

January, February, March

2023

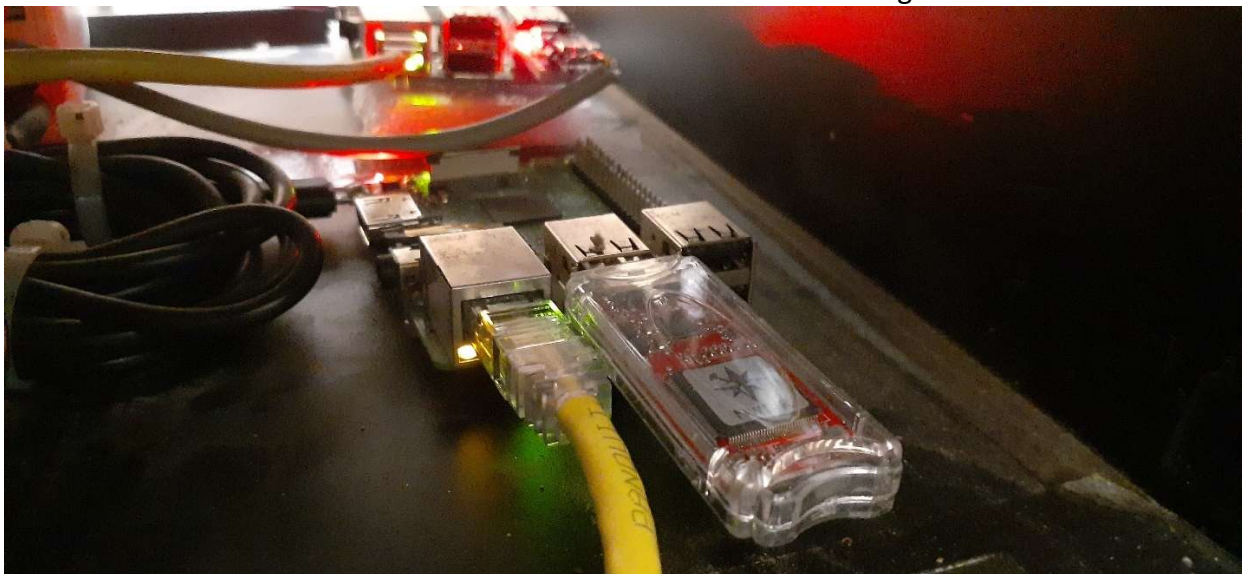


Greetings and Salutations from the KEØVH Hamshack! The beginning of 2023 has seen a lot of new SkyHubLink expansion and changes. We have added the new Boulder 447.175 repeater

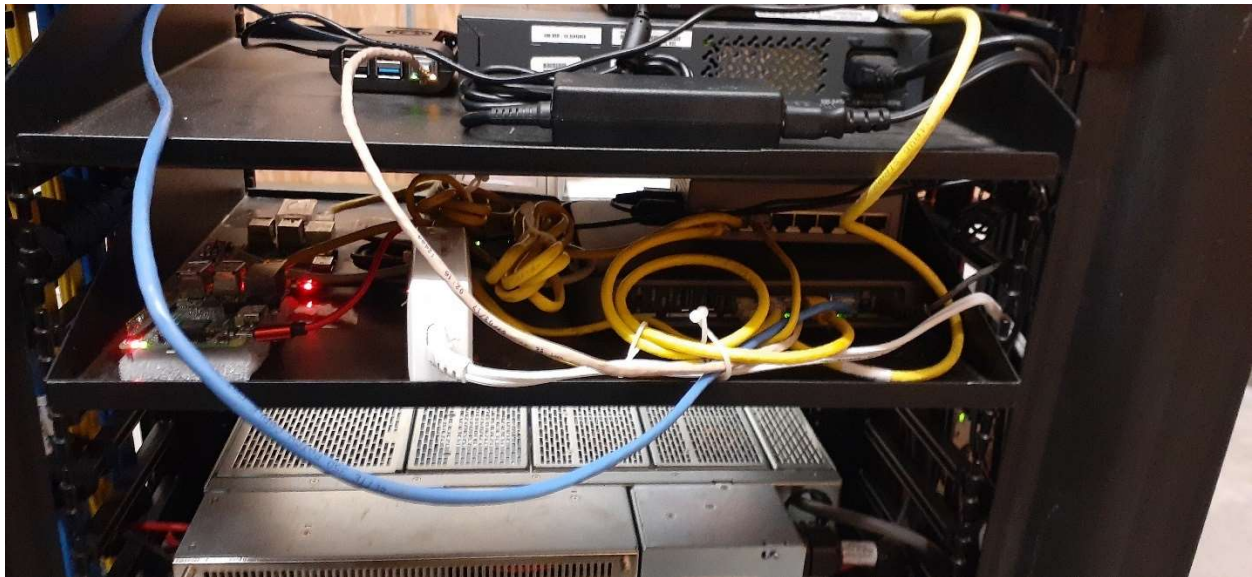
and the downtown Amoco Building at 1670 Broadway 447.050 repeater in Denver. Our good friend Steve KDØSBN is moving his Wires-X Pueblo repeater to another site for signal improvement, and our weather net guru Gary NC2WX along with a couple of fine folks in Pueblo including Kat WØKPH are putting up a new Wires-X repeater at the Baculite site in its place. We are adding a new Parker Wires-X repeater in the south east metro area courtesy of Jim Carey who will soon have his callsign. We put the KB5YZB 447.100 repeater up on Mt. Chief greatly improving its signal, but as of this writing are still awaiting the internet connection. See the "Repeaters" page at SkyHubLink.com for complete listings, pictures and coverage maps. Skyler WØSKY and I are putting in a new network link system from downtown Pueblo up to the Baculite Mesa site with help from new friends from the Pueblo amateur radio club. See <https://puebloradio.org/> for more information. The new Boulder repeater is now on the air at 447.175. This new repeater has been one that we have been wanting to put up for some time now as most of the Boulder "hole" hasn't really been serviced very well by any of our or other linked repeaters. This repeater's coverage is MUCH better than we anticipated and will serve that area now with a solid linked signal. SO, it has been a VERY busy early part of the year starting out. Stand by for more news and updates!



This is the lower main SkyHubLink "hub" rack at the downtown Denver Water Headquarters that very graciously allows us a first class networking setup and secure infrastructure to allow us a great base of operations. Our good friend Mark NØXRX and Scott KDØSIY have been invaluable assistance in making sure that the hub has the best and most secure connection to the internet for the system. We cannot thank the Denver Water Amateur Radio club enough for all their support and help with SkyHubLink. On the right hand side of the picture you will notice the D-Star interface and raspberry Pi, behind it you can see the IRLP pi, the IRLP link is the box there in the front with its associated RPi at the extreme right rear.



The D-Star XRF-031C Interface



Finally in this picture you can see the rear of the rack shelf in the above picture and above is the “MAIN” SHL RPi hub pi and backup Dell computer hub.

Meanwhile, up on Lookout Mountain above Golden:



This is the 927.975 repeater rack that is the feed repeater for the Boulder 447.175 repeater. From this vantage point just below Buffalo Bills Museum the repeater has quite the footprint and also serves as the SkyHubLink relay point for the Boulder machine. Skyler WØSKY is working at this time on a really robust and more powerful piece of equipment to make this repeater even stronger and more reliable. Wanna get on 900? Let us know! Skyler knows where to find the radio's! This site is also the relay point for the microwave internet link to the Milner Mountain site where our SkyHubLink repeaters above Loveland are located. We would like to thank our friends Vic Michael with RF-Towers and Jeff Grazi of Grazi Communications for all their help and support for making this part of the SkyHubLink possible here along the front range.

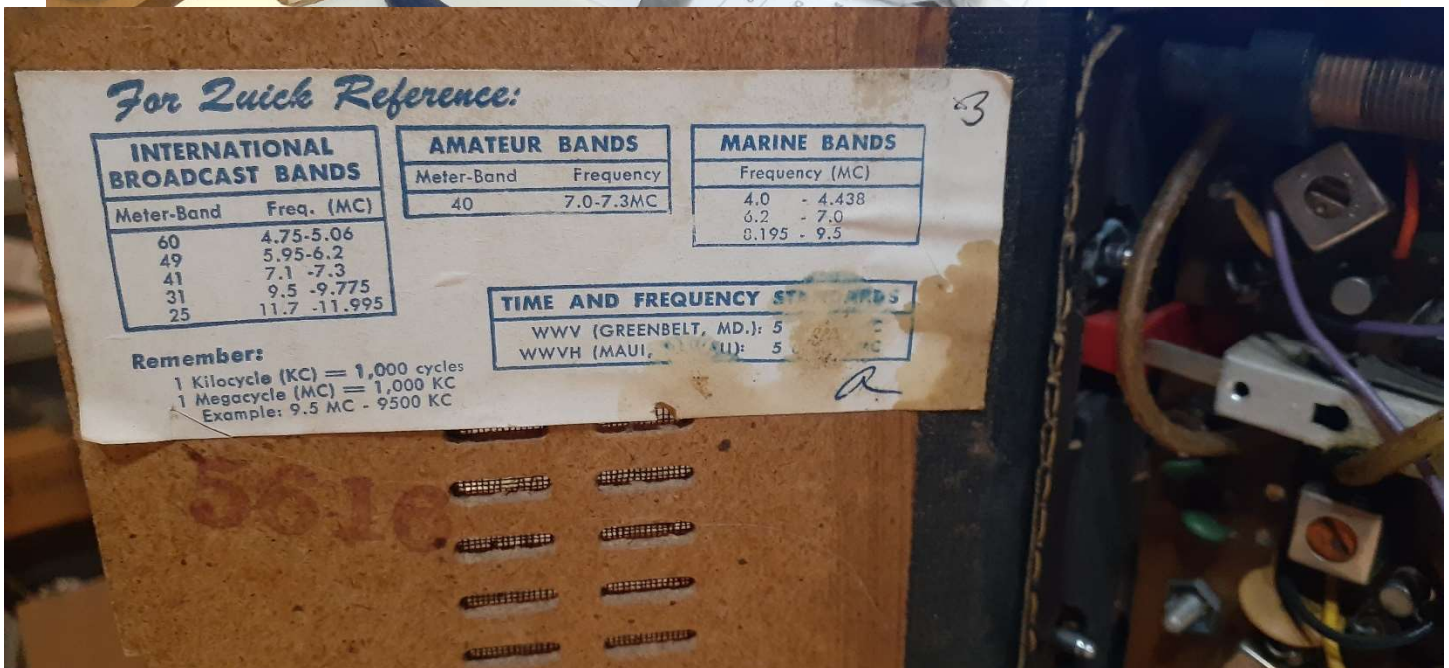


The Colorado Springs SkyHubLink repeater site, once again thanks to our good friend Vic Michael of RF-TOWERS. Here you see on the left the rack containing both the 449.850 analog repeater and the 447.425 Wires-X repeater. Both repeaters are connected thru a Ubiquity dish system to our friends at Galvanized Endeavors office where we are provided an internet connection. Also pictured on the right is the Diamond X50 Wires-X repeater antenna.



So I have been asked on several occasions, “Jack, how did you get started in radio”? VERY interesting question indeed! This radio had a lot to do with it. This is a General Electric two band model GlobeStar P-965B shortwave and AM band receiver. I was given this by someone back when I was 12 years old or so. I was absolutely fascinated by hearing far away distant

stations from the BBC, Radio Moscow, The Voice of America, HCJB in Quito Ecuador, WLS Chicago, and of course my local Chattanooga Tennessee AM stations back in the day. I would hook it up to an external wire antenna and listen for hours at night when I was supposed to be going to sleep. It captured my attention and I felt the magic of radio from all over the world thru this radio. I have written about it before here but thought I would write about it again as I still feel the magic of the airwaves everytime I turn this radio on! And YES, I STILL HAVE IT and it STILL WORKS! And there is a big story with this radio.



One summer our family was spending a summer up on Lake Chickamauga above Chattanooga and I had this radio sitting on top of a dock post down above the lake where my grandfathers boat was tied up. Listening to WFLI of course. The dock end where we were fishing was about 6 feet above the water and sure enough, I shouldn't have sat the radio there. Well it got knocked over and fell into the water. I immediately jumped into the water after it and it took a bit to find it half buried in the mud and silt at the bottom of the lake. So I brought it up, washed the mud and dirt out of it and sat it on the dock (well away from the edge) in the bright Tennessee sunlight and let it sit there for the rest of the week that we were on the lake. Brought it home, put new batteries in it, and it STILL WORKED! I was SO HAPPY! It still works to this day, and as I write this I am listening to KOA here in Denver on it. I have thought about restoring it cosmetically,

but it sure does have a lot of character as it is, PLUS IT STILL WORKS! I credit this radio with starting MY interest in all things radio. It still is a treasure to me today! As you can see in the pictures, I had to homebrew a battery pack as the old one dried out and crumbled years ago, but that is OK. It still works well in 2023! You can look this radio up on the internet (like everything else of course) and read more about it.



3 of my favorite QSL cards from the Iowa Class battleships/museum stations. I still have yet to catch the USS Wisconsin! Gotta get on that! AND, in April, I am going to get the chance to go visit the USS Alabama and may get to operate the amateur club station aboard that battleship. I will of course take pictures and write about that in a future edition of "The Hamshack". I also will be letting everybody know when I am operating from the Battleship Alabama, watch your SkyHubLink email the week of April 11. Plus I will be operating some on SkyHubLink via the Droidstar software while on the battleship.



The new 447.100 repeater on Mt. Chief is on the air but not connected to SkyHubLink at this time. We are soon going to have a link setup from the home QTH of Klaus K4NIX with a direct line of site to the repeater site using Ubiquity Network Link "LiteBeam" radio's actually using the 5900 mhz amateur band. Skyler found a source for these radio's which will allow us connections here and we just installed a set at Pueblo connecting the Bakulite Mesa site to our friends at the Masonic Lodge in Pueblo, courtesy of Don WBØECX. We also are using the same link setup in Colorado Springs to provide connection there.



The Ubiquiti LiteBeam Dish installed at the Bakulite Mesa site pointing back down to the Masonic Lodge, at the lodge building pointing up to the repeater site. Skyler WØSKY and Burness KIØAR are feeding the network cable down to the room where the internet and networking connections are housed at the Pueblo Masonic Lodge building. Thanks again to Don WBØECX for all the help and getting us setup!



We are very excited as well to announce that the new 447.200 NC2WX Wires-X repeater will be on the air probably in April from the site in addition to the analog 449.575 AllStar repeater already on the air. We will announce it on the SkyHubLink.com website and via the system email. If you haven't signed up for the SkyHubLink email list you can do so by clicking on this link: <https://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/skyhub>

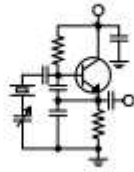


The SkyHubLink Bakulite Mesa 449.575 analog AllStar repeater, with space for the NEW Wires-X repeater in the rack.



<https://crawfordmediagroup.net/crawford-engineering/>

The Local Oscillator



The Newsletter of Crawford Broadcasting Company Corporate Engineering

HAMSHACK ARCHIVES FILES

<http://www.ke0vh.com/hamshack/archives/TheKE0VHHamshack201701Jan.pdf>

<http://www.ke0vh.com/hamshack/archives/TheKE0VHHamshack201702Feb.pdf>

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<http://www.ke0vh.com/hamshack/archives/TheKE0VHHamshack202211Fall.pdf>

6 Years AGO: <http://www.smp-te-sbe48.org/wp/2015/11/>

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The ***Broadcasters' Desktop Resource***

... edited by Barry Mishkind - the Eclectic Engineer