Connecting to NVON USING WOIA

Due to security concerns, BCARES direct access to the internet has been removed in the EOC. This means that the W0IA-10 packet node is no longer available for use in sending Winlink messages. The W0IA-1 AND -7 ports are still available and useful for communicating with the BCARES Bulletin Board System (BBS).

Luckily we have an alternative path for Winlink messaging nearby in Longmont. Many of us in Boulder County should be able to connect to NV0N-10. This node is also on 145.090 and we have learned that not everyone is able to connect. We quickly learned that we cannot connect to it *directly* from the EOC, but we did learn that we can connect to it by going thru W0IA-7 using a digi-peat function or by using a script method for connecting node to node. Here are the steps to make the connection if you can hit W0IA.

Using Digipeat

- 1. Create a message as usual and post to the OUTBOX in RMS
- 2. Open a session as usual
- 3. Change the default CONNECTION TYPE of DIRECT to DIGIPEATER using the drop-down
- 4. Type NV0N-10 in the first box and W0IA-7 in the second box after the via statement
- 5. Click Start as usual and watch the connection take place
- 6. Be PATIENT, the transfer will be much slower than typical due to the digipeat.

Using a Script

This is actually a slightly more efficient way of getting the same behavior as digipeating, using the node system. Basically you would need to use CONNECTION TYPE of SCRIPT, in step 3 above, then select "Add Script", and create a new script called "NV0N RMS via W0IA" with the following text for the script:

C W0IA-7 CONN !WAITFOR MHEARD C 1 NV0N-7 CONN !WAITFOR MHEARD RMS Com

This will essentially have a similar effect as digipeating, but will be significantly more reliable and faster, as it is doing each link (You <-> WOIA and WOIA <-> NVON) as separate links with link-local retransmission and error handling. This can actually be done with multiple different nodes in the path, with some even being able to switch from one frequency to another.

Thanks to Jeremy Banker (K0JLB) for these tips.