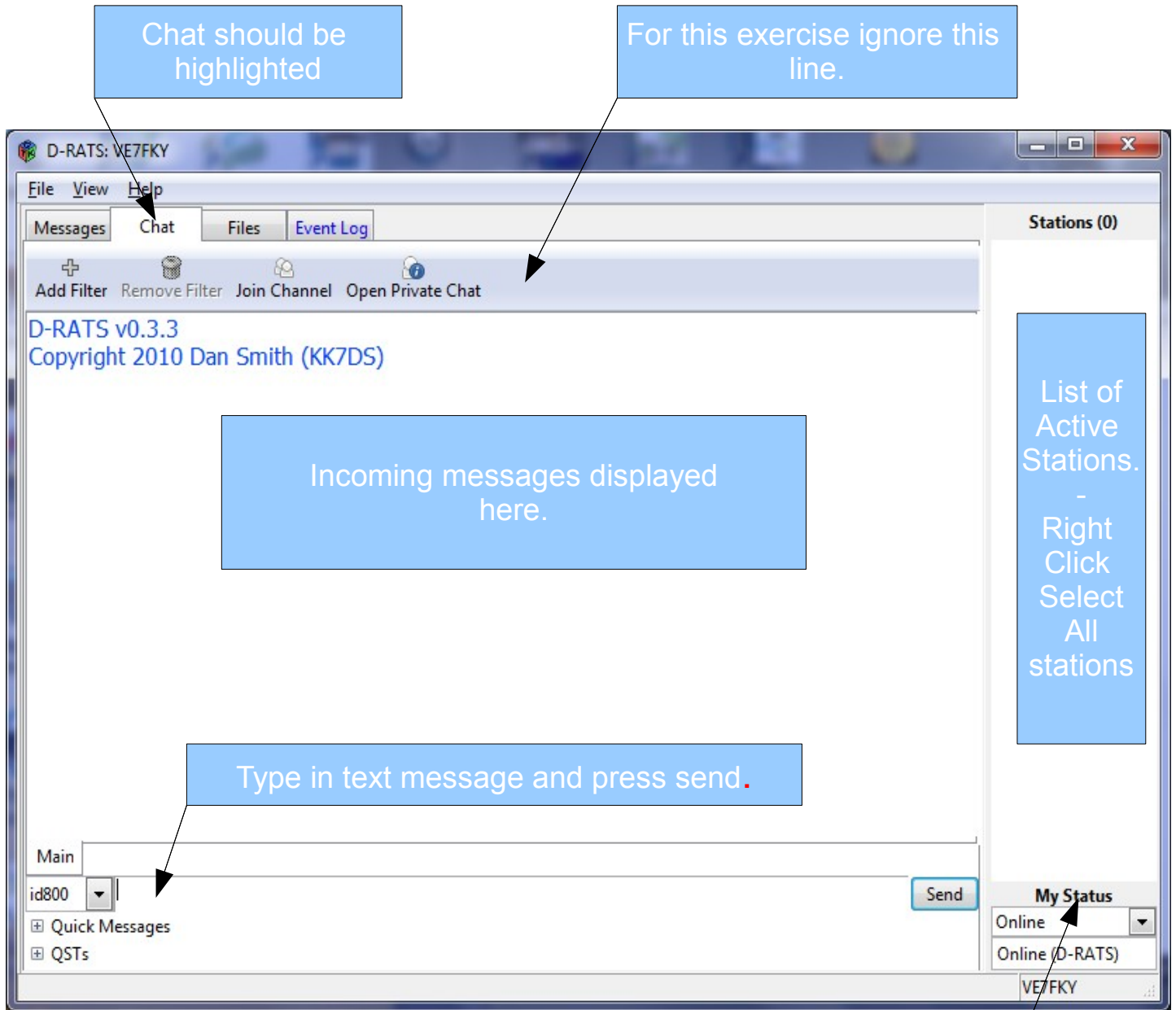


DRATS EXERCISE

What Is DRATS And What Is The Exercise About

- DRATS was designed following the Oregon Fires several years ago. Dan Smith KK7DS who was involved with amateur radio and volunteered his time saw the need for better communications in time of need.
- DRATS has a variety of tools for you to communicate to another party. Your group should work together in working through the exercises. Each member of the group should have a turn at the keyboard doing the exercise.
- Take your time with each exercise. Make sure you and your group have an understanding of each exercise. Ask if you don't understand.
- Speed doesn't count, understanding does. Work at your own pace your not holding up any of the other stations.
- If you notice the tray icon blinking or the DRATS blinking that means there is activity in other parts of the program. This may or not mean it was directed at your station. If you wish to check click on the blinking tab.
- If VA7DEP should be showing up with all stations, you may use that as your relay station.
- Any of the messages/emails you create don't use anything that if intercepted could be taken as a real emergency.
- If you need assistance call and we will come. Better yet and more effective send a text message so all can see for quicker response.
- Most important: **Have fun and enjoy the exercise.**

DRATS EXERCISE



Chat should be highlighted

For this exercise ignore this line.

Incoming messages displayed here.

Type in text message and press send.

List of Active Stations.
-
Right Click
Select
All
stations

For this exercise ignore my status

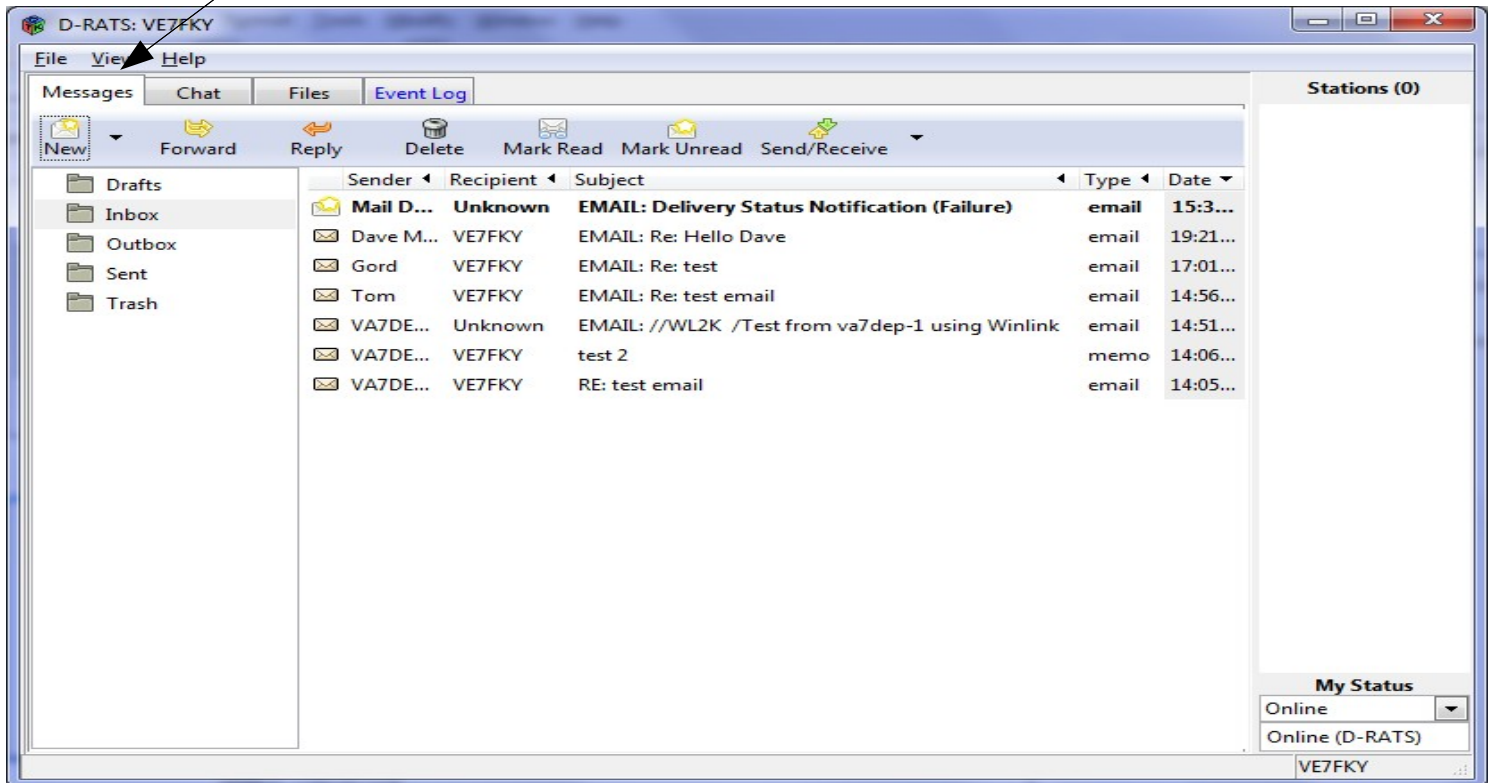
Exercise #1:

- Find out what stations are active.
- Send out some text messages and see if you get any replies

DRATS Exercise Email

Notice the similarity to an email client on a computer.

Click on Messages



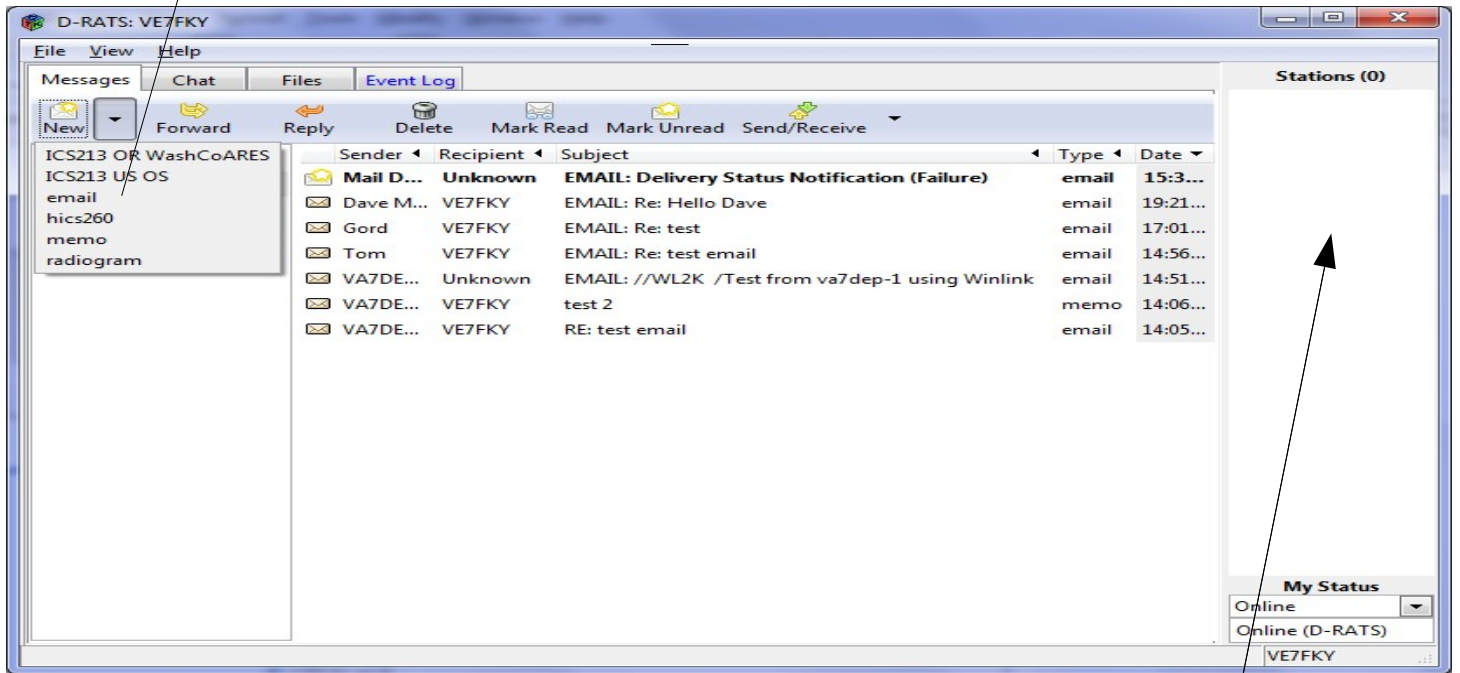
Exercise #2

In this exercise you will learn:

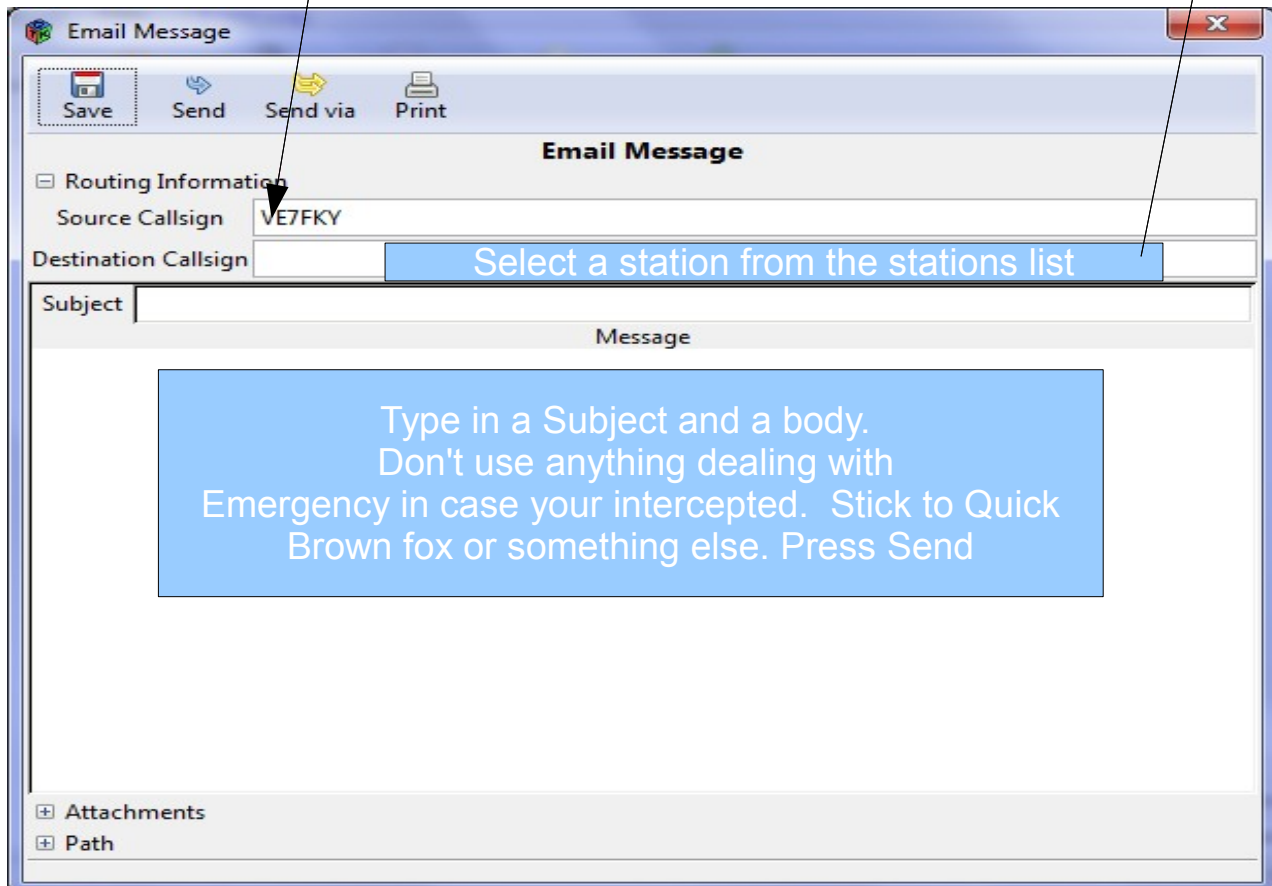
- Send an email to another station on the list.
- How to send an email to a station where you don't have propagation, but a 3rd party has between the two of you.
- Try replying to any incoming emails.

DRATS Exercise Email – Sending Exercise #2

Select Messages >new> email



The source call sign will be displayed automatically



DRATS Exercise

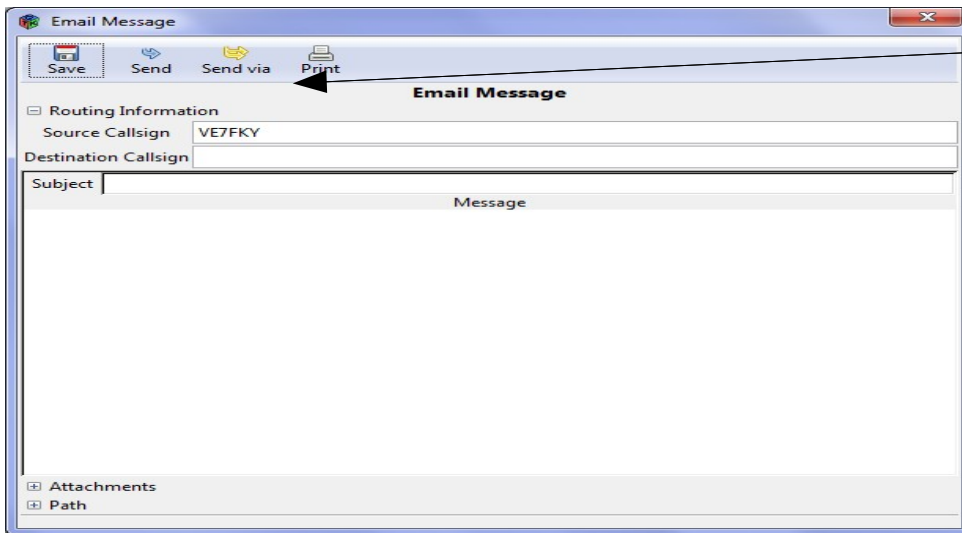
Email via 3rd Party

Exercise #3

There are times that you have to email station B but you have no propagation to that station. For this test you want to email to another station and although you have no propagation to the intended station, another station has propagation to your station and the intended station.

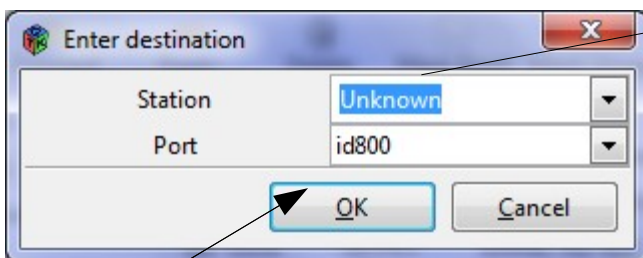
Exercise 3: Send an email via a 3rd party station.

Create an email to another station as in exercise #2 BUT don't hit send instead



Click on Send Via

Select Any station From the Station list **BUT NOT** The intended Station
Hint: Use the pull down Menus to Select station.

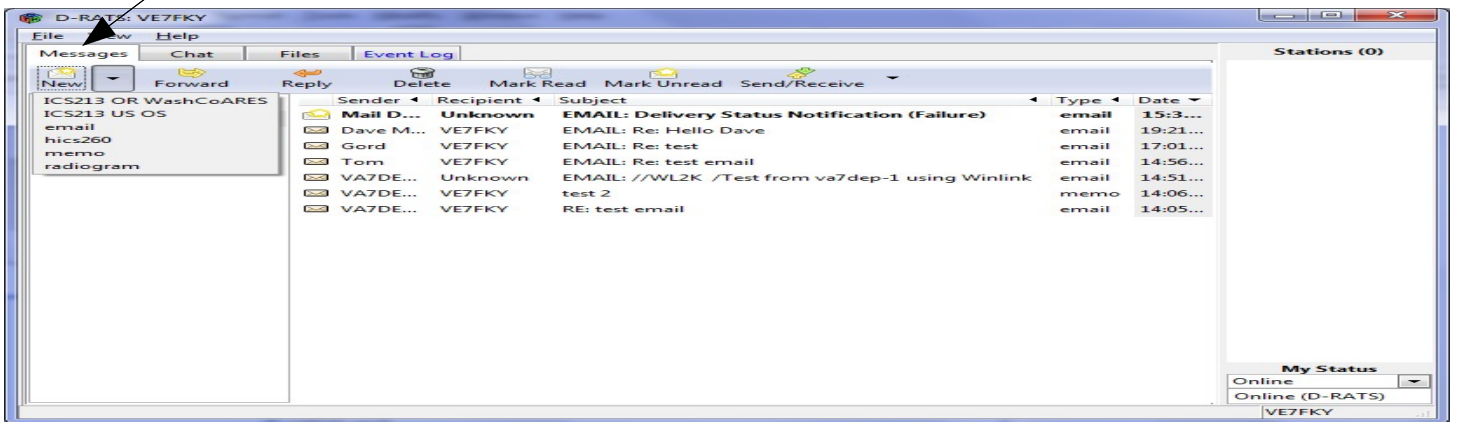


Once you input the 3rd party station, press OK.

DRATS EXERCISE Sending a Radiogram

Sending a Radiogram is the same mechanics of exercise #2.

Click on Messages >New>Radiogram



The screenshot shows the 'Radiogram' dialog box. It has a toolbar with 'Save', 'Send', 'Send via', and 'Print' buttons. The 'Routing Information' section is expanded, showing the following fields:

- Source Callsign: VE7FKY
- Destination Callsign: (empty)
- Number: (empty)
- Precedence: Routine (dropdown menu)
- HX: (empty)
- Station of Origin: (empty)
- Check: (empty)
- Place of Origin: (empty)
- Time: 22:59:59
- Date: Feb 07, 2014
- To: (empty)
- Recipient Phone #: (empty)

Below the routing information is a large text area labeled 'Message'. At the bottom, there are expandable sections for 'Attachments' and 'Path'.

Input a call sign
From the station
List.
Fill in the various
Boxes and type in
A body message.
You will notice the
Check will fill in
Automatically.
Try a couple; one
Direct and one VIA.

DRATS
EXERCISE
Exercise #5 Sending an email outside
Our test stations.

DRATS allow us to send emails to a standard email address.

Exercise #5: Your out in the field with no internet access and you must send an email to the outside. Use an email address from one of your group who can receive an email address via their cell phone. Input the email address into the destination station instead of a call sign. Compose your subject and body and press send via. Insert any station from the station list and press OK. Once the email is received on the cell phone reply to that message. The message will automatically go back to the “via station” and that station will automatically RF it back to your station. There could be a time delay so don't look for quick deliveries.

This ends our DRATS exercise for tonight.

Tonight you learned:

- How to see what stations are active
- How to send and look at text messages
- How to send an email directly to another station
- How to send an email using a 3rd party
- How to send a Radiogram, both direct and “via”
- How to send an email to a standard email address

Tonight was meant as a primer to get you started in DRATS and we didn't cover all the features such as:

- File transfer
- Photo transfer
- Maps and aprs
- Quick Messages & QST
- Private chatting

Let me know if you would be interested in having another exercise including these other features. DRATS is installed at NDPSB (VA7DEP) and all our grab and go boxes. In time of need this program is one of the tools in our tool box.

For those who have DSTAR radios at home and would like to play with DRATS, VA7DEP is on 145.760 simplex. You can use the "via" function or standard email through VA7DEP.

I would encourage everyone either at home or at North Delta nights to practice what you have learned tonight using the computer in the radio room.

If you would like to play with DRATS at home you don't need a DSTAR radio you can do all these features using the internet. If there is enough interest we will investigate putting up our own rat reflector.

You can download DRATS from: www.d-rats.com I will be more than happy to get you started.

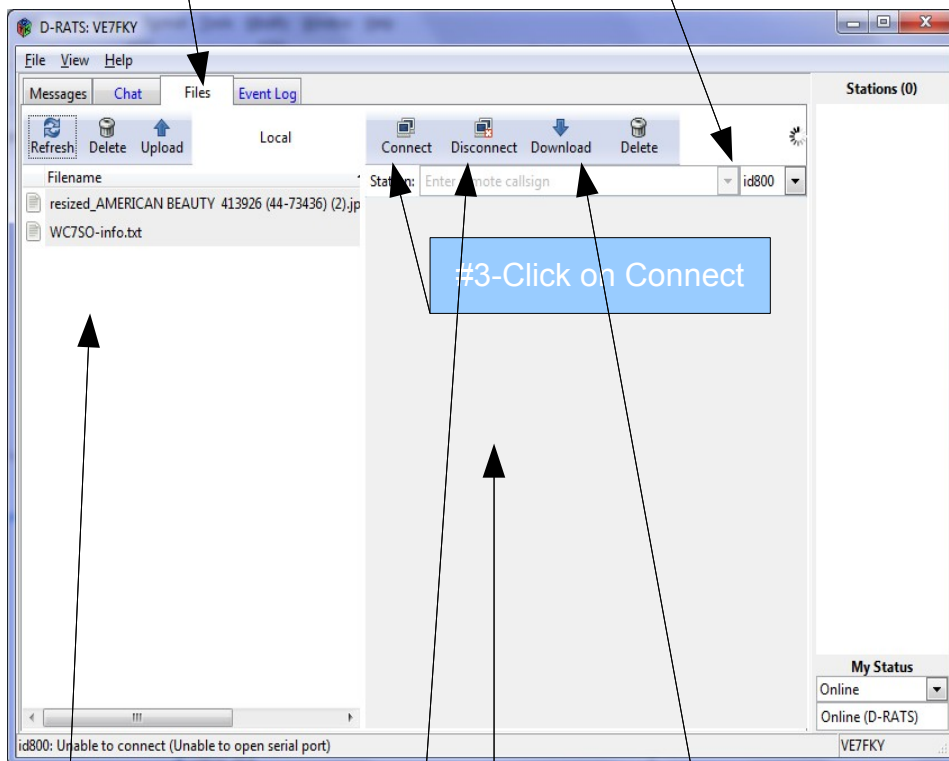
Thank You Again For Participating In Our Exercise.

DRATS EXERCISE

Extra Exercise – only if you have
A good connection to VA7DEP
Download a file from VA7EP

#1-Click on Files

#2- From Pull Down Menu Select VA7DEP



#3-Click on Connect

If you find your transfer is really slow you probably don't have a strong enough propagation to DEP.

Just disconnected.

#4-Once connected you will see A list of files. Select one and Press download.

#5-Once you see your file show up here, then you can disconnect