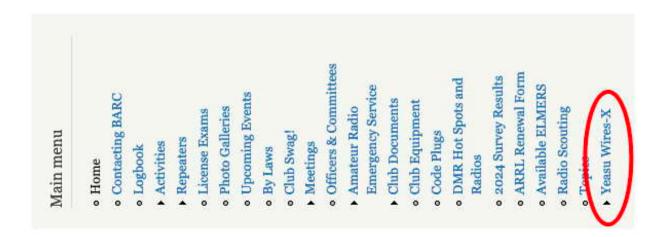# Wires-X General Information

General:

NOTE: At the present time, there is a Wires-X node at 145.000 owned by Don Dygert, KT1OK. This node may move to the W1SGL repeater after installation of the Yaesu DR-2X repeater. The node is set up for digital operation.

Wires-X is a system that allows radios to connect to chat rooms (called rooms in wires-x parlance) via the internet. The system allows communications via two modes, C4FM or analog. In analog mode, anyone with a radio that can transmit DTMF tones can access wires-x rooms. In digital mode, the radio must have wires-x capability. Digital mode uses two channels, a voice channel and a data channel. The data channel provides information on the room that the radio is connected to and can receive news and emergency text.

The mode is selected by the wires-x operator. Initially the system will be set up for digital connections because there are very few rooms on Wires-X that support analog mode. If enough operators request the change to analog mode, then consideration will be given to changing the mode.

The commonly used rooms are Wolf-Den, DTMF ID 28941; and UFB New England, DTMF ID 62148; KT1OK-Cape-Cod, DTMF ID 04877. A list of active rooms has been posted to the BARC Web Site. It is in the Yeasu Wires-X space.

Digital use:

To use Wires-X in digital mode, a radio capable of Wires-X operation is required. Please note that there are hotspots that will allow non Wires-X radios to connect to Wires-X rooms. The following discussion is for a typical Yaesu Wires-X capable radio. As always, the user manual for the radio should be referenced when necessary.

Initiating a Wires-X room connection.

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The radio should be set to the frequency that the node is on.

Set the mode to DN.

Press the Dx button until the "X" starts flashing. The radio is connected to the node when the "X" stops flashing. If a connection is not made, the radio will revert back to normal operation

At the bottom of the screen, the room the node is connected to is shown.

Pressing the PTT button will activate the node and you will be talking to the room.

Changing rooms.

Each radio has a slightly different way of changing room. This discussion is based on a Yaesu FT-300DR radio.

First, identify the room you want to talk to. Go to http://wiresxrooms.com/ to find active rooms. Please note that the radio recognizes rooms, not nodes.

If the radio has been programmed for different rooms, rotate the frequency dial until the desired room is highlighted and then push the frequency dial. NOTE: if a programmed room has no active nodes connected to it, it cannot be connected to using this method. Also, only rooms in the currently selected category will be shown.

To select a room not programmed into the radio, select the "Search and Direct" menu item and push the frequency dial.

Selecting "ALL" will eventually list all active rooms. Scroll down to the desired room and push the frequency dial. The room will be connected to.

Selecting "DIRECT" will bring up a screen that you will enter the first few characters of the room name and then you can select the one you want.

Press the frequency dial and the radio will then connect to the room.

Press the "BACK" button until you get back to the main screen; you are done.

Saving Rooms to the radio.

Rotate the frequency dial to the room which will be added to the radio the press the dial.

Press the [F Setup] key to bring up the room selections.

Rotate the frequency dial to select the red "ADD" menu item and then press the frequency dial.

Rotate the frequency dial to select the category you want to store the room in and then press the frequency dial.

Press the "BACK" button until you get back to the main screen; you are done.

Analog use:

Analog mode allows anyone with a radio that can transmit DTMF tones to access the Wires-X system. It is a lot like the old phone patch system where you call a number and can reach someone over the phone lines.

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Analog mode requires advance knowledge of the room number you are trying to join. There is a list at http://wiresxrooms.com/ . A complete list of all rooms can be found at the Yaesu page at https://www.yaesu.com/jp/en/wires-x/id/id_usa.php.

To connect to a room, connect to a repeater that has a Wires-X node. For example set your radio to reach the W1SGL repeater (see the BARC website for details). While pressing the PTT switch, enter "#" followed by the DTMF ID. Ex: #28941 gets you into the Wolf-Den.

Once connected, pushing the PTT button will transmit both RF through the repeater and through the internet to the Room you have connected to. The Room will then send your signal to all other radios connected to the Room. You will also hear anyone who talks to the room.

To connect to a different Room, enter the DTMF code for that Room.

Once you have concluded your conversation, is is common practice to reconnect to the the node's default Room.

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Digital Use:

To use Wires-X in digital mode, it is important to know the DG-ID of the repeater you will be connecting to. The DG-ID of the Barnstable repeater is 00. Make sure that the radio you are using is set to the same DG-ID.

Each radio is different in how they connect to Wires-X. This discussion will be based on the Yaesu FTM-300DR. Please refer to your radio's user manual for the ultimate directions.

Press and hold the DX key. The "X" icon will start blinking in the upper left corner. If a connection is made to a Wires-X node, the "X" will stop blinking and stay on.