junkbox and some spray paint was used to finish the enclosure.

From my experience at building a modern kit would I recommend it to others? Without hesitation. The few hours spent stuffing the board and assembling the keyer were pleasurable, the finished product plays fine and looks good to boot. I highly recommend kit building as an easy way to get into homebrewing and adding useful accessories to your station. Check out the magazine advertisements, send for a few catalogues, fire up the soldering iron and get started at homebrew.

TAKE A SCREWDRIVER FOR A RIDE! by Larry, VE4LRB

It was time for a change! I was TIRED of stopping the car every time I needed to change the antenna or loading coil taps because of propagation shifting or limited bandwidth. I was fed up! While bitching about this to a fellow amateur one day last summer, he handed me a magazine in which he said there was an article dealing with mobile antennas and he thought I should read it. So I did. And LO AND BEHOLD there was the ANSWER, assuming I could find some way to take the information contained therein and reproduce the antenna without spending a small fortune. The answer was the DK3 "electric-screwdriver" antenna by Don Johnson, W6AAQ. It's safe to use in any weather and incorporates a cordless screwdriver to move the loading coil up and down. Precise antenna tuning for 80 to 10 meters is easy to do while in motion or in bad weather by using a control panel on the dashboard.

After many hours of deliberation, I decided to check my BOX OF TREASURES which my wife calls JUNK and threatens to throw out someday if I forget to lock it up. I found substitute items which I realized would give me the desired result with the addition of a small cash outlay. With a little ingenuity I managed to produce an antenna which is capable of tuning from 3.5 to 30 MHZ from the front seat of my vehicle. AND I DON'T HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE CAR WHEN THE WINDCHILL FACTOR IS MINUS 92!!!!

The parts used for the main antenna system consist of a base insulator; a 3 foot length of 2 inch electrical conduit; a loading coil consisting of 109 turns of #14 wire and a 67 inch mobile whip. When combined with a cordless screwdriver it produces one of the most unique systems it has ever been my pleasure to use. AND IT WAS CHEAP!

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If anybody is interested in the way I put this together, I will be happy to provide a demonstration. Happy HF Mobilizing

News from W.A.R.P.
by Bill, VE4LI

The VE4IP gateway is now officially up and running on 145.690. In order to access it you will need a variant of the NOS program originated by A9Q. This program supports the TCP/IP protocol suite as well as NETROM and AX25. The TCP/IP protocol is the only one which will be supported on the gateway. This is different from the way we have set up the VE4UMR gateway. TCP/IP protocols and AX25 or NETROM protocols do not mix very well on the same frequency. This is an irritant on the 9600bps uhf frequency, but would quickly become a major pain on the 1200bps 145.690 channel. Performance would degrade to the point that things would be almost unusable. The AX25 support on VE4IP, while currently enabled for testing, will be turned off on January 1, 1995, and we ask that all users refrain from using either the ax25 or netrom protocol on the frequency.

Before you start, you will have to send a message to Bill Bowman,

VE4UB@VE4KV.#WPG.MB.CAN.NOAM to request an IP address. If you already have one similar to 44.135.124.99, you will still have to contact Bill to request a change to an IP number like 44.135.125.99. DO NOT use an IP number with 124 in the second last place. The way the routing is set-up, all packets for IP addresses 4.135.124.1 to 44.135.124.254 coming in from the world will be routed to VE4UMR, while all to 44.135.125.1 to 44.135.125.254 go to VE4IP.

Before you can successfully receive messages from the internet, you will have to get your IP address registered with the master list at the University of California (UCSD). To do this send a message as follows:

```
sp ampraddr@ucsd.edu
subject: <blank>
ve4your_call in a 44.135.125.your_address
^Z
```

Almost immediately (or within an hour or two at most) you will receive a confirmation message (or an error message if you goofed it!). The master file is only updated once a day at about 4:00 a.m. USCD time. Once it is updated it may take a couple of days for the information to be distributed.

A custom NOS kit, called jnoswarp.zip will be available shortly on the VE4YZ landline BBS @

Kenwood Dealer hits Winnipeg

That's right, Kenwood now has a dealer right here in Winnipeg.

Comtelco (aka 40 channels) at 1456 Logan Ave. has just become a Kenwood Amateur Products dealer.

They were hoping to have everything arranged before Xmas, but only part of the deal was available at that time. By the time you read this they will be fully under way. Please check them out if you are hunting for a rig. Also watch further Newscasters for special introductory pricing.

669-5591 or on the VE4KV BBS. If you can not obtain it from either of these sources, contact either VE4LI, VE4KV, VE4YZ, or VE4SET, and we'll see what we can do to get a copy to you. (We're all good in any recent 'Blue Book'). In the worst case, we'll mail you a copy for a small fee. Most of us can be found at the Arches Saturday mornings having coffee. After Christmas, we'll start bringing copies along with us or will start to mail them out.

To install the kit, first make a directory on your hard drive, we suggest C:\JNOS, and copy the archive file into it. Then unzip the archive with the command 'pkunzip -d jnoswarp'. You can safely delete the jnoswarp.zip file at this point if you are short of disk space. Secondly print out a copy of the file 'README' and follow the instructions contained within.

Once all the files are installed and configured, type 'GO' to start the program. While HELP files are available by typing 'help command_name', it can be a bit confusing if you don't know the command_name! A few commands that you will need immediately are:

bbs connect you to your jnos' internal mailbox. From here you can send messages which will be delivered to just about anywhere on the

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internet. The commands in the mailbox are very similar to what you're used to using on the ve4kv bbs.

telnet connect to another machine. Try 'telnet ve4ip.ampr.org' to connect to the gateway

ftp start a 'file transfer protocol' session with another host. Try 'ftp ve4wam.ampr.org' to connect to my computer. **WARNING** on a 1200bps channel it can take forever to transfer a large file. I have some extremely large files sitting on my computer. You have been warned!

ping query if another host is alive. Try 'ping ve4ip.ampr.org'. This is also useful to check a path

At this point you are ready to go out and mine the wealth of information, and explore all the fun places to visit that are now available to you. As mentioned in the README file included with JNOSWARP, check out the RESOURCE file in the C:\JNOS\DOC directory for some interesting ham sites to visit.

If you have questions feel free to ask any of the W.A.R.P. executive. We'll help you if we can. remember, we're not experts - we've just been playing longer than you have.

NTS Traffic Form **extracted from ARRL FSD-218(2/91)**

Every formal radiogram message originated and handled should contain the following component parts in the given order:

Precedences

The precedence will follow the message number. For example on CW 207 R or 207 EMERGENCY. On Phone, 'two zero seven, Routine (or Emergency).'

EMERGENCY - Any message having life & death urgency to any person or groups of persons, which is transmitted by Amateur Radio in the absence of regular commercial facilities. This includes official messages of welfare agencies during emergencies requesting supplies, materials or instructions vital to stricken populace in emergency areas. During normal times, it will be *very rare*. on cw, rtty, digital this designation will always be spelled out. When in doubt **DO NOT USE** it.

I) Preamble

- a. Number (begin with 1 each month or year)
- b. Precedence (R, W, P, EMERGENCY)
- c. Handling Instructions (optional see text)
- d. Station of Origin (first amateur handler)
- e. Check (number of words/groups in text only)
- f. Place of Origin (not station of origin)
- g. Time Filed (optional)
- h. Date (must agree with date of time filed)

II) **Address** (as complete as possible, include (postal code & tele number)

III) **Text** (limit to 25 words or less, if possible)

IV) **Signature**

CW Message Example

I NR 1 R HXG VE4GLH 8 Falcon Lake MB 1830Z JULY 1
a b c d e f g h

II Derek Hay **AA**
51 St. Hilaire Place **AA**
Winnipeg MB R2J 4B5 **AA**
204-257-1420 **BT**

III Happy Birthday **X** See you
soon **X** Love **BT**

IV Gail **AR**

Note that X, when used in the text as punctuation, counts as a word.

NOTE:

CW: The prosign **AA** separates the parts of a address. **BT** separates the address from the text and the text from the signature. **AR** marks the end of message; This is followed by B for another message & N if last message.

RTTY: Same as CW above, except use extra space between parts of address, instead of **AA**; omit **BT** to separate text from address & signature, using line spaces instead; add a CFM lime under the signature, consisting if all names, numerals and unusual words in the message in the order transmitted.

PACKET/AMTOR: Same format as CW above except the **AA**, **AR** may be omitted. Use the ST command to send.

PHONE: Use *prowords* instead of *prosigns*, do not name each part of the message as you send it.

(ie. Number one Routine HX Golf ve4glh eight Falcon Lake Manitoba one eight three zero zulu July one Derek Hay Figures five one Saint Hilaire Place Winnipeg Manitoba R two J four B five Telephone area two zero four two five seven one four two zero Break happy birthday x-ray see you soon x-ray love Break gail End of Message Over "end of message" is followed by 'More' if there is another message, 'No More' is last message. Spell phonetically all difficult or unusual words. Do not spell common words. Do not use CW abbreviations or Q signals in phone traffic.

PRIORITY - Important messages having a specific time limit. Official messages not covered in the emergency category. Press dispatches and other emergency-related traffic not of the utmost urgency. Notifications of death or injury in a disaster area, personal or official. Use the abbreviation **P** on cw.

An Most Unusual Radio Store by Chris, VE4SET

The following was pilfered off a VK web site:

A store, specialising in selling unusual operating aids for amateurs will soon be opening in Fyshwick, just in time for Christmas. The shop's opening follows successful franchises in Sydney and Melbourne. While I am not permitted to disclose prices, a look at the company's latest catalogue reveals many items that may be of interest to some listening tonight.

Featured on Page one is an item known as a callsign filter. When connected to your HF transceiver, it filters out any signal emanating from an amateur holding a three letter callsign. Apparently these units are becoming popular, and account for the increased reports of people transmitting over the top of each other during contests.

VK1WI understands that a packet radio variant of the above mentioned device is available, this time rejecting callsigns of amateurs who have recently been granted packet privileges. As well, an attachment to your TNC that allows you to automatically disconnect other users from the bulletin board, when you want the BBS all for yourself, is under test. A local cynic claimed that the product was unnecessary, as TPK performed a similar function for a much lower cost.

An accessory especially for the two metre SSB operator is on Page 73. Consisting of a digital voice recorder, a thermometer and a rain gauge, the unit takes the drudgery out of VHF SSB operating. Fitted with an automatic time switch that comes on at 8am every Saturday and Sunday morning, the device listens for weak VK2s and VK3s on 144.200 megahertz. As soon as it hears a signal, it gives a weather report, says seventy three, and ends the contact. Being completely automated, there is no need to be in the shack while the device is making contacts for you.

CW users are also catered for. A shipload of special iambic keyers has just arrived that seize up when the sender attempts to indulge in talk beyond the name-QTH-signal report. The same unit also requires the operator to spend at least twenty minutes to end

the contact, by sending 73, CUL, etc, and then repeating the whole lot several times. They are best sellers in some DX countries. The contest version steadfastly refuses to send signal reports less than 599.

The amateur with almost everything can install his own personal repeater. Featuring advanced voice recognition circuitry, it will only respond to the unique 'fingerprint' of its owner's voice, and those of up to two or three favoured mates. That means that the repeater will not respond to those annoying people that continually call CQ on repeaters. An optional voice-ID, which includes the slogan 'Silence is Golden - Keep Off' is also available.

VK1WI points out that any similarity between some of the above pieces of electronic wizardry, and the operating habits of some VK amateurs (dead or alive) is purely a coincidence. Thanks again to Peter Parker VK1PK, who tells me that at least one Amateur in VK1 was heard asking for directions to the store (apparently, he was interested in buying the callsign filter.)

Silent Keys

We are sorry to report that,
Chuck Walkey, VE4CEW,
Bill Panting, VE4KX
Harvey Hanson, VE4CK
have become a Silent Keys.

Group Antenna Purchase

A group buy is being arranged for High Gain VHF/UHF Dual Band Vertical Antenna's. Please watch for details in the February/96 Newscaster.

Notes from your Editor: by Derek, VE4HAY

I write this shortly after Xmas and before New Years. I hope everyone was good this past year and Santa dropped off that new Kenwood 870 rig for you.

As you can see this edition of the Newscaster is full of interesting stuff. Nice to see a dealer for Kenwood come to town. Also Gerry, VE4ACE has moved to larger premises in order to provide better service for your radio repairs etc.. For those hams with only their basic endorsement, it looks like the education committee is putting on a CW course starting in January. A few month ago I mentioned a group buy on high gain

antennas for VHF/UHF and it looks like someone has taken me up on the offer. Watch for further details on this. All in all the year is starting to look better each day. You never know, just maybe the HF bands will open up one evening and the world will be a better place. <hi hi>

Next month I hope to have the HF band plan, that was passed at the same time as the VHF/UHF band at the RAC annual meeting back in September, in the newscaster.

Look for my letter to the editor of TCA to be coming out shortly (I hope). While I fully support RAC and it's great efforts, I seem to disagree with their campaign techniques for new members. But come out to the meeting this month. Dave Panting, VE4EF, our regional director will be there to tell us about all the great changes that RAC has done and those to come in the future. There are many thing RAC is doing that will allow us as Amateurs to be proud of our national organization. See you on the 8th of January.

You can submit articles to me via the internet as: derek@facs.mb.ca or ve4hay@ve4umr.ampr.org or via packet as: ve4hay@ve4kv.#wpg.mb.ca.noam. I can also be reached on MWCS or at my home number 257-1420.

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The Radio Amateurs of Canada Six-Meter Band Plan (DRAFT - For discussion and comment only)

Send comments to VHF/UHF Spectrum Management
Committee, e-mail ba395@freenet.toronto.on.ca, Dana
Shtun VE3DSS

BAND: 50 - 54 MHz
STATUS: Amateur Exclusive

FREQUENCY (MHz)	UTILIZATION
50.000 - 50.600	NARROW BAND MODES (SSB, AM)
50.000 - 50.050	CW / BEACONS / MOONBOUNCE
50.050 - 50.10	CW / BEACONS
50.100	CW CALLING FREQUENCY
50.100 - 50.600	SSB and AM MODES (BANDWIDTH less than or= 2.3 KHz)
50.105 - 50.115	DX WINDOW (LISTEN FOR DX HERE) (4)
50.110	DX WINDOW CALLING FREQ (4)
50.125	NATIONAL SSB CALLING FREQ
50.400	AM CALLING FREQUENCY
50.600 - 51.000	EXPERIMENTAL MODES (1)
50.700	RTTY, AMTOR CALLING FREQ
50.800 - 50.980	RADIO CONTROL OF MODELS, TEN CHANNELS ON A 20 KHz RASTER
51.000 - 51.100	PACIFIC (ZL) DX WINDOW (SSB/CW ONLY) (3)
51.100 - 52.000	FM VOICE SIMPLEX, & PACKET (1)
51.700	NAT'L SIMP PACKET CALLING FREQ
52.000 - 52.050	PACIFIC (VK) DX WINDOW (SSB/CW ONLY) (3)
52.525	NATIONAL FM CALLING FREQ
52.000 - 53.000	FM VOICE REPEATER INPUTS (2)
53.000 - 54.000	FM VOICE REPEATER OUTPUTS

Footnotes:

1) In North America the following frequencies are suggested for Packet digipeater and packet scatter operation:

50.62/51.62 50.68/51.68 50.76/51.76
50.64/51.64 50.72/51.72 50.78/51.78
50.66/51.66 50.74/51.74

For co-located voice and packet repeaters, use high (input) and low (output) to provide maximum mutual frequency isolation.

2) SEE TABLE OF REPEATER PAIRS

3) AMATEURS ARE REQUESTED TO AVOID USING FM OR OTHER WIDE BAND MODES ON THESE FREQUENCIES TO MINIMIZE INTERFERENCE TO AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND AMATEURS WORKING INTO REGION 2 ON SSB/CW.

4) NORTH AMERICAN AMATEURS ARE REQUESTED TO AVOID CALLING ;CQ DX ON 50.110 MHz.