

Winlink Introductions



Winlink Is

- Communications system for License Hams
- Able to send and receive email over radio
- Particularly useful in Emergencies
- Users can use various methods
 - Telnet
 - UHF/VHF, HF

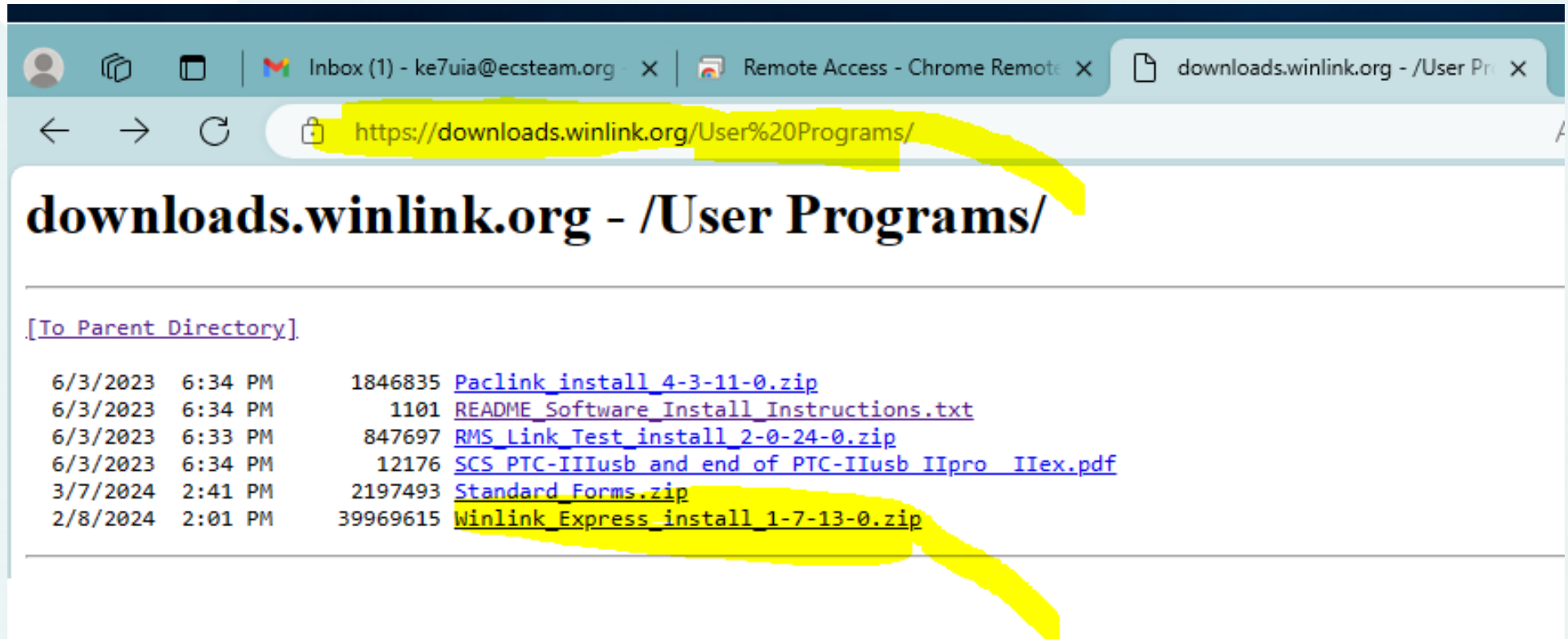


Installation

- Go to downloads.winlink.org
- Perform a regular install on your system
- Obtain winlink account email address
- Fill out Setup Screen
 - Call sign
 - Password
 - Locator number, etc



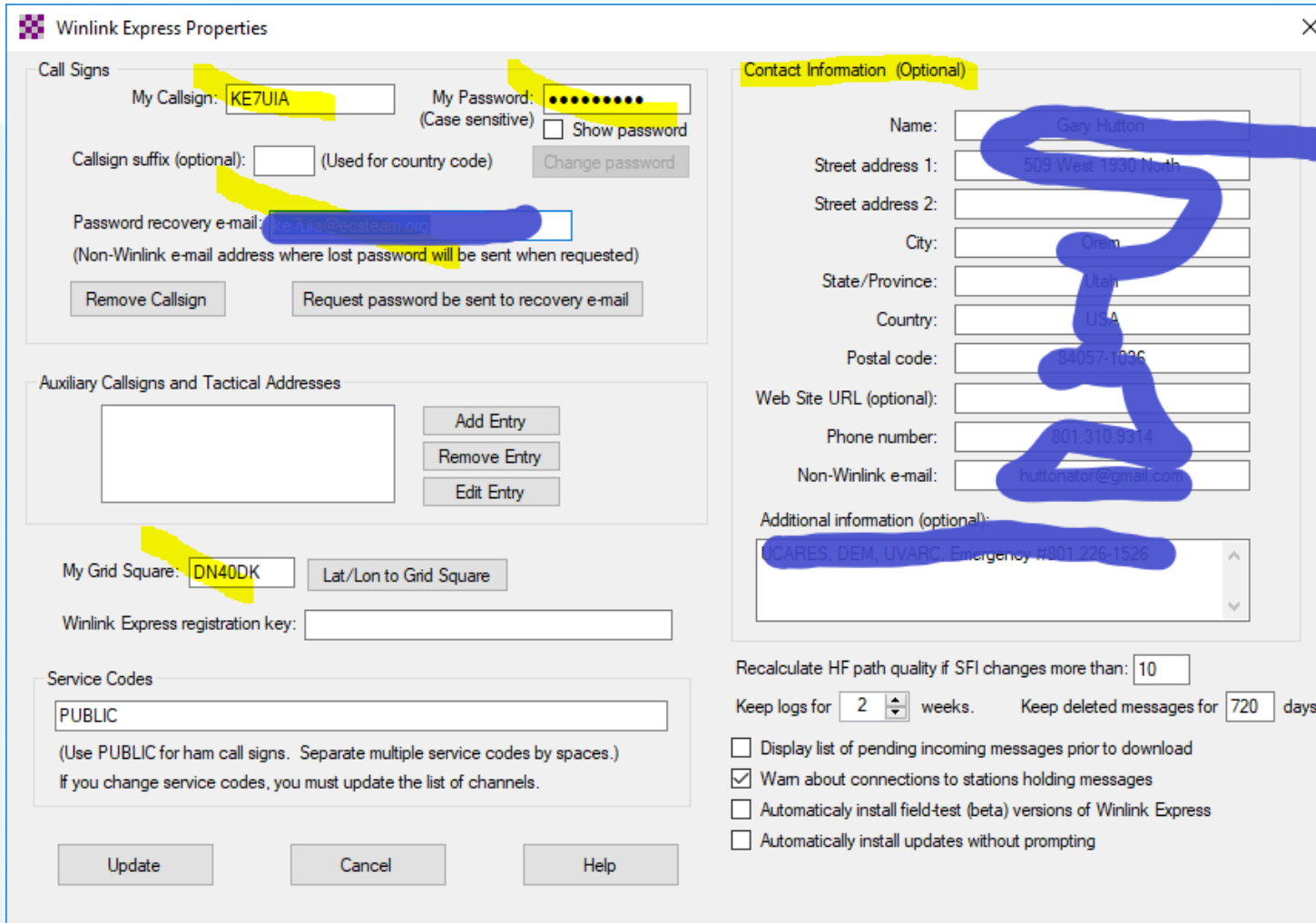
Download.winlink.com



Here is the download page for winlink Express.



Setup screen



The image shows the 'Winlink Express Properties' dialog box. It is divided into several sections. The 'Call Signs' section on the left contains fields for 'My Callsign' (KE7UIA), 'My Password' (masked with dots), 'Callsign suffix (optional)', and 'Password recovery e-mail'. Below these are buttons for 'Remove Callsign' and 'Request password be sent to recovery e-mail'. The 'Auxiliary Callsigns and Tactical Addresses' section has a list box and buttons for 'Add Entry', 'Remove Entry', and 'Edit Entry'. The 'Service Codes' section has a text box with 'PUBLIC' and instructions. The 'Contact Information (Optional)' section on the right includes fields for 'Name', 'Street address 1', 'Street address 2', 'City', 'State/Province', 'Country', 'Postal code', 'Web Site URL (optional)', 'Phone number', and 'Non-Winlink e-mail'. Below this is a text area for 'Additional information (optional)'. At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'Recalculate HF path quality if SFI changes more than', 'Keep logs for', 'Keep deleted messages for', and several other options like 'Display list of pending incoming messages' and 'Warn about connections to stations holding messages'. Buttons for 'Update', 'Cancel', and 'Help' are at the bottom.

Winlink Express Properties

Call Signs

My Callsign: My Password: (Case sensitive) ☐ Show password

Callsign suffix (optional): (Used for country code)

Password recovery e-mail: (Non-Winlink e-mail address where lost password will be sent when requested)

Auxiliary Callsigns and Tactical Addresses

My Grid Square:

Winlink Express registration key:

Service Codes

(Use PUBLIC for ham call signs. Separate multiple service codes by spaces.)
If you change service codes, you must update the list of channels.

Contact Information (Optional)

Name:

Street address 1:

Street address 2:

City:

State/Province:

Country:

Postal code:

Web Site URL (optional):

Phone number:

Non-Winlink e-mail:

Additional information (optional):

Recalculate HF path quality if SFI changes more than:

Keep logs for weeks. Keep deleted messages for days.

☐ Display list of pending incoming messages prior to download
☒ Warn about connections to stations holding messages
☐ Automatically install field-test (beta) versions of Winlink Express
☐ Automatically install updates without prompting

When you first run winlink Express you will need to fill in some basic information, ie.: callsign, password, recovery email, grid square.

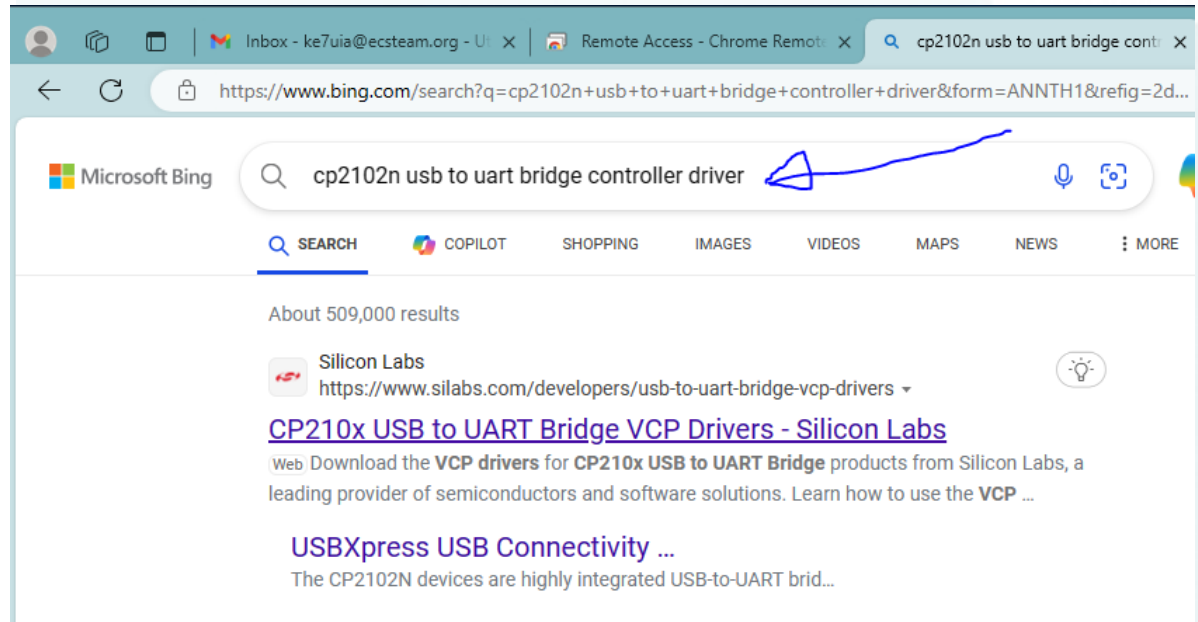
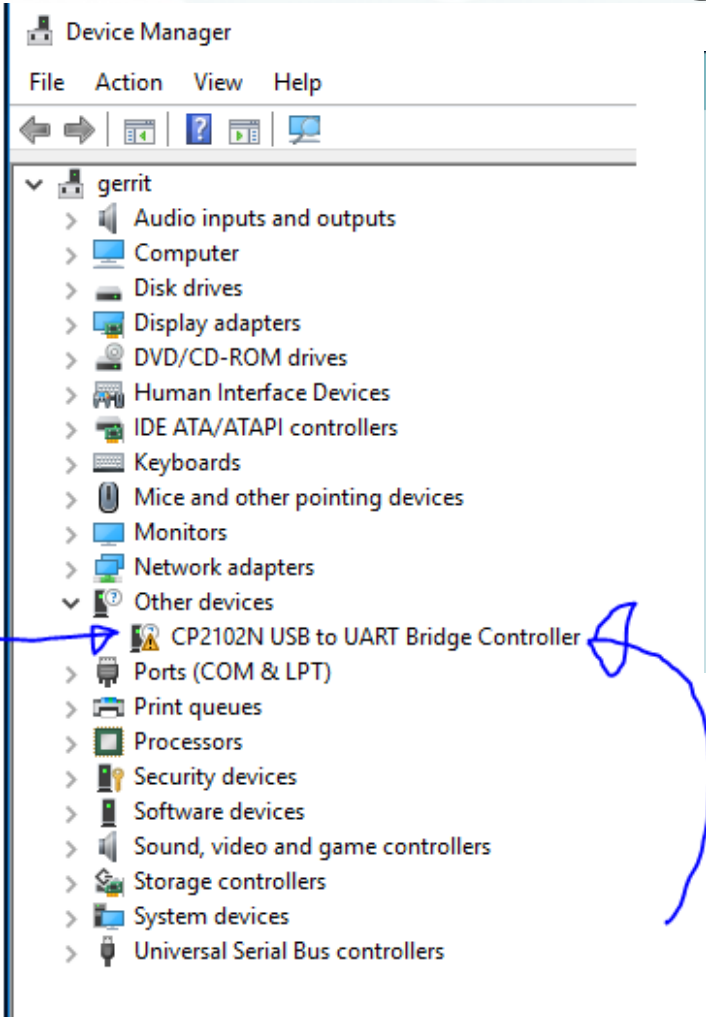


Obtain email address

- Read instructions on winlink.org
- Youtube.com is your friend
- Your winlink email address is just your call sign
- Example = ie. ke7uia



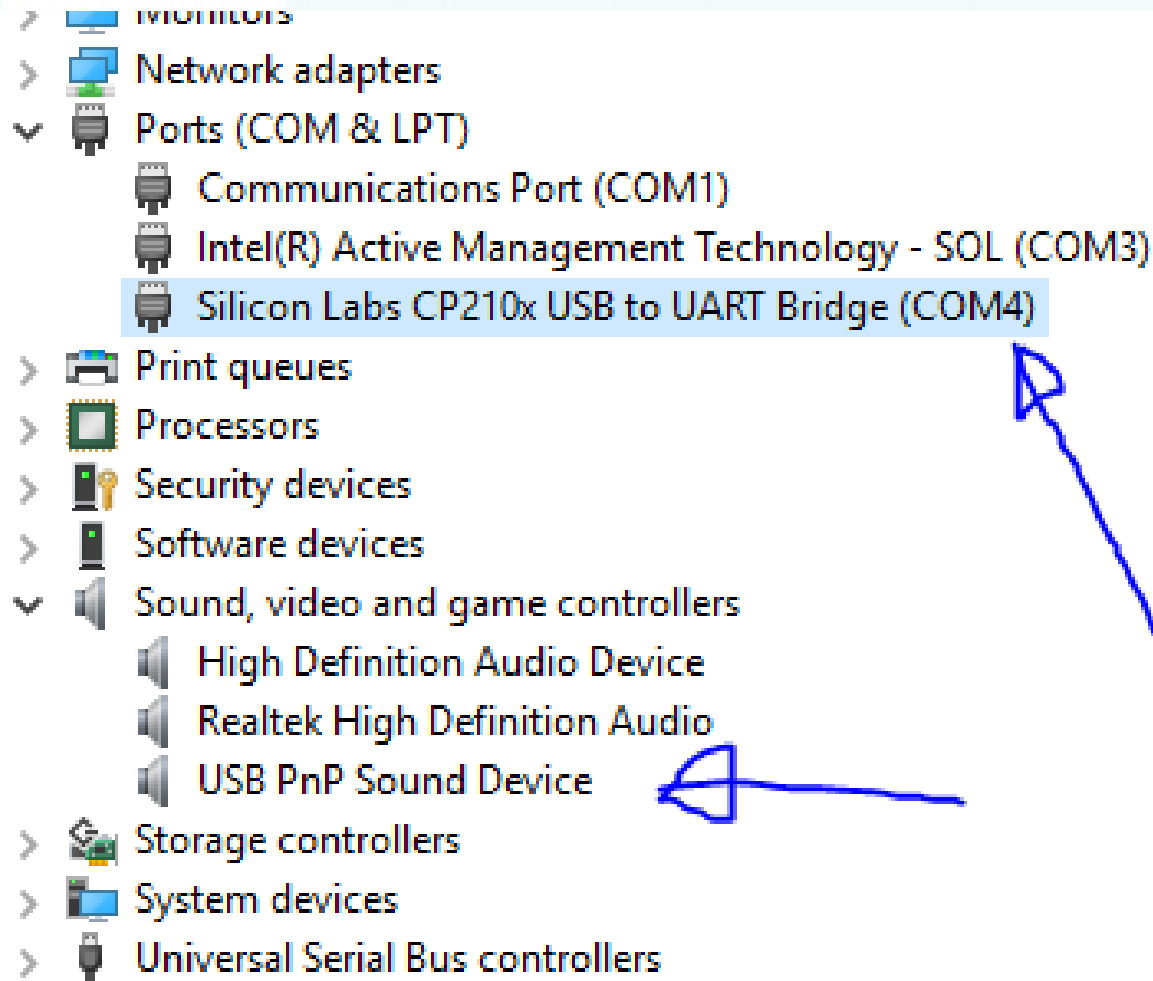
Install Drivers



- Open the Windows Device Manager, before plugging in your sound device, (digirig).
- Notice the yellow triangle signifying there is no driver installed for your device.
- Download and install a driver from the internet.



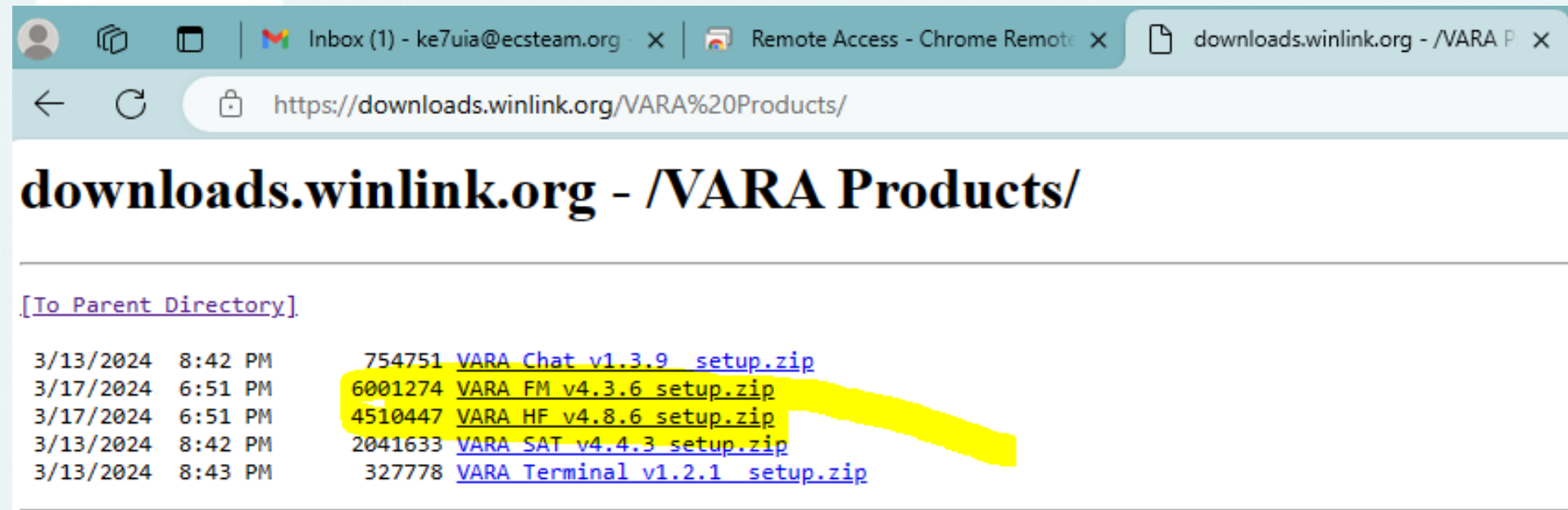
Com Ports



- After you install the device driver the yellow triangle goes away.
- Notice which com port is assigned to your device
- Notice the name of the sound controller.



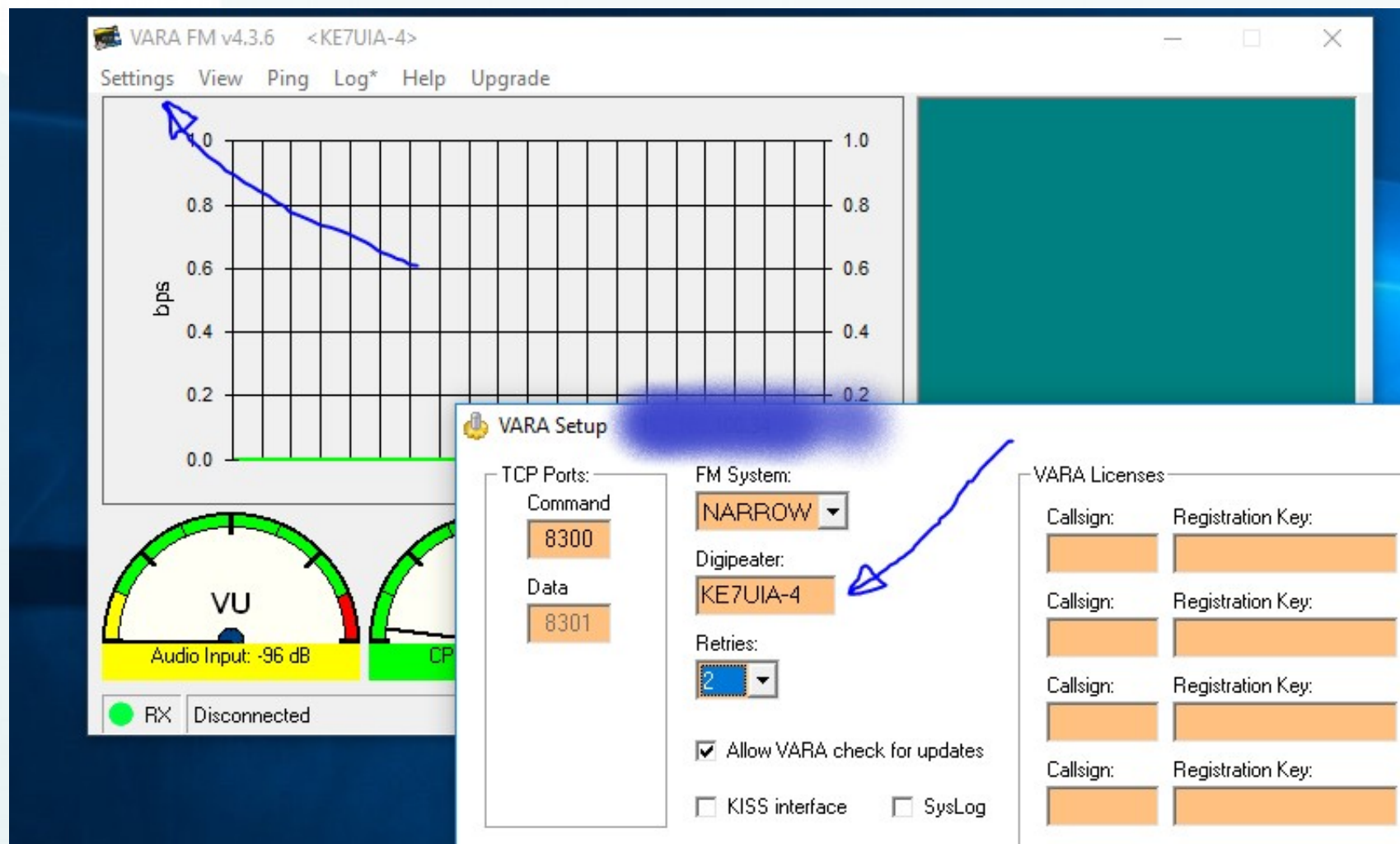
Download VARA FM



- Now install the VARA FM modem.
- This is a regular windows install



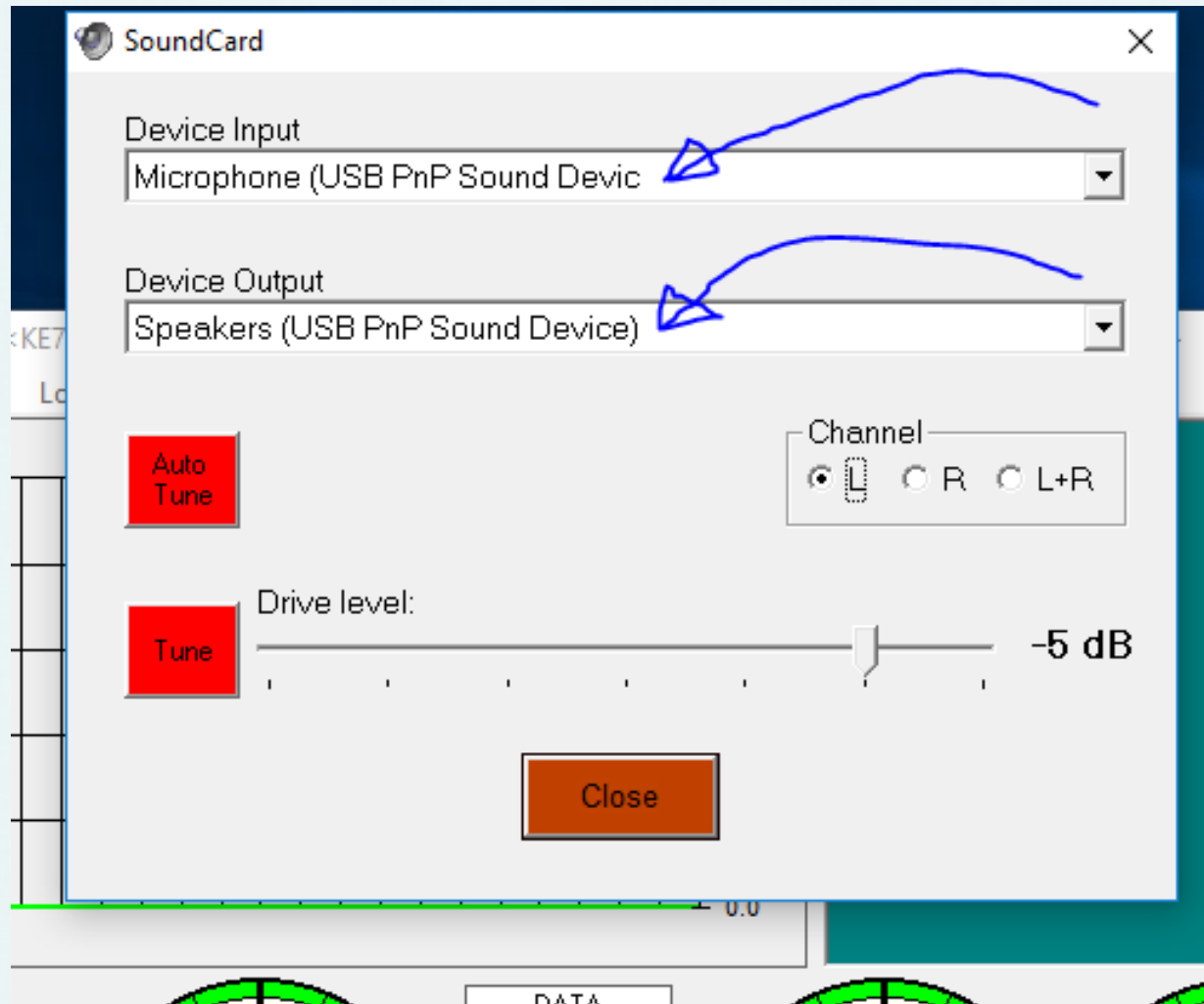
VARA Settings



First time you run VARA FM you will need to check the settings. The Settings: VARA Setup is ok to use the defaults.



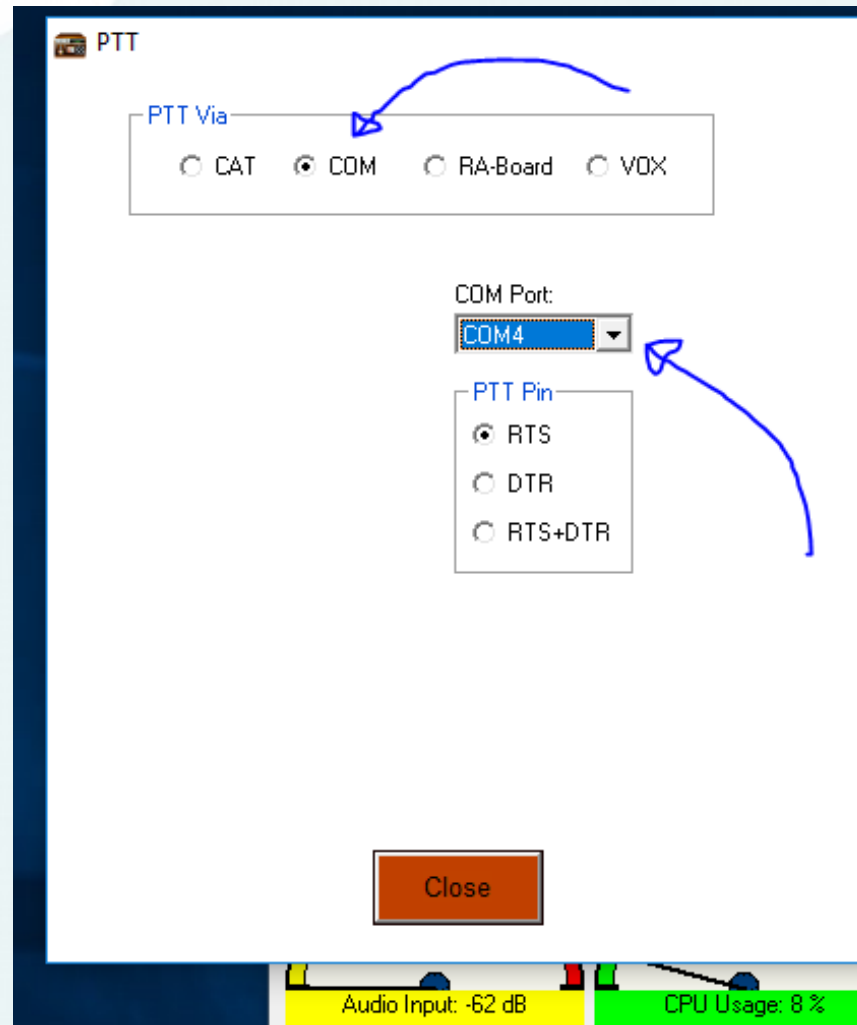
VARA – Sound Card



Settings: Sound card menu needs the Device Input and Device Output. This is listed in the Device Manager window.



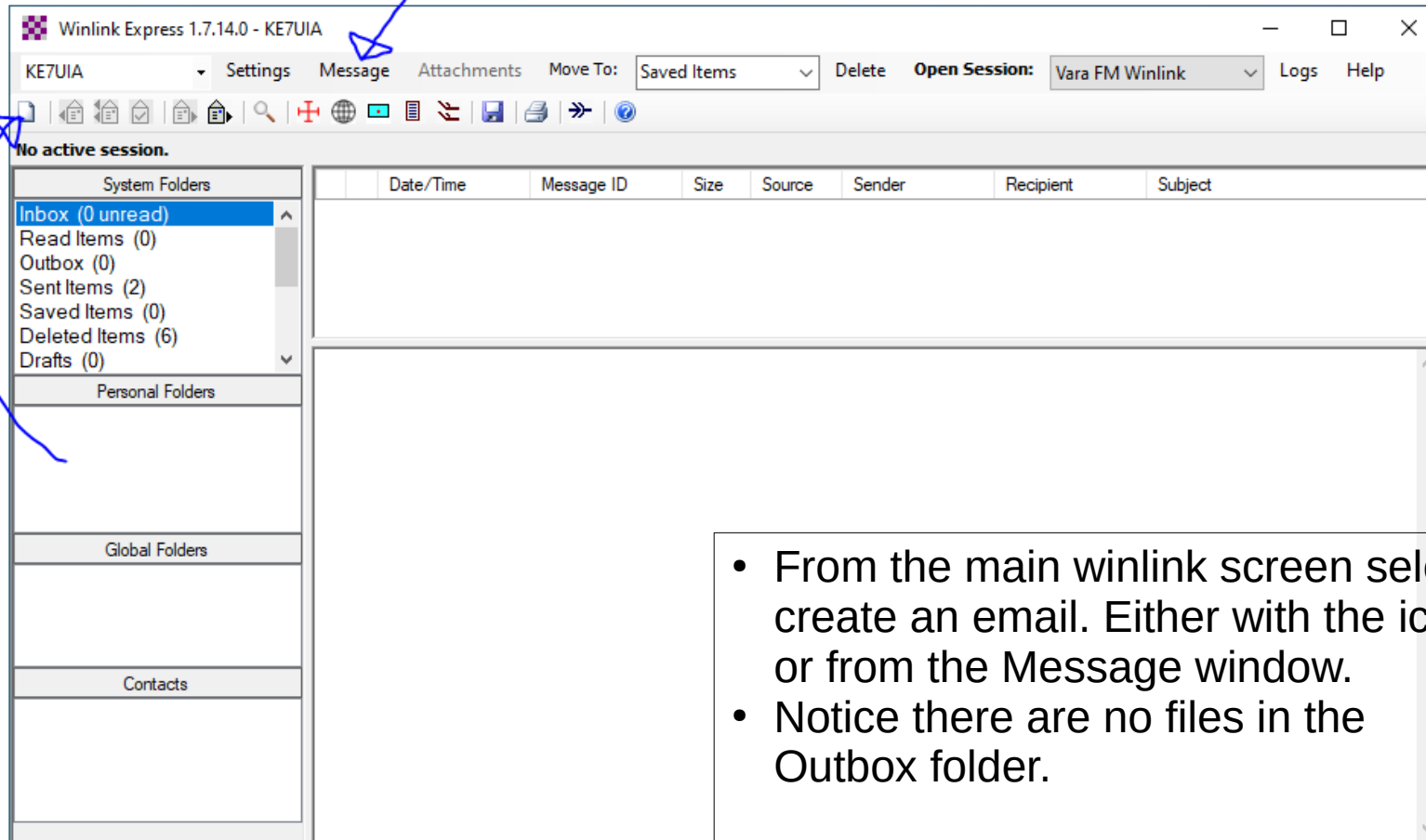
VARA – PTT Port



- Settings: PTT menu
 - If you are using the com port select the radial button for com, then select the com port listed in the Device Manager
 - If you are using a different method for the PTT select the appropriate selection.
- Now all of the pointers are correct. Let go send an email.



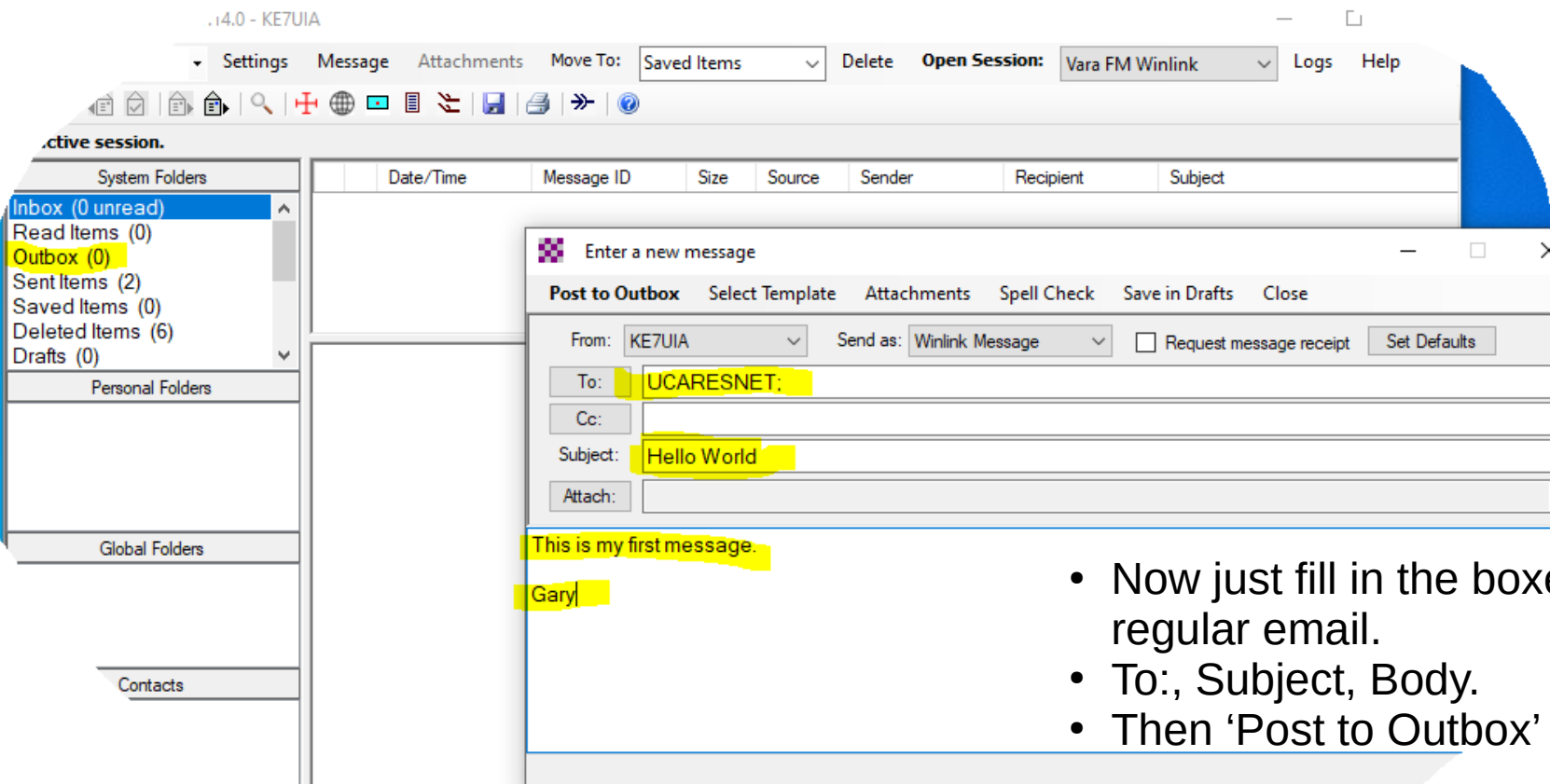
Create Message



- From the main winlink screen select create an email. Either with the icon or from the Message window.
- Notice there are no files in the Outbox folder.



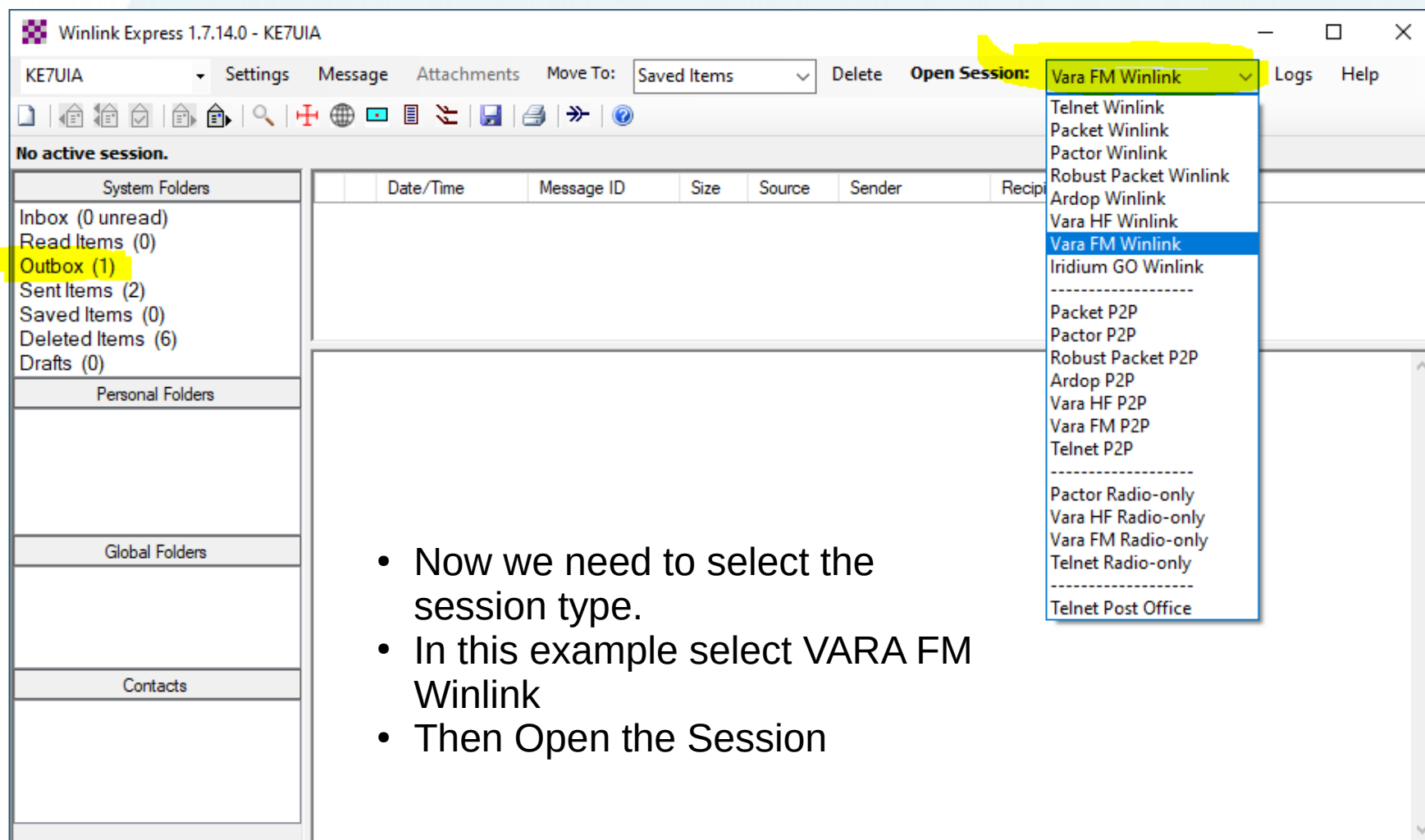
Create Message 2



- Now just fill in the boxes like a regular email.
- To:, Subject, Body.
- Then 'Post to Outbox'



Select Session Type



The screenshot shows the Winlink Express 1.7.14.0 - KE7UIA interface. The 'Open Session:' dropdown menu is open, displaying a list of session types. The 'Vara FM Winlink' option is highlighted in blue. The interface also shows a folder list on the left with 'Outbox (1)' highlighted, and a message list on the right.

Winlink Express 1.7.14.0 - KE7UIA

KE7UIA Settings Message Attachments Move To: Saved Items Delete Open Session: Vara FM Winlink Logs Help

No active session.

System Folders

- Inbox (0 unread)
- Read Items (0)
- Outbox (1)
- Sent Items (2)
- Saved Items (0)
- Deleted Items (6)
- Drafts (0)

Personal Folders

Global Folders

Contacts

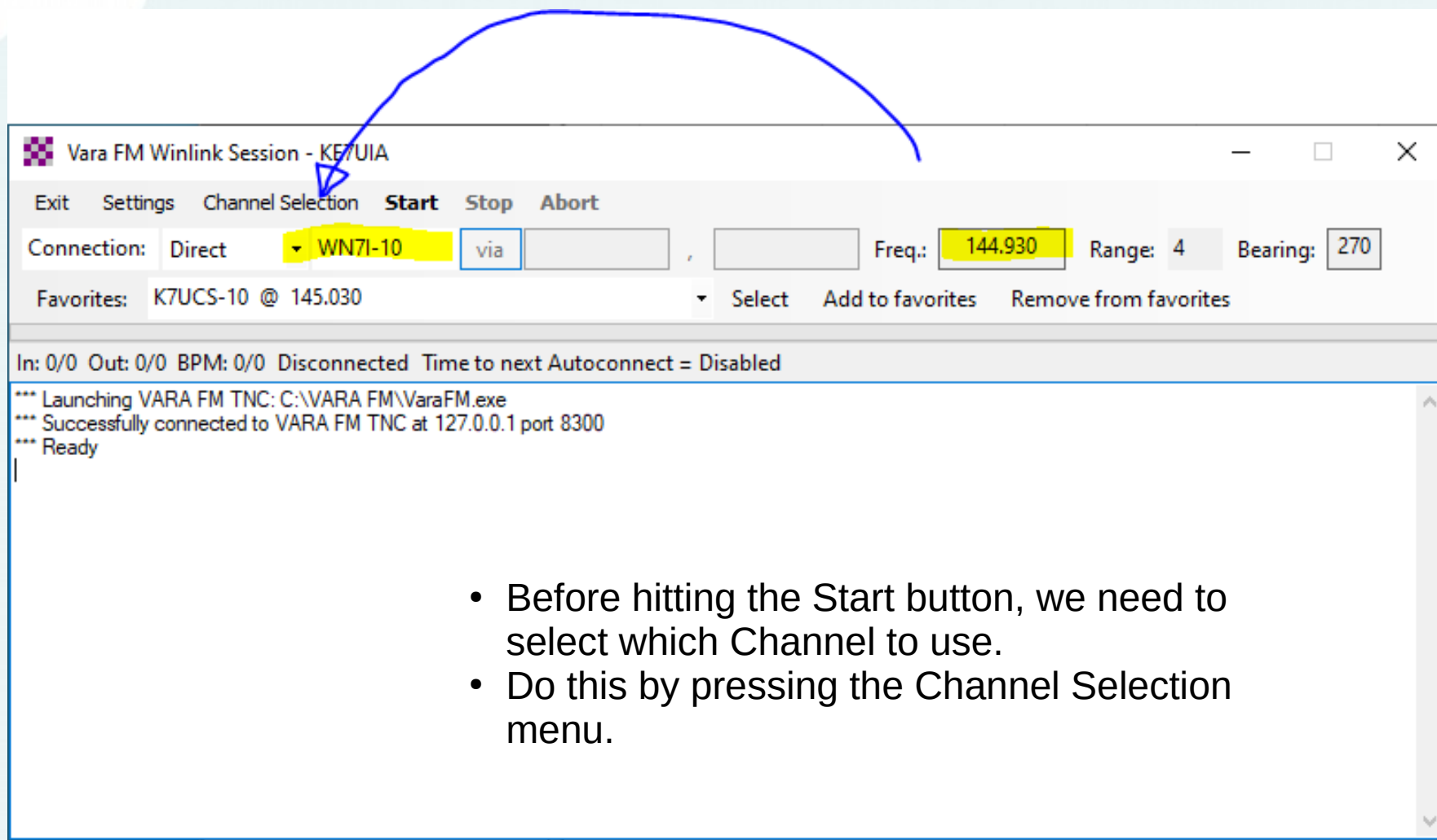
Date/Time Message ID Size Source Sender Recip

Vara FM Winlink

- Telnet Winlink
- Packet Winlink
- Pactor Winlink
- Robust Packet Winlink
- Ardop Winlink
- Vara HF Winlink
- Vara FM Winlink
- Iridium GO Winlink
-
- Packet P2P
- Pactor P2P
- Robust Packet P2P
- Ardop P2P
- Vara HF P2P
- Vara FM P2P
- Telnet P2P
-
- Pactor Radio-only
- Vara HF Radio-only
- Vara FM Radio-only
- Telnet Radio-only
-
- Telnet Post Office

- Now we need to select the session type.
- In this example select VARA FM Winlink
- Then Open the Session

Select Channel



The screenshot shows the 'Var FM Winlink Session - KE7UIA' window. The 'Channel Selection' menu is highlighted with a blue arrow. The window displays the following information:

- Exit Settings Channel Selection **Start** Stop Abort
- Connection: Direct **WN7I-10** via , Freq.: **144.930** Range: 4 Bearing: 270
- Favorites: K7UCS-10 @ 145.030 Select Add to favorites Remove from favorites
- In: 0/0 Out: 0/0 BPM: 0/0 Disconnected Time to next Autoconnect = Disabled
- *** Launching VARA FM TNC: C:\VARA FM\VaraFM.exe
- *** Successfully connected to VARA FM TNC at 127.0.0.1 port 8300
- *** Ready

- Before hitting the Start button, we need to select which Channel to use.
- Do this by pressing the Channel Selection menu.

Select Channel 2

Stations found within 185 miles of your grid square.

Callsign	Frequency (MHz)	Channel Width	Grid Square	Group	Distance (mi)	
WN7I-10	144.930	Wide	DN40CK	PUBLIC	004	2
WA7FFM-10	144.950	Wide	DN40DI	PUBLIC	006	180
KE7AU-10	144.950	Wide	DN40DH	PUBLIC	009	180
N7YUT-10	431.070	Wide	DN40BN	PUBLIC	012	313
K7DOD-10	145.050	Narrow	DN40BO	PUBLIC	014	321
K7UCS-10	145.030	Wide	DN40ED	PUBLIC	020	168
K7XRD-10	145.050	Wide	DN40BR	PUBLIC	022	336
K7DAV-10	431.450	Wide	DN40BX	PUBLIC	038	347
K7DAV-10	145.070	Wide	DN40BX	PUBLIC	038	347
NS7K-10	145.070	Narrow	DN31XC	PUBLIC	049	339
AC7II-10	145.050	Wide	DN41BN	PUBLIC		
KD7IHW-10	431.070	Wide	DN42BC	PUBLIC		
AG7MM-10	438.500	Wide	DN32EH	PUBLIC		

RMS Express
A request *

- The Channel stations are sorted by distance.
- Select ones that are closest to you station
- This will populate the fields in the Session window.



Press Start

