



Newscaster

The Official Publication of the
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club

March 1999

Trunk Radio

What is it & how does it work?
by Ed Richardson, VE4EAR

Date: March 8th, 1999

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Place: Sturgeon Creek Regional Secondary School

RADIOGRAM FROM THE PRESIDENT: by Norm, VE4EH

I am sure that the membership will join me in welcoming the new members to the executive:-

VE4CCC Les Barclay
VE4DDW Darcy Wilson
VE4MMG Mariska Maguire
VE4SE Tom Mills
VE4SUE Susan Keller

Their official positions will be determined at the next executive meeting and will be announced at the monthly meeting on the 08 March 1999. Please come out and support the club and your new executive as we look forward to a productive and entertaining spring.

Speaking of Spring, I would like to welcome back VE4YU Ed the amateur responsible for the WARC HamFest, 29 May 1999. I would also note that VE4SN Adam has continued to fulfill the many tasks involved with the HamFest in Ed's absence. However, lest we forget, this is a WARC HamFest and it is hoped that the membership will take ownership by volunteering to assist in any way possible. Please sign up now with VE4YU or VE4SN. It's your club and many hands make light work.

The survey that was published in last month's Newscaster is not time expired, but is required for future planning of the program. Programs are currently in place for the remainder of this year and the survey will be used over the summer break in order to determine next years programs. If you haven't returned a completed survey, you may certainly do so anytime between now and the June meeting.

I hope you can all join VE4EAR Ed for a presentation about "Trunked Radio" at the next meeting.

Other Important Dates:

Articles: March 30 - Deadline for Articles April Newscaster
April 28 - Deadline for articles May Newscaster

WARC: April 12 - Meeting
May 10 - Meeting
June 26-27 Field Day

WSC:

DX: Jan. 18th 19:30hrs QTH of VE4SN

ARES: Jan. 19 - Meeting topic - Emergency Social Services.
Jan 7 & 21 - ARES packet meeting @ VE4WSC
Feb 13,14 - Training session - Sled Dog Races

Other: May 29, 1999 - WARC HamFest & Flea market

WARC: Executive for 1998-99			
Past President	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
President			
Treasurer	Norm Coull	VE4EH	885-1692
Secretary	Ruth Mills	VE4XYL	837-6915
Vice-President			
Goodwill	Vern Dutton	VE4VQ	256-5346
Membership			

Contest Calendar

March

6-7

[ARRL International DX Contest, phone](#)

Winnipeg Senior Citizens Radio Club
Submitted by Gil Frederick, VE4AG

One of our members became a Silent Key this past week, Len Evans, VE4LEN.

Scott Mahaffy, VE4SM, is in hospital at the Grace. Members are encouraged to visit. Lila, VE4LIL, our H&W lady, has sent cards from the Club.

The Club was active on Saturday & Sunday for the GOTAs (Guides on the Air) activities which took place on February 20 & 21. The special station call VE4GGC was activated, and many Guides & Brownies attended during the hours of operation.

Our first breakfast at the new Canad Inns - Fort Garry did not go off without a hitch (which caused concern to some, but not without a bit of laughter as well). The winner of a free breakfast was Dick, VE4RHG, but we also had 2 more 'freebies' when breakfasts ordered to come FIRST actually were served LAST, and were not what was ordered, and cold! In fact, one member came in very late, ordered, was served, and finished his meal - before this couple's order came. We put our problem down to 'growing pains' of the new facility - and the fact that one waitress took the order in her own code, went on a coffee break, and left the serving to another who did not fully understand this 'coding'. 21 people attended, and due to the length of our stay (almost one and one-half hours), we had lots of time to talk. The place is very nice, and we will be continuing to come here on alternate months. Our next breakfast date at this location will be April 8th. The breakfast in March will be at the Canad Inns- Garden City, on the 11th.

'The Social News', our President Bob asked if anyone else would like to take over this chore, as it has become a regular item that is looked forward to at the breakfasts. Gil will help anyone use the Club computer who would like to take this task on.

We have put up a notice on the bulletin board for those members wishing to have a short (one-hour) training session on the new computer. Any member who will be using this computer for Club administrative duties is urged to attend

Comments or if you just want to reach us :
Newscaster Editor
Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
C/O VE4WSC
598 St. Mary's Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 3L5
<http://www.freenet.mb.ca/amradio>

the training session, which will also touch on the mechanics of the colour printer.

There has, as yet, been no word from the Government re our request for information as to the legality in our Charity licence to have 'Associate Members' that do not meet the age and retirement requirements for full membership.

The per capita grant from St. Vital will be presented to the Club, in person, by Al Golden. We are just waiting for a reply to a letter that Prez Bob sent out.

We are looking into starting up a Seniors' Net. So far we have been in touch with 3 other Seniors' stations - and shortly will be making a concerted effort to get something going. We are sure that once we start, many will hear us and join in.

The CFARS Net has seen CIW510 check in once or twice per week - we are hoping to change the time to when the Club has members present at the Clubrooms, so we can involve many members and get a small team made up for readiness, in case we should be called upon to be available any day of the week.

A motion has been made to instigate NIGHT Code Classes. Norm, VE4EH and Bruce, VE4GR will act as instructors - and this evening class will be available to young and working Ham members of A.R.E.S. - and any other licensed Hams who wish to attend. Dates and times still be announced.

And, as was the case last meeting, the President handed out the two awards to members who surely deserved them. The 'broken clock' award went to Gil, VE4AG, and the 'Spice' award (Lea & Perrins hot sauce) went to Albert, VE4AX.

The NEXT Board Meeting will be held at the Clubrooms on Wednesday, March 17/99.

Parkside Appliance & Electronics



**Sales & Service of
 Computers &
 Software
 Home repairs offered**

John. VE4JNF

MINUTES for W.A.R.C. February 8th, 1999
Submitted by Ruth, VE4XYL

Norm VE4EH welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 19:30hrs. Introductions were as usual and 54 members and 2 guests attended.

MINUTES:

Moved by Dick VE4HK and seconded by Michael VE4MJM that the minutes be approved as printed in the newscaster. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MARM raffle tickets are available to those interested from Norm VE4EH.

NEWS BULLETIN:

Tom VE4SE reported on a news bulletin released over CBC radio on the military testing of HF communications in readiness for the Y2K bug. It was stated that the Hams would be the back up for the military in the worst case scenario.

INDUSTRY CANADA:

Norm VE4EH informed that information received indicated we will be paying for licenses this year as we normally have.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Norm VE4EH reported the club funds as of January 31/99 were \$3379.79. Newscaster printing was \$69.25, club insurance was \$350.00 and there was an income of \$19.00 from the 50/50 draw.

RAC:

Rick VE4OV reported on the death of King Hussein of Jordan now a silent key who held the call of JY1. His son, now King Abdullah is also a ham. King Hussein was a special friend to Noel Eaton VE3CJ. The Jordanian Ambassador attended the Noel Eaton Memorial station here in Canada.

RACs VP of government affairs and VP of International affairs have met with Industry Canada concerning microwave frequency allocations.

Regrets from Rick and the RAC president Pat Doherty to the organizers of the WARC Winnipeg Ham Fest. Due to the RAC board meeting scheduled in Arnprior Ont. on the same weekend the RAC representatives will not be able to attend.

A reminder to all Amateurs interested, contest season is on now. Check TCA, QST or CQ magazines for the contest that will suit you.

WARES:

Jeff VE4MBQ reported that the briefing for the sled dog races will be held Tuesday Feb.9th 19:00hrs at the WSC, 598 St. Marys Rd.

One snowmobile amateur is required for the sled dog races on Sunday Feb.14th. If interested contact VE4MBQ.

Next WARES general meeting will be held on Tues. Feb. 16th/99 at the Sir William Stevenson Library, 765 Keewatin St. Presentation by the Provincial Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Jim Popplow on Public Health concerns after a flood.

Panarog meeting for all amateurs signed up for or interested in Pan Am Games Amateur Radio Support will be held on Tuesday Feb 23rd/99 at 19:00hrs at St.Pauls High School, 2200 Grant.

WINNIPEG HAM FEST:

Report by Adam VE4SN. The date is Sat. May 29th 1999 at the International Inn. Adam encouraged those interested to book their tables as well as pre register if possible. It is very difficult to organize an event without having an idea how many plan to attend. Lets all show this special event our support.

DX SLEUTHS:

Adam VE4SN reported the next meeting will be held Monday Feb. 15th/99

19:00 hrs. at 26 Morrison St. ARRL has put in a new country. Palestine has been granted status and is recognized by ARRL with the prefix as E4.

ELECTIONS:

Paul VE4OPC, chaired the nominating committee. Those members that signed and agreed to serve on the executive are Mariska Maguire VE4MMG, Darcy Wilson VE4DDW, Tom Mills VE4SE, Norm Coul VE4EH, Les Barclay VE4CCC, and Sue Kelher VE4SUE.

MOTION:

Moved by Jeff VE4MBQ, seconded by Dick VE4HK that nominations be closed. Carried. Norm VE4EH expressed thanks and appreciation to Paul VE4OPC for an excellent job well done and welcomed the slate of nominees to the executive.

SURVEY:

Norm VE4EH reminded all members to complete the survey sheet on the back of the February newscaster. The survey was a suggestion to the executive and we now wait your response.

125th ANNIVERSARY QSLs:

Dick VE4HK advised that the cards are now available from him. The cards have been designed and printed up by Rick Allen VE4RA. Congratulations on a job well done.

NEW BUSINESS:

Moved by Jeff VE4MBQ and seconded by Dick VE4HK that the WARC President write to the RAC President to protest in the strongest possible terms, the decision to schedule the RAC Board of Directors and the AGM meeting in conflict with the WARC May 29th/99 Ham Fest.

In response to the motion Rick VE4OV stressed that the decision was strictly due to financial reasons ..

CONGRATULATIONS:

to Susan Kelher VE4SUE and Jose Diaz VE4JFD who have just received their advanced license.

A warm welcome was extended to our guests Dan VE4ODB and Heather VE4OHB.

With there being no more business arising the meeting was adjourned at 20:15hrs for coffee and treats.

The 50/50 draw of \$31.50 was won by Ed VE4BN with \$31.50 going to the general fund.

PROGRAM:

Michael VE4MJM gave a very informative and interesting introduction to packet radio. A display of working packet radios and a question and answer period followed. Thanks Michael

The next WARC general meeting will be held on Monday March 8th at 19:30hrs.

The executive wishes a Happy Valentine Day to All

**Winnipeg ARES Report
by Jeff, VE4MBQ - Winnipeg EC**

Our 16FEB meeting featured Chief Provincial Medical Officer of Health Dr Jim Popplow who gave us an outstanding presentation on Public Health Concerns After a Flood. We will be inviting Dr Popplow back in late 1999 to give us an even more fascinating presentation about NBC Awareness (NOT the TV network).

We had a very successful volunteer amateur operation 13 & 14 FEB for Festival du Voyager Sled dog Races utilizing 27 amateur operators - several of our newer members were able to participate. Thanks to VE4s:

ACX, AJR, AND, DAR, EH, GLS, GWB, HAY, HAZ, HK, KAZ, KU, MAB, MBQ, MJM, MMG, RBL, RCJ, RST, SE, SYM, TAJ, TRO, WF, WTS, XM, XYL.

Special thanks to: VE4GLS, RBL, XM for provision of snowmobile-mobile operations, VE4ACX for use of portable repeater VE4TWO and several band-pass filters, VE4GLS, SYM, TRO, XM as guest operators, VE4WSC for use of clubroom for briefing and site for VE4TWO, Richard Andrich and Forks Market Staff for use of Forks Market Tower for Net Control and their cooperation.

Robert Stegmaier VE4RST has been appointed Winnipeg ARES Public Information Officer (PIO). Our initial EPI Plan was distributed at the 16FEB meeting. Our March meeting will be held 16MAR 1900h at sir Wm Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin. Winnipeg ARES PIO Robert Stegmaier VE4RST will be giving us a presentation on Emergency Public Information based on the MEMO EPI course.

**PAN AM GAMES AMATEUR RADIO
GROUP - VIP TRANSPORTATION
by Jeff, VE4MBQ**

We had a very enlightening meeting 23FEB with the leadership of the Pan Am Games VIP Transportation Group. The meeting was actually run by Neil Gottfred as Ken Kline was double-booked. We got a good overview of the Transportation operation and specifically the segment of VIP Transportation that we will be covering.

We have 36 amateur radio volunteers who will be involved with VIP Transportation throughout the Games utilizing Pan Am fleet vehicles and trunked radio (we will apparently have our own talk-group) - of course we will rely on our own 2 meter gear for back-up comms.

The amateur radio segment of VIP Transportation is totally separate from the PanAm Marathon being coordinated by Ralph VE4RY and Kay VE4YF.

AMATEUR RADIO for BEGINNERS

Instructor: Larry R. Burkhardt

Electronics Engineer

The current course is already running but, I am now taking names for the next course.

If you who know of anybody (XYL, YL, OM or just a friend) who is interested in taking this course, Please pass on this information and have interested parties contact me personally at 487-0509 after 6 p.m.

I will be contacting the few volunteers who were unable to attend the 23FEB meeting to ensure that they are still committed to VIP Transportation.

RAC Bulletins

<http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbulletin.htm>

RAC Bulletin 99-010E

New RAC Contest Managers

RAC President Pat Doherty has appointed two new HF Contest Managers.

Gord Kosmenko VE6SV will manage the Canada Day Contest and Dave Shipman VE7CQD the Winter Contest. The appointments reflect the growing popularity with both RAC contests necessitating the change from a sole HF Manager. Both Gord and Dave will report to RAC's Contest Chairman, Tim Ellam VE6SH, who is also RAC's appointee to the ARRL Contest /advisory Committee. Gord, Dave and Tim will review the format of both contests in order to keep them current and consider the introduction of new categories, as well as electronic log submissions.

1998 Canada Day Contest Results Delayed

With the retirement of former HF Contest Manager Dave Goodwin VE2ZP, the 1998 Canada Day contest lacked a manager. RAC Contest Chairman Tim Ellam VE6SH took on the task of preparing the results, but due to both professional and RAC commitments he was unable to commence this task until late in 1998 with the hope the results would be released prior to the end of the year. Unfortunately VE6SH suffered a catastrophic computer failure in January with a corresponding loss of the many logs which had been cross- checked and entered. Tim hastens to add that hard copies of all the submitted logs are safe and he is busy re entering all contest logs with the plan to post the results on the RAC website as soon as possible and in the May/June issue of TCA.

RAC Bulletin 99-012E

IC to verify data base information

Industry Canada utilizes multiple databases to manage the authorization of amateur radio operators. As a result, there currently is no automated method for matching the qualifications of an amateur operator with a specific call sign assignment. Part of the enhancement work being done by RAC in the ongoing maintenance of the official Amateur Call Sign Data Base on the Internet, consists of electronically merging the records from the Industry Canada data bases to obtain as great a match as possible between call signs and certificate qualifications. RAC has completed their work on this task. However, due to variations in the initial entry of names of Amateurs in the current data bases, approximately 29% of the records remain unmatched.

In order to complete this matching process and ensure that the data base will accurately reflect Amateur qualifications, Industry Canada will soon be requesting information from Amateurs. This will be done as a mail out to these Amateurs whose records could not be electronically matched. Industry Canada will be requesting the confirmation of vital information, such as date of birth and telephone number. In respect of individuals' privacy, it is important to point out that this type of personal information is strictly for facilitating the matching process. It will be treated as confidential and will not be made available when the new data base is released on the Internet.

When completed this new information will be made available to Amateurs via the RAC Internet Call Sign Data Base web page. The availability of a public data base for Amateurs that accurately reflects callsign and certificate qualification information is of significant value to the amateur radio community. Therefore Industry Canada and RAC ask those Amateurs who receive a letter to respond quickly and positively to this request for matching information in order to facilitate the process.

RAC Bulletin 99-013E

New Microwave Bandplanning Committee

President Pat Doherty has approved a new Microwave Bandplanning Committee to advise on revisions and improvements to RAC bandplans covering the spectrum from 2300 MHz to 250 GHz. The committee will also advise on possible new bands above 250 GHz.

The existing VHF/UHF Spectrum management committee has been primarily concerned with 2 meter and 70 cm band usage, and will continue to deal with issues in the bands from 50 to 1200 MHz

With the intense crowding of the spectrum from 2 to 10 GHz, and the rapid expansion of commercial and government use from 10 to 70 GHz, amateurs are being asked to share our bands with other users. Our best defense in such cases is to be able to demonstrate how our bands are currently used, and which of our uses need the most protection from interference.

At WRC 2000, the ITU will consider proposals to move and possibly share our bands between 75 and 250 GHz to satisfy the needs of satellite remote sensing, and radio astronomy users. In order to be sure that such moves will cause the least harm to Amateur Radio, again we need good band planning, and a good understanding of technology and propagation in those frequency bands. RAC is extremely fortunate to have the advice and assistance of well qualified amateurs with experience in the microwave range.

The new advisory committee will be chaired by Darrell Ward VE1ALQ of Grand Bay NB, <ve1alq@fundy.net>
John Currie VE1ZJ Sydney NS.

Clare Fowler VE3NPC Ottawa,
 Dana Shtun VE3DSS, Toronto,
 Barry Malowanchuk VE4MA , Winnipeg
 Grant Furnald VE6TA , Airdrie AB
 Lionel Edwards VE7BQH, North Vancouver BC

If you wish to have an input to the planning process, please get in touch with the committee member nearest to you. The committee will report through Vice President International Affairs, Ken Pulfer VE3PU

RAC Bulletin 99-016E

VY0 new multiplier

The new Canadian Territory of Nunavut, VY0, comes into effect on April 1, 1999. To reflect this new addition, Nunavut will become a separate multiplier in the two RAC Contests, commencing with the RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1, 1999.

The early days of Amateur Radio
As told by Gil, VE4AG

We think we've found the first time that the use of a analogy between electrical current and water flow was presented to the public: From "Modern Electrics", October, 1911, we read:-

BOOK REVIEW.
ANALOGIES BETWEEN BATTERY CURRENT AND WATER FLOW

A very interesting little book, of 20 pages, and with many illustrations, has been published by the National Carbon Co., of Cleveland, O., and which may be obtained free by our readers on application to that company.

Many who work with electricity, and particularly those who handle dry cells and are not versed in electrical terms generally, are confused by the technical names employed in describing current. Acting on this knowledge, of the lack of simple explanations, describing the different electrical terms and units, the booklet has been published.

It compares all the electrical terms with the flow of water. This makes explanations simple and very easily understood. All readers who are not quite sure as to the meaning of certain electrical terms, would be well repaid for sending for the above mentioned book.

For those persons not aware, a "Blue Book" has been published for many years in Manitoba, listing the call letters of all Manitoba Hams, with other associated information. The first 'Blue Book' in Manitoba was compiled by the Amateur Radio League of Manitoba, the Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club, and the University of Manitoba A.R.C., and was the

joint effort of two hams, Bert Anderson, VE4AP and Bill Bowman (now VE4UB).

But we were not the first to have a 'Blue Book' .In 1909, Modern Publishing Co., 233 Fulton Street, New York, USA, published the first of what was to be the Annual Official WIRELESS BLUE BOOK of the Wireless Association of America.

"This Wireless Blue Book contains the following: U.S. Land Stations (also Canadian Stations), government and commercial; U.S. Ship Stations (including foreign ships touching U.S. ports), government and commercial; U. S. Amateur Stations. This book is arranged in such a manner that ALL calls are classified ALPHABETICALLY. Therefore, no matter from what part of the country or the sea the wireless call comes, you will immediately locate the sender. In addition, we furnish with each book a Wireless Map of the U.S. Price by mail, 15c. When remitting, send Money Order, or Bank Draft, stamps or cash, no checks, please."

And for all you old-timers, remember this? Eitel-McCullough, Inc. announces another great EIMAC achievement.. EIMAC 35T. The EIMAC 35T embodies the following features: Plate and grid fabricated from TANTALUM Plate terminal at top of envelope Rugged thoriated tungsten filament Hard glass (Nonex glass) permits maximum safe heat dissipation making possible the small physical size of the EIMAC 35T The EIMAC 35T will be available at leading dealers after April 15 1936. Price, \$8.00

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club
Presents
HamFest "99"

Coincides with the 80th Anniversary of WARC
International Inn
May 29th, 1999

Hospitality Room with HF & VHF
 Forums & Flea Market
 Dinner & Social, Door Prizes
 Free Parking

Registration \$5.00 Dinner Tickets are \$25.00
 (Forums and Flea Market) (cash bar)

Flea Market tables
 \$5.00 members and non-commercial
 \$10.00 for commercial use

For more info contact
 Adam, VE4SN at 339-3316 Ed, VE4YU at 694-0667

Also in 1936, RCA announced the production of their latest: 804 (transmitting pentode), 805 (high- μ transmitting triode, and 836 (half-wave, high vacuum to sub 866 mercury-vapour tube) plus the soon-to-be-on-the-market ACR-175 Amateur Superhet Receiver.

The History of Amateur Radio Revisited **Condensed and submitted by Ed, VE4YU**

Part 16

The Winnipeg newspapers avoided attacking the monopolistic practices of the M.T.S. but Lowry found himself faced with an antagonist when the magazine, THE RADIO BUG, began publication in June, 1923. The RADIO BUG, the only general interest radio magazine ever published in Winnipeg, catered to both Amateur Radio operators and broadcast listeners. The editor of the first two issues was V. T. Thomas, 4CE. When Thomas left for the U.S., J. Kelvin Maxwell took over the editor's job. The RADIO BUG survived until November, 1924, and during its short life waged an unremitting anti-Lowry campaign. Lowry called the magazine a scurrilous and irresponsible rag.

On August 14, 1923, editor Maxwell arranged a meeting, in his office, of local Radio Amateurs desirous of forming a Trans-Canada amateur organization. Speaking as one who attended this meeting (ie. the author G. Reynolds, 4AG), it was obvious to Manitoba amateurs that, in the absence of a strong national association, they were helpless to prevent any curtailment of their privileges.

Lowry was constantly harping on the alleged interference with radio broadcasts by Radio Amateurs. In a letter to the Minister of Telephones on January 4, 1923, under the heading "Radio Legislation," Lowry stated that, "The province should have some control which would stop interference or annoyance from amateurs."

One clause of the Manitoba Radio Regulation Act proposed by Lowry read, "Any person who ... without lawful cause or excuse, interferes with or obstructs any radio transmission, shall be guilty of an offense and shall be liable to summary conviction and a penalty not exceeding \$100 or one month's imprisonment." Another clause stated, "The Commission may not issue licenses for telephone and telegraph stations which are considered to be a danger or detriment to the development or progress of radio communication."

In his May 2, 1923, letter to the Minister, Lowry said, "Amateur transmitting stations, especially telegraph stations, are more or less a menace to commercial business and under the present system there is no control and not a proper system of inspection, we would not object to a limited

number of amateurs operating on a wavelength to be determined and during hours which would be set."

The RADIO BUG, in its August-September 1923 issue, reported that Lowry had told a meeting of radio dealers that "Amateurs were only a nuisance, and this type of license should either be eliminated or raised to a prohibitive amount."

If the Manitoba Radio Regulation Act had become law and the Commissioner had been given authority to write the regulations and appoint inspectors, the future of Amateur Radio in Manitoba would have been bleak indeed.

A second meeting was held in the RADIO BUG office on September 1st and an ad hoc committee was set up to organize the Canadian Radio Relay League. League headquarters were to be in Winnipeg and the official publication was to be THE RADIO BUG. The decision to form the C.R.R.L. created some consternation at the American Radio Relay League head office in Hartford. Incidentally, the word 'Relay' refers to one of the original objectives of the A.R.R.L., a network of amateur stations formed to relay messages coast-to-coast.

NEXT MONTH:

ARRL opposition to the 'first' CRRL and Federal concern in Manitoba

The above information is taken from a publication available at the Manitoba Archives, produced by George F. W. Reynolds, VE4AJ, who became a silent key in 1996.

Hints & Kinks **de Ralph, VE4RY**

When soldering small components in audio devices, power supplies etc., you may want to consider the "shock mounting" technique.

This is easily accomplished by close-winding the leads around a small diameter Phillips screwdriver or similar smooth item so as to form a coil at each end of the part, and then slipping it off the "form".

This allows the component to be stretched or "spring-loaded" between its two tie points. Besides offering the obvious added mechanical flexibility, there are the advantages of the part holding itself in place under slight tension for soldering and the additional heat sink effect.

I find this procedure especially useful when mounting delicate mylar capacitors and small glass diodes. The inductance created by the coils is inconsequential at audio frequencies or D.C., and would only be noticeable at R.F.

[This wire-winding technique is also used by telecommunications installers for neatly storing the ends of unused wires in multi-conductor cables.]

Amateur Radio Newsgroups By Derek, VE4HAY

Are you looking for more info on amateur radio? Do you need help looking for a rare tube? Have you thought of an antenna design, but would like some expertise on if it will work? If you are asking any of these questions or just want to talk about amateur radio then you should check out one of the hundred or so newsgroups that are devoted to amateur radio. For those who do not know what a newsgroup is, here is the down and dirty explanation.

A newsgroup is a posting of a message to the general community. Much in the same manner that a posting of a bulletin is done in packet radio or the posting on a computer bulletin board. Or the simplest method is the posting on the community Bulletin board in your local grocery store. My last count on the number of newsgroups that are available to be read are close to 17,000 worldwide. these groups range in every topic you could ever think of and some you would never think of. But if interest to us and our hobby is the groups on amateur radio.

Below is a list of some that I check out from time to time. It is at least a good starting point if you are interested in hearing what other are saying about you hobby.

alt.ham-radio	alt.ham-radio.am
alt.ham-radio.amtor	alt.ham-radio.atv
alt.ham-radio.binaries	alt.ham-radio.digital-voice
alt.ham-radio.dsing	alt.ham-radio.eme
alt.ham-radio.exotic-modes	alt.ham-radio.fax
alt.ham-radio.flame	alt.ham-radio.fm
alt.ham-radio.hf	alt.ham-radio.marketplace
alt.ham-radio.mods	alt.ham-radio.morse
alt.ham-radio.nocode	alt.ham-radio.packet
alt.ham-radio.rtty	alt.ham-radio.slowscan
alt.ham-radio.spread	alt.ham-radio.ssb
alt.ham-radio.uwave	alt.ham-radio.vhf-uhf
aus.radio.amateur.digital	aus.radio.amateur.flame
aus.radio.amateur.misc	aus.radio.amateur.wicen
aus.radio.amsat	aus.radio.packet
dc-ham-radio	dk.fritid.hamradio
fido.su.hamradio	fido38.hamradio
fido7.amateur_radio	fido7.hamradio
fido7.su.hamradio	fidonet.amateur_radio
in.ham-radio	man.ham-radio
rec.ham-radio	rec.ham-radio-packet
rec.radio.amateur	rec.radio.amateur.antenna

rec.radio.amateur.boatanchor	rec.radio.amateur.digital
rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc	rec.radio.amateur.dx
rec.radio.amateur.equipment	rec.radio.amateur.homebrew
rec.radio.amateur.misc	rec.radio.amateur.packet
rec.radio.amateur.policy	rec.radio.amateur.space
rec.radio.amateur.swap	relcomradio.ham

Depending on your newsreader you use. The setting up of these groups is very simple. I am using Microsoft Outlook Express Newsreader. First you connect to your provider. The you download the complete list of newsgroups. This may take a while. Once you have the list you start to subscribe to the newsgroups you want. In Outlook express there is a search bar. Type in radio, or amateur or ham. You should get a listing with that word in the newsgroup title. Click on subscribe. once you have subscribed to all the newsgroups you want. you must download the account. The first time will take a while. But if you read regularly the next time will be short (depending on the number of messages that are posted). While you newsreader may vary they are basically the same. Enjoy and happy reading.

Correction

last months article on Submarine cables was submitted by Doug, VE4STD.

WARC DX Sleuths Submitted sincerely by Adam, VE4SN

This months meeting will be at the home of Adam, VE4SN. March 15th, @ 19:30 hrs. Come on out and see a true DX station. Closed to DX'ers or those who truly want to be a DX'er.

Silent Key

Unfortunately we must report that Len Evans, VE4LEN has become a Silent key

Editors Ramblings BY Derek, VE4HAY

Spring is fast approaching and with that comes the dreaded tax season. Hopefully I will get a refund, and then maybe I can finally get that new rig I want. Mind you I have said this for the last three years. Every time I get a refund the XYL, (VE4GLH), seems to have other plans.

I hope anyone who had antenna projects to do this past winter finally got them done. The weather has been great and your antenna should be up to peak performance by now.

Remember that HomeBrew night is next month, so it time to finish off the testing of those projects. or for some of you it's time to start building them.

Remember that we still offer advertising space.