Introduction to Packet Radio

Kern County Emergency Operations Center - PBBS Check-in

Richard – KK6RJR
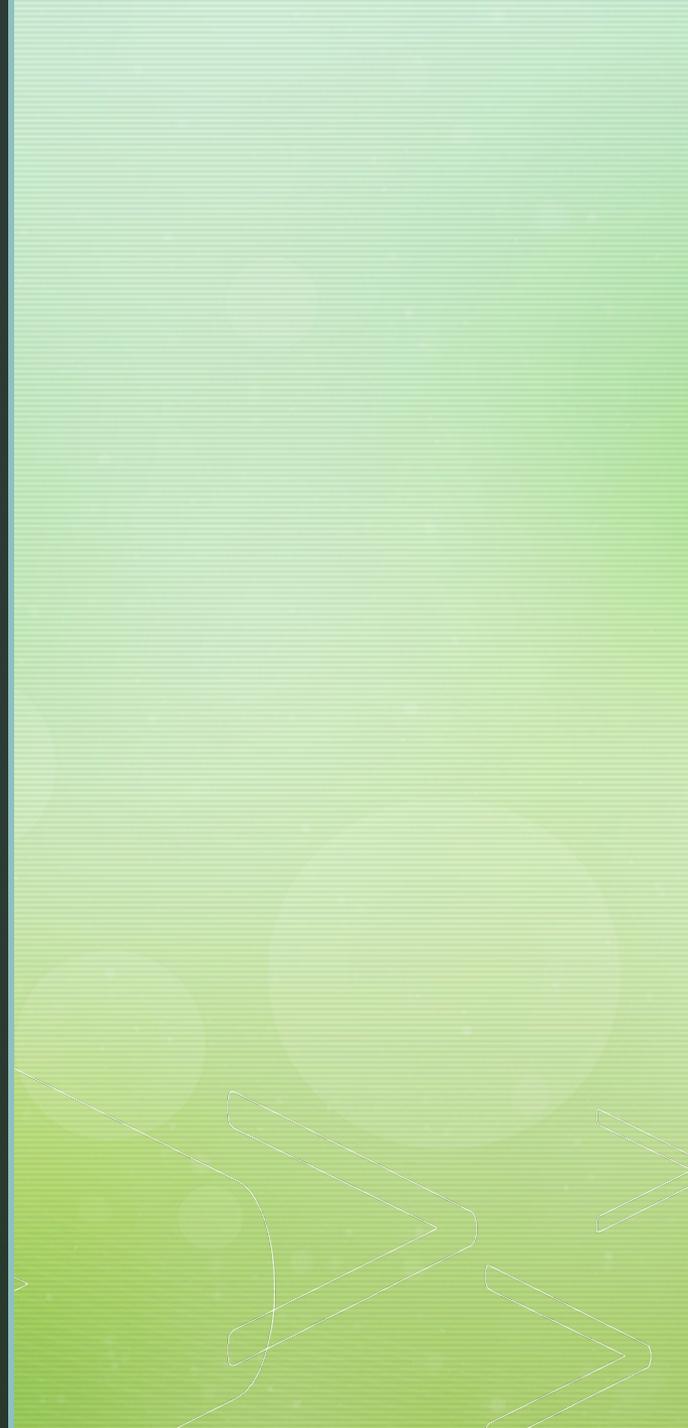
Introduction To Packet Radio

- *Packet Radio is a digital mode available to all licensed amateur radio operators.*

- *Packet Radio is based on the Ax. 25 protocol used for sending information for such activities as APRS, Winlink, and of course posting information on the Kern Co. EOC personal Bulletin Board System mailbox.*

Components of a Packet Station
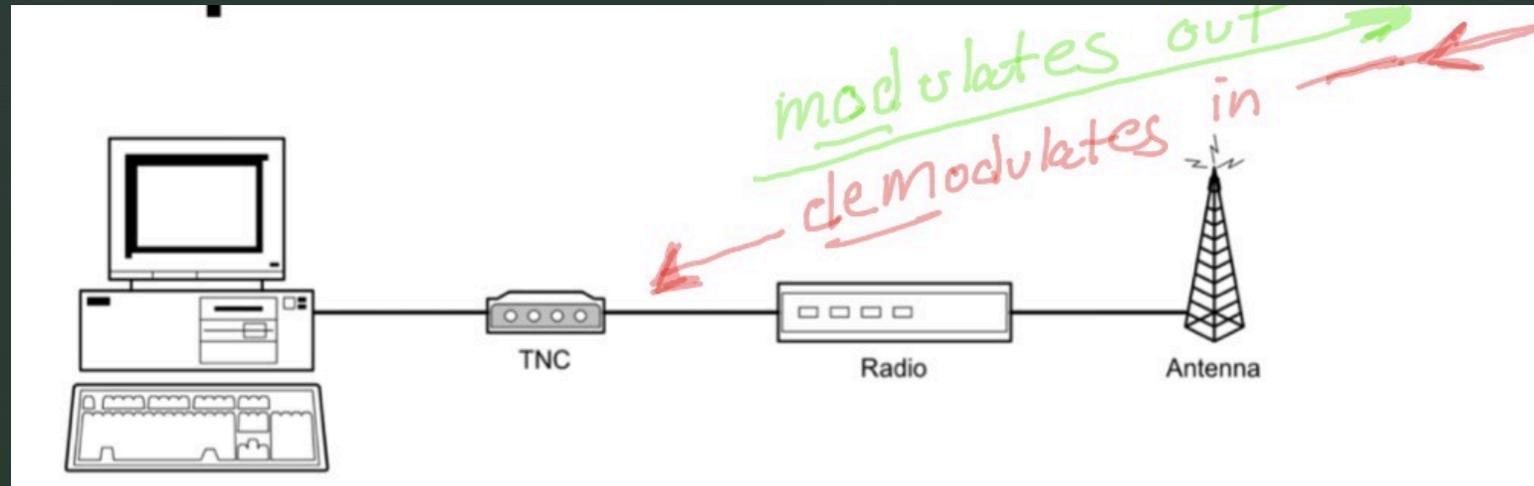
Computer: runs a "terminal emulation" program

TNC (Terminal Node Controller): similar to a modem, that is the interface between your radio and your computer

Radio (w/antenna) :   transmits the digital data from the TNC to another packet station

What can we connect to?
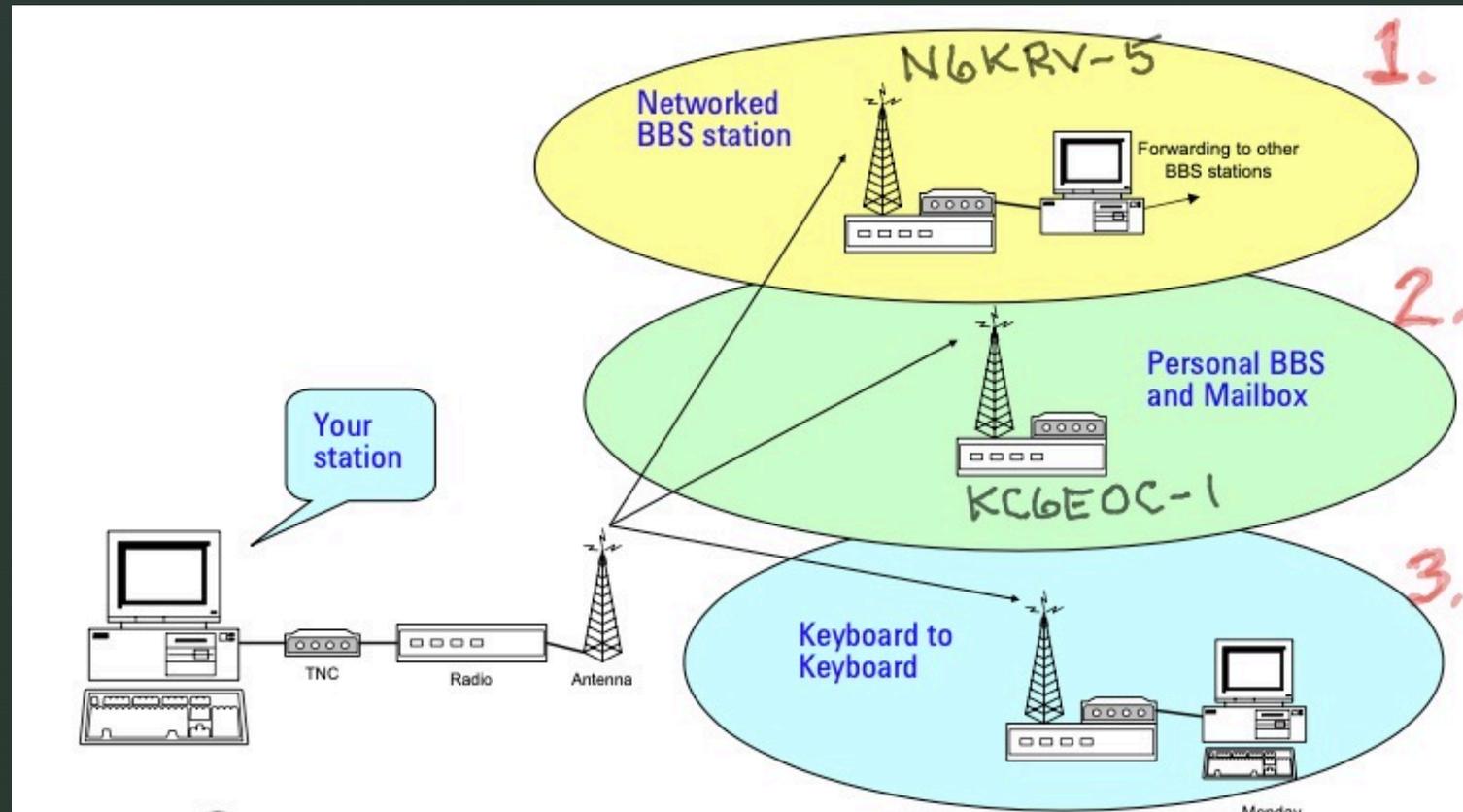
Networked BBS Stations
passing a message from N6KRV-5 to KC6EOC-1
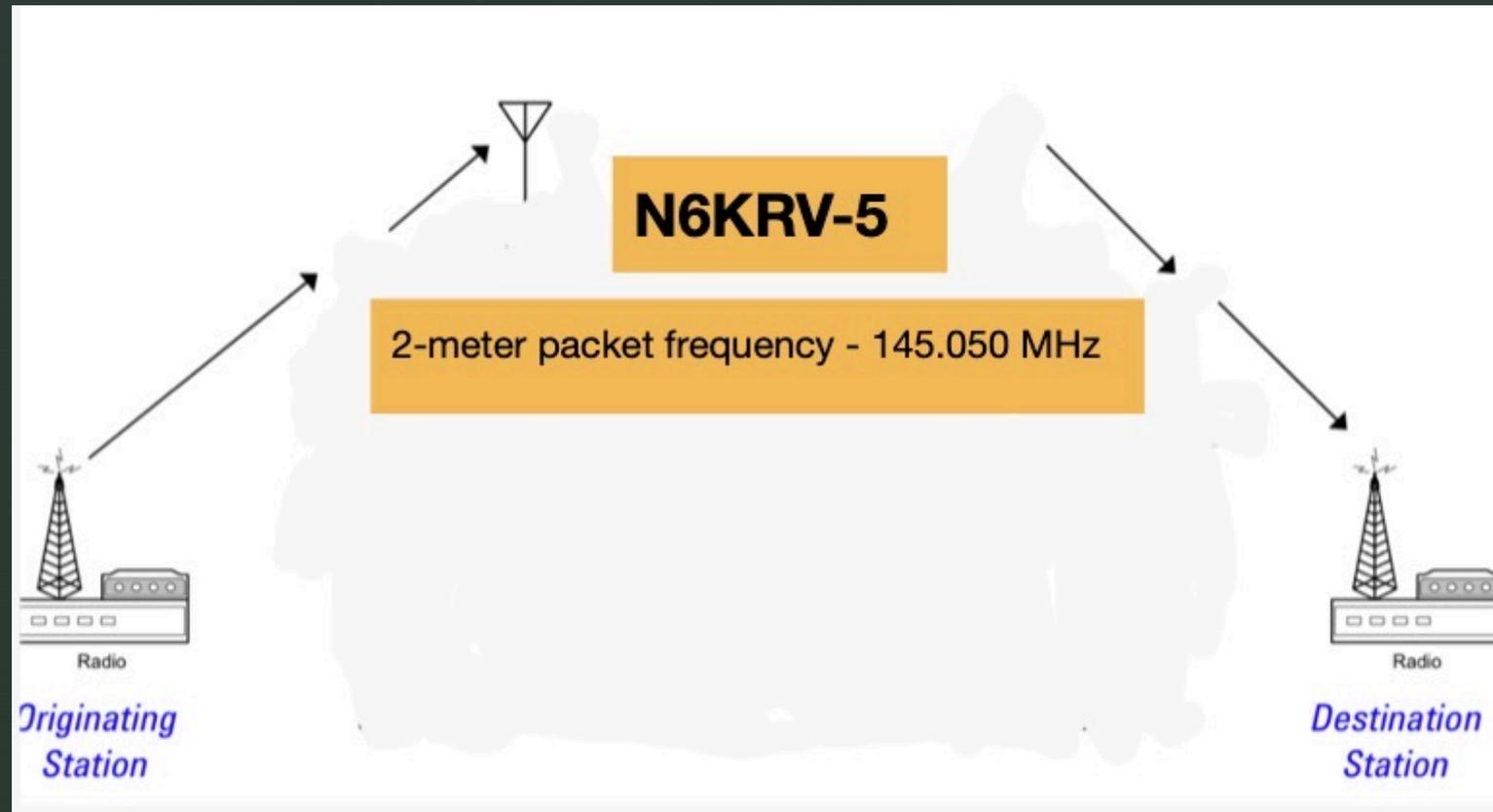
TNC and BBS Commands

TNC Commands

– CONNECT - connects to another TNC

BBS Commands

Commands that control the remote BBS station

– Help, ? - displays list of commands List - lists messages you can read

– Read - read a message

– Send - send a message

– Kill - delete a message

– Bye - log off this BBS

Summary of a Typical TNC Session
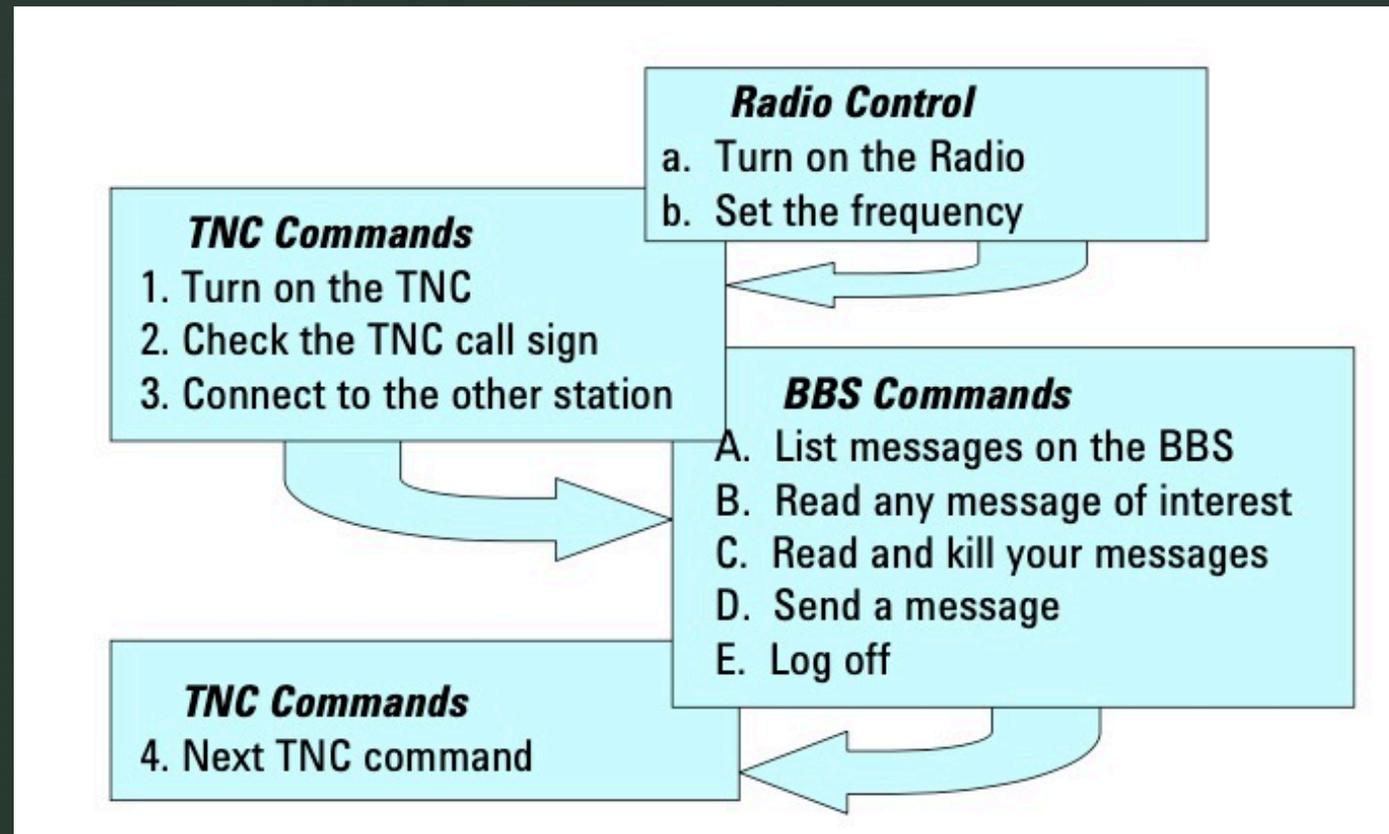
Powering on the TNC

```
KANTRONICS PACKET CONTROLLER III VERSION 5.0
(C) COPYRIGHT 1988-1992 BY KANTRONICS INC.  ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
DUPLICATION PROHIBITED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF KANTRONICS.
cmd:
```

KC6EOC-1 Check-in Procedure 1

- cmd:<mark>C n6krv-5</mark>

- cmd:*** CONNECTED to N6KRV-5

- <mark>C kc6eoc-1</mark>

- BRKNRG:N6KRV-5} Connected to KC6EOC-1

- [KPC3P-9.1-HM$] 475264 BYTES AVAILABLE IN 17 BLOCK(S)

- THERE ARE 4 MESSAGES NUMBERED 1-334

- Welcome to the WKCARES PBBS

- ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >

- <mark>R 1</mark>

KC6EOC-1 Check-in Procedure 2

MSG#1 09/06/2014 15:40:50 FROM KC6EOC TO ALL

SUBJECT: ARES Net Check In Procedure

PATH: KC6EOC

To be listed in the weekly packet mode check ins for the Monday evening net log on this PBBS anytime between nets and send a message to ARES in the format SB ARES. When asked for a message subject reply Weekly Check In. In the body of the message include the date / time / and your callsign. The packet net moderator will review the message received during the week and add you to the count.

ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >

KC6EOC-1 Check-in Procedure (3 STEPS)

- **SB ARES**

- *475224 BYTES AVAILABLE IN 17 BLOCK(S)*

- *SUBJECT:* **Weekly Check In**

- *ENTER MESSAGE 335--END WITH CTRL-Z OR /EX ON A SINGLE LINE*

- **05/13/2018,   15:31   AB6DM**

- **/EX**

- *MESSAGE SAVED*

- *ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >*

- **B**

- *BRKNRG:N6KRV-5} Welcome back.*

- **B**

- *BRKNRG:N6KRV-5} Goodbye.*

- **** DISCONNECTED*

Additional information – "List" BBS command

- ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >

- L

- MSG# ST SIZE   TO   FROM   DATE   SUBJECT

- 1258   B 73   ARES   KK6RJR   05/07/2023 18:06:49   Weekly Check In

- 1238   B 48   ARES   KD6UQZ   11/28/2022 23:23:11   WEEKLY CHECK IN

- 1233   B 34   ARES   KA6IYS   11/11/2022 20:47:05   Weekly Check In

- 1232   B 38   ARES   KE6SHL   11/10/2022 10:38:05   Weekly Check In

- 1230   B 39   ARES   WA6JGB   11/09/2022 16:06:11   Weekly Check In

- 1229   B 40   ARES   KJ6KK   11/09/2022 15:47:26   Weekly check In

- 1   B 420   ALL   KC6EOC   09/06/2014 15:40:50   ARES Net Check In Procedure

- ENTER COMMAND: B,J,K,L,R,S, or Help >

RESOURCES

- WKCARES Website: https://westernkerncountyares.org/

- SOFTWARE MODEMS: https://www.pe0sat.vgnet.nl/decoding/software-modems/

- Computer Terminal emulator: https://www.puttygen.com/download-putty

- SIGNALINK Website: https://www.tigertronics.com/

- KANTRONICS Website: https://kantronics.com/

- MOBILINKD TNC: https://store.mobilinkd.com/

- WINLINK Website: https://winlink.org/

- APRS Online Mapping: https://aprs.fi/

- GROUPS I.O. for support: https://groups.io/