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

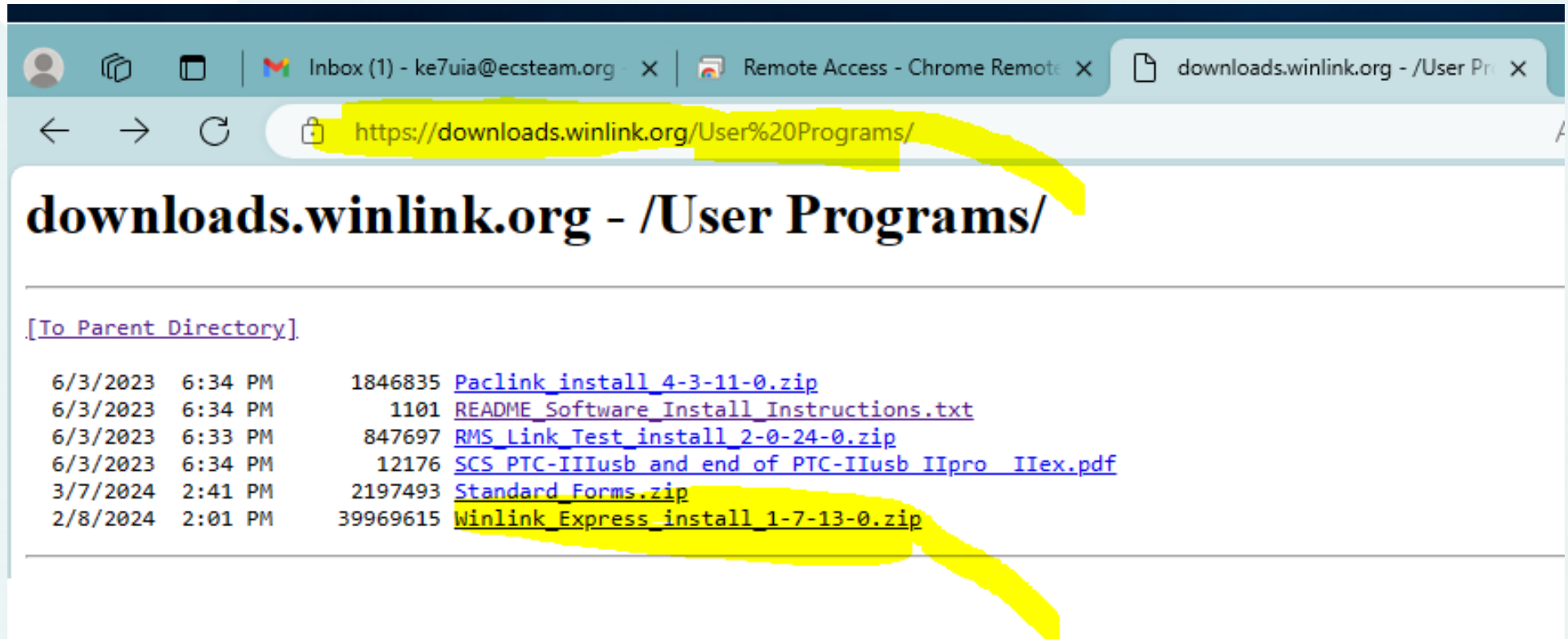   - UHF/VHF, HF

Installation

- Go to downloads.winlink.org

- Perform a regular install on your system

- Obtain winlink account email address

- Fill out Setup Screen

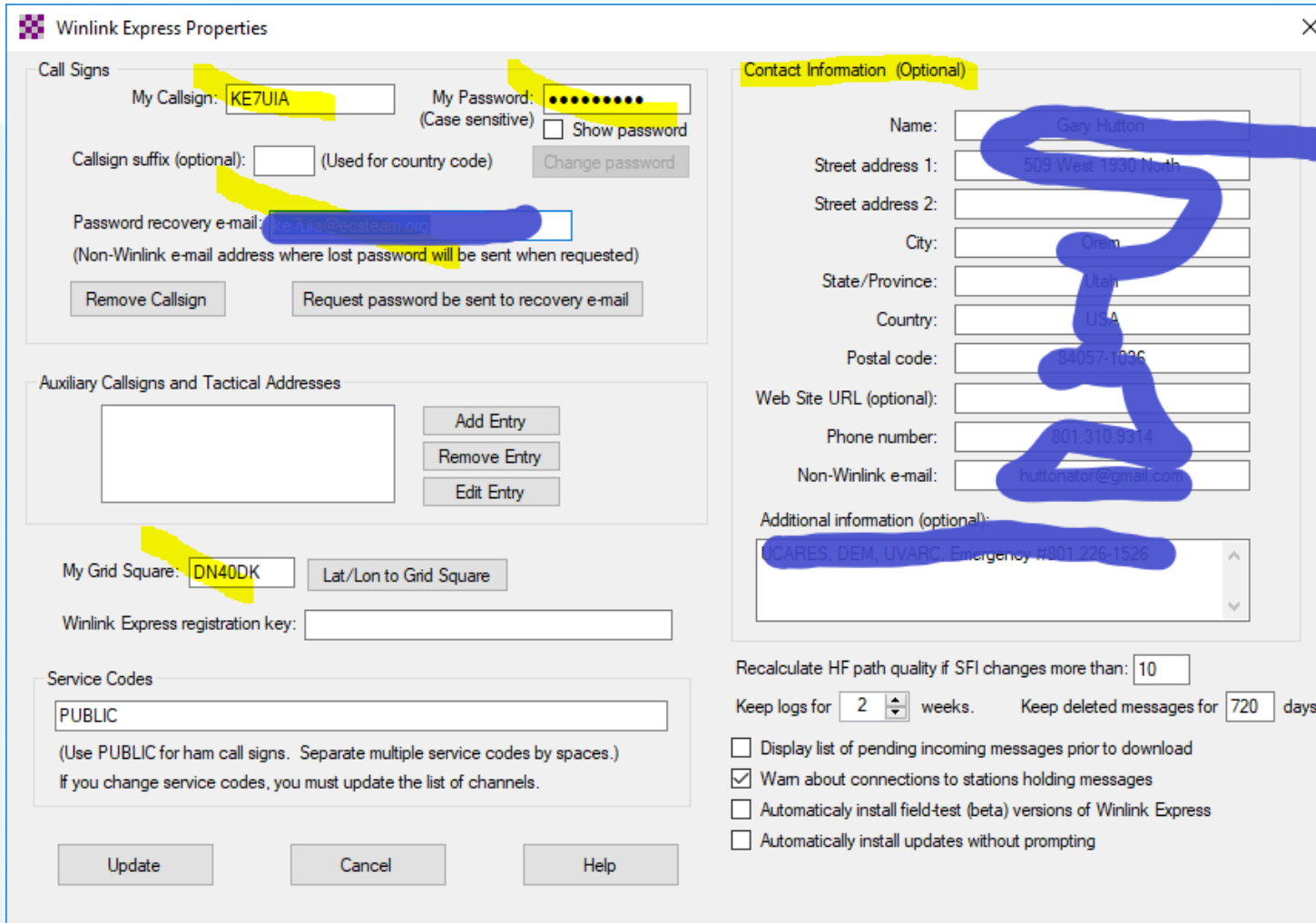   - Call sign

    - Password

    - Locator number, etc

Download.winlink.com

Here is the download page for winlink Express.

Setup screen

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

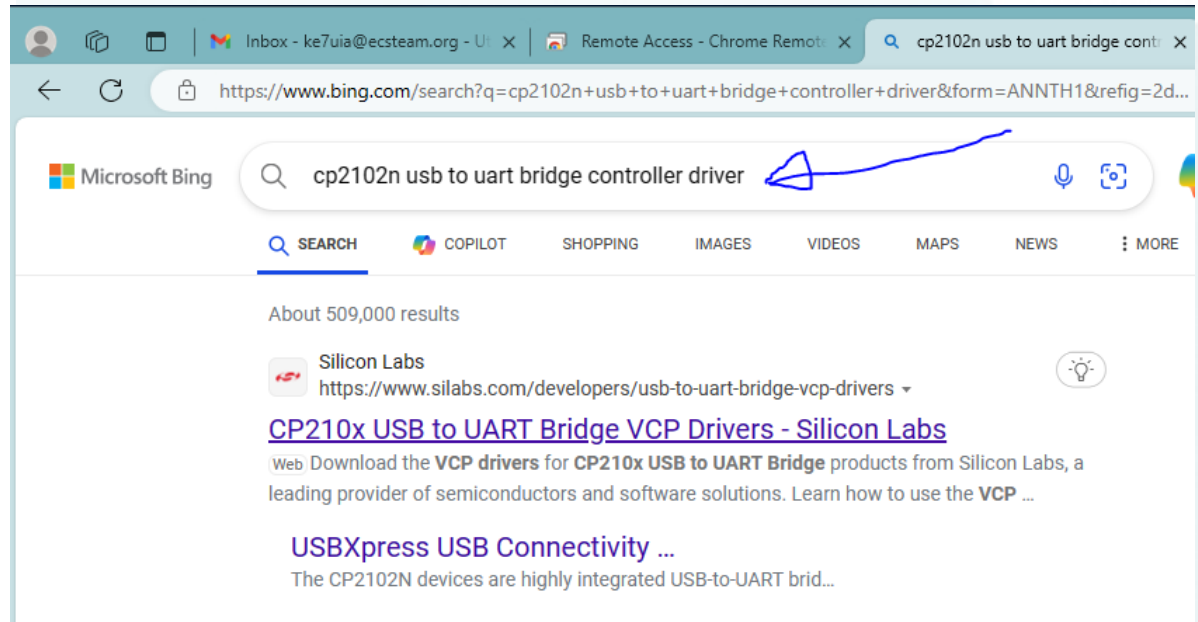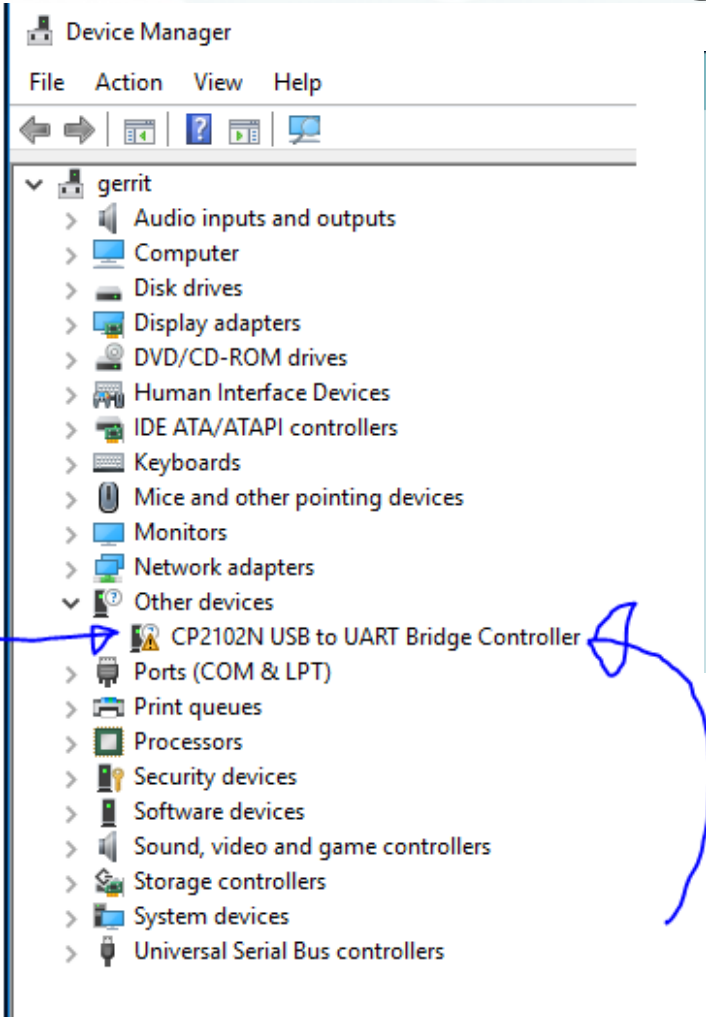# Obtain email address

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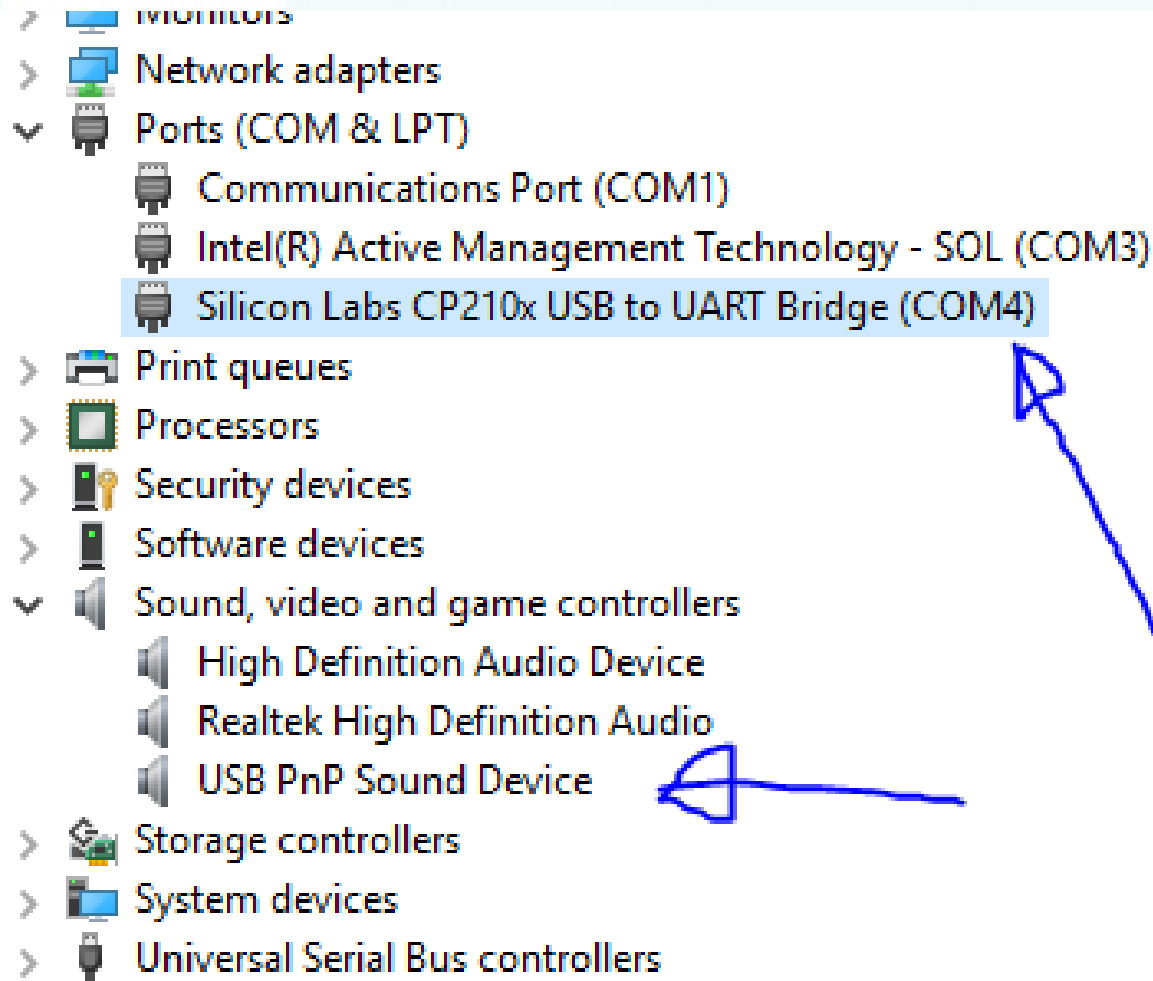- Example = ie. ke7uia

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.
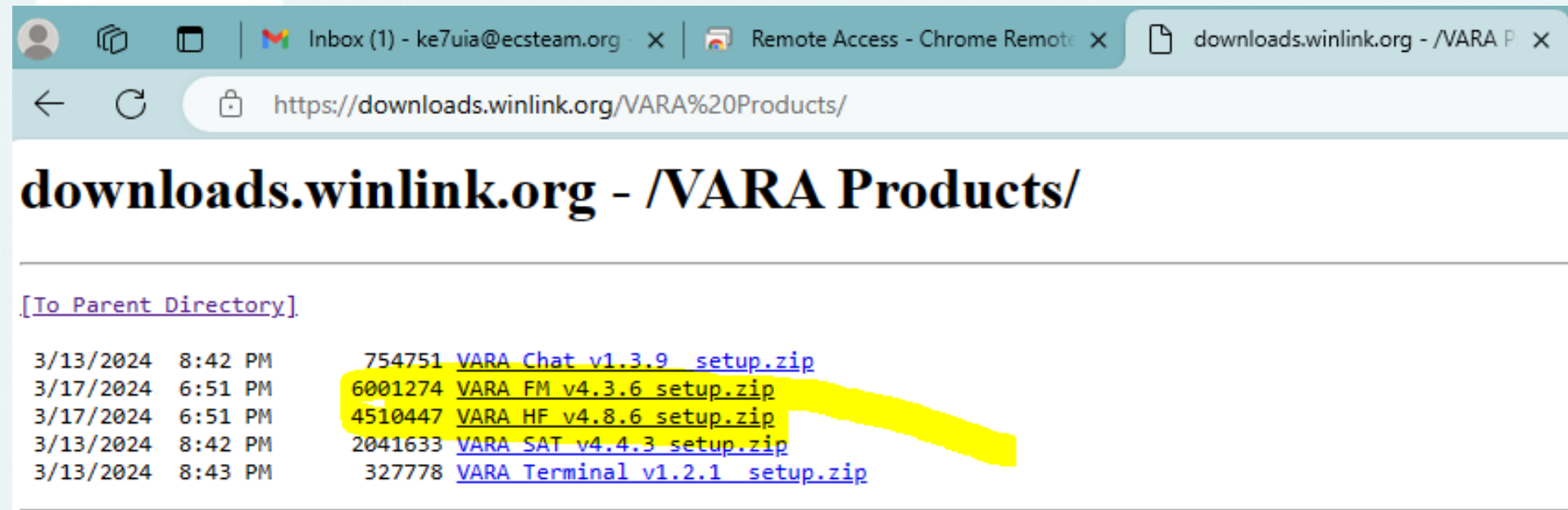- Download and install a driver from the internet.

Com Ports

Monitors
Network adapters
Ports (COM & LPT)
    Communications Port (COM1)
    Intel(R) Active Management Technology - SOL (COM3)
    Silicon Labs CP210x USB to UART Bridge (COM4)
Print queues
Processors
Security devices
Software devices
Sound, video and game controllers
    High Definition Audio Device
    Realtek High Definition Audio
    USB PnP Sound Device
Storage controllers
System devices
Universal Serial Bus controllers

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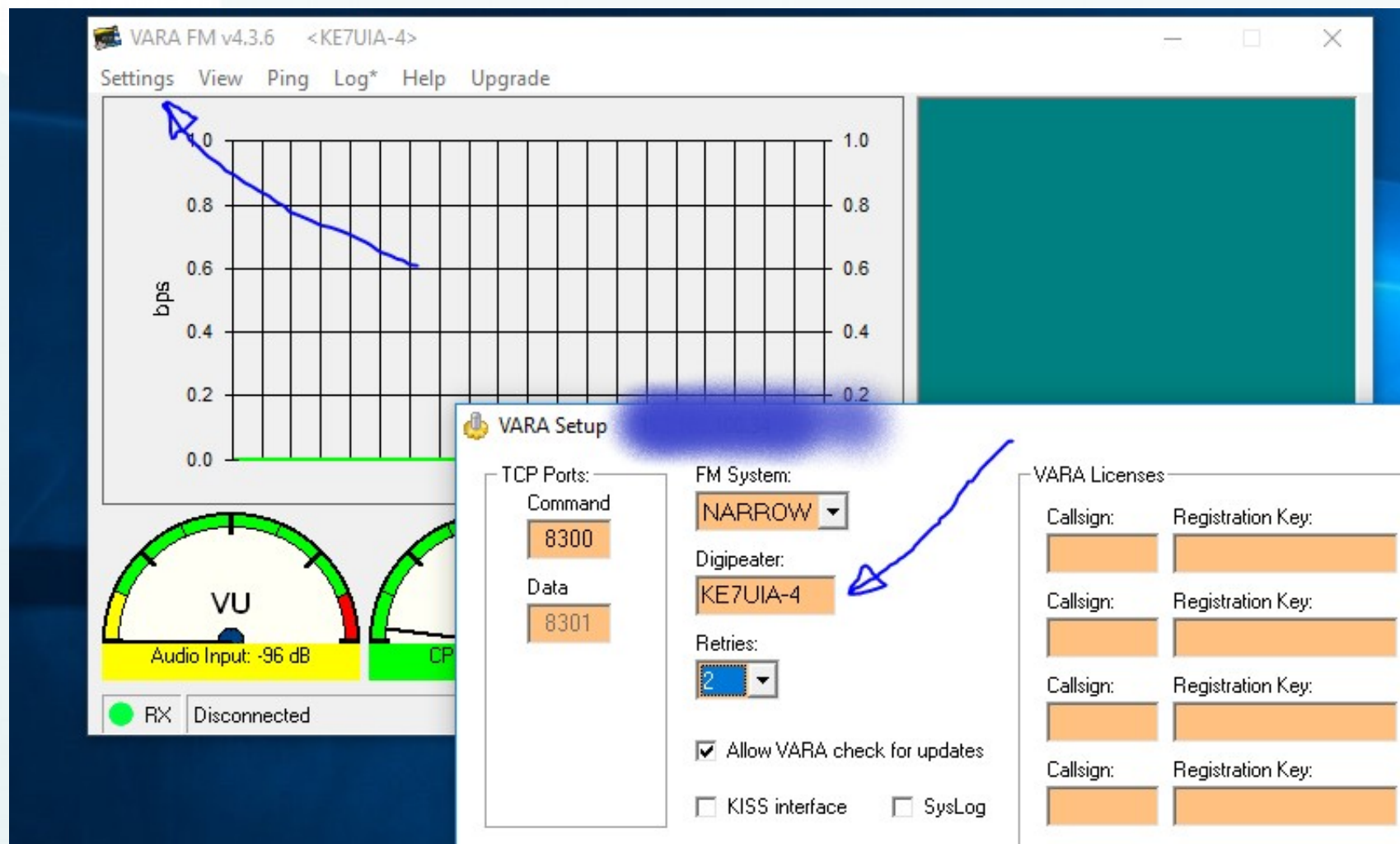- Notice the name of the sound controller.

Download VARA FM

downloads.winlink.org - /VARA Products/

[To Parent Directory]

```
3/13/2024  8:42 PM      754751  VARA Chat v1.3.9  setup.zip
3/17/2024  6:51 PM     6001274  VARA FM v4.3.6 setup.zip
3/17/2024  6:51 PM     4510447  VARA HF v4.8.6 setup.zip
3/13/2024  8:42 PM     2041633  VARA SAT v4.4.3 setup.zip
3/13/2024  8:43 PM      327778  VARA Terminal v1.2.1  setup.zip
```

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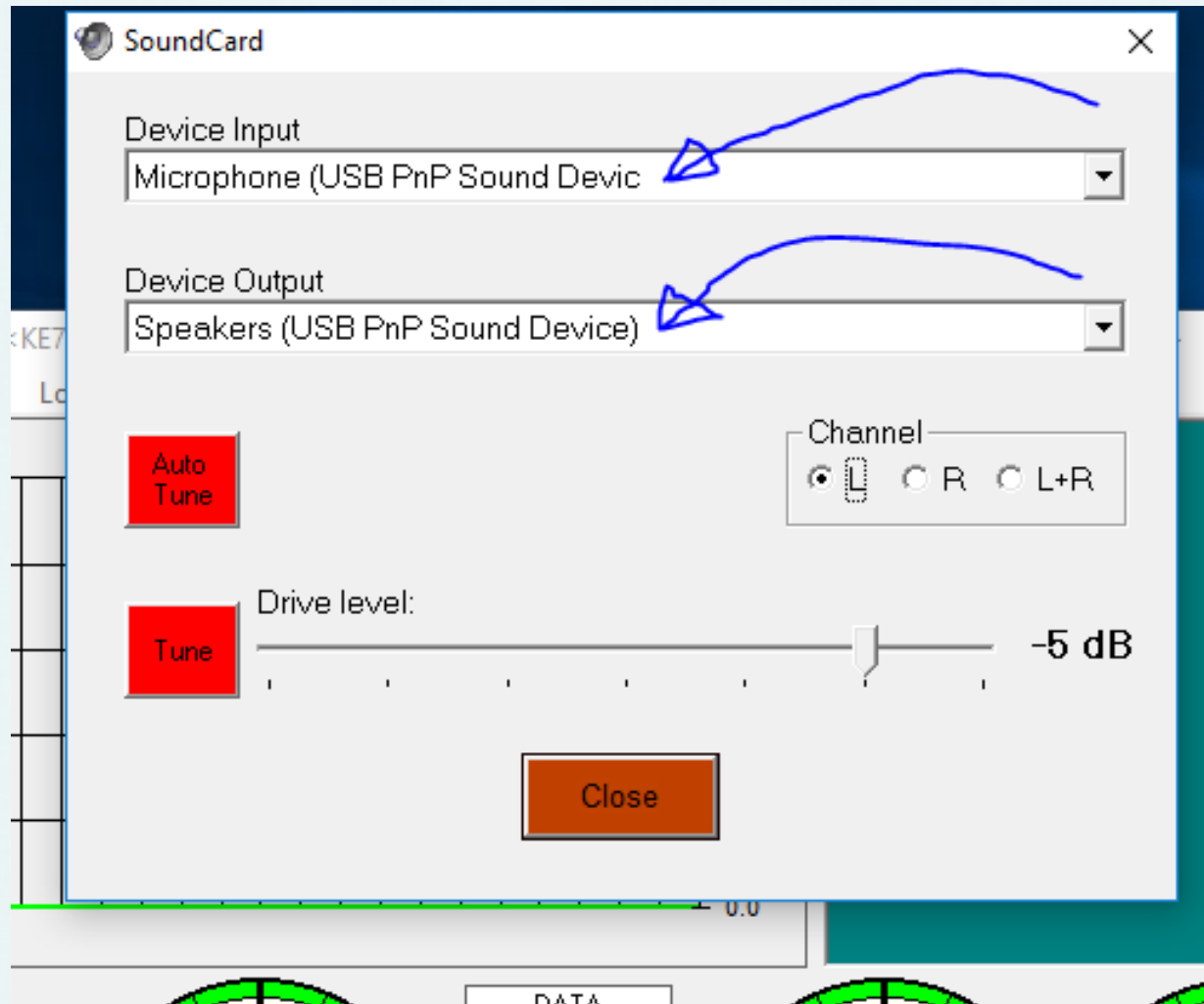- This is a regular windows install

VARA Settings

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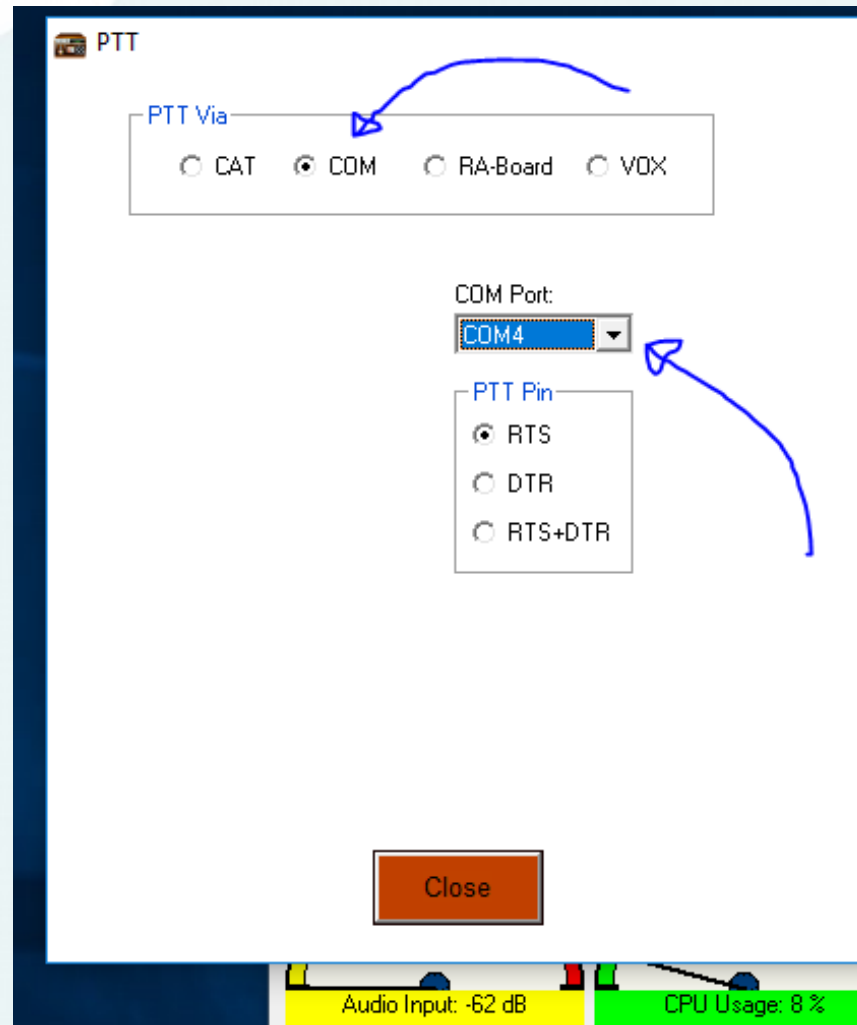The Settings: VARA Setup is ok to use the defaults.

VARA – Sound Card

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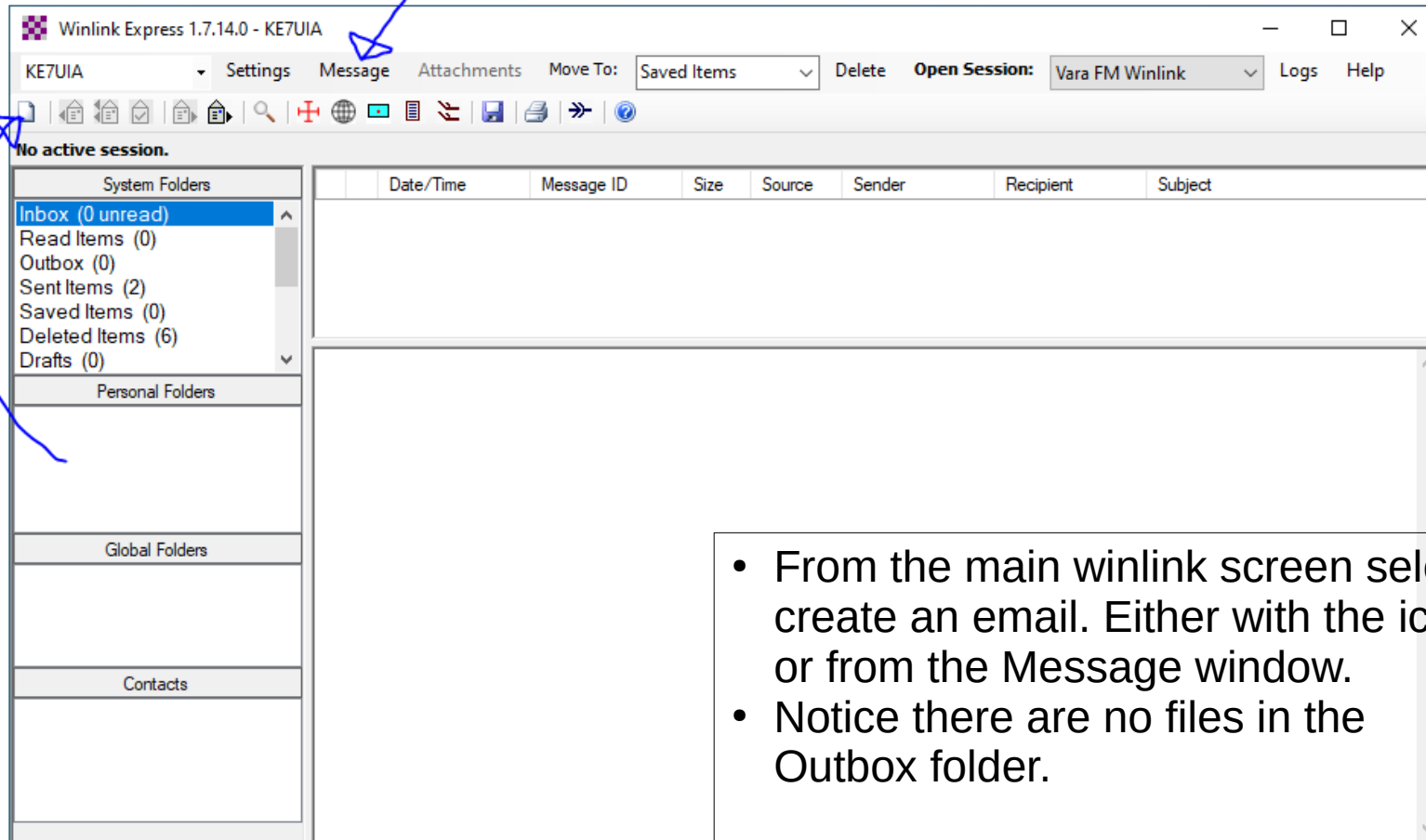
VARA – PTT Port

- 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.
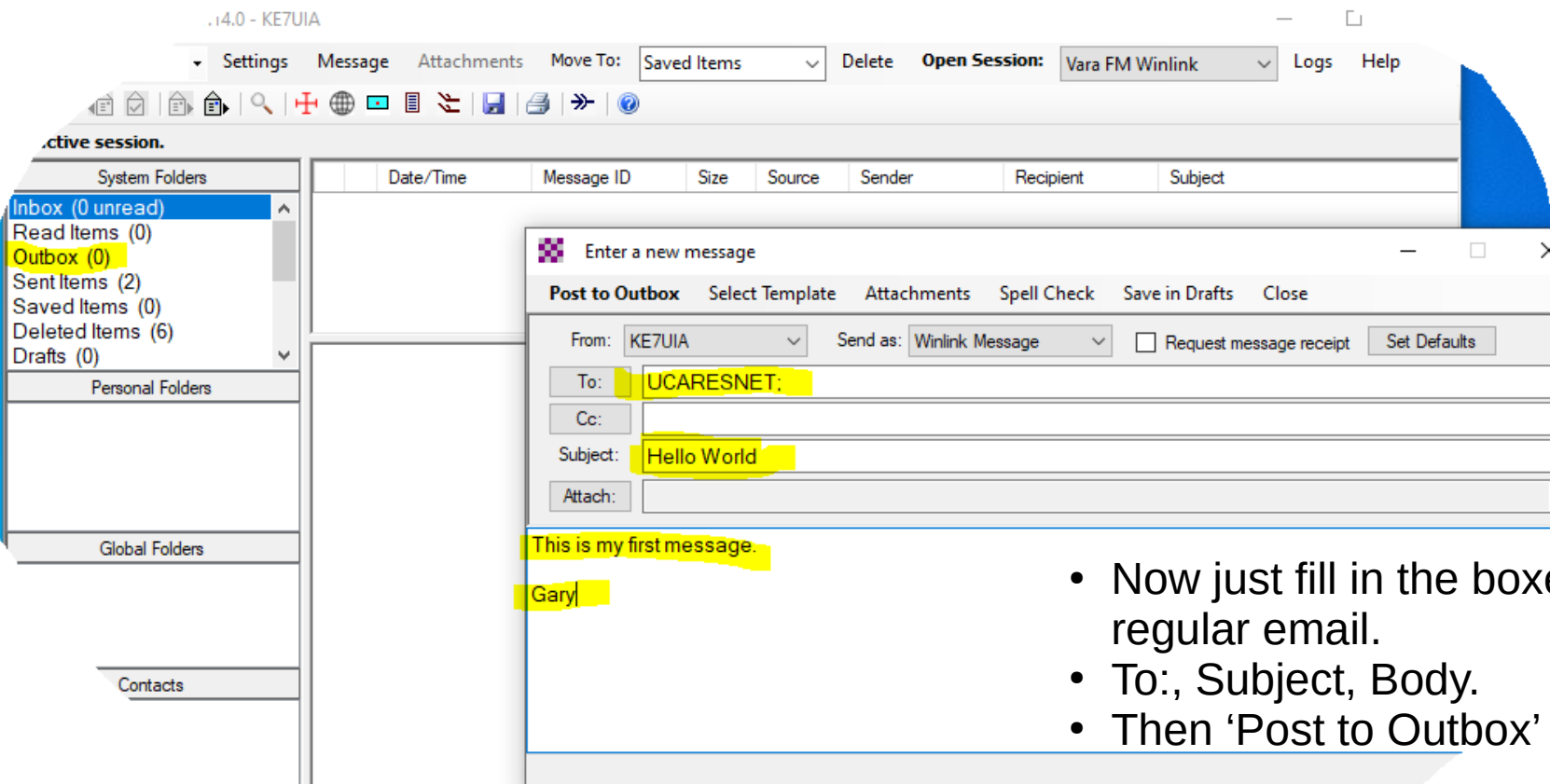- Now all of the pointers are correct. Let go send an email.

Create Message

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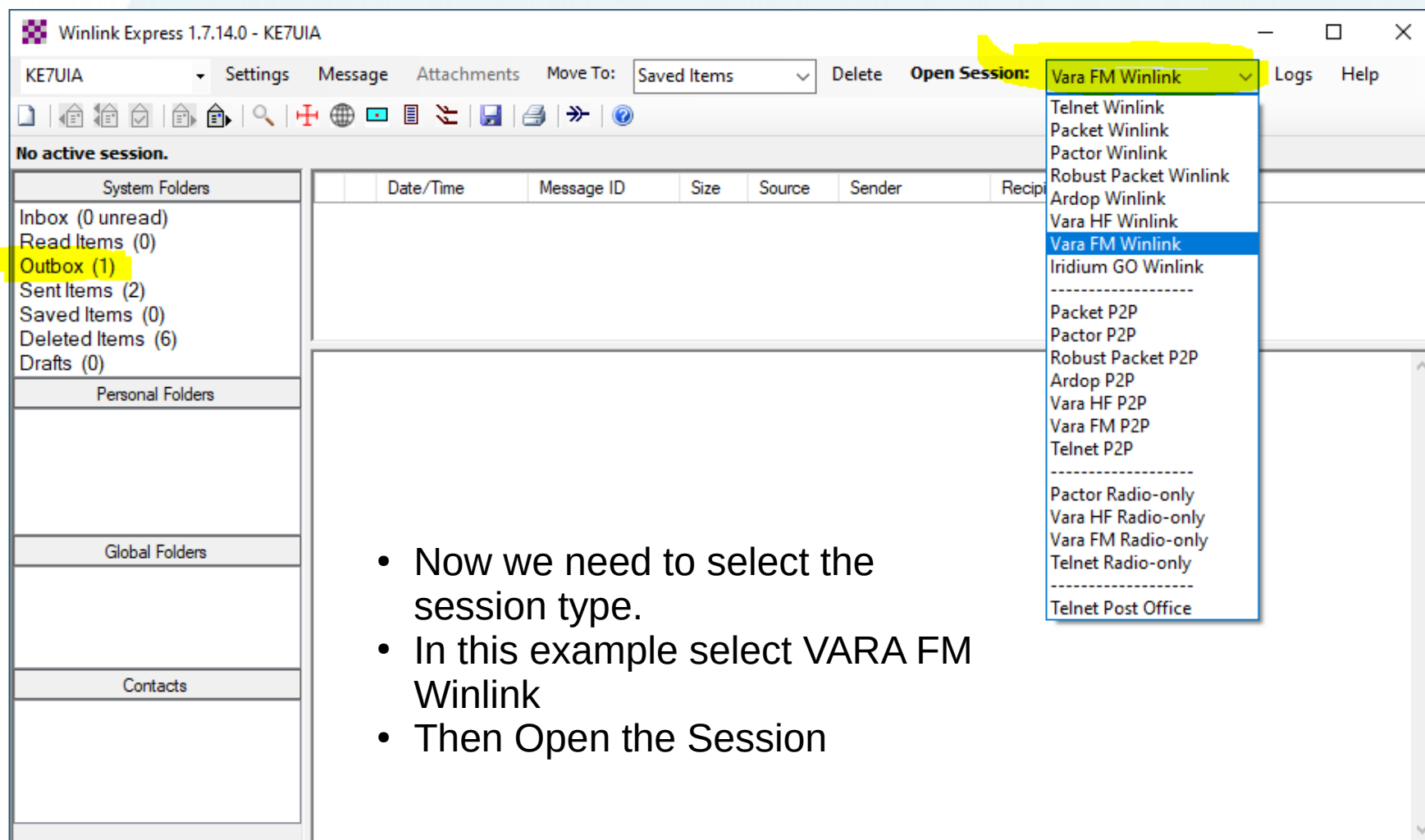- Notice there are no files in the Outbox folder.

Create Message 2

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

Select Session Type

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

Select Channel

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

Select Channel 2

- 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

Press the start button