Echolink comes to KARS

Don – KI5AIU

What is Echolink?

From Echolink.org

EchoLink® software allows licensed Amateur Radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing Amateur Radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 300,000 validated users worldwide — in 151 of the world's 193 nations — with about 6,000 online at any given time.

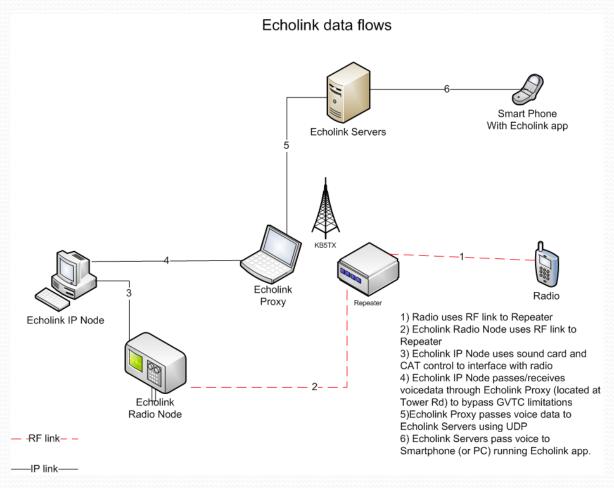
KARS history with linking

- WiresX Allows licensed operators, local or remote to connect to other rooms around the world. WiresX allowed transmit and receive. It's generated lots of traffic on our 444.90 repeater.
- Broadcastify Allowed people, local or remote to *listen* to traffic on the 146.64 repeater. Broadcastify has been taken down and replaced with...
- Echolink Allows licensed operators to link to another echolink machine via radio, PC or smart phone.

Where we are so far

- Had an Echolink node (K5AYR-R) set up at Ben's QTH using an FT857 with a SignalLink interface.
- Had an Echolink node (KI5AIU-R) set up at my QTH using EchoProxy. First instance was with my FT857 with a SignalLink interface (using VOX).
- Another node was set up using my FT991a. This used the internal sound card and CAT control.
- Steve (W5SCL), currently in DC, has been able to use his phone to join the Tuesday net and other activity.

Our current implementation



Future plans

- No practical to tie up expensive radios. Also, want to move the Echolink Node to the Tower Rd facility.
- Building an interface to allow a Baofeng UV-5R to be the Echolink Node radio. \$25 for the radio and \$8 for the interface. Search eBay for:

"easy digi™" sound card interface