

W4RBC-1 ARES BB

OPERATION

**Access Direct as HBRGBB
on 145.730 MHz**

This document contains the command information for the W4RBC ARES Bulletin Board serving the Harrisonburg and Rockingham County areas in the Central Shenandoah Valley. The information in this document is derived from the "help" files available on the board.

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Command Summary

B - Bye	C - Conference	D - Download	G - File search
H - Help	I - Information	J - Calls heard	K - Kill message
L - List Messages	M - Msg of the day	N - Enter name/qth	P - Path to call
R - Read message	S - Send Message	T - Talk to SYSOP	U - Current users
V - BBS Version	W - List files dir	X - Set options	Y - YAPP
* - Comment line	?x - Info about cmd x	{MSYS was written by Mike, WA8BXN}	

A

The Abort command can be used to abort the output from many of the BBS commands, like Download, List and Read for example.

B

The Bye command disconnects you from the BBS. Use it when you are done!

C

C allows you to enter a simple conference.

Conference commands:

^ZH	For help
^ZQ	To return to bbs
^ZU	To list BBS users and their channels
^ZA #	Asks user on channel # to join the conference

Carbon copy command: CC msg# call1@bbs1; call2@bbs2

For more information, contact SYSOP!

D

The Download command is used to read a file stored on the system. The format of the command is D filename where filename is the name of the file to download. To see what files are available for downloading, use W command. To download a file in a subdirectory, use D dirname/filename.

G

The G (for GREP, a Unix utility) command allows you to search a downloadable file for a specified string of characters, printing all lines that contain the string of characters. Case is ignored in the comparison. No wild cards (like ? or *) are recognized. When you use this command you will be asked for a file name and then a search string. For file name enter the name that you would use if you were downloading the entire file. If you do not give a file name, DATABASE.0 will be assumed.

For more information, try to download DATABASE.HLP

H

For a short description of the commands, use H command.

For more information about a particular command, type ?x where x is the letter of the command.

I

I by itself gives hardware configuration of this system.

ID gives a list of the ports and digipeaters/gateways available.

J

The J command lists stations recently heard on the various ports and stations that recently connected. Use the P command for path to stations that have connected at some time.

For the following commands the sponsor's callsign is given in {curly brackets}. This is normally NOT the call you would use. This callsign is given to help identify some of the "mystery" callsigns used for nodes and digipeaters such as "MYDIGI".

Command	Lists	That id with
JB	BBS systems	/B
JD	Digipeaters	/D or /R
JG	Gateways	/G
JK	KA Nodes	/N
JN	Netroms	
JM	MSYS systems	
JT	TCP/IP	

You can specify a port number as an argument to limit the display to just that port. For example, JK 1 would display the KA Nodes heard on port 1 only.

K

The K command is used to kill (delete) old messages from the system. You can kill only those messages that are to or from your station. The format of the command is K, a space, and then the number of the message to delete.

You can also use the command KM to delete all messages TO you that have been read.

Use the command KT msg# to kill NTS traffic you are going to deliver.

L

The List command lists selected message headers. The following formats are available:

L	- List messages since you last used the B command	
LB	- List bulletins (all of them, use with care!)	
LC	- Lists bulletin categories (to fields)	
LM	- List messages to or from you (List Mine)	
LN	- List messages with type of N (List Not read or forwarded)	
LO	- Lists msgs older then date given as YYMMDD Example: LO 910204	
LT	- List NTS Traffic messages	
LL #	- List the last # messages	Example: LL 10
LU	- Lists unread messages to you	
L category	- Lists msgs to given category	Example: L ALL
L< callsign	- List messages from callsign	Example: L< WA8BXN
L> callsign	- List messages to callsign	Example: L> WA8BXN
L@ callsign	- List messages being sent to BBS callsign	Example: L@ WA8BXN
L #	- List messages >= given number	Example: L 827
L # #	- List messages from # to #	Example: L 50 75
L"string"	- Lists messages with given string in title (case insensitive)	
L'string'	- Lists messages with given string in title (case insensitive)	
	Examples: L'Pfb' L"ID's" l"Modem users"	

Note: When asked for msg#'s to read, always use the indicated number of digits, using leading zero's if needed to get the right number of digits!

M

The M command may be used to display the Message of the Day. Normally this message (if not empty) is displayed when you connect if you haven't selected Expert mode (?X for more info on Expert mode). If you have selected Expert mode, using the M command is the only way to see any Message of the Day. If there is no message of the day, you will simply get the next command prompt. The message of the day will advise you of new features and other important information.

N

The N command can be used to register your name or QTH. You should enter both of these. To enter your name type N yourname. Example:

N Mike

To enter your QTH, use the command NQ yourqth. Example:

NQ Kirtland, OH

To enter your ZIP or Postal Code, use NZ code. Examples:

NZ 44026 or NC 1A2B34

To enter the primary BBS that you look for you mail on use NH callsign.

If mail arrives for you on this bbs it will automatically be sent to the call you give for your home BBS (assuming this system knows how to forward there!). You may use the call of this bbs as your home BBS if you so desire. Given bbs must be a callsign not alias. Example:
NH WA8BXN

P

The P command can be used to find the path last used by a station to connect to this system. The format is P callsign. Example:

P W1AW

The information given comes from the station's use of the N commands and information recorded by the system. Try the P command with your own call to check the information the system has about you.

The PF command can be used to find out if this system knows how to forward mail to a particular BBS (what you would enter as @bbs in the S command). The port number and call of the BBS to which the message would be sent is displayed along with the VIA list used for the connect. If Net/Rom or KA Nodes are used to connect to the BBS to which the message would be forwarded to the fact is noted but the details are not given. If this system does not contain the requested BBS in its forward file you get a message that the callsign is unknown. Example: PF WA8BXN

If CD ROM callbook server is online, PC callsign (example PC WA8BXN) will return name and address info for given call.

R

REP # Reply to given message number. If you put a period after the number, a title will automatically be generated. Same as SR command

The following variations of the R command read messages:

R # # ... Reads the given message numbers Ex: R 12734 11521 27185
RM Reads your messages (Read Mine)
R category Reads the messages in a given category ("TO" field). Ex: R SALE
R> callsign Reads msgs with given "TO" field
R< callsign Reads msgs from given callsign
R@ callsign Reads msgs with given @BBS Ex: R@ ARRL
RH # # ... Like R but displays all the R: lines as well (Read Headers)
RP # # ... Like R but doesn't mark msgs as read (Read Preview)
RN # # ... Like R but gives msg text only (Read Noheaders)
RE # # ... Reads the given message numbers in export form (Read Export)
REM Reads all messages to you in export form (Read Export Mine)

Typically, after a screefull of lines is displayed on your terminal, you will be asked More? [Y]es, No or Continuous

Press just return for next screenfull, N to quit reading this message or category), or C to display all the rest without pausing. The number of lines per screen is set by the X command.

S

The S command is used to send messages. It several formats:

SP call @ bbscall.haddr Send a private msg Ex: SP K8EIW @ WB8BII.OH.USA.NA
ST zipcode @ NTSst Send traffic msg Ex: ST 44070 @ NTSOH
SB category @ route Send a bulletin Ex: SB NEED @ ALLOH
SR msg# Send reply Ex: SR 12723 or SR 12723.

In SB if call is a user of this system you can omit the @ bbscall.haddr
In ST, NTSst means to replace st with the state its going to: OH for Ohio, etc.

In SR, if you put a period after the msg #, a title will automatically be made by preceeding the original title with RE:

IMPORTANT: SR tries its best to determine where the reply should go, but it is not always perfect! The same applies to the REP command.

Never uses SSID's in callsigns (ex: don't use WA8BXN-2, just use WA8BXN)

Hierarchical addresses are of the form state.country.continent. Other parts may be used by a particular BBS, if you know them, use them.

When sending personal messages to a distant bbs, it is a good idea to put the destination city and state in the title.

When you are done typing your message, end it with either ^Z (Control-Z) or /EX at the beginning of a line.

T

The T cmd is used to connect to the sysop's keyboard. This if the sysop is present you may enter into a direct conversation. If there is no response from the sysop in 60 seconds you will be returned to the BBS. TCP/IP Telnet users note: Server 87 connects directly to the keyboard without going through the bbs.

U

The U cmd lists the current users of MSYS and what they are doing. The UP command may be used to upload ASCII files. You must be authorized by the SYSOP to upload files. After you use the UP command you will be asked the file name to upload. Follow the prompts given by the command.

W

The What command lists the available files for downloading. The format:
W - Lists all files with sizes. A directory name may be specified to list files names in directories that appear in the list.

X

The X command can be used to set a variety of options. If no argument is given, X simply toggles and displays the new Expert status.

If a number is given after X, this is the number of lines to display for a command before asking More? To continue displaying the current message when More? is sent press return. To abort the message, type N and then return. This facility has been added to prevent a long message from scrolling off your screen faster than you can read it. Experiment with different values until you find one that pleases you.

To not use this facility, set the number of lines to zero. Examples:

X 20 (pause after every 20 lines) X 0 (don't pause ever)

XF Set "fast" mode: BBS will put more than one line per packet

XS Set "slow" mode: BBS will put only one line per packet.

Note: If you have very good path to bbs, use XF. If you have a poor path to bbs, use XS since short packets make it through easier.

XC toggles the automatic display of msg catagories when you connect to the bbs and are using non-expert mode.

XR toggles the automatic asking if you want to reply to a msg after you read it. Can be useful if you get a lot of personal mail.

XU toggles the automatic display of Unread mail when you connect.

Y

YW Lists available files for YAPP Download
YD filename Downloads specified file using YAPP protocol
YU filename Uploads specified filename using YAPP protocol

*

Putting * at the beginning of a line makes it a comment.
It also suppresses the next command prompt (but the system will
be waiting for another command). * is useful to answer the SYSOP if you
get a MESSAGE FROM SYSOP ...

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* - Comment line	?x - Info about cmd x	{MSYS was written by Mike, WA8BXN}	