

CT ARES – REGION 2

*PRESENTS*

DATA

COMMUNICATIONS

Session I

*CLASSIC PACKET RADIO*

*with*

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**District Emergency Coordinator**

**Region 2**

**WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS...**

...It's a

**DISASTER !**

**(Make no mistake)**



# THE CASCADE OF FAILURES

- ▶ **Power**
- ▶ Cell Phone Service
- ▶ **Cable**
- ▶ **Internet & VOIP Telephone**
- ▶ Telephone (Land Line)
- ▶ **Fax** (see: Telephone)

# WHAT IS PACKET RADIO?

Where Digital data is sent from a computer to a radio that sends it via Analog radio waves to another amateur radio station similarly equipped.

- ▶ Packet radio is so named because it **sends** the data in small bursts, or **packets**.
- ▶ A packet station normally has a **lower duty cycle** than a **voice station**.
  - **Think “BATTERY LIFE”** 😊

# HISTORY:

- ▶ Data packet technology was developed in the **mid-1960's** and was put into practical application in the **ARPANET** which was established in **1969**.
- ▶ Initiated in **1970**, the **ALOHANET**, based at the University of Hawaii, was the **first large-scale packet** radio project.
- ▶ **Amateur packet radio** began in **Montreal, Canada** . The first transmission occurring on **May 31, 1978**
- ▶ This was followed by the **Vancouver Amateur Digital Communication Group (VADCG)** **development** of a Terminal Node Controller (**TNC**) in **1980**.

- ▶ The **current TNC standard** grew from a discussion in **October of 1981** at a meeting of the Tucson Chapter of the IEEE Computer Society.
- ▶ A week later, six of the attendees gathered and discussed the feasibility of developing a TNC that would be available to amateurs at a modest cost.
- ▶ The Tucson Amateur Packet Radio Corporation (**TAPR**) formed from this project.
- ▶ On **June 26th 1982**, Lyle Johnson, WA7GXD, and Den Connors, KD2S, initiated a packet contact with **the first TAPR TNC unit**.
- ▶ The project progressed from these first prototype units to the TNC-1 and then finally to the TNC-2 which is **now the basis for most packet operations worldwide**.
- ▶ **In 1986, PCs became the rage** with Dial-up CompuServe, AOL, etc., and interest in Packet Radio began to decline.

# WHERE WE ARE TODAY

Some 23 YEARS LATER....

**2009:** ARES folks [rediscover Packet Radio](#) and have a vision for its application in (~~Emergency~~) DISASTER Communications .

**New higher level software** programs (AX.25 based) begin to be written and tested.

## **TODAY's Software:**

NBEMS, and Winlink 2000 (**WL2K**) which includes: RMS Express, Outpost, WinMor, Etc.



# WHAT IS **AX.25**?

- ▶ **AX.25** (**A**mateur X.25) is the communications protocol used for packet radio.
- ▶ **A protocol** is a “**standard**” for two computer systems to communicate with each other, somewhat analogous to using a business format when writing a business letter.
- ▶ **AX.25** was developed in **the 1970's** and **based on** the wired network protocol **X.25**.
- ▶ **AX.25** includes a **Digipeater's field** to allow other stations to **automatically repeat packets and extend the range of transmitters**.
- ▶ One advantage of **AX.25** is that **every packet** sent **contains the sender's and recipient's amateur radio callsign**, thus providing station identification with every transmission.



# THE PACKET NETWORK

Digipeaters...

KA-Nodes...

Nodes...

BBS's...


and

Clusters...

**Oh, my!**

# WHAT IS A DIGIPEATER?

(PAGE 1)

- ▶ The first networking scheme with packet radio was Digipeaters.
  - ▶ Digipeaters would simply look at a packet, and if its call was in the digipeater field, would resend the packet.
  - ▶ Digipeaters allow the extension of range of a transmitter by retransmitting any packets addressed to the digipeater.
- 

# WHAT IS A DIGIPEATER?

(PAGE 2)

- ▶ This scheme worked well when only a few people were on the radio channel.
- ▶ However, as packet became **more popular**, digipeaters soon were **clogging up the airwaves** with traffic being repeated over long distances.
- ▶ Also, if a **packet got lost** by one of the digipeaters, the **originator** station would have to **retransmit the entire packet** again, forcing even **more congestion**.

# KA-NODES

Kantronics **improved** on the “**digipeater**” slightly, and created “**KA-Nodes**”.

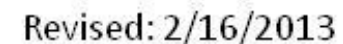
As with digipeaters, KA-Nodes simply repeat **AX.25** frames. However, a **KA-Node acknowledges every transmission at each link (node)**, instead of over the entire route.

Therefore, instead of an end-to-end acknowledgment, KA-Nodes allow for more reliable connections with fewer timeouts. This is because acknowledgments are only carried on one link.

KA-Nodes, therefore, are **more reliable than digipeaters**, but are not a true network.



145.09



Frequency	Answers to	location	Frequency	Answers to	location
145.010	ReddCT	Wilton (1) (2) (4)	145.050	WIHAD-2	Shelton (1) (3) (5)
	KDIZD-3	Enfield (3)		WIWCG-2	North Haven (3) (5)
	FranCT	Franklyn (1) (2) (4)		NHAVCT	New Haven (1) (2) (4)
	MeriCT	Meriden (1) (2) (4)		TollCT	Tolland (1) (4)
	AvonCT	Avon (1) (2) (4)		NorfCT	Norfolk (1) (2) (4) Connects to K1FFK (WMA)
	WestCT	Westport CT (1) (2) (4)		KA1HSP-2	Ware MA (EMA)
	SoutCT	Southbury (1) (2) (4)		K1FFK	MT Greylock (WMA)
	K2DLL-1	Gallway, NY		WA2FNQ-2 Flex no emergency power	Northport (5) (LI NY)
	SterCT	Sterling (4)			
	HaddCT	Haddam (1) (2) (4)			
	CanaCT	Canaan (1) (2) (4) Connects to K2DLL-2 (NNY)			
145.030	N1NW-4	Norwich	145.070	K1YON-2	East Hartland (1) (3) (5)
	KDIRY-2	Bethel		WA2PNU-2	Huntington (3) (5) LI NY
	KX1EOC	Danbury		WolcCT	Wolcott (1) (2)
	ColcCT	Colchester (1)		K1CRC-7	Burlington (1)
	ThomCT	Thompson (1)			
	WIQI	Bethel	145.090	W1EDH	Glastonbury (1) (3) (5)
	N1LMA	Westerly, RI		W1JOE	Brockton, MA
	MansCT	Mansfield (1) (2) (4)			
	K1MUJ-5	Killingly (4)	145.610	K2PUT-2	Carmel, NY (3) (5)

ENTER THE 8 NEW  
W1SP TOWER FREQS.

# COMMON PACKET FREQUENCIES (SIMPLEX)

**144** .91, .93 .95, .99


**145** .01, .03, .05, .07, .09

*and*

**145** .51, .53, .55, .57, .59  
.61, .63, .65, .67, .69  
.71, .73, .75, .77, .79



# WHAT IS A BBS?

- ▶ A BBS, or **Bulletin Board System**, is a message center and information store.
  - ▶ You are able to connect to the BBS, send messages, retrieve messages and read bulletins or announcements.
  - ▶ Not only is a BBS a User Area, it's designed to be user friendly.
  - ▶ One of the most common features of a BBS is an online extensive **H**elp file.
- 

# WHAT IS “SSID”?

- ▶ **S**econdary **S**tation **I**dentification:  
“callsign-1” through “callsign-15”.
- ▶ Usually your callsign by itself is considered “callsign-Ø”.
- ▶ By some standards, using a **SSID of 1** denotes your mailbox (e.g. **WA1SFH-1**).
- ▶ You may have **up to 16** of your callsign **active at any one time**, each with a unique number identifier (SSID). No duplicates are allowed at any one time.

# WHAT'S A NODE?

- ▶ Part of the packet network, it's a device that allows you to connect to other parts of the network - similar to a telephone switchboard.
- ▶ **Nodes establish routes and remember where other nodes are.**
- ▶ Properly configured nodes can have a **very extensive list of routes** to other nodes even in different states or countries.
- ▶ A node may have multiple ports as well as multiple operating frequencies.
- ▶ **Nodes are more effective at “getting someplace” than Digipeaters**, as they have established links and can provide the most direct route.
- ▶ **A node is a tool** to allow users to get to other places **easier and faster**.
- ▶ **A node is a User Area.**

There are usually **menu options** available when you are connected to a node – simply type a **“?” (question mark)** or **“H” (help)** to get the **list of commands** available on that node.

# WHAT IS KEYBOARD TO KEYBOARD?

- ▶ **A direct connection** with another user.
- ▶ Both of you able to send and receive each others messages.
- ▶ If both parties have CONVERS set to ON, connecting will be easy.

# SIMPLE RULES TO KEEP IN MIND:

- ▶ Typical Power @ 5 Watts (25+ Watts ...as needed)
- ▶ Make sure your antenna is not masked (L-O-S Rules!)
- ▶ Learn to use the **Question Mark “?”** to find out what **commands** are available when connected to a Node or cluster.
- ▶ To finish and send a message: Hit “Enter” and then “Cntl-Z” on a **new line**.
- ▶ Make sure to properly exit the system, use:
  - ▶ **“B”** (Bye) to exit a BBS,
  - ▶ **“Q”** (Quit) to exit a Node.

# CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT

- ▶ It is very **good practice** that we receive confirmation of receipt for all messages.
- ▶ This is much simpler when using voice, but **not as guaranteed** when using **digital modes**.
- ▶ Packet messages and WinLink email can be stored for later retrieval, not requiring that another station be present and active at the time of sending.
- ▶ Because of this convenience, **the receiving station needs to send another message** stating that they **have received the message**, thereby confirming with the originating station.
- ▶ It is preferred that the confirmation be sent within the hour.

# QUESTIONS

?

# TIME FOR A BREAK

Everybody up!

Restrooms!

Chat!

Walk about!



# WHERE AM I ?

- ▶ The PROMPTS are *different*...

cmd:      **TNC** (e.g. wa1sfh-0)

=>      **Node** (e.g. w1had )

>      **BBS** (e.g. w1had-4)

# YOURTNC

**H** and **?H** are your friends 

## cmd:h

TYPE '**HELP**' OR **?** FOLLOWED BY COMMAND  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

BKONDEL CONNECT CONVERS DISCONNE DAYTIME DELETE  
DISPLAY DWAIT ECHO HELP INTFACE K MONITOR  
MHEARD MYCALL MYPBBS PBBS RESET STATUS TXDELAY  
UNPROTO VERSION


# CMD: ?H – PAGE 1

- ▶ BKONDEL If on, DELETE will backspace; else \
- ▶ **CONNECT** callsign [via calls] can be used to reconnect with different path
- ▶ **CONVERS** Enter conversational mode
- ▶ DISCONNE Disconnect current stream
- ▶ **DAYTIME** yymmddhhmmss
- ▶ **DELETE** Char used to delete last char in line
- ▶ **DISPLAY** {ASYNC | CHAR | GPS | ID | LINK | MONITOR | PBBS | TIMING}

## CMD: ?H – PAGE 2

- ▶ **DWAIT** Time to allow digipeaters first acces to channel (10 msec)
- ▶ **ECHO** Characters from terminal are echoed back
- ▶ **HELP** For further help read your manual
- ▶ **INTERFACE** {TERMINAL | NEWUSER | BBS | KISS | XKISS | HOST | GPS | MODEM}
- ▶ **K** Same as CONVERS
- ▶ **MONITOR** Master switch for monitoring packets
- ▶ **MHEARD** [LONG|SHORT|CLEAR] Display list of stations heard

# CMD: ?H – PAGE 3

- ▶ **MYCALL** This station's callsign {call[-n]}
  - ▶ **MYPBBS** Callsign used for access to personal mail box
  - ▶ **PBBS** Amount of memory (1K increments) set aside for PBBS messages
  - ▶ **RESET** Soft reset
  - ▶ **STATUS** [LONG] Show status of streams
  - ▶ **TXDELAY** Time delay between PTT and radio data out (10 msec)
- 

# CMD: ?H – PAGE 4

- ▶ UNPROTO {call [via calls]} path for UI data frames
- ▶ **VERSION** Displays software version number

# CMD: ?H – PAGE 3

- ▶ INTERFACE {TERMINAL | NEWUSER | BBS | KISS | XKISS | HOST | GPS | MODEM}
- ▶ K Same as CONVERS
- ▶ **MONITOR** Master switch for monitoring packets
- ▶ **MHEARD** [LONG|SHORT|CLEAR] Display list of stations heard
- ▶ **MYCALL** This station's callsign {call[-n]}
- ▶ **MYPBBS** Callsign used for access to personal mail box
- ▶ PBBS Amount of memory (1K increments) set aside for PBBS messages
- ▶ RESET Soft reset
- ▶ **STATUS** [LONG] Show status of streams
- ▶ TXDELAY Time delay between PTT and radio data out (10 msec)
- ▶ UNPROTO {call [via calls]} path for UI data frames
- ▶ ~~VERSION~~ Displays software version number

# LET'S CONNECT TO A BBS

**cmd:**

*type*

**c w l h a d - 4**

**= c SPACE w l h a d - 4**

**(Hit Return)**



cmd:\*\*\* CONNECTED to WIHAD-4

[FBB-7.00i-ABIFHMRX\$]

WIHAD BBS, QTH FN3 IJH.

Hello Douglas, you are now on channel 1.

Here are 390 active messages, 149908 is last message and  
149898 is the last you have listed.

Assigned channels:

Ch. 1 (NETWORK) :WAISFH-0 - Mon 18/02/13 21:08

via : WIHAD-2

\*\*\* Welcome to the Mohegan ARC, WIHAD Packet Bulletin Board \*\*\*

\*\*\* at Shelton, Fairfield County, CT [FN3 Ijh] \*\*\*

Msg#	TSLD	Dim	To	@ BBS	From	Date/Time	Title	(LC-choice:*)
149908	PNL	411	WAISFH		KBIWLW	0218/2046	Burning 10 CD 4 U	
149901	PN	372	WAISFH		NICLV	0218/1519	Congrats on getting on packet!	

You have 2 new (unread) message(s).

(I)WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

R 149901

From : NICLV

To : WAISFH

Type/status : PN

Date/time : 18-Feb 15:19

BID (MID) : 9524\_WIEDH

Message # : 149901

Title : Congrats on getting on packet!

(This message has been read 1 times so far in this BBS.)

Path: !WIEDH!

From: NICLV@WIEDH.CT.USA.NOAM

To : WAISFH@WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM

Glad to hear you are now up on packet! I have had some computer configuration changes in my shack and did not have packet set up. Had to move some cables between the old and "new" (less old) computers!

Enjoy the new mode!

73, Wayne NICLV

--- End of message #149901 to WAISFH from NICLV ---

You have 1 new (unread) message(s).

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

From : N1CLV  
To : WAISFH  
Type/status: PN  
Date/time : 18-Feb 15:19  
BID (MID) : 9524\_WIEDH  
Message # : 149901  
Title : Congrats on getting on packet!

(This message has been read 1 times so far in this BBS.)

Path: !WIEDH!  
From: N1CLV@WIEDH.CT.USA.NOAM  
To : WAISFH@WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM

Glad to hear you are now up on packet! I have had some computer configuration changes in my shack and did not have packet set up. Had to move some cables between the old and "new" (less old) computers!  
Enjoy the new mode!  
73, Wayne N1CLV

--- End of message #149901 to WAISFH from N1CLV ---

You have 1 new (unread) message(s).

(1) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

# KILL THE MESSAGE

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

*Type:*

**k** SPACE **I4990I**

*Hit Return*

Message #I4990I has been Killed (deleted).

You have 1 new (unread) message(s).

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

# LIST MESSAGES

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

Msg# TSLD Dim To @ BBS From Date/Time Title(LC-choice:\*)

149910 PNL 54 KBIWLW WAISFH 0218/2131 roger # 149908

149909 PNL 64 KAICVV WAISFH 0218/2129 TNX so much!

149906 BF 1912 EQUAKE@WW CX2SA 0218/1718 KERMADEC ISLANDS, NEW ZEALAND

149905 BF 3771 TECH @WW G8MNY 0218/1519 70cm 27el G3JVL's QLY

149904 BF 2222 TECH @WW G8MNY 0218/1519 70cm 19el Tonna Yagi info

149903 BF 2829 TECH @WW G8MNY 0218/1519 70cm Collinear

149902 BF 1767 EQUAKE@WW CX2SA 0218/1519 KERMADEC ISLANDS, NEW ZEALAND

149900 BF 3174 TODAY @WW N0KFQ 0218/1418 Today in History - Feb 18

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

# LIST T RAFFIC - CT ZIP CODES+

(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

LT >06\*

Msg#	TSLD	Dim	To	@ BBS	From	Date/Time	Title	(LC-choice: *)
I49885	T\$	439	06513	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	NEW HAVEN	203 752
I49884	T\$	438	06040	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	MANCHESTER	860 649
I49883	T\$	441	06013	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	BURLINGTON	860 404
I49882	T\$	458	06033	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	GLASTONBURY	860 657

I49881 TFL 227 95926 @NTSCA KIENF 0217/2201 QTC CHICO

I49880 TFL 240 52404 @NTSIA KIENF 0217/2201 QTC CEDAR RAPIDS

I49879 TFL 236 55420 @NTSMN KIENF 0217/2200 QTC BLOOMINGTON

I49878 TFL 236 95667 @NTSCA KIENF 0217/2200 QTC PLACERVILLE

I49877 TFL 234 52402 @NTSIA KIENF 0217/2200 QTC CEDAR RAPIDS

I49876 TFL 239 33702 @NTSFL KIENF 0217/2159 qtc st petersburg

I49875 TFL 215 24592 @NTSVA KIENF 0217/2159 QTC S BOSTON

I49874 TFL 203 95492 @NTSCA KIENF 0217/2158 QTC WINDSOR

I49873 TFL 221 91350 @NTSCA KIENF 0217/2158 QTC SANTA CLARITA

I49872 TFL 225 93012 @NTSCA KIENF 0217/2157 QTC CAMARILLO

I49871 TFL 234 55405 @NTSMN KIENF 0217/2157 QTC MINNEAPOLIS

I49870 TFL 237 39573 @NTSMS KIENF 0217/2156 QTC PERKINSON

I49866 TFL 255 04781 @NTSME WIZFG 0217/2015 QTC WALLAGRASS 207 444

I49859 TFL 193 61600 @NTSME WIZFG 0217/1027 QTC EAST LONG MEADOW 413 250

I49858 TFL 250 02359 @NTSMA KIHEJ 0217/1027 qtc pembroke ma

I49843 TFL 246 91116 @NTSCA WIZFG 0217/0042 QTC K6HTN PASADENA

I49842 TFL 181 91116 @NTSCA WIZFG 0217/0041 QTC K6HTN PASADENA

I49824 T\$ 576 06043 @NTSCT WB5NKD 0216/1320 BOLTON 860 533

I49823 T\$ 579 06437 @NTSCT WB5NKD 0216/1320 GUILFORD 203 458

I49822 T\$ 583 06877 @NTSCT WB5NKD 0216/1320 RIDGEFIELD 203 438

I49770 TFL 172 02359 @NTSMA WIZFG 0215/0123 QTC NIIQI PEMBROKE MA

I49769 TFL 218 02359 @NTSMA WIZFG 0215/0122 QTC NIIQI PEMBROKE MA

# LIST T RAFFIC

(2) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

L 149885 149884 149883 149882

Msg#	TSLD	Dim	To	@ BBS	From	Date/Time	Title	(LC-choice:*)
149885	T\$	439	06513	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	NEW HAVEN	203 752
149884	T\$	438	06040	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	MANCHESTER	860 649
149883	T\$	441	06013	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	BURLINGTON	860 404
149882	T\$	458	06033	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	GLASTONBURY	860 657

(2) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

# LISTING MESSAGE #S

(2) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

**L** 149885 149884 149883 149882

Msg#	TSLD	Dim	To	@ BBS	From	Date/Time	Title	(LC-choice: *)
149885	T\$	439	06513	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	NEW HAVEN	203 752
149884	T\$	438	06040	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	MANCHESTER	860 649
149883	T\$	441	06013	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	BURLINGTON	860 404
149882	T\$	458	06033	@NTSCT	WB5NKD	0217/2230	GLASTONBURY	860 657

(2) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >



(I) WIHAD BBS (H for help) >

L 149885

From :WB5NKD

To :06513@NTSCT

Type/status:T\$

Date/time :17-Feb 22:30

BID (MID) :12595\_KB0OFD

Message # :149885

Title :NEW HAVEN 203 752

(

This message has been read 2 times so far in this BBS.)

Path:!WIWCG!WIWCG!KB0OFD!

**(CONTINUES ON NEXT SLIDE)**

1201 R HXG WB5NKD 21 OKLAHOMA CITY OK FEB 18

JOSE A CHALCHE KBIZCK

239 JAMES ST

NEW HAVEN CT 06513

203 752 0022

BT

MESSAGE RELAY STATIONS ARE NEEDED

X HOPE YOU ARE ABLE

TO HELP X FIND A

LOCAL NET TO LEARN HOW

73

BT

PAT WB5NKD



# LOG OFF THE BBS

**B = BYE**

**(I)WIHAD BBS (H for help) >**

**B**

**You have been connected 2mn 07s - Computer-time : 1s**

**Bye, Douglas, and welcome back.**

**\*\*\* DISCONNECTED**

**cmd:WAISFH>WIHAD-4:<<UA>>:**

# QUESTIONS

?

# LET'S CONNECT TO A NODE

CMD:

**CWIHAD (return)**

cmd:\*\*\* CONNECTED to WIHAD

PC/FlexNet V3.3g

Welcome to the Mohegan Amateur Radio Club, WIHAD FlexNet-Digi node

Located at Shelton, Fairfield County, Connecticut. [FN3Ijh] It is

operating as part of the USA Eastnet FlexNet Network, serving the  
Southern Connecticut Region. CT

**<LO>** for Local info.

Local Server:

**<CWIHAD-4** or **<M>** to connect to the Shelton PBBS.

Region Servers:

**<CWIWCG-4** to connect to the North Haven PBBS.

**<D>** for available Destinations and **<A>** for info on Destination calls.

**<H>** for Command Summary with details.

**<I>** for System and Additional Information.

# NODE OPTIONS

<D> for available **Destinations** and

<A> for info on Destination calls.

<H> for Command Summary with details.

<I> for System and Additional Information.



## D (return)

<b>KIYON</b>	2-5	68	<b>K2PUT</b>	0-4	133	<b>KB2VLX</b>	0-4	1072	<b>N4FLA</b>	0-4	426
<b>N4LEM</b>	2-6	122	<b>N4LEM</b>	3-3	95	<b>WIEDH</b>	0-4	31	<b>WIWCG</b>	0-0	78
<b>WIWCG</b>	2-5	64	<b>W4AKH</b>	2-9	321	<b>W4MLB</b>	2-4	137	<b>W4OT</b>	2-7	246
<b>WA2FNQ</b>	0-15	147	<b>WA2PNU</b>	0-15	45	<b>WA2UPK</b>	2-4	270			
<b>WB2QJA</b>	0-7	236	<b>WB2ZII</b>	9-14	157	<b>WN3DHI</b>	2-4	151			

# NODE OPTIONS

<D> for available Destinations and

<A> for info on Destination calls.

**<H> for Command Summary with details.**

<I> for System and Additional Information.

=>

**H (return)**

# NODE OPTION “H”

A shows information about Destination calls

B shows beacon text

C <call> [options] connect to station <call>; possible options:

<node> : use path via <node>

<node-SSID> : use path via <node> with <SSID>

<port> : use path via <port>

(a maximum of 6 of these options can be given)

C -<SSID> change to (user)port <SSID>

C shows all participants of convers (with channel number) and users of the infobox (with '---'); after the prompt 'channel?' you can type the channel number to enter a specific channel or type RETURN to go back to the infobox commands in the convers mode:

/w shows all users of convers and infobox

/w <n> shows all users of convers channel <n>

/c shows the current channel number of the convers

/s <call> <text> sends <text> to the user <call>

/t <call> starts talk mode to user <call>

/t exits talk mode

/q Quit exits convers or talk mode



# NODE OPTION “H”

D shows destination table (list of reachable nodes) with SSID range and RTT in tenth of a second

D <partial call> like D, shows only destinations with the string <partial call>  
e.g. prefix or suffix

D \* like D, shows also destinations that would be available via a loop

D \* <partial call> combination of 'D \*' and 'D <partial call>'

D <call> shows RTT and chosen path to <call>

D <call> \* shows RTT via different available paths

D <call> > shows RTT of all nodes of the path in between

F <call> search for <call>

H shows this help text

I shows information about the node (if available)

L shows link information of the node

L \* like L, additionally shows the last 16 measured RTT's

LO shows local info text

# NODE OPTION “H”

- M connects to the (local) mailbox (if defined)
- M ? shows call of the (local) mailbox (if defined)
- MH <options> shows MHeard list: list of stations with time since the last activity;  
possible options:
- <call> : callsign
  - <partial call>: shows only stations with the string <partial call>  
e.g. prefix or suffix
  - <number> : shows last 16..300 entries; default: 30 entries
- MY shows callsign of the node with SSID range
- P shows parameters (layer 1/2 parameters)
- P \* like P, with additional information  
(see below)
- P [\*] <port> like P or 'P \*' only for port <port>

# NODE OPTION “H”

- Q            disconnect from the node
- S            shows search paths for the FIND command  
(setsearch text)
- ST           shows internal port statistics
- T <call> <text>   talk mode, sends <text> to user <call>
- T \* <text>        sends <text> to all users connected to the infobox
- T <call>        starts talk mode to user <call>, the talk mode uses  
the same command set like the convers mode
- U <options>    shows user list; possible options:
  - '\*'        : also shows Maxframe and Frack
  - '='        : shows only the QSO's directly  
with the node (infobox)
  - <port>    : shows only QSO's on port <port>
  - <call>    : shows only user <call>

Additional information when using the commands 'L \*' and 'P \*':

# NODE OPTION “?H”

=>

**?H**

invalid command

=>

**There is no ?H at a NODE.**  
**Only at your TNC and a BBS.**

# NODE OPTIONS

<D> for available Destinations and

<A> for info on Destination calls.

<H> for Command Summary with details.

**<I> for System and Additional Information.**

=>

**I (return)**

# NODE OPTION “I”

(PAGE I)

System info:

This FlexNet-Digi node, WIHAD, is located at Shelton, Fairfield County, Connecticut, USA. The Grid locator is [FN3Ijh]. It is operating on a 486 PC using MS-DOS 6.22 together with a Packet Bulletin Board.

These systems are part of the USA Eastnet FlexNet Network, serving the Connecticut Region RF Network. For further information please connect to the Eastnet Packet Web site: <http://www.eastnetpacket.net>

FlexNet\_Digi node:

Software: PC/Flexnet version 3.3g.

Call: WIHAD responding to ssid in the range 0 thru 7

Port 0 -2 VHF Local User Channel. 145.05 MHz. 1k2

Port 1 -3 SCT/LINY Multi Channel. 223.46 MHz. 1k2

Link to WIEDH Glastonbury, Hartford Cty, CT

Link to WIWCG-2 North Haven, New Haven Cty, CT

Link to: NY2LI Yaphank, Suffolk County, NY

Port 2 -7 SCT/LINY UHF Multi Channel. 441.050 MHz. 1k2

Link to: WA2FNQ Northport, Suffolk County, NY

Link to: WA2PNU Huntington, Suffolk County, NY

Port 3 Link to: 430.950 MHz. 9k6

Port 4 Link to: K2PUT Mt Ninham, Putnam County, NY 421.950 MHz. 9k6

Port 5 Link to: K2PUT Mt Ninham, Putnam County, NY 223.56 MHz. 1k2

Port 15 Virtual port linked to Packet Bulletin Board WIHAD-4.

# NODE OPTION “I”

(PAGE 2)

The <S>earch command is set via all FlexNet-Digi User ports within CT.

The <M>ail command is set to WIHAD-4 at Shelton, CT

Packet Bulletin Board:

Software: F6FBB version d7.00i

Port I Call WIHAD-4.Virtual port linked to WIHAD-0-7 FlexNet-Digi node.

Address:WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM.

\*\*\*\*\*

Call:WIHAD was adopted as the Club call of the Mohegan Amateur Radio Club.

Trustee K1EIC. It is dedicated in memory of one of Connecticut's

Amateur Radio pioneers the late Paul M. Doane,WIHAD 1939 - 1994

Sponsor: Mohegan Amateur Radio Club:

Sysop: Elizabeth L, Doane, K1EIC Phone: 203-929-7759

92 Mohegan Road . PBBS: K1EIC @WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM

Shelton, CT 06484-2440 Internet: k1eic@arrl.org



# NODE OPTION “**I**”

=>

**i**

System info:

This **FlexNet-Digi node**, WIHAD, is located at **Shelton**, Fairfield County, Connecticut, USA. The **Grid** locator is [FN3 Ijh]. It is operating on a **486 PC** using **MS-DOS 6.22** together with a **Packet Bulletin Board**.

These systems are **part of** the USA **Eastnet FlexNet Network**, serving the Connecticut Region RF Network.

For further information please connect to the Eastnet Packet Web site:  
**<http://www.eastnetpacket.net>**



# NODE OPTION “I”

The <S>earch command is set via all FlexNet-Digi User ports within CT.

The <M>ail command is set to WIHAD-4 at Shelton, CT

Packet Bulletin Board:

Software: F6FBB version d7.00i

Port I Call WIHAD-4. Virtual port linked to WIHAD-0-7 FlexNet-Digi node.

Address: WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM.

\*\*\*\*\*



# NODE OPTION “1”

FlexNet\_Digi node:

Software: PC/Flexnet version 3.3g.

Call:WIHAD responding to ssid in the range 0 thru 7

Port 0 -2 VHF Local User Channel. 145.05 MHz. 1k2

Port 1 -3 SCT/LINX Multi Channel. 223.46 MHz. 1k2

Link to WIEDH Glastonbury, Hartford Cty, CT

Link to WIWCG-2 North Haven, New Haven Cty, CT

Link to: NY2LI Yaphank, Suffolk County, NY

Port 2 -7 SCT/LINX UHF Multi Channel. 441.050 MHz. 1k2

Link to:WA2FNQ Northport, Suffolk County, NY

Link to:WA2PNU Huntington, Suffolk County, NY

Port 3 Link to: 430.950 MHz. 9k6

Port 4 Link to: K2PUT Mt Ninham, Putnam County, NY 421.950 MHz. 9k6

Port 5 Link to: K2PUT Mt Ninham, Putnam County, NY 223.56 MHz. 1k2

Port 15 Virtual port linked to Packet Bulletin Board WIHAD-4.

# NODE OPTION “I”

Call: WIHAD was adopted as the Club call of the Mohegan Amateur Radio Club.  
Trustee K1EIC.

It is dedicated in memory of one of Connecticut's Amateur Radio pioneers the  
late Paul M. Doane, WIHAD 1939 – 1994.

Sponsor: Mohegan Amateur Radio Club:

Sysop: Elizabeth L, Doane, K1EIC Phone: 203-929-7759  
92 Mohegan Road , Shelton, CT 06484-2440

PBBS: K1EIC @WIHAD.CT.USA.NOAM

Internet: k1eic@arrl.org

# NODE OPTION “?I”

=>

**?i**

invalid command

=>

**There is no ?i at a NODE.**

**Only at your TNC and a BBS.**

“D”, “I”, “H”,  
“?H”

QUESTIONS  
?

# TIME FOR A BREAK

Everybody up!

Restrooms!

Chat!

Walk about!

# CONNECT EQUIPMENT

If not already done, please connect up your equipment.

- Radio to TNC cable connection
- Computer to TNC cable connection(s).
- Computer to A.C. power.
- **Optional:** TNC to A.C. power.

# EQUIPMENT TEST I - COMPUTER TO TNC

**Open** Program: **WinPak** v. 6.8 on computer.

**CANCEL** “Not Registered” screen

**Turn ON** your **TNC**

**Compare** to this:

KANTRONICS PACKET COMMUNICATOR III VERSION 8.2

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DUPLICATION PROHIBITED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF KANTRONICS.

**cmd:**

**LET US KNOW** *about* **PROBLEMS.**



# EQUIPMENT TEST 2

## - RADIO TO TNC TO COMPUTER

- 1) Turn OFF your TNC
- 2) Turn ON your RADIO
  - previously set to 145.050 MHz
- (3) Turn ON your TNC

KANTRONICS PACKET COMMUNICATOR III VERSION 8.2

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**cmd:**



**TNC: HELP DISPLAY**

**CMD:**

**H (Return)**

**CMD: H**

# TNC: DATE & TIME SET-UP

CMD:

**DAYTIME**

CMD:

**DAYTIME (3 SPACES, plus)**

**130223 104530**

(Return)

# **TNC: CALLSIGN SET-UP**

**CMD:**

**MYCALL**

**CMD:**

**MYCALL WAISFH**

# CONNECT TO A BBS

CMD:

**c whad-4**

*Type*

**C SPACE W I H A D - 4 (RETURN)**

# BBS COMMAND: LIST MESSAGES

>

LM (Return)

**BBS COMMAND: LIST CT NTS MSGS**

**>**

**LT >06\* (Return)**

# BBS COMMAND: READ MESSAGES



**R Msg# (Return)**

**R SPACE Msg#**



**BBS COMMAND: KILL MESSAGES**

**>**

**K Msg# (Return)**

**ONLY if TO YOU!**

# BBS COMMAND: **LIST TRAFFIC (NTS)** MESSAGES



**LT** (Return)

**BBS COMMAND: LIST TRAFFIC (NTS)  
MESSAGES FOR CONNECTICUT**

**>**

**LT >06\* (Return)**

*Type*

**LT SPACE >06\***

**BBS COMMAND: SENT A MESSAGE**

**>**

**S K I E I C (Return)**

**S SPACE K I E I C**

**BBS COMMAND: SENT A MESSAGE**



**Greetings (Return)**

# BBS COMMAND: SENT A MESSAGE

>

Am now at Classic Packet  
Radio Workshop in Guilford.  
Having a great time.

(Return)

73, FirstName - Callsign  
(Return)

**CONTROL-Z** (Return)

**BBS COMMAND: EXIT BBS**

**>**

**B (Return)**

# HOME WORK

- ▶ SEND A MESSAGE
- ▶ READ A MESSAGE
- ▶ READ A MESSAGE TO YOU
- ▶ **KILL** A MESSAGE TO YOU  
**(ONLY!)**



**CONNECT TO NODES**

**C WIHAD**

**Then...**

**C WIWCG (North Haven)**

**Q (exit Node)**

**Gets you back to WIHAD**

**Now,**

**C – K2PUT then Q (exit back to WIHAD)**

