

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.
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598 St. Mary's Road
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February 1996

Nostalgia Radio CKVN

Presentation by
Lee Smith, VE4ANC

Date: **February 12, 1996**
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

Other Important Dates:

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

WARC: Mar 11- Meeting -What are all those buttons?

WSC: ?? - Meeting at the Norlander
?? - Executive meeting

ARES: Feb 20 - Meeting

Other: Feb 17 -18 Guides on the Air
Mar 2 - Bismark Hamfest
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, January has come and gone. Hopefully everyone has finished their antenna and tower work by now and are hibernating indoors out of the record cold temperatures.

I would once again like to thank Dave Panting, our RAC Western Regional Director, for his presentation at our January WARC meeting.

As the temperature has dropped to around -30°C for the last couple of months, so has attendance at our monthly meetings been dropping. Don't let the cold weather discourage you from coming out and enjoying a hot cup of coffee and some warm hearted conversation.

I hope to see you February 12, 1996 at our monthly WARC meeting. Drop by, and say hi.

Happy Valentines

Field Day at Falcon Lake will be cancelled due to the fact the hotel is taking bookings for that weekend at full rates only due to a golf tournament happening the same weekend. If we are prepared to pay full rates we could also book there (full rates are \$80 & \$100). They are however prepared to offer us any rooms that are not booked as well as they will allow us to pitch tents & campers in the back lot. This tournament is normally the third complete weekend in June and should not conflict with Field Day, (except this year). The executive will be making a decision at our next meeting as to wear to hold Field Day this year. If anyone has any ideas please let us know. Perhaps next year we can return to the great surroundings of Falcon Lake.

Winnipeg Senior Citizen's Radio Club. released by Alf, VE4ALF (President - 96)

Sorry no article received by printing deadline

ARES Committee Report **by Jeff, VE4MBQ**

Our January meeting was a refresher first aid program conducted by Don Gerrard, VE4DWG, Director of Brigade Operations, for St. John Ambulance. Don and St. John deserve a great bouquet for providing us with the program as well as their on going support of Winnipeg ARES.

The next Winnipeg Ares meeting will be Tuesday, Feb 20 at 1900 hrs. at St. John Ambulance, 535 Doreen Street. in lieu of a guest speaker at this time we will have a discussion on whether or not the members of Winnipeg ARES want to be involved in the 1996 Winnipeg Airshow. In a nutshell there have been some significant changes in the show management. the last two years we have provided communications for all facets of ground work. The new Program Director plans to use military radios and cellular phones to conduct show operations. the only role envisioned for Winnipeg ARES is manning road-blocks, barricades outside the airport property and providing operators for three patron parking lots (no involvement inside the show grounds).

Richard Kazuk is taking orders for Winnipeg ARES golf shirts. The cost per shirt is \$30.00 (tax incl. & .80 going to the group) The deadline for ordering is Feb 20. Payment payable to Winnipeg ARES must accompany each order. There is a possibility of ordering caps too, but only if sufficient interest is shown (to keep the cost down). Please contact Richard if you are interested.

MINUTES FOR W.A.R.C. - Jan 8, 1996

Meeting called to order at 19:38 by RICHARD VE4KAZ. There were 46 in attendance with everyone introducing themselves.

Moved by VE4___ and seconded by VE4___ that the minutes for December 11 be accepted. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: none

CORRESPONDENCE:__Christmas card from Pat Geisbrecht and Dan Michaels.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Rick VE4OV reported balance of \$3498.00. Upcoming expense of \$350 for the annual premium for \$1 Million liability insurance.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ATTENDANCE & DOOR PRIZES: Membership prize of computer software and raffles prize of a DVM 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 will print the HF bands 10 - 160 M in February Newscaster. There is space available for advertising.

CON. ED.: Rick VE4OV reported next course starts January 18. The "stepping stone to HF privilege" 5 WPM Morse class will run from Jan 23 to Feb 27. Cost \$199.

ARES:

PROGRAM: Rob VE4GV reported that Lee VE4ANC will speak on his experience in broadcast radio at the February meeting. At the March meeting Derek VE4HAY will give a "2M Primer" to encourage full and proper use.

FLEA MARKET: date in April to be announced later.

MEMBERSHIP: 27 new members

FIELD DAY: Date set for June 21 - 22, 1996. Rooms are being held at the Falcon Resort for WARC at last year's rates. Contact Derek VE4HAY to pre-register.

NEW BUSINESS:

NOTICES:

* Group Antenna Purchase: Derek VE4HAY announced the possibility of new dealer offering low promo rate.

* Kenwood: new dealer will be advertising prices

* Propagation: solar index rising

* Ed VE4YU has information for anyone interested in the Feb 10 Electronics Hobby Show in Blaine.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

DX: Adam and Ed gave brief presentation on the DXCC certificate issued by ARRL upon confirmation of contacting 100 countries. The May 1995 cruise was very successful. Stations were set up at each port of call. It will be a one to two year wait for another cruise.

Meeting adjourned at 20:00 by Richard VE4KAZ

PRIZES: Membership draw - won by _____
Raffle prize - won by VE4HAY

Station Renewal Fee's **by Dave, VE4EF**

Our RAC, Regional Director, Dave Panting, VE4EF, announced that Industry Canada has been in touch with RAC headquarters and confirms that the station licence renewal fee for amateur radio stations will not be going up this year. There has been rumours in the last month or so that they be would going up. The news is a great relief to amateurs across Canada. Dave also announced a new E-mail address for RAC. Look for this elsewhere in the Newscaster

RAC NEWS BULLETIN INTERNET
EDITION - 16 January 1996
Issued at RAC Administrative Office

RTHANDBOOK

The FCC Interference Handbook is now available on the Internet. The 22 page booklet, available from the Compliance and Information Bureau via the FCC World Wide Web home page, includes the same information and illustrations contained in the recently published Interference to Home Electronic Entertainment Equipment Handbook. It includes information about equipment installation, identifying interference sources, curing interference problems, and filters. It also contains a list of home electronic equipment manufacturers and telephone numbers. Pictures illustrate different TV interference problems, including ham or CB transmitter interference. The Interference Handbook is available on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Compliance/WWW/tvibook.html> (Ed. note: most of the addresses listed in the book are for the USA manufacturers but at least it is a starting point.)

"SKYRIDER" TNC CONTROL PROGRAM

Are you looking for a TNC control program that will operate well under the Windows environment? Well, get a copy and try SkyRider written by Bob Rushby VE3GLA. This software, written to simplify the use of the MFJ 1278 family of TNC, was reviewed in the December edition of CQ by W8FX and Karl had some very good comments on this shareware program.

NEW NORTH AMERICAN NETWORK

VE3HHS/W4 is initiating a North American Network (NAN) to operate as an informal net for establishing communications with other amateurs or passing traffic. He plans to operate on the following frequencies and times:

Frequency (MHz)	Time
3.760	06:00-07:00 EST (11:00-12:00 UTC)
7.160	07:00-08:00 EST (12:00-13:00 UTC)
14.160	08:00-09:00 EST (13:00-14:00 UTC)

All amateurs are invited to drop in to the NAN.

JAWS/HAWS

"I am helping Dennis Stossel with research he is doing on the story of the Joint Arctic Weather Stations (JAWS) which became the High Arctic Weather Stations (HAWS) when the United States withdrew in 1971/72. Their 50th Anniversary is coming up in 1997, and there's a move to have a reunion at Resolute Bay of JAWS/HAWS polar veterans if there's enough interest. We are trying to gather information about Canadians and Americans who worked at the JAWS in Eureka, Resolute Bay, Isachsen, Mould Bay and Alert, especially in 1947-1951. We are interested in names, dates and anecdotes.

"Dennis and the group working with him in Winnipeg are ex DOE managers, and will cover the meteorological and scientific aspects. I would like to be able to help them out with the radio side of things, particularly the amateur aspects. Amateur radio played a big part in the lives of those living on the stations. Charlie Harris, VE6HM, Brit Fader VE1FQ, Stan Surber W9NZZ and Fred Bisette VE3AIU were among the best known in my time in the North.

"Many commercial operators were, like myself, active amateurs. I would like to be able to add a few facts about the amateur radio operations. When did the first amateur contact take place? How was the VE8MA, MB, MC series chosen? What kind of equipment was used? What services did amateur radio provide?: etc.

"I would be grateful if you would bring this to the attention of any amateurs who may have been at the stations who might be able to help with information, as well as other amateurs who (like those mentioned above) maintained close ties with the stations.

"Any information would be welcomed. I can be contacted, preferably by Internet at: jgilbert@fox.nstn.ca or alternatively by phone (613)724-1266 or Fax (613) 724-3783 or by mail at 714 Highland Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario. K2A 2K7" John Gilbert, VE3CXL (ex VE8OW, Eureka 1956-58)

Bismarck Hamfest

The CDARC hamfest will be March 2nd at the Radisson. Flyers will be sent to those who attended last year, or drop NOSDB a note and I will try to get you one. Hope to see you there!

WARC Jackets

Those members who ordered jackets at the Dec 95 meeting should bring the balance of their payment to the February 12 WARC meeting. The representative from Shanter Sportswear will be in attendance with jackets in hand from 1845 to 1930hrs. The full price of the jackets, as reported earlier is:

Summer \$53.58
Spring/Fall 66.12
Winter 85.50

Please make cheque payable to Shanter Sportswear.

CODE VS NO CODE; Yet another View
 by **Doug, VE5CMA@ve4rrg, drichardson@softech.ca**

Albeit an oversimplification, the code/no code debate basically comes do to two irreconcilable positions: those who hold that CW should continue to be the standard by which HF access is granted, and those who favour dropping it. Likely no other issue is as charged in our hobby. Since both "opposing camps" seem to be quite wide apart and well dug in, no potential solutions appears imminent that would satisfy everyone, especially at each extreme. By applying some structured logical thought and some successful mediation techniques there is a solution that, while not necessarily pleasing to either extreme, may solve enough of the problem to allow the vast middle ground of the hobby to put the debate behind us and move on.

As with all meditation, any solution with a hope of successful implementation requires the reader to suspend their preconceived assumptions and values enough to consider a solution the a clear and open mind from as unbiased a perspective as possible: no one stake holder will get 100% of their wish list, 100% of the time. What we can accomplish though, is a solution whereby each interest can satisfy themselves enough that the solution makes the whole greater than the sum of the parts.

The Argument for Code

despite its detractors, CW still has much going for it. Much of the pro CW argument is in fact true. CW can often get through in marginal conditions, when phone and digital modes might not (especially at the bottom of the sunspot cycle). Many in our hobby enjoy a night at the key, and code still holds a cachet, romance and ambience no other mode can offer.

Perhaps the strongest argument in favour of code is that it is mostly CW that makes amateurs distinct from commercial, GRS, or outright bootleg operators. Code is a barrier of entry that saves the ham bands from onslaught of Joe/Jane six-pack. Code is a dyke that keeps hams bands the preserve of those who respect them. A barrier of entry that is honourable to have,

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.

maintains an exclusivity of sorts, and makes a fine bozo filter.

Although these all make great arguments for retention of code, it should be pointed out that the "I learned it... So you should damn well learn it!" argument is probably the least meritorious case for code. Watch out for this obvious non sequitur, for it often comes dressed up with puffery and embellishment: when you boil it down, it's still the "I had to ..." argument.

The Argument for No Code

Those who advance to no code position rightly (sadly) note that CW is a mode in decline, and not only in the ham bands. Recently military abandonment atests to world wide atrophy of code as new modes and different media (ie satellite) evolve. Many can rightly argue that ham bands are CW's last preserve.

The strongest "con" to the CW position is logical analysis of code's usefulness as a barrier of entry. Note: This is not a discussion of wether we should have a barrier of entry, but rather is CW the right barrier?

It's no secret many HF privileged operators toss their key in the junk box the minute they get their ticket, and hop to the microphone or keyboard. I hear many on HF phone boast, even brag that they have nare tapped out a dit-dah one on HF. For them, other modes hold more interest. Code as the barrier has not encouraged these operators to use CW, therefore code as a barrier is not really advancing code or slowing its atrophy.

allowing a doctor to perform brain surgery because they learned all about gynaecology.

CW's weakest performance as a barrier comes in the irony of its relevance. For some reason, we apply a strange test to those who wish to run SSTV, or those who desire a good rag chew, or to hams who are whiz bang computer types and would love to hammer away on packet, pactor, or other digital modes. Learn a mode that does not relate to any of these, and we will let you operate. This is analogous to allowing a doctor to perform brain surgery because they learned all about gynaecology. How many really good digital or phone operators is code keeping out? Worse, how many not so good operators is it letting in? Regretfully, despite CW as a barrier, we can still scan HF and find plenty of lids. The idea of a bozo filter is to keep bozos out and let competent operators in: some can argue with validity

that CW, although able to do this in the past is not able to now.

Having our Cake... and Eating it too!

Two irreconcilable positions? Perhaps not. Genuine code advocates have an excellent point. Elimination of a barrier of entry make us no different than chicken banders (apologies to those who got their start there). Detractors also rightly point out that code is not as good a barrier as we could have. Therein is the trade off that may solve our problem.

Conventional wisdom has it that introduction of no code above 20Mhz was designed to breath in new life with new people into the hobby that had declining numbers. A criticism has been (possibly more in the U.S. than in Canada) that it has simply increased the lid population. One could pose it that the basic no code license does not represent a strong enough barrier.

A potential solution involves re-thinking our license structure, top to bottom. We could restrict the privileges of basic license to provide for basic phone operation only, but extend it to all portions of the amateur spectrum allocated to phone, (yes, this would put basic licensees on HF phone), BUT: the high jump bar for basic license get set much higher than it is now. Much deeper electronics theory, safety, regulatory knowledge, and especially phone operation and etiquette would be required. No code, but knowing how to hook up your grandmother's VCR would no longer be enough to command a basic license, no matter how expanded the phone capabilities. A much tougher basic theory and operating entrance exam would perform a relevant barrier of entry function. Now what candidates are test on before they get operating privileges actually would relate to hat they do on the air once they are licensed.

Note also, basic only gives phone privileges. basic hams who would like to dabble in digital, RTTY, or SSTV would need to secure an endorsement to their license. Here, the barrier of entry would be testing on digital theory, SSTV basics, RTTY basics and the like. The barrier to being a digital /image/fax/text operator (no matter the spectrum space used) would be an exam in the relevant areas. Likewise, CW operation would require a ticket (endorsement) at 12 wpm (or whatever) before access to the code mode and spectrum allocated to it would be granted.

This new licensing criteria would license by mode, instead of spectrum. It would grant:

- % Basic license - General Knowledge & Phone
- % D.I.T. endorsement -Digital, Image & Text
- % CW endorsement - Code at minimum speed

% Advanced endorsement - similar to now (more power & experimentation)

The advanced endorsement now contains material that would no doubt be shifted to the Basic License, in order to beef up the basic requirements so that it becomes a stronger test of knowledge and capability. No one operated anywhere in any mode without basic.

Code advocates who see CW as the last line between order and chaos can take great comfort in the basic license's much stiffer requirements, which will go a long way in providing a more orderly phone band no matter where in the spectrum they operate. CW's entry standard of so many wpm is maintained, and there is no doubt many basic phone operators will be enticed into CW and seek a code endorsement. High quality basic hams provides an excellent pool from which to draw future CW operators, who, are not turned off by an irrelevant entry procedure will be motivated to use CW in it's own right.

No code advocates will get access to spectrum previously denied, but will have to accept that in the future, a basic license will be much tougher to come by and limit operation to phone only.

Hopefully such a solution, while never satisfying radicals in either camp, will be attractive enough to the vast sensible middle ground to motivate change. This option solves most of our operational problems and is simple enough to administrate.

(ED's comments: I have printed this article because I feel it has many very strong points. The great debate about the CW barrier to keep the rift-raft out is valid. But then so is a similar barrier for the Digital, Image & Text modes. The analogy of the doctor makes a lot of sense. We are all Amateur Radio Operators, some more skilled than others, and some who are only interested in one mode of communication over another. A license by mode makes sense. This would certainly keep the lids out of the various modes. CW'ers would be happy, Satellite would be happy, Digital would be happy, and we would have better phone operators all around the bands.)

RAC's E-mail address

For those who correspond with RAC, (Radio Amateurs of Canada) our national organization, they have a new e-mail address as follows:

rachq@king.igs.net

Silent Keys

We are sorry to report that,
Eric Smith, VE4MK
has become a Silent Key.

GOOD LUCK IN THE CONTEST by Tom, VE4AKI

After being licensed for about twelve years and constantly active on H.F. I realized I had never seriously participated in a contest. Oh sure, I had worked a few new countries during DX contests or made a few contacts to give out a multiplier but a serious effort to see how I could do-never. Well I gave it a try recently in spite of the relatively poor conditions at the bottom of the sunspot cycle.

I decided to enter the December Homebrew Sprint hosted by the QRP-ARCI club. This is a four hour contest to encourage QRP activity and club spirit. It is open to non-club members as well. The format is simple, there are four power levels from 250mw. to 5w, single band or multiband categories, multipliers for using homebrew equipment and various power sources and an apparently simple scoring system. The contest ran from 2 P.M. to 6 P.M. local time on December 5, 1995.

I knew from reading articles on contesting that a clear strategy would help to improve the results. By examining the results of previous similar contests , I concluded that entering the single band 5w. class would give me a good chance at a reasonable score. I figured that the 20 Metre band should hold up for this time period. The main antenna I used was a sloping dipole about 36 ft. long fed with twin lead through a tuner. Its upper end is about 25 ft. high and the lower is at about 6 ft. It had proved to offer good performance for both local and DX contacts. A few alternate antennas were available as well. The rig I used was a Ten Tec Scout 555 running 5w. output . The power source would be batteries.

All equipment was checked, batteries charged, and antennas tuned up prior to the start of the contest. Listening around the 14.060 Mhz. QRP frequency before the 2 P.M. start the band was quiet. At exactly 2 P.M. the air came alive with signals. I waded in seeking out the strongest signals with the least QRM. The first station worked was WA8LCZ, Byron in Detroit , a QRP op contacted on numerous occasions in the past. A signal report, QTH, and QRP ARCI number exchanged and on to the next. The contacts came slow but steady. Propagation seemed to favour all directions as east coast, central, and west coast stations were worked. The QRM was relentless and presented a real challenge in hearing the low powered stations which were often just above the noise level.

After about an hour I found my concentration lagging and most of the stations I could hear had been worked. I took a short break for some refreshment and to stretch my legs.[and my fingers hi hi]. Wading back in after a short break I tuned a bit further from the 14.060 spot. I found QRP stations from 14.063 down to 14.055. Here's W3TS. He scored very well in the summer sprint running a homebrew transceiver and only 250 mw. The contacts came slower now as I listened for the weaker ones below the stronger stations. I tried calling CQ and a few more contacts were made but QRM moved in and I went back to "hunt and pounce".

By 4:30 P.M. the band seemed to be dying and the stations heard were all in the log. I decided to break for supper and give 40M and 80M after a meal and a rest. I knew it would be tough going on these bands with only vertical antennas.

Back in the fray at 5:15 P.M. on 40 M. I found band conditions relatively poor and only a few more stations were worked. A quick try on 80 M proved no better. As the clock crept up to 6 P.M. I realized the contest was over for me, a mixture of elation and relief. At 6 P.M. the frequency went quiet and I went QRT. Enough ham radio for one day.

The next evening I recopied the log onto the contest log sheets and tried to calculate my score. Here I ran into problems. The brief contest rules I had were confusing. After rereading them about a dozen times and studying the scores from previous contests I sorted out some of the problem. But, I still could not find the multiplier for battery operation. So, how did I do? I don't know. Assuming a battery multiplier of greater than one, my score seems realistic in relation to other contest results published. Well, I'll send in the results and hope for the best.

So, would I do it again? You bet! This type of contest is a good mixture of fun and challenge. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet others of similar interest and a fine exercise to hone your operating skills. This type of contest does not require a large investment of time nor does it require an elaborate station. Check the amateur magazines for upcoming similar contests and give it a try. If you are interested give me a call for more info. See you in the contest!

Found on packet by Alan, VE4YZ

See <http://www.baycom.de> for info on the Baycom hardware. Schematics for the 96k G3RUH FSK modem

may appear here some day. Runs with Baycom 1.6, BPQ or TFPCX

The RAC HF BAND PLAN (approved April 22, 1995)

How the RAC HF Band Plan was developed

The HF Band Plan is a voluntary, gentlemen's agreement, intended for the guidance of and observation by Canadian Radio Amateurs. Without these guide-lines chaos would set in. The main mode of enforcement is peer pressure.

Industry Canada as a government department regulates the amateur radio spectrum. They regulate the frequencies and the bandwidth, but not the modes of operation within the amateur spectrum. A Band Plan (even though it is voluntary) is necessary for the guidance of the users.

The Canadian HF Band Plan was formulated by a committee of Radio Amateurs representative of a cross section of each geographical district. After a consensus was reached by the committee, the HF Band Plan was submitted to the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada for approval.

The Plan was approved on April 22, 1995.

The HF Band Plan reflects the interests of Canadian Radio Amateurs, while taking into account the regional and international concerns of the International Amateur Radio Union. The plan addresses the needs of Canadian Radio Amateurs for a workable HF Band Plan.

160 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

1.800 to 1.820 MHz - CW
1.820 to 1.830 MHz - Digital Modes
1.830 to 1.840 MHz - DX Window
1.840 to 2.000 MHz - SSB, other wide band modes

80 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

3.500 to 3.580 MHz - CW
3.580 to 3.620 MHz - Digital Modes
3.620 to 3.635 MHz - Packet/Digital Secondary
3.635 to 3.725 MHz - CW
3.725 to 3.790 MHz - SSB, other side band modes*
3.790 to 3.800 MHz - SSB DX Window
3.800 to 4.000 MHz - SSB other wide band modes

* Note: 80 metres normally LSB, to stay within Band Plan SSB should not be lower than 3.728 MHz. As example note US stations cannot operate below 3.753 MHz

40 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

7.000 to 7.035 MHz - CW

7.035 to 7.050 MHz - Digital Modes
7.040 to 7.050 MHz - International packet
7.050 to 7.100 MHz - SSB
7.100 to 7.120 MHz - Packet within Region 2
7.120 to 7.150 MHz - CW
7.150 to 7.300 MHz - SSB other wide band modes

30 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 1 KHz

10.100 to 10.130 MHz - CW only
10.130 to 10.140 MHz - Digital Modes
10.140 to 10.150 MHz - Packet

20 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

14.000 to 14.070 MHz - CW only
14.070 to 14.095 MHz - Digital Mode
14.095 to 14.099 MHz - Packet
14.100 MHz - Beacons
14.101 to 14.112 MHz - CW, SSB, packet shared
14.225 to 14.235 MHz - SSTV
14.112 to 14.350 MHz - SSB

17 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

18.068 to 18.100 MHz - CW
18.100 to 18.105 MHz - Digital Modes
18.105 to 18.110 MHz - Packet
18.110 to 18.168 MHz - SSB, wide band modes

15 Metre Band - maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

21.000 to 21.070 MHz - CW
21.070 to 21.090 MHz - Digital Modes
21.090 to 21.125 MHz - Packet
21.100 to 21.150 MHz - CW and SSB
21.150 to 21.335 MHz - SSB, wide band modes
21.335 to 21.345 MHz - SSTV
21.345 to 21.450 MHz - SSB, wide band modes

12 Metre Band - Maximum bandwidth 6 KHz

24.890 to 24.930 MHz - CW
24.920 to 24.925 MHz - Digital Modes
24.925 to 24.930 MHz - Packet
24.930 to 24.990 MHz - SSB, wide band modes

10 Metre Band - Maximum band width 20 KHz

28.000 to 28.200 MHz - CW
28.070 to 28.120 MHz - Digital Modes
28.120 to 28.190 MHz - Packet
28.190 to 28.200 MHz - Beacons
28.200 to 29.300 MHz - SSB, wide band modes
29.300 to 29.510 MHz - Satellite
29.510 to 29.700 MHz - SSB, FM and repeaters

Fargo Hamfest

The 1996 Amateur Radio and Computer Fair. March 9, 1996 Location: West Fargo Fairgrounds - Commercial Building Time: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Admission: Advance Registration \$5.00 At the door \$6.00 Advance

registration can be mailed to RRRRA-ARCF '96, PO Box 3215, Fargo, ND 58108-3215.

Guide's On The Air
Feb. 17/96 09:00 - Feb. 18/96 17:00

Girl Guide's will be having their annual weekend on the air. This is an annual event where Amateur Radio operators help out by setting up stations and let Guide's talk to other Guide's in other Provinces or countries. Here is a list of frequencies they will be operating on.

80 M 3.733 / 3.933
 40 M 7.088
 20 M 14.133 / 14.188 / 14.288
 15 M 21.360
 10 M 28.988

Hints & Kinks
by Ralph, VE4RY

Got a spare DC meter, or an SWR meter not being used? You can set one up as a Field Strength Meter and leave it on a shelf in the ham shack, calibrated to move the needle slightly on your normal RF transmissions. A DC meter of high enough sensitivity can easily be made into a FSM with a diode and a piece of wire.

When the proverbial 'RF in the shack' exceeds the normal value (usually due to a poor connection or disconnected antenna) the meter will read excessively high when you transmit and give you a hint that something has gone wrong. The sound of the needle pinning may even catch your attention!

I have a large surplus 50 uA meter perched on the shelf in my shack and have more than once diagnosed a loose connector in my coax, wondering where that funny 'clinking' noise was coming from during my transmissions, only to find it was my trusty field strength meter's needle going crazy!

Ramblings from the Editor
By Derek, VE4HAY

My XYL gave me a new definition for R.F.I.

R eoccurring **F** amily **I** nterruptions. This rather plentiful form of RFI was discovered while trying to learn code. While the cause if the RFI is not well known, the cure is simple, just abandon the code practice and spend some time with the little handhelds until they are tired and have gone QRT.

Oh yeah, guess who started to learn code?

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Happy Valentines Day
 33 & 88 to all the YL's & XYL's

Applied Communications & Electronics

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 for more information. See our ad in the
 1995 Fall blue book (inside rear cover).

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