

ARUFON Cheat sheet for new Users

To new ARUFON members, this document is to show the differences in the different ways you can use and participate in ARUFON to get the most out of the UFO subject and topics and to join into various types of conversations as a member.

The ARUFON websites

Currently there are two websites dedicated to ARUFON. The reason for this is the old site has been transitioned, keeping as much of the links and tabs of the old site which was created in the late 1990's and has served the community as a beacon over many previous years. That site is:

<http://www.arufon.org/>

Maintained for many years by Webmaster Ken, KB9I, He has done yeoman's work keeping the ARUFON presence on the internet. Times can change however and such has been the case in the last year. Fees go up yearly to maintain a website or editors used in past years are lost or no longer supported.

Hence the need for a new solution. I have been using a no-cost means of creating websites for folks for a number of years now that is hosted by a company that started as a couple of college-

age coders and grew into a business. Weebly.com still remains “ad free” other than their log at the bottom of the webpages you can create free with their **VERY** easy to use editor. They give you the tools and help you need few other “free” web creators do these days and without ads. I created the new ARUFON site and transitioned as best I could the elements of the old site over to:

<https://arufon.weebly.com/>

The new site automatically comes with encrypted pages as a default. What that means is the website is extremely hard to hijack or deface. Currently the domain question arose as to keeping the .org domain that is registered with the ICAA and paid for.

In future conversations we will discuss how best to carry over the new site to the original domain name, and how to best pay to host it.

Both of these sites do not have built in forums like other sites and exist to introduce ARUFON users to the history and links to data that has been made public on the internet over the last 30 years.

The ARUFON Forums

As the Internet grew so did the need for discussion groups on various topics. One of the pioneers in this was Yahoo.com with

their Yahoo. Groups. Anyone could create a forum on just about any topic and become a moderator or administrator of the topic in question. This past year Yahoo decided to shut down their support for ALL Yahoo groups. It is understandable given the way many sites are not exactly places that should be on the general internet or discuss hate and violence. Luckily there was a ready alternative that cost me little to create and also keep previous conversations, files, photos and such from the ARUFON yahoo group. That site is now called:

<https://arufon.groups.io/g/main>

This site replaces the Yahoo ARUFON group and keeps ALL of the original conversations and such from the old site. If you wish to read previous topics and replies over the years, its all here.

Signing up to be a member requires approval but is free. Since this is a moderated forum like the old one, decorum is still expected from users. Topics related to Politics or Religion will not be posted unless in a historical context of the Ufology topic.

The Groups.io forum brings with many pluses in that there is a section for books and articles in **.PDF** format to download., photos of various ARUFON events over the years. UFO photos and so on. New topics are strongly encouraged by members.

Finally, we have the two most used types of media that founded the ARUFON presence today. HAM radio over the air conversations and the Echolink ARUFON conference server.

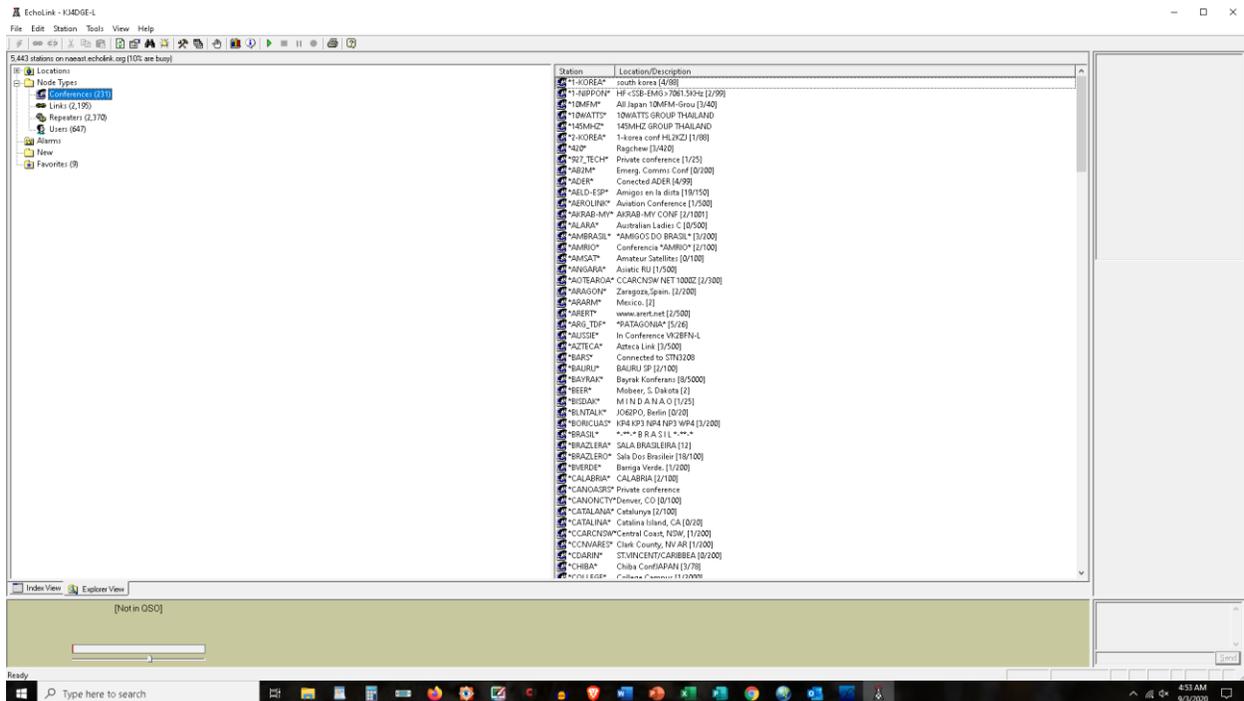
Both of these allow licensed ham radio operators to discuss the

UFO/UAP topic “in-person so to speak and in real-time. ARUFON was originally founded by Rich, W1RV and Bill, WB9NLI over the air conversations. As more radio operators came onboard ARUFON for born.

The current over the air frequency is 80 meters on Sunday night at 3.845 MHz at 8PM EST or 23:00 Zulu.

Solar cycle 24 was the pits many times for propagation and being heard and so was born out the option of the Echolink ARUFON conference server. A coordinated effort between Rich, Paul myself and others created a Voice over internet presence available only to licensed ham radio operators.

It looks like this:



Echolink is a “voice forum” of sorts. It allows users to actually talk to each other in real time desktop, laptop or cell phone and the Echolink client software. The ARUFON server is maintained by Paul, N1PA at a repeater site on a mountain in N.H.

The node number is 712627 or ARUFON under the “conferences” section of the client software. As many as 50 users can be supported in a roundtable type discussion.

Information on Echolink can be found here:

<http://www.echolink.org/>

So there you have the four ways you can be a part of ARUFON. I hope this document while being a bit long-winded helps the user understand the many ways you can participate in this great, perhaps world changing topic.

73

Greg

KJ4DGE

