



THE ROUND TABLE

Monthly Newsletter Of The Denver Radio Club

Since 1917

July 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY KEVIN SCHMIDT, KØKPS

Greetings and Salutations,

This year's ARRL Field Day is in the books for the Denver Radio Club. The event started on Saturday, 27 June at noon and ended on Sunday at noon. It was well attended by many veteran operators, new hams, and those interested in the hobby. The last count was 68 people showed up for the 24 hour event. The club operated as a 3A with three transmitters on the 20 meter band on SSB, 40 meters on CW, and 15 meters FT-8. In addition, the club had a GO-TA (Get on the Air) station on 10 meters. Final counts on the number of QSOs are still being tabulated. One preliminary count was nearly 200 QSOs on CW alone with Ted coming up from Texas to participate.

Many came with questions on equipment, operations and the like. I surely hope they all left with answers that make the hobby more enjoyable.

On Sunday, Pete, AB8WN and his wife Kelly, KBØGP had a successful balloon launch. Unfortunately, the balloon's transmitter decided that QRT was more its liking and failed to update with its location. Oh well.

I have to give a shout out to Dick, N6WHV, for all his efforts in taking on all the logistics and coordination of the event. His wife Cathy and son managed all the food service and keeping everyone well fed and hydrated. Thanks to Rich, WBØAKV, for bringing the Salvation Army van and tower trailer. I also can't forget all those that showed up on Saturday morning to set up all the antennas, tents, tables, and radios, etc. Again on Sunday, many made short work of breaking the event down and leaving the arena in great shape. It takes many dedicated club members in making these events possible. THANKS to all.

Mark your calendars for July 25th, the club is looking at a DRC Saturday event. The topic and location will be finalized and notifications will go out shortly. I hope to see you there.

'73

Kevin – KØKPS
President@w0tx.org

DRC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

SUBMITTED BY SECRETARY ORLEN WOLF, WWOLF

Minutes of the Denver Radio Club Board of Directors meeting held via Google Meet on May 27, 2026. The meeting convened at 1900 with the following present:

Kevin Schmidt KØKPS – President
Orlen Wolf WWØLF – Secretary/Treasurer
Doron Ben Chaim K1DBC – Board member
Peter Sobanski AB8WN – Board member
Ronnie Bock K4RNY – Board member
Bill Worthington KE0YKV – Activity Committee

Board members Dick Nelson, Brian Diem and Bruce Kirkpatrick were excused.

Minutes of the April 22nd meeting were accepted as presented on a motion by Peter seconded by Ronnie.

Treasurer's report dated 04/30/2026 was reviewed and after discussion was accepted as presented on a motion by Doron seconded by Peter.

Bill gave a report on the Membership Involvement Committee meeting. Four specific ideas were presented:

1. Automatic announcements of upcoming events on AllStar.
2. Set up a procedure for members to subscribe to calendar page.
3. Hold DRC Saturday events in a different portion of metro area (Suggested Aurora or south)
4. Post more information about upcoming DRC events on groups.io.

Tech Committee: Doron reported progress on implementing Stripe for online dues payments as an alternative to PayPal. There was a discussion on updates on Meshtastic group and interlinking repeaters during Sunday night net.

Kevin noted that Bruce Kirkpatrick KE0VR was elected to the board to replace Jeff Irvin KBOCHT.

Peter discussed purchase of a wireless mic. Orlen noted the club could possibly have one in storage. If one is not available Doron moved to purchase one at not to exceed \$250, seconded by Ronnie. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1954.



Fall, 1983 - Building a faceplate panel for the repeater / Lys, k0pgm

DRC - BLAST FROM THE PAST

PROVIDED BY WOODY LINWOOD, W0UI

Side Note: It appears that a relative of Lys now has his call sign. Lys was heavily involved with the ARRL and the Rocky Mountain Division as its director and vice director. ([ARRL's 2002 SK notice](#)) ~Ed

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

Is the radio horizon the same for all ham bands?

The answer can be found on page 12 of the January 2018 issue of the *Roundtable*:
[https://w0tx.org/RoundtableArchive/2018-RoundTables/RT201801\(JAN\).pdf](https://w0tx.org/RoundtableArchive/2018-RoundTables/RT201801(JAN).pdf)

MONTHLY DRC LUNCH - REMINDER

BY PETE SOBANSKI, AB8WN AND KEVIN SCHMIDT, K0KPS

Join us on the third Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. for lunch at Sunrise Sunset. The address is 1424 S Wadsworth Blvd, Lakewood, CO 80232. No reservations are required. If you are interested in meeting and talking about radio, or other topics, don't hesitate in coming by. w0tx.org/2024/06/09/denver-radio-club-lunch



THE FT8 PHENOMENON: WHY AND HOW IT WORKS

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

Conversations on the repeaters lately make one thing clear: FT8's popularity is exploding. If you're not yet using FT8 but you're curious about why so many operators are excited about it, or you simply want to monitor FT8 activity to see whether the mode is right for you, this article will get you started. What follows is a brief overview of FT8 and a practical guide to monitoring and decoding FT8 signals using online SDR receivers around the world, all with a standard web browser.

Why is FT8 So Popular?

FT8 is popular among hams because it makes reliable contacts possible under conditions where voice or CW simply won't work. Its narrow bandwidth, strong error correction, and synchronized timing let stations decode signals far below the noise floor. That means more DX, more grids, more QSOs, even with low power or modest antennas. It's easy to operate, highly efficient, and provides instant propagation insight through PSKReporter. FT8 popularity will probably become even more popular as solar cycle 25 continues to decline.

Types of FT8 QSOs

FT8 QSOs are brief, highly structured where hams exchange only the essential information needed to confirm a valid contact; typically, callsigns, signal reports, and grid squares. The mode's automated, time synchronized exchange allows stations to complete a full contact in under 90 seconds, making it ideal for quickly logging many contacts under poor propagation

conditions. Table 1 shows the step by step exchange of messages that make up a complete FT8 contact between W0VHS and W6OAV.

Table 1 - A Typical QSO Sequence	
Message	Meaning
CQ W0VHS DM79	W0VHS is calling CQ from grid DM79.
W0VHS W6OAV DM79	W6OAV answers the CQ and sends his grid.
W6OAV W0VHS -12	W0VHS reports W6OAV's signal as -12 dB.
W0VHS W6OAV R-10	W6OAV acknowledges and sends an R-report of -10 dB.
W6OAV W0VHS RR73	W0VHS confirms receipt of the report and sends final "RR73."
W0VHS W6OAV 73	W6OAV sends a closing 73 (optional courtesy).

Why FT8 Works:

- **Extremely narrow bandwidth.** FT8 is a weak signal digital mode using 8-tone FSK, a ~50 Hz bandwidth. Extremely narrow bandwidth is important because it allows FT8 to pull usable signals out of very crowded or noisy band conditions. Dozens of FT8 signals can fit into a small slice of a band, and each one can be decoded even when it's far below the noise floor.
- **LDPC error correction.** FT8 uses a strong forward error correction to decode and correct signals even 20–24 dB below the noise floor.
- **Time-synchronized frame.** FT8 relies on strict, UTC aligned timing so that every station begins transmitting and decoding at the same instant. The mode runs in 15-second frames—starting at 00, 15, 30, and 45 seconds, with each transmission occupying 12.64 seconds of that window (see Figure 1). Because all signals start and stop together, WSJT-X can separate and decode dozens of overlapping signals within a very narrow slice of spectrum. During a QSO, each station transmits for one 12.64-second cycle and listens during the next, alternating in this pattern, (transmit, then receive) until the contact is complete.

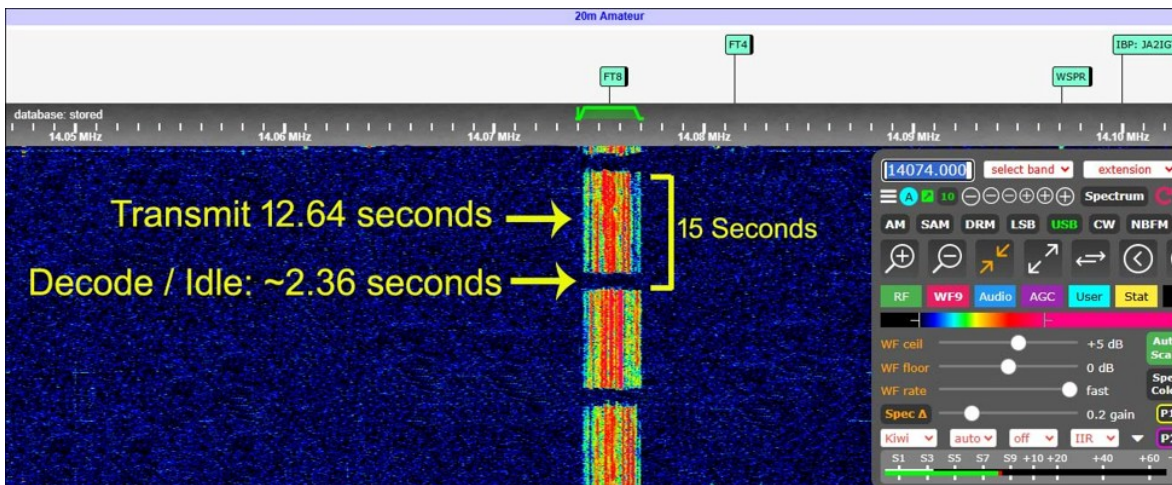


Figure 1 - SDR waterfall showing FT8 transmit & decode/idle times

- **Structured 75-bit messages.** FT8's structured 75 bit messages pack two callsigns plus a grid square or signal report into a compact, fixed format payload. This tight structure allows the encoder to compress the information efficiently, add a CRC for error checking, and then apply LDPC forward error correction, all of which keeps transmissions short and highly decodable even at very weak signal levels.

Monitoring FT8 Using Online SDR receivers

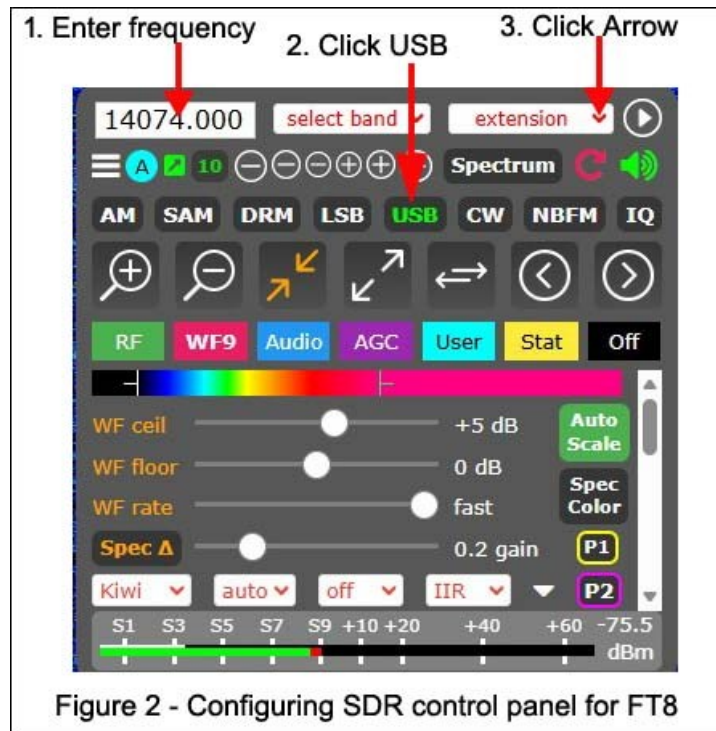
The following illustrates how to configure online SDR receivers to monitor FT8 transmissions and how to decode/read the messages.

1. Configuring an Online SDR

Begin by accessing the desired SDR at <http://kiwisdr.com/public/>. The SDR will look similar to that shown in Figure 1 which displays 26 FT8 signals in the **Time-synchronized frame** mode as described above.

Refer to Figure 2 which shows the SDR control panel. Perform the following steps as shown in Figure 2 to configure the SDR for decoding FT8.

1. Enter the desired FT8 frequency. (Common FT8 Frequencies (kHz): 80m 3573 40m 7074 30m 10136 20m 14074 17m 18100 15m 21074 12m 24915 10m 28074).
2. Click the USB button.
3. Click the "extension" tab. A "mode protocol" menu will popup. Select "FT8/FT4".



The SDR screen should initially appear as shown in Figure 3 without the data shown in the white decode area. After two 15 second data transmissions, the data will appear and will be updated with each subsequent data transmission. Once decoded, the data will appear with a header as shown.

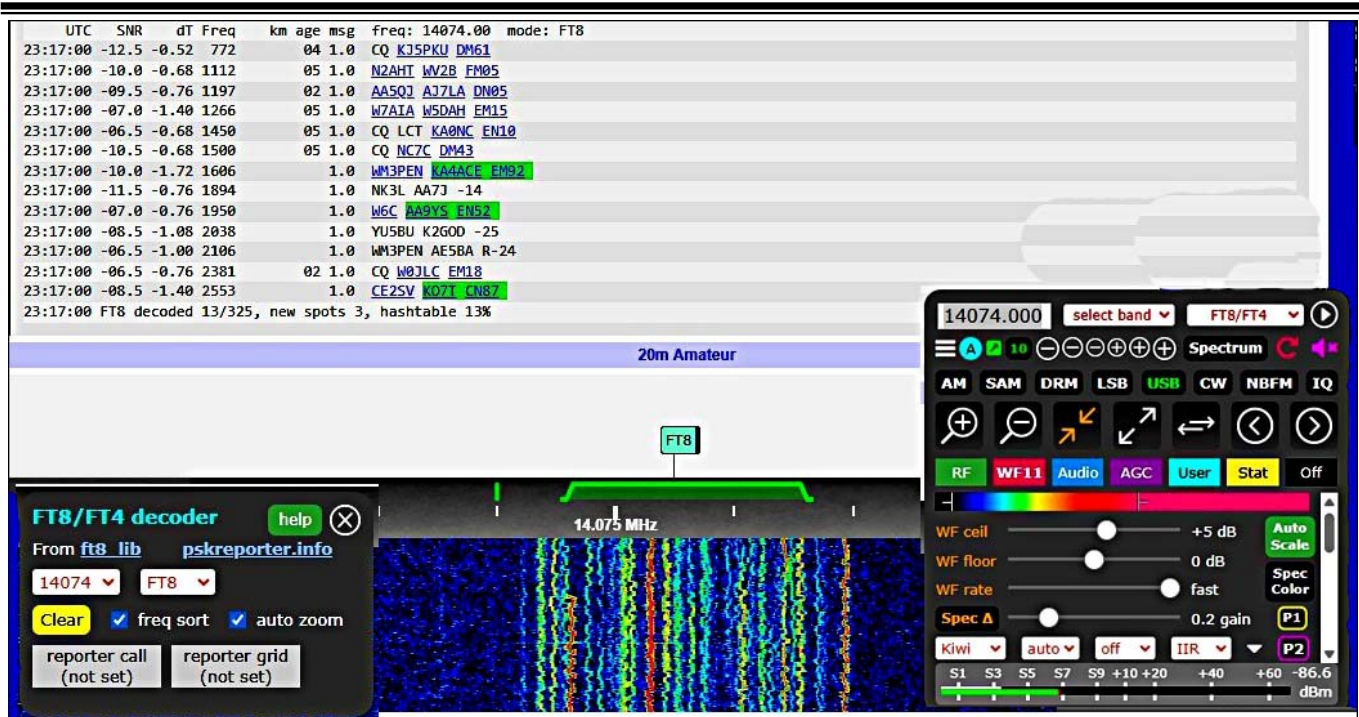


Figure 3 - SDR decoding FT8 signals

2. Decoding the FT8 Data

Table 2 describes the meanings of the headers at the top of the decode in Figure 3. Table 3 describes the meanings of each decoded line in Figure 3.

Table 2 – The Meaning of the Headers in SDR Decodes	
Header	What It Means
UTC	The exact time (in Coordinated Universal Time) when the FT8 transmission was decoded.
SNR	Signal-to-Noise Ratio in dB, measured in a 2500 Hz reference bandwidth. Negative values indicate weak signals; FT8 can decode down to about – 24 dB.
dT	Time offset between the transmitting station’s clock and the SDR’s clock, in seconds. FT8 requires timing accuracy within roughly ±1 s.
Freq	The audio frequency (in Hz) of the signal within the FT8 passband. Added to the dial frequency, it gives the actual transmit frequency.
km	Approximate distance (in kilometers) from the transmitting station to the SDR receiver, based on grid locator information.
age	How many decode cycles ago the signal was received (1.0 = just decoded).
msg	The actual FT8 message content — typically CQ calls, callsign exchanges, signal reports, or grid squares.

Table 3 - Decode of Data Lines in Figure 3

FT8 Messages	Meaning
CQ KJ5PKU DM61	KJ5PKU is calling CQ and announcing his grid square
N2AHT W2AB FN05	N2AHT is calling W2AB directly and indicates W2AB's grid as FN05.
AA5QI AJ7JA DM15	AA5QI is calling AJ7JA specifically and shows AJ7JA's grid as DM15.
W7ALA W5DAN EM15	W7ALA is calling W5DAN and reports W5DAN's grid as EM15.
CQ LCT KA0NC EM15	KA0NC is calling CQ from grid EM15, with "LCT" likely being a contest or special-event exchange.
CQ NC7F DM43	NC7F is calling CQ from grid DM43.
WM3PEN KA4ACE EM92	WM3PEN is calling KA4ACE directly and shows KA4ACE's grid as EM92.
NK3L AA7J -14	NK3L is sending AA7J a signal report of -14 dB.
W9GC AA9YS EN52	W9GC is calling AA9YS and indicates AA9YS's grid as EN52.
YUSBK K2GOD R-24	YUSBK is sending K2GOD an R-report of -24 dB
WM3PEN AE5BA R-24	WM3PEN is sending AE5BA an R-report of -24 dB.
CQ W0JLC EM18	W0JLC is calling CQ from grid EM18.
CE2SV KO7T CN87	CE2SV is calling KO7T directly and shows KO7T's grid as CN87.

Installing FT8

FT8 operation requires surprisingly little software. In fact, a station can be fully functional with just one program: WSJT-X. Developed by K1JT and his team, WSJT-X provides the FT8 modem, waterfall display, message sequencing, CAT control, and logging. For most operators, installing WSJT-X is all that is necessary to get on the air.

Although WSJT-X is the only essential component, several supporting programs are widely used to improve timing accuracy, logging, and operating convenience. FT8 depends on precise timing, so many operators install a dedicated time synchronization utility such as Meinberg NTP or Dimension 4. These tools keep the computer clock within the one second accuracy window required for reliable FT8 decoding.

The following is a list of popular optional programs which will enhance FT8 operation:

- JTAAlert — Provides audio alerts, worked before checks, and automatic logging integration.
- GridTracker — Displays real time maps, propagation paths, and FT8 activity visually.
- Log4OM — Full-featured logging suite with LoTW/eQSL uploads and award tracking.
- N3FJP ALog — Simple, fast logging program with excellent WSJT-X integration.

- DXKeeper — Part of the DXLab Suite; powerful logging and award management.
- Ham Radio Deluxe Logbook — Integrated logging with cluster, awards, and rig control.
- Meinberg NTP — High-accuracy time synchronization for reliable FT8 decoding.
- Dimension 4 — Lightweight time sync utility to keep the PC clock within ± 1 second.
- PSKReporter (web) — Shows where the FT8 signal is being heard worldwide.
- JTDX — Alternative FT8 software optimized for weak signal decoding.
- MSHV — Fast, multi-stream FT8/FT4 software popular with contesters.
- OmniRig — CAT control engine for radios with complex or legacy CAT protocol.

If the mode sparks your interest, install WSJT-X, get on the air, and join the thousands of operators who are making FT8 one of the most active segments of every HF band.

References

Worldwide SDRs: <http://kiwisdr.com/public/>

What Is FT8? How It Works and Why So Many Operators Use It
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugmrYXIPSIM>

Get Started with FT8 - An Introduction for Beginners | WSJT-X Ham Radio
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyWX0i87P0o>

WSJT-X FT8 Tutorial Master Class Everything You Need to Know
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jy7uUQV1wRU>

ATTENTION

The DRC Board of Directors meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month via Google Meet and are open to any member. If you wish to attend, please contact a board member prior to the meeting night for specific information.

We would love to publish a monthly column profiling DRC members' stories about how they got into the ham radio hobby, their interests and backgrounds. Please submit your story to roundtable@w0tx.org.

CREATE FREE QSL CARDS AND EQSLs

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

Amateur radio QSL cards began as simple reception postcards in the 1910s and soon evolved into the familiar 3.5 × 5.5-inch confirmations that became a hallmark of amateur radio, balancing mailing cost, storage, and usability. As postage rates climbed and internet systems matured, many operators shifted toward electronic QSLs (eQSLs) for everyday contacts while reserving printed cards for special events or memorable QSOs. Today, hams enjoy the best of both worlds through a hybrid approach supported by free online tools that generate print ready PDFs and attractive digital eQSLs in minutes. This article discusses these free tools.



ONLINE WEBSITES NOT REQUIRING AN ACCOUNT

ON3WBK eQSL Generator

One of the most capable free tools available, the ON3WBK generator offers a clean interface. Operators can enter callsigns, RST, mode, band, grid square, and even CQ/ITU zones. The site automatically fills in UTC date and time, and it allows full customization of text colors and background images. Finished cards can be downloaded or emailed directly as PNG files.

Official site: <https://eqsl.be>

digiQSL

If simplicity is the goal, digiQSL provides a streamlined way to generate digital QSLs with minimal fuss. It supports all the essential QSO fields—RST, mode, band, power, rig, and grid—and allows background image uploads. The final card can be downloaded or emailed, making it a quick solution for hams who want a clean, uncomplicated design.

Official site: <https://digiqsl.com>

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKQV1fjtu0>

Below is an example of an eQSL I created using my own custom background with digiQSL. It took less than two minutes to confirm a mobile QSO with K6MGM. The system automatically generated and emailed the message, complete with the attached eQSL as shown below.

Dear Dennis - K6MGM,
 It is my pleasure to confirm our C4FM QSO on the 10m band.
 I have attached my QSL Confirmation Card created with DigiQSL.com
 Vy 73,
 BILL - W6OAV/M

You can [RESPOND TO W6OAV/M](#) and send your own QSL card in seconds

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DATE	UTC	MHZ	MODE	RST
K6MGM	2022-02-15	17:58	29.250	C4FM	59

TNX QSO, VY 73 DE	BILL
RIG	Yaesu 991A PWR 100 W
ANT	Hustler
QTH	Highlands Ranch PSE QSL DigiQSL.com

WHEN POLARIZATION MATTERS - AND WHEN IT DOESN'T

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

Polarization plays a major role in RF communication, but not always in the way many operators expect. Depending on the band and the propagation mode, polarization can be either a critical design factor or almost irrelevant. HF skywave, HF groundwave, and VHF line-of-sight each treat polarization differently, and those differences directly affect link performance. This article explains why polarization behaves the way it does in each mode and how understanding these effects helps operators choose the right antennas and operating strategies for reliable communication.

What is Polarization?

Polarization describes the orientation of the electric field radiated by an antenna, and matching the transmitting and receiving polarization is normally essential for efficient communication. When two antennas share the same polarization, both vertical or both horizontal, the link budget is maximized. When they are cross polarized, such as one vertical and one horizontal, the theoretical loss is extremely high. In practice, the amount of loss depends heavily on the frequency band and the propagation mode. HF and VHF behave very differently because the medium through which the signal travels affects how well polarization is preserved.

HF Sky Wave Propagation

Refer to Figure 1 for the following discussion. At HF, most long distance communication relies on sky wave propagation, where signals are refracted by the ionosphere. Once a signal enters the ionosphere, its polarization is rapidly scrambled by several mechanisms. Faraday rotation

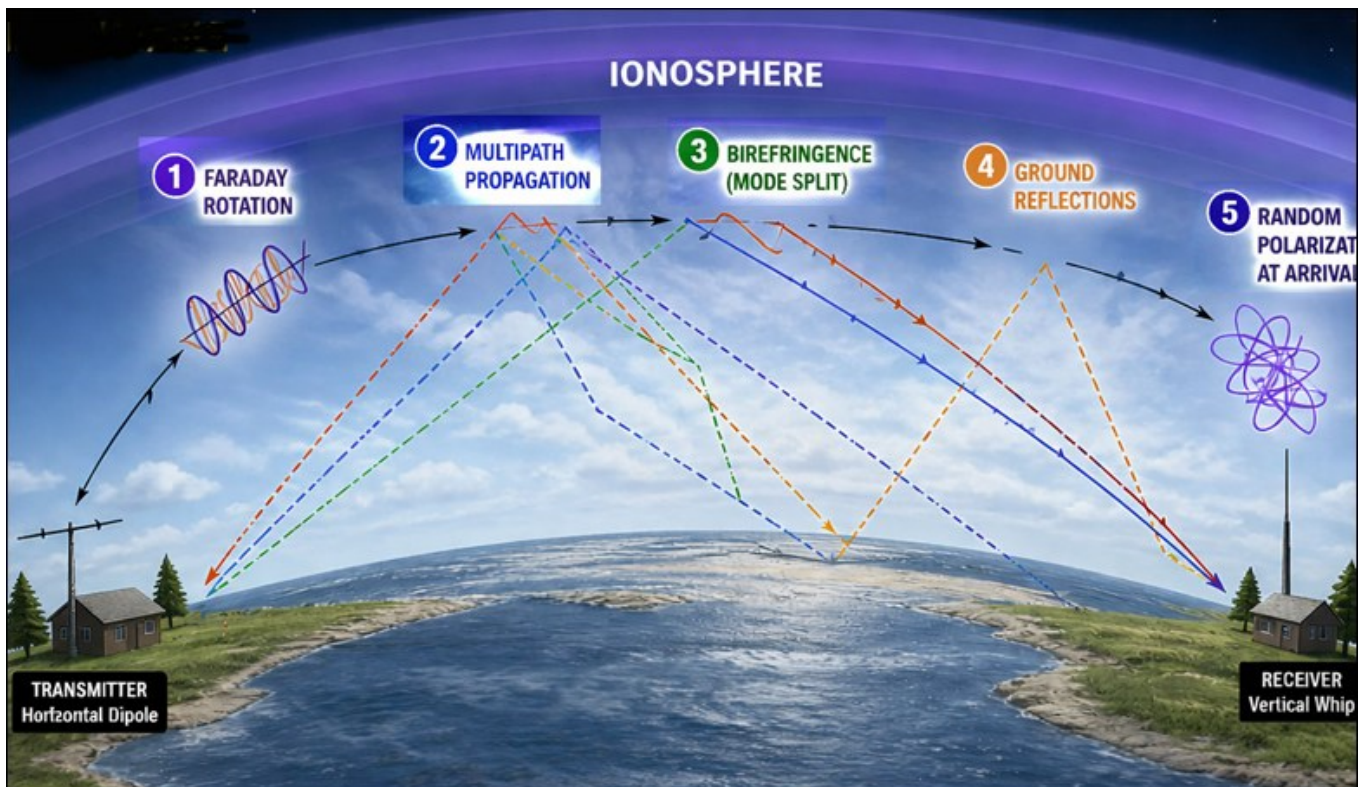
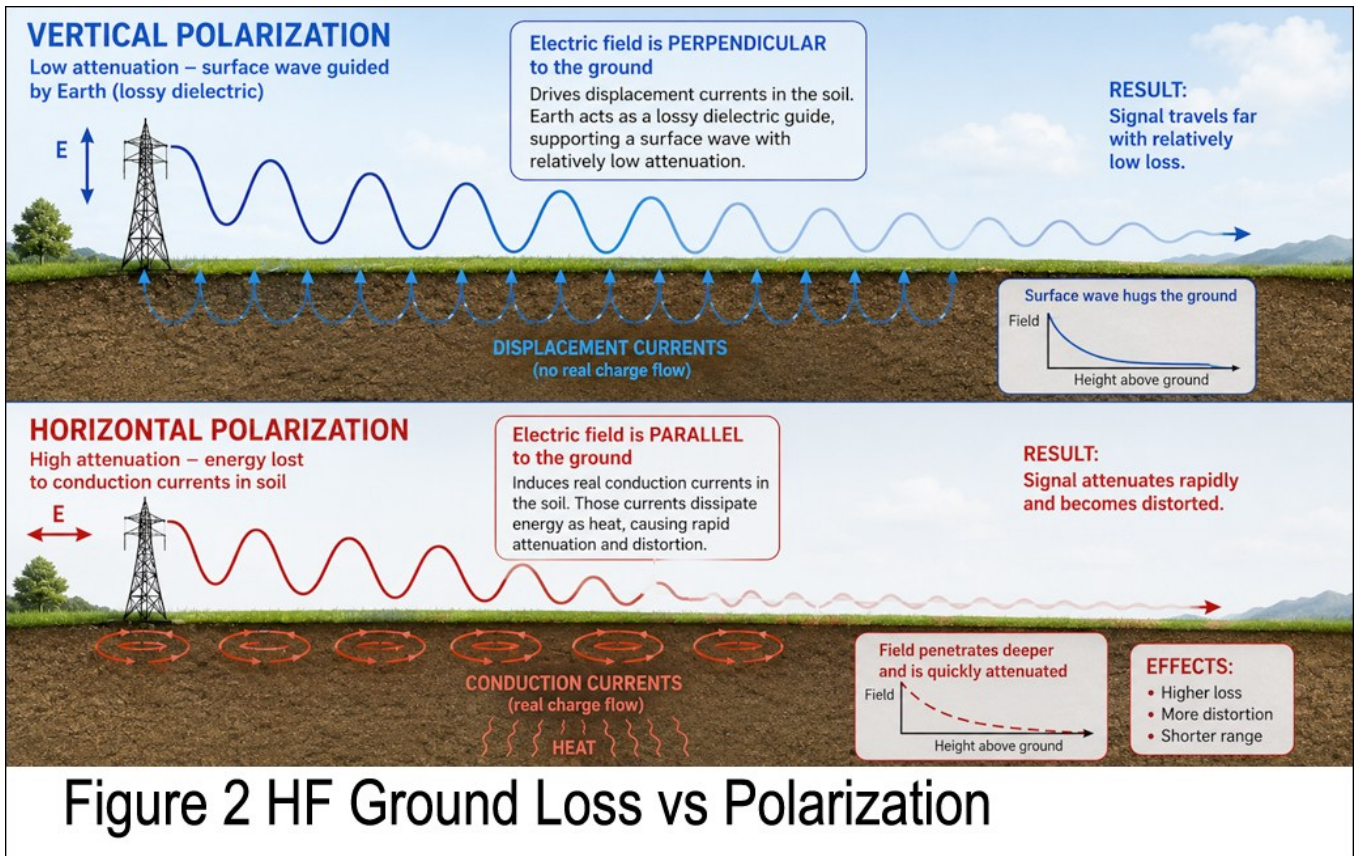


Figure 1 - HF Sky Wave Propagation and Polarization Scrambling

twists the polarization continuously as the wave travels through the ionized layers. Multipath propagation causes the signal to arrive from several angles and with different polarizations. Ionospheric birefringence splits the signal into two modes, each with its own polarization characteristics. Even ground reflections introduce additional rotation and ellipticity. By the time the signal returns to Earth, its polarization is essentially unpredictable. As a result, antenna cross-polarization loss at HF is usually only a few decibels, often less than the natural fading and noise on the band. A horizontal dipole can work a vertical whip with little penalty, and NVIS operation on 40 and 80 meters is almost completely polarization-insensitive. At HF, antenna height, pattern, and noise environment matter far more than polarization alignment.

HF Ground Wave Propagation

Refer to Figure 2 for the following discussion. At HF, the Earth interacts with horizontal and vertical groundwaves in vastly different ways. A vertically polarized HF groundwave is supported by the Earth's surface and can travel long distances with little distortion. The boundary conditions at the ground-air interface favor a vertical electric field, allowing the wave to couple efficiently to the surface and form a true surface wave. In this mode, the Earth acts as a guiding structure rather than an obstacle, so the wavefront remains fairly stable and the polarization is preserved well enough for reliable communication.



A horizontally polarized HF groundwave behaves the opposite way. The horizontal electric field induces strong currents in the ground, and those currents dissipate energy rapidly as heat. Instead of being guided, the wave is suppressed, distorted, and heavily attenuated. The interaction with the Earth alters the polarization, disrupts the wavefront, and prevents the formation of

an efficient surface wave. As a result, horizontally polarized HF groundwaves die out quickly and become highly distorted even over modest distances.

This contrast arises from the long wavelengths at HF, which make the Earth appear electrically smooth and conductive. That environment naturally supports vertical polarization and strongly penalizes horizontal polarization. For this reason, vertically polarized HF groundwave remains the standard for AM broadcast, maritime HF, and other long-range groundwave systems, while horizontal HF groundwave is rarely used because of its severe distortion and rapid attenuation.

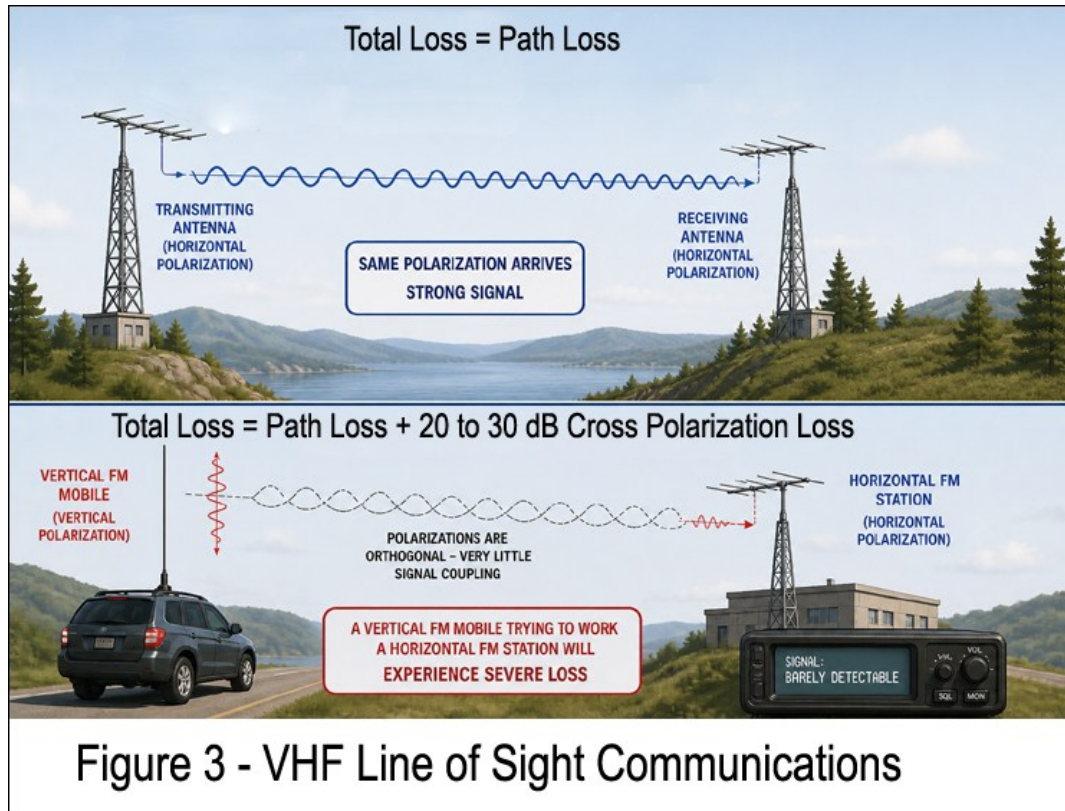
Even so, the antenna polarization mismatch penalty at HF groundwave frequencies is modest compared to VHF (discussed below). As mentioned above, HF signals interact strongly with the Earth's surface and the ionosphere, undergoing Faraday rotation, ionospheric birefringence, and multiple reflections that twist and mix the polarization. By the time the signal reaches the receiving antenna, its polarization is no longer purely horizontal or vertical; it is often elliptical or partially randomized. Because of this blending, even a cross-polarized antenna pair still captures most of the signal, and the mismatch loss remains small, typically only about 2 to 6 dB.

HF NVIS Polarization

NVIS signals undergo such strong ionospheric rotation that polarization becomes almost irrelevant, which is why both dipoles and verticals work well for regional HF coverage. (Reference below)

VHF Ground Wave Propagation

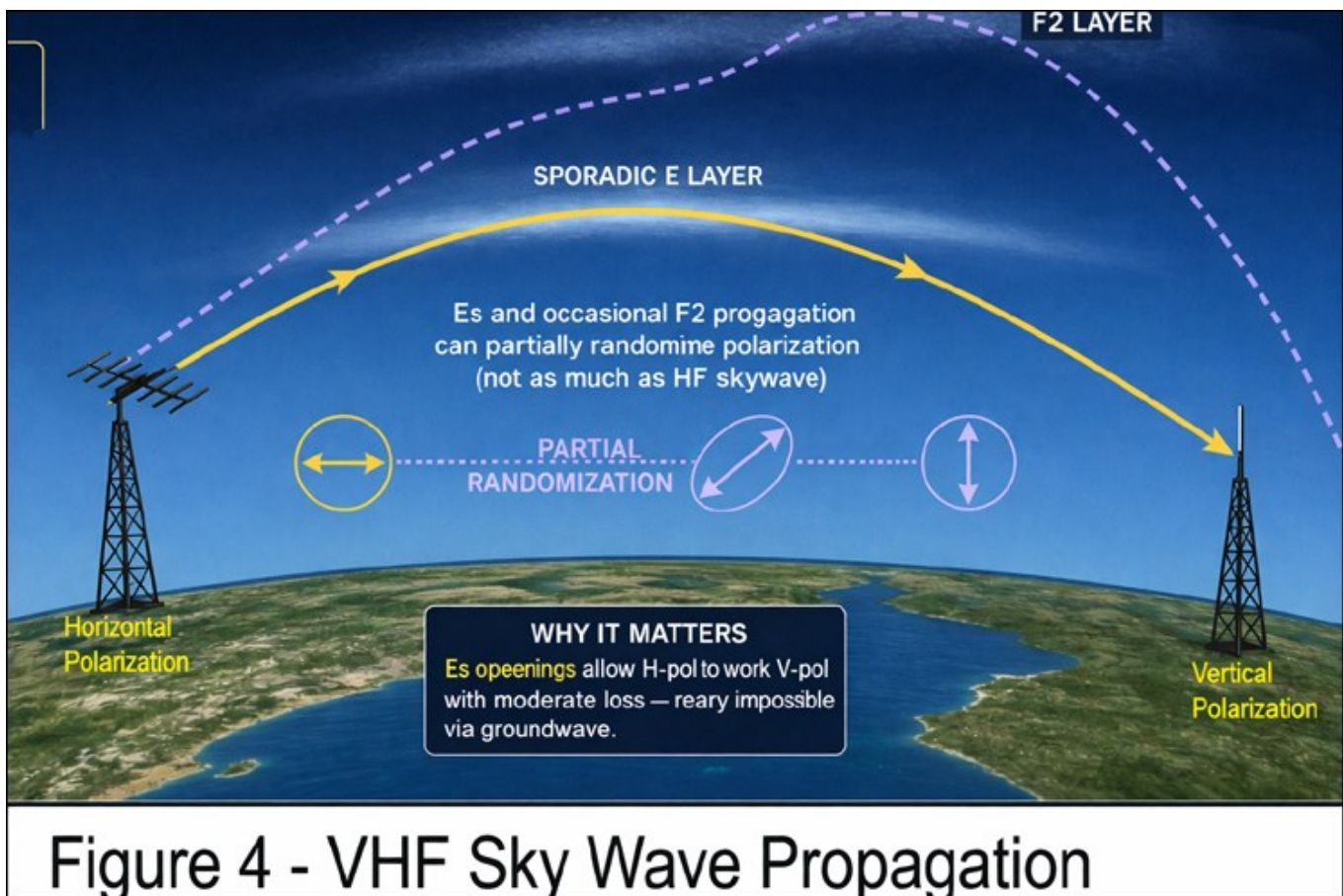
Refer to Figure 3 for the following discussion.



VHF presents a very different picture than does HF. Most VHF communication is line of sight. The signal that leaves the transmitting antenna arrives at the receiving antenna with nearly the same polarization it started with. Because of this stability, cross polarization loss at VHF can easily reach 20 to 30 dB, enough to turn a strong signal into one that is barely detectable. For example, a vertical FM mobile trying to work a horizontal FM station will experience severe loss. VHF weak signal operators use horizontal polarization, while FM and repeater systems use vertical polarization to lessen possible interference between them.

VHF Sky Wave Propagation VHF sky wave propagation, while less common, adds an interesting twist. On six meters, Sporadic-E and occasional F2 propagation can partially randomize polarization, though not as thoroughly as HF skywave. During strong Es openings, a horizontally polarized station can often work a vertically polarized station with only moderate loss, something nearly impossible via groundwave. Even so, polarization remains more stable at VHF than at HF, so the mismatch penalty during VHF sky wave events is typically higher than at HF but lower than during VHF line of sight operation. is preserved.

Circular Polarization Circular polarization can reduce mismatch loss when the incoming polarization is unknown, but it offers no advantage for HF skywave (already randomized) and is rarely used for HF groundwave. It is more relevant at VHF/UHF for satellites and aircraft. (Reference below)



Summary

Polarization Behavior by Band and Propagation Mode			
Band / Mode	Polarization Stability	Typical Mismatch Loss	Notes / Impact
HF Skywave	Very low (highly scrambled)	0–6 dB	Faraday rotation, multipath, and birefringence randomize polarization. Horizontal ↔ vertical works fine.
HF Groundwave	Moderate	2–6 dB	Earth strongly favors vertical polarization; horizontal groundwave is heavily attenuated.
HF NVIS	Very low (completely scrambled)	0–3 dB	NVIS reflections rotate polarization so thoroughly that antenna orientation matters very little. Dipoles and verticals work equally well.
VHF Line-of-Sight	Very high (well preserved)	20–30 dB	LOS paths maintain original polarization. Vertical ↔ horizontal mismatch is severe.
VHF Sporadic-E / F2	Medium	6–15 dB	Partial scrambling during Es/F2 allows some cross-pol contacts, but mismatch is still higher than HF.
Circular Polarization (General)	Depends on mode	3 dB nominal when receiving linear signals	Circular ↔ linear always incurs a 3 dB loss. Useful when incoming polarization is unknown (e.g., satellites), but offers no advantage for HF skywave.

References:

HF Skywave Polarization – Not What You Think

play.fallows.ca/wp/radio/shortwave-radio/hf-skywave-polarization-not-what-you-think

HF Surface Wave Propagation (Ground Wave)

vu2nsb.com/radio-propagation/ground-wave-propagation/surface-wave-propagation

Antenna Polarization Application Note

atcllc.com/antenna-polarization-application-note

Sporadic E propagation

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sporadic_E_propagation

What is Birefringence?

ansys.com/simulation-topics/what-is-birefringence?utm_source=copilot.com

Understanding NVIS

youtube.com/watch?v=k3IFj_Z5cLM&t=404s

Circular Polarization

youtube.com/shorts/NXWdxtwvrFU

Investigation of polarization of 50 MHz signals via Sporadic-E Reflection

rsgb.org/main/files/2021/11/Investigation-of-the-polarisation-of-50MHz-signals-via-Sporadic-E-FULL-TEXT.pdf

FROM THE ARCHIVES

April 1958

THE ROUNDTABLE

Published Monthly

by the

DENVER RADIO CLUB

Editor KØLTS
 Fred P. Brownell
 4265 So. Inca
 Englewood
 Colorado

REMEMBER FIELD DAY

June 28-29

PLAN TO PARTICIPATE

NET SKEDS

COLORADO STATE 2 METER NET
 7:30 p.m. seven nights per
 week - 146.25 mc.

HI NOON NET - 12 noon,
 Monday-Saturday - 7240 kc.

COLO WEATHER NET - 8 a.m.
 Monday-Saturday - 3945 kc.

LCY-YL NET - 10 a.m.
 Mondays - 7234 kc.

DENVER AREA RACES NET -
 9 a.m. -Sunday- 29.624 mc.

ENGLEWOOD CD NET - 8 p.m.
 Wednesdays - 29.500 mc.

COLO EMERGENCY PHONE NET
 8:00 a.m. -Sunday- 3890 kc.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NET - 7 p.m.
 Monday-Friday - 3570 kc.

DRC's Emergency Response Info

In the event of a disaster in the metro area, please monitor our repeaters on 145.490/448.625 (primary) and 449.350 (secondary).

The emergency Net Control Operator will provide information and/or requests to members for assistance.

[W0TX Repeater Directory](#)

Kings Soopers Reward Program - Help the DRC.

kingsoopers.com/i/community/community-rewards

citymarket.com/i/community/community-rewards



RANDOM SITE OF THE MONTH

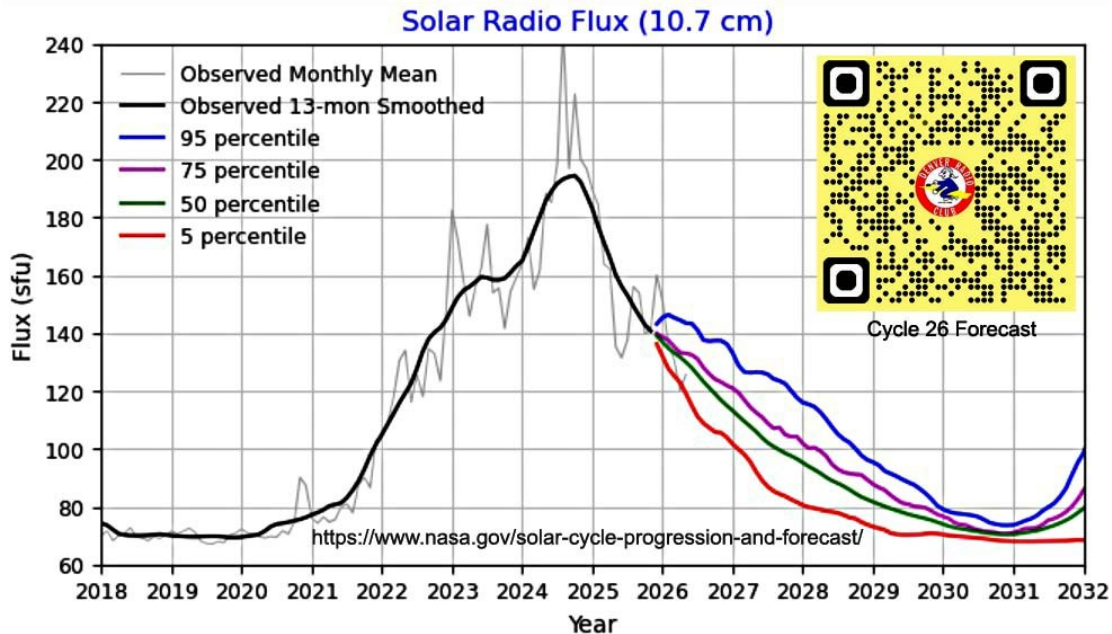
[Sheffield ARC](#)

THE ROUND TABLE ARCHIVE AND ARTICLE INDEX

w0tx.org/roundtable

PROPAGATION FORECAST

By Bill Rinker, W6OAV



UPCOMING EVENTS
HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

Event	Date	Location	Sponsor Website
Megafest	July 25th	Lewis-Palmer High School	ppraa.org/megafest
WCARC Hamfest & Swapmeet	August 8th	First Christian Church	w0rrz.org

UPCOMING QSO PARTIES

The following are the Contests not sponsored by the ARRL. Please submit additions for future issues.

State/Province	Start Date	End Date	Sponsor Website	Notes
Alabama	07/25/2026	07/26/2026	Alabama QSO Party	
Maryland-DC	08/08/2026	08/09/2026	Anne Arundel Radio Club	
Hawaii	08/22/2026	08/24/2026	Hawaii QSO Party	
Ohio	08/22/2026	08/23/2026	Ohio QSO Party	
Kansas	08/29/2026	08/30/2026	Kansas QSO Party	
Tennessee	09/06/2026	09/07/2026	Tennessee Contest Group	
Colorado	09/12/2026	09/13/2026	The Grand Mesa Contesters of Colorado	
Iowa	09/19/2026	09/20/2026	Story County ARC	
New Hampshire	09/19/2026	09/20/2026	Port City Amateur Radio Club	
New Jersey	09/19/2026	09/20/2026	Burlington County Radio Club	
Texas	09/19/2026	09/20/2026	Texas DX Society	
Washington	09/19/2026	09/20/2026	Western Washington DX Club	
Maine	09/26/2026	09/27/2026	Wireless Society of Southern Maine	
California	10/03/2026	10/04/2026	California QSO Party	
Arizona	10/10/2026	10/11/2026	Arizona QSO Party	

Source: qsoparty.eqth.net/index.html See contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html for a larger QSO parties list.

The Round Table needs you!

We are looking for an individual who can take over the editing of the Round Table. If you have questions or are interested in helping with producing the Round Table, please email roundtable@w0tx.org. Thank you!

DRC REPEATERS

BAND	Freq / Shift / PL Tone	Additional Information
6m	53.090MHz (-1MHz) 107.2Hz PL	
Packet	145.05MHz	Metro Denver Area Coverage
2m	145.490MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Linked to 70cm / 448.625MHz. Primary frequency during emergency net.
2m	147.330MHz (+) 100Hz PL	Local area. Does not TX a PL.
1.25m	224.380MHz (-) 100Hz PL	
70cm	447.825MHz (-) DCS~073; NB 12.5; +/- 2.5	Saint Anthony's. Note: This is a narrow band repeater requiring DCS.
70cm	448.625MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Linked to 2m / 145.490MHz. 1° disaster net freq.
70cm	449.350MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Wide area coverage with Echolink, node # 4140. Secondary frequency during emergency net.
70cm	449.775 MHz (-)	Yaesu digital, C4FM, Wires-X, DN, VW & Data. No analog FM. W0TX Room 40931.
70cm	446.7875MHz (-)	BrandMeister Repeater: Slot 1 – Wide Area Traffic, Slot 2 – Local Talk Group 310804






DRC's Trading Post

Don't forget you can find **locally-sourced, ham-grown** merchandise at: w0tx.org/trade

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JULY 2026							<i>DRC Net Sundays at 8:30 p.m. on 145.490 / 448.625 (no PL)</i>
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
			1 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	2	3	4 	
5	6	7  Last Quarter	8 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	9	10	11	
12 June VHF	13 June VHF	14  New Moon	15 <u>DRC Lunch</u> 11:30 @ Sunrise Sun- set, Lakewood <u>DRC Monthly Meeting</u> Elmer 1800 Meeting 1900	16	17	18	
19	20	21  First Quarter	22 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	30	31		
			 Full Moon				

See arrl.org/contest-calendar for additional details about contests.

DRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Website & YouTube	K1DBC	Doron Ben Chaim	720-254-1561	websiteadmin@w0tx.org

Please Let Us Know

Over the years we occasionally hear from hams who have read the Round Table in other states and countries around the world. We appreciate the comments and we would like to know where you are located. So if you live outside the Front Range or Denver Metro Area and read the newsletter either online, email or hard copy please send a short note via email with your *City, State or City, Country*.

We will publish it at a later date in our new regular feature called Round Table Round World.

To respond to this request send your information to roundtable@w0tx.org.

Subject: I'm located in...

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DRC members - this is your newsletter. Please email your club or amateur radio related suggestions to the editor. Members are the heart of The Denver Radio Club, so if you have an expertise or an interest in a particular segment of ham radio that you'd like to write about, you may email your submissions to roundtable@w0tx.org. The submission deadline is the 25th of the Month. ~ Editor