

Some Notes on Using AllStarLink

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W8WKY.ORG

ALLSTAR LINK

- Repeater controller based on the Asterisk PBX
- Add-on module to Asterisk adds repeater functionality
- All RF is standard analog FM
- Control by DTMF codes
- Can be grafted onto almost any radio stack
- Create many links – scheduled, ad-hoc
- Supports Echolink on the repeater



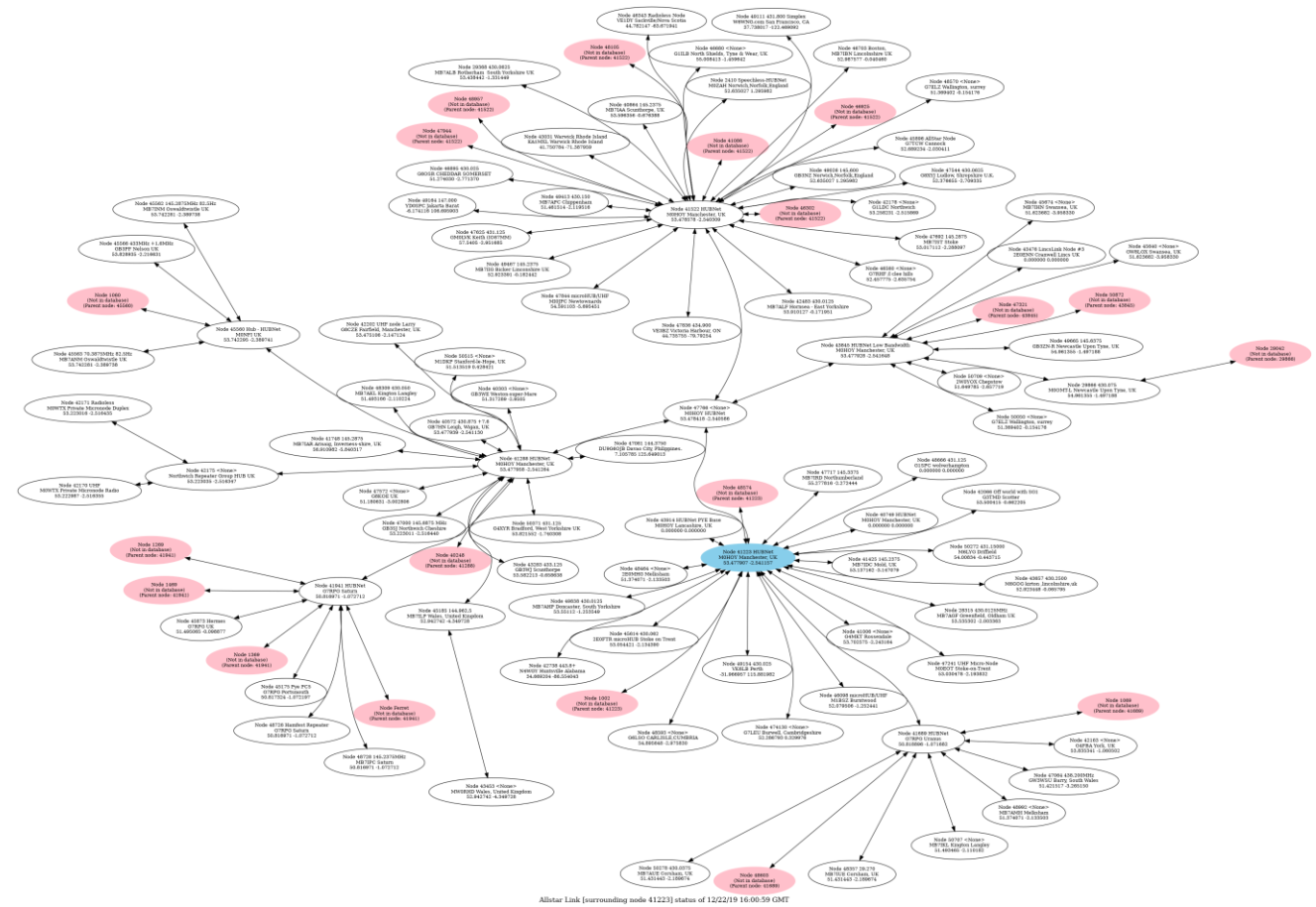
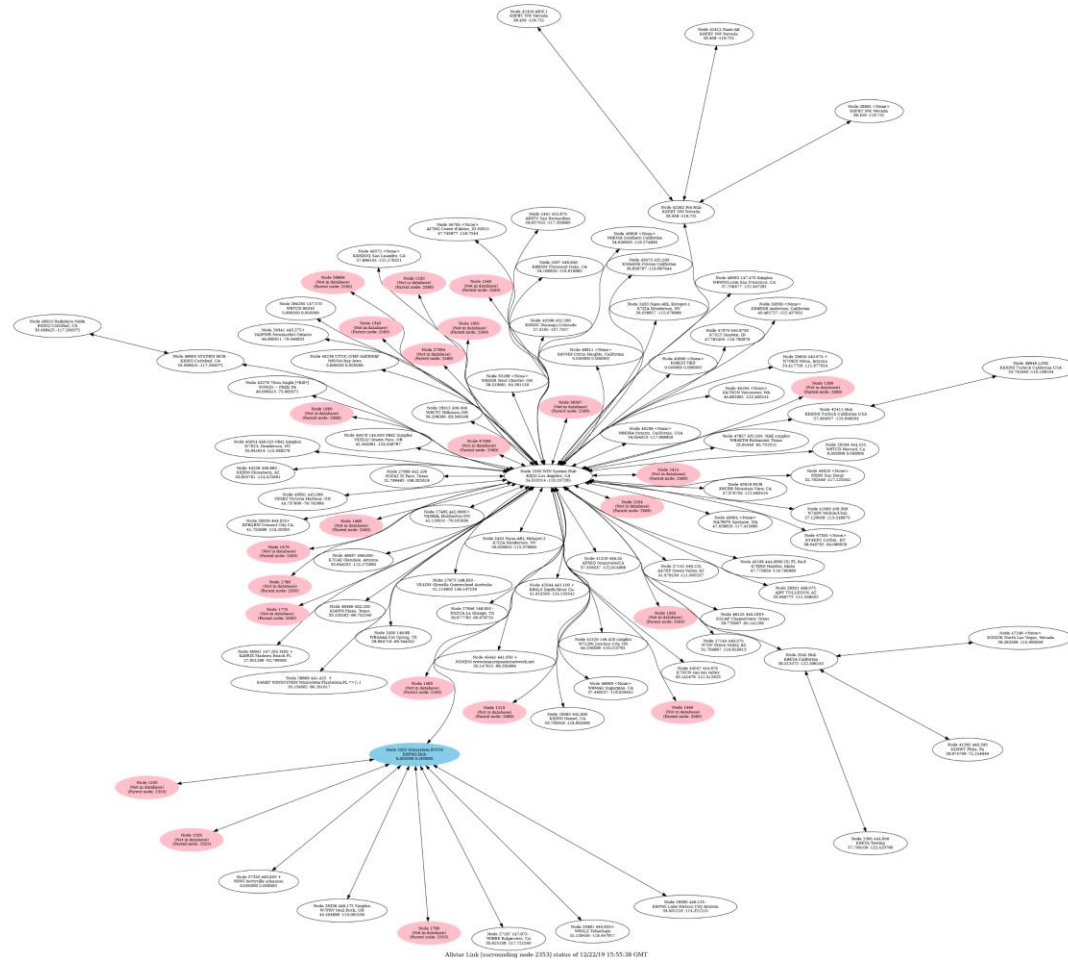
Allstar Link Main Project

<https://www.allstarlink.org>

HamVOIP Pi Distribution

<https://hamvoip.org>

LARGE ALLSTAR MESHES ARE ACHIEVABLE

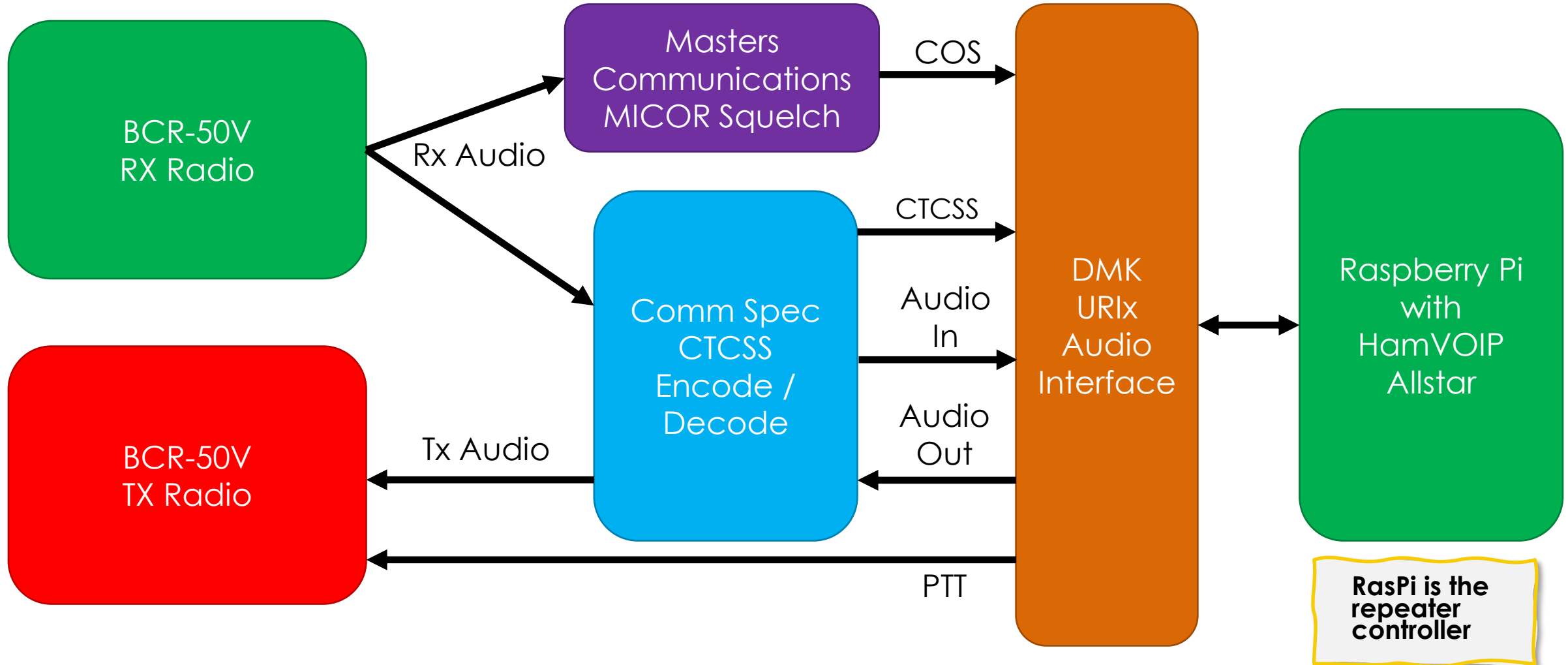


Western Intertie Network System (WINSys)

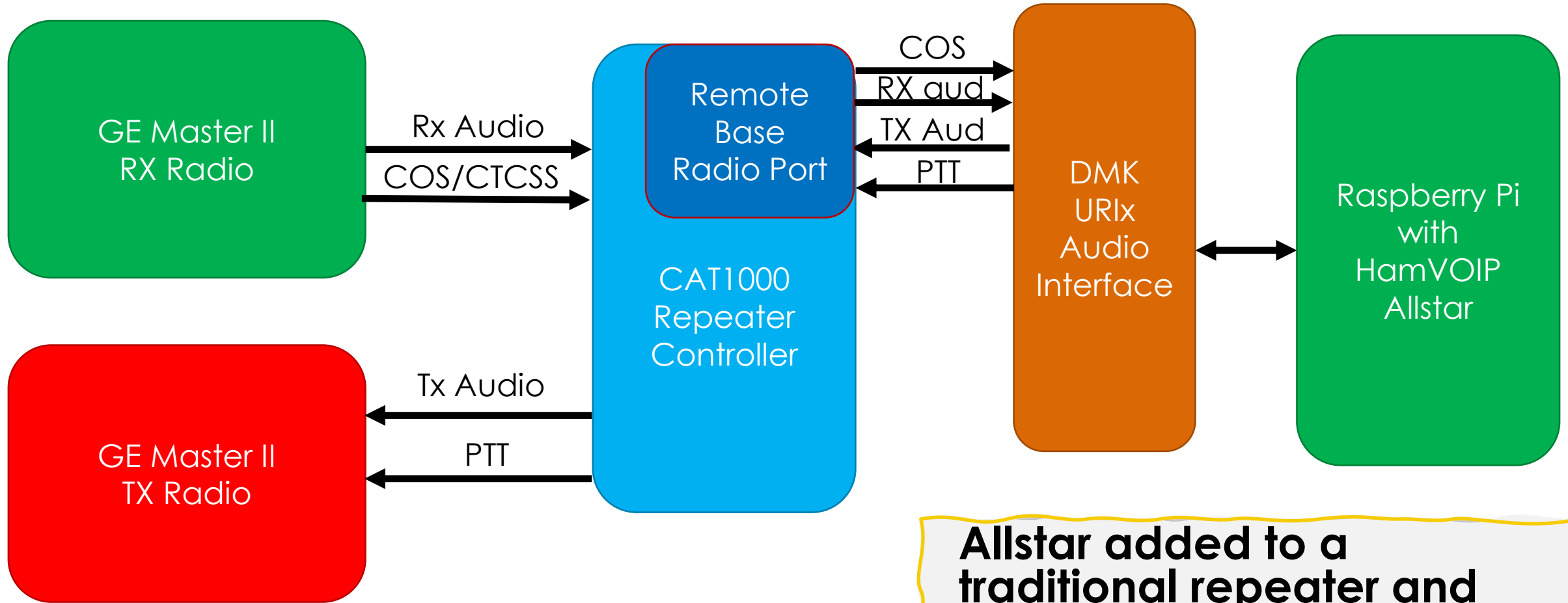
MOHOY HUBNet



W8WKY 147.390



N8XPK 53.17



Allstar added to a traditional repeater and controller

First Rule of AllStar

If you don't want to interact with AllStar, then don't. The repeater will work just fine without doing a thing.

Second Rule of Allstar

Your normal FM radio works with AllStar – no special equipment needed. If you can talk on the repeater, you can use AllStar.

Basic Allstar Commands

AllStar adds and removes links based on DTMF commands starting with a * (star)

- | | |
|----------|---|
| *3<NODE> | Connect a node |
| *1<NODE> | Disconnect a node |
| *70 | Announce all connected nodes |
| *76 | Disconnect all nodes |
| *82 | Very inefficient way to find out the current time |

What's a Node?

- It's just a number, like a short telephone number
- It is NOT a DMR ID
- Most nodes are a five-digit number
- Newer AllStarLink numbering is an “extension” to your existing node rather than assigning new numbers
 - 43211, 432111, 432112, etc...
 - 46018, 460181, 460188, etc...
- Look up nodes by callsign, location, etc. at <https://www.allstarlink.org/nodelist/>
- See what is linked at <http://stats.allstarlink.org/>

Cheatsheet for Local Nodes

- W8WKY 147.390+ 43211
- N8XPK 53.17- 42993
- N8XPK 444.200+ 43118
- N8XPK 1292.200- 47987
- W8WOO 147.210- 50702
- WW8TF 146.685+ 50815 (coming soon)
- WB8OVQ 442.000+ 28008

Basic Interaction

Example connection from W8WKY to W8WOO

1. (PTT) *350702
2. Listen for “Node W8WKY connected to W8WOO” or “Node 43211 connected to node 50702” (depends on if the “callsigns” are configured for playback)
3. Do your QSO or whatever. On 39, the courtesy tone is different for network transmissions – the “NASA beep”. Many people call it the “Echolink beep” but it’s really any remote network connection
4. When you’re done (PTT) *150702 and listen for the disconnect notice

Basic Operational Courtesy

- Avoid quick-keying. This is ALWAYS a good practice, but it's much more important with network-connected nodes.
 - Leave at least a second after you hear the telemetry tone of the last transmission before you key up.
 - Repeaters will have different courtesy tone lengths and hangtimes
- Listen before you transmit after linking – be courteous about interrupting an in-progress QSO on a remote system
- Be smart about linking up a big Allstar network mesh or a busy net
- Always unlink when you're done
- DO NOT use *76 on W8WKY as you will drop the Echolink and Broadcastify connections