

**Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club**

P.O. Box 272956

Fort Collins, CO 80527-2956

# **The Tribander**

**The monthly Newsletter of the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club**

**Club Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month  
At the Golden Corral, 901 E. Harmony Rd, Fort Collins, CO.**

**All are welcome and encouraged to attend.**

**Bring yourself and your appetite at 8:00 am.  
The Meeting begins at 9:00 am.**

# NCARC Club Information

## Club Officers

President	Steve Henry	N7GN	(970)226-2817	<a href="mailto:n7gn@arrl.net">n7gn@arrl.net</a>
Vice President	Eric Slutz	N0EAS	(970)282-3752	<a href="mailto:eric@redginger.com">eric@redginger.com</a>
Secretary	Dave Langenberg	KC9FOO	(773)612-8435	<a href="mailto:dave@thelangenbergs.com">dave@thelangenbergs.com</a>
Treasurer Membership Chair	Willis Whatley	WA5VRL	(970)407-6599	<a href="mailto:whatley@frii.com">whatley@frii.com</a>
Interference Coordinator	Mike Bates	N7DQ	(970)219-3225	<a href="mailto:n7dq@comcast.net">n7dq@comcast.net</a>
Newsletter	Willis Whatley	WA5VRL	(970)407-6599	<a href="mailto:whatley@frii.com">whatley@frii.com</a>
Technical Chair	George Salzmann	AB0SF	(303)961-0841	<a href="mailto:ab0sf@yahoo.com">ab0sf@yahoo.com</a>
Hamfest Chair	Michael Robinson	N7MR	(970)225-7501	<a href="mailto:michael@frii.com">michael@frii.com</a>

## NCARC Repeaters

<b>W0UPS: 145.115 MHz</b> – (144.515 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (1* on, 0* off) Autopatch (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
<b>W0UPS: 447.275 MHz</b> – (442.275 MHz input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone Autopatch (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
<b>W0UPS: 146.625 MHz</b> – (146.025 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (40-50.266N, 105-3.017W, 5600 ft) SW of the Rawhide Power Plant, 17.5 miles north of Fort Collins, CO
<b>W0UPS: 146.850 MHz</b> – (146.250 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (1* on, 0* off) (40-25.341N, 104-44.182 W) Greeley, CO
<b>W0UPS-5: 144.390 MHz</b> – APRS Digital Repeater (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, about 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO

## Nets

ARES District 10 Information Net	Wednesday	9:00 pm	145.115 MHz
ARES Statewide Net	Sunday	8:30 pm	145.310 MHz
Central Colorado Traffic Net	Daily	7:30 pm	145.310 MHz
Tech Net	Tuesday	7:00 pm	145.115 MHz

## Web Page

<http://www.ncarc.net>

**TECH NET Announcement!**

This is a reminder that the 145.115 TECH NET is held Tuesday evening 07:00 PM. It is hosted by N0WIQ, Kerry. All amateur radio operators (with 2M privileges) are welcome to check in. It is an open forum net with Questions, Answers and Topics of interest.

If the 145.115 repeater is not available, the net will be held on the 447.275 repeater

**CW Practice Session! NOTE: The operation of the practice session has been suspended temporarily due to issues with the accessibility of the 145.115 repeater from the Estes Park area. More info will be posted as it becomes available...**

This is a reminder that the 145.115 CW Practice Session is held Friday evening 06:00 PM.

It is hosted by W0EP, Chris. All amateur radio operators (with 2M privileges) are welcome to check in or listen.

**Local Area Swaplists:**

For those who can not wait or can not attend the area swapmeets, below are the websites for some of the regional swaplists found on the internet. These are updated weekly.

Aurora Repeater Assn. Swaplist: <http://www.qsl.net/n0ara/swaplist.html>

Colorado Repeater Assn. Swaplist: <http://www.w0cra.org/swap/craswaplist.htm>

Wyoming Swap Shop: <http://www.qsl.net/n0ara/wss.htm>

New Mexico Swaplist: <http://bc-ares.org/swapnet/listings.html>

**New and renewing members for October:**

KG4FEQ – Matt KB0ZKI – Lewis W0EP – Chris KA0TEY – Edward W0DWI – Dwight AC0CH - Tom

**The NCARC thanks you for your support.**

**R&O 06-149**

After about a year of stagnation, in early October, the FCC adopted and released FCC-06-149. In this Report and Order, the FCC amended Chapter 1 of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations and Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules as follows:

1. revise the operating privileges of amateur radio operators to allow more spectrum in four currently-authorized amateur service HF bands to be used for voice communications;
2. permit auxiliary stations to transmit on additional amateur service bands;
3. permit amateur stations to transmit spread spectrum communications on the 1.25 meter band;
4. permit amateur stations to retransmit communications from the International Space Station;
5. permit amateur service licensees to designate the amateur radio club to receive their call sign *in memoriam*;
6. prohibit an applicant from filing more than one application for a specific vanity call sign;
7. eliminate certain restrictions on equipment manufacturers that are no longer necessary;
8. permit amateur radio stations operating in Alaska and surrounding waters more flexibility in providing emergency communications; and
9. remove certain restrictions in the amateur service license examination system that are no longer necessary.

(If you have been waiting for the elimination of the Morse Code licensing requirement, you will have to keep waiting or start studying, as it was never a part of these significant changes.)

These changes will become effective 30 days after they are published in the Federal Register.

The entire 45 page report can be retrieved as a word document, PDF file or text document from the FCC website at:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/wtb-document-index.pl?t=2>

Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club (NCARC) Presents

# WINTER HAMFEST 2007

Admission \$5 (children under 12 free)  
6 ft Tables \$5 ea. (includes 1 admission)

Saturday, January 20, 2007  
Open to public 8:00 am to 1:00 pm!

Talk in: 145.115 (-offset 100 Hz CTCSS)  
146.520 Simplex

Vendors Setup beginning at 6:00 am  
The Lincoln Center – Canyon West Room  
417 W. Magnolia, Ft. Collins, Co.

<http://www.ncarc.net>

On-site ARRL VEC EXAMS 9:00 am Prompt !

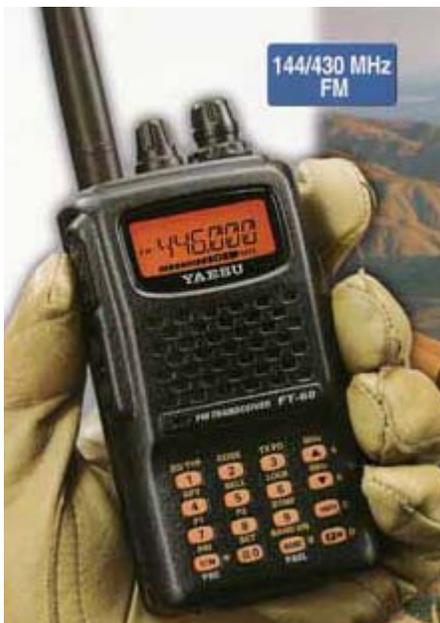
Coffee, donuts and catered lunch !



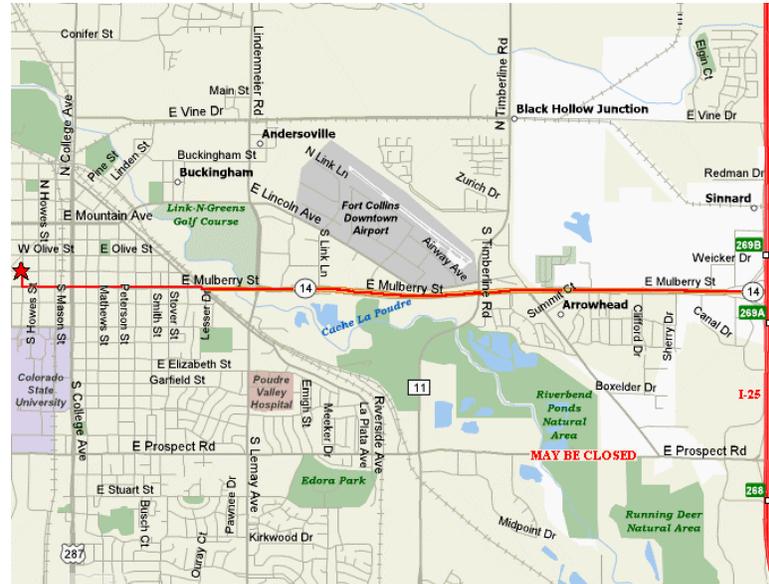
1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-8800



2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-7800



3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Yaesu FT-60  
Dual Band HT



From I-25, take the CO Hwy 14 Exit (exit 269) west into Fort Collins. After crossing Riverside Avenue, CO Hwy 14 becomes Mulberry Street. Continue west on Mulberry Street three blocks past College Avenue. Turn right onto Meldrum Street. The Lincoln Center is on the west side of Meldrum between Mulberry and Magnolia. The formal address is 417 West Magnolia Street.

GPS: 40.34.94N 105.04.99W

Hourly door prizes...donated by HRO, Denver

See you there !  
73, NCARC

DRAWING at NOON  
You must be present to win !

For Advance Table Reservations contact:  
--- Willis Whatley, WA5VRL  
(970) 407-6599

Fun ! Friends ! Food !

Make checks payable to NCARC  
P.O. Box 272956 Fort Collins, CO 80527-2956

NCARC Meeting - October 21, 2006  
Location: Golden Corral

Called to order at 0900 by Eric, N0EAS  
27 members and 1 guest were present

## REPORTS

Secretary: Minutes approved as read

Treasurer: Savings \$2151.46, checking: \$8052.75. We had 6 new members/renewals this month bringing our total membership to 110.

Tech Committee: Frustration at fixing the 115 is beginning to take its toll. There are still a few ideas left to try, but they will have to wait as George is going on vacation.

Newsletter: If you'd like to publish an article it needs to be in by the end of the month.

Control Op: Greeley announcement still needs work

Interference: It has been noticed by several that the 115 doesn't have a problem at night. The problems only occur during the daytime. This has been confirmed by KC0RBX, W0EP, N0WAR, and N7DQ

### Winter SwapFest

- Jane and Michael sent fliers to vendors and updated our vendor database.
- Fliers were passed around during the meeting so folks could put them up.
- We're still looking for a food vendor. W0FT mentioned that he has the coffee pots in his barn.
- The flier should be available on the website. (As of Oct 21, 2006 it's not up yet.)

## OLD BUSINESS

The current Ham Class: We had 21-22 new people for first class, 30-35 folks for second class. We could use some help with the instructing. Contact Steve Henry if interested.

Budweiser Events Center Repeater: Nothing new.

## NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Party: Steve talked to K0OJ about holding it in Greeley this year. OJ came up with two locations: Golden Corral (S 23rd Ave) in Greeley or Western Sizzlin' (Hwy 85 & 31<sup>st</sup> St). The party will be held sometime early to mid December. The group consensus was to let K0OJ make all the decisions and just report back date/time/location.

## **The 2006 NCARC Christmas Party**

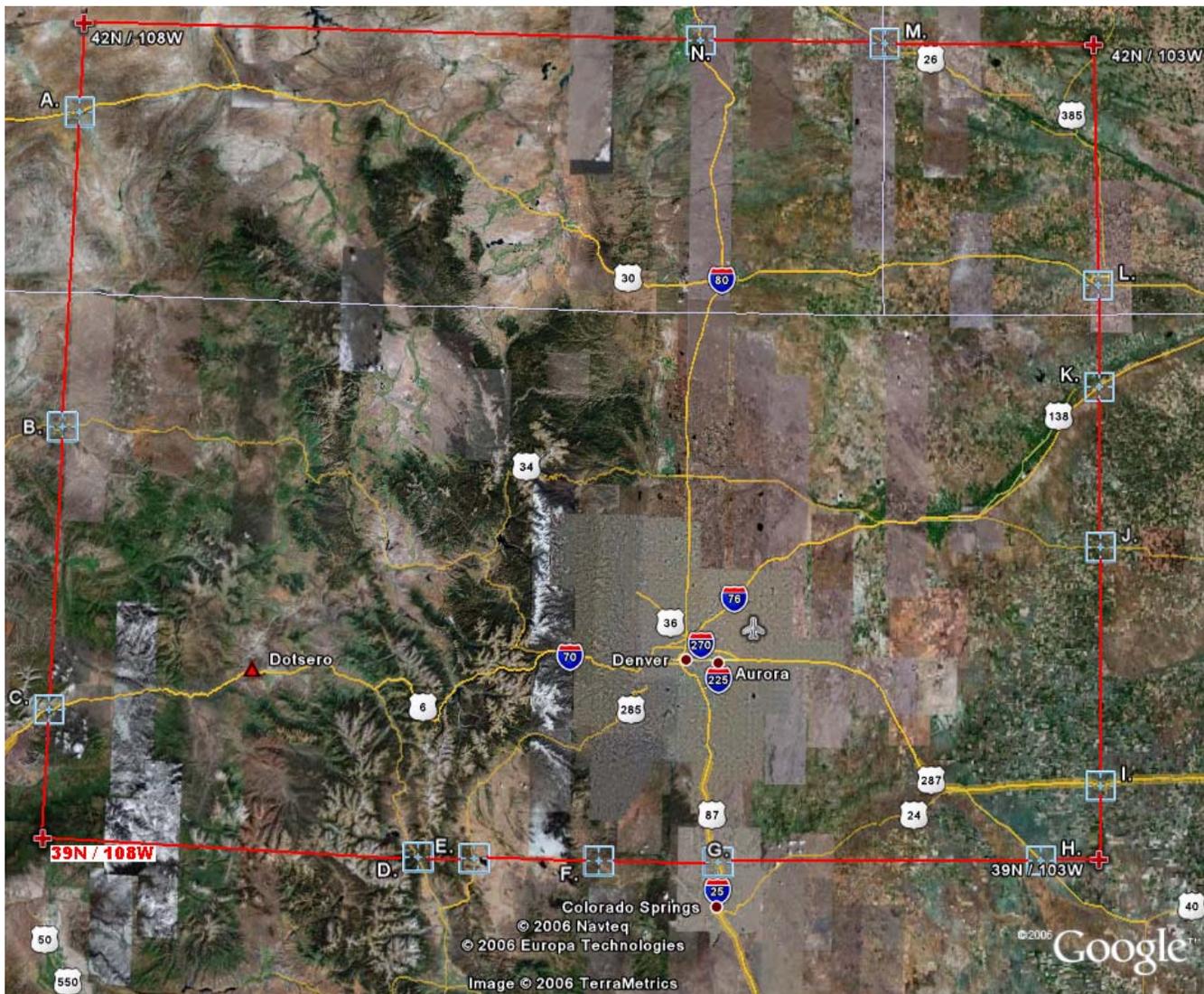
**The 2006 NCARC Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 5:30 PM.  
The location for this superb event is the Western Sizzlin Steakhouse  
Located at 31<sup>st</sup> Street and Hwy 85 in Evans, CO**

### **Special Operating Restrictions for our area:**

As technology progresses, it enables more amateur operators to obtain equipment that is capable of operation on increasingly higher bands. Amateurs who are well versed on the regulations as they pertain to frequently used bands such as 2 meters or 70 cm, may not necessarily be as well read on the operating requirements for some of the other bands like 33 or 23 cm. The information shown on the following page pertains to special operating restrictions that apply to a very limited area of the United States and we just happen to be within the boundaries of that area (don't you feel special now...).

## Operating restrictions for the 902 – 928 MHz band for this area:

Thanks to Minor Cross, K7YJ for providing this information regarding restrictions that apply to our area for operation on the 33 cm band.



**902 - 928 MHz Amateur Band. Frequency Limitations within the red box. Limited to the following frequencies:**

<b>902.0 - 902.4</b>	<b>902.6 - 904.3</b>	<b>904.7</b>											
OK	NO TX	OK	NO TX	OK	OK	OK	OK	NO TX	OK	NO TX	OK	OK	OK
	<b>902.4 - 902.6</b>	<b>904.3 - 904.7</b>						<b>925.3 - 925.7</b>		<b>927.3 - 927.7</b>			

### The Corners:

- 42N/108W - Sweetwater County, WY - Near Battle Spring Draw, W of Wamsutter- Crooks Gap Rd
- 42N/103W - Morrill County, NE -1.2 Miles S of Wayne Rd, 2.4 Miles W of US-385
- 39N/108W - Delta County, CO - East of Boulder Lake Reservoir
- 39N/103W - Cheyenne County, CO - 0.24Miles W of CR-9, 1.4 Miles N of CR-Cc

### Western Border:

- A. I-80, 1 Mile W. of Wamsutter, WY
- B. US-40, 1.5 Miles E of CR-74
- C. I-80, 3 Miles E of Parachute

### Eastern Border:

- I. I70, 3.5 Miles E of Flagler
- J. US-34, 2 Miles W of Otis
- K.I-76, 13 miles E of Sterling
- L. I-80, 2.6 Miles W of Sidney, NE

### Southern Border:

- D. Hwy 24, 0.7 Mile S of CR388
- E. Hwy 285, 1 mile N of rd NF433
- F. Hwy 24, 0.5 Mile NW of CR77
- G. I-25, 0.5 Mile N of Innerquest Parkway
- H. US40/287, 13.5 Miles S of Hugo

### Northern Border:

- M. US-26, Henry, WY
- N. I-25, 3.2 Mi S of Wheatland, WY

## Some thoughts regarding the enjoyment of Ham Radio Swapmeets

First, consider getting a table and attending as a seller, not just as a buyer. Unless you just got into ham radio within the last year, you probably have something that you would consider selling or trading for some other ham-related item. The longer you have been in ham radio, the more likely you are to have items that you could sell (and never miss). Each ham must set their personal guidelines regarding what items to sell.

Prime items to consider for sale might include any transmitter, receiver or transceiver that duplicates the power, frequency coverage and modes of operation of your primary or backup station equipment.

Also included would be any of the above that you have not actually used in the last year or have to step over in order to reach the operating position in your shack.

Other items worthy of consideration would be any accessory equipment (Microphones, Keys, TNCs, Phone Patches, Computers, Antennas, etc.) or test equipment that has not been used in the last three years or more. Also look at surplus feedline, connectors and other parts that could be used for building ham related equipment or accessories. The list of potential items that can be found in many ham shacks is much too long to include in this document.

Remember, you don't win anything by having the most toys (a.k.a. Junk) when you pass away; you just burden your surviving family and friends with having to dispose of it.

Also, "rotating your stock" gives you a chance to learn how to operate (and service) a larger variety of equipment without having to live in a warehouse environment.

If not having enough treasure to fill a swapmeet table causes you (regardless of political affiliation) to "waffle" on attending as a seller, just contact one or two ham friends that have a similar concern and split the cost of a table with them. Teaming up with another seller also offers the advantage of not having to worry about leaving the table periodically throughout the event.

Sellers are not prohibited from being buyers and attending as a seller has numerous advantages, such as the ease of recovering the cost of travel, table and admission as well as the often-overpriced food-like substances available at the event.

It also allows you to get into the event earlier and view the items that other sellers have brought from their treasure chests. Swapmeet ethics used to limit activity to the viewing of these items prior to the opening of the event to the public. There has, however, been a noticeable decline in the number of persons willing to adhere to this out of respect for those who attend the event as buyers only.

Your expectation as a seller should be to make enough to cover your expenses (such as the item mentioned above) and have a good time, nothing more. This is easily done with just a handful of accessory items that are priced to move. When going to a swapmeet as a seller, you should attend the event as a social gathering rather than a moneymaking opportunity. If your primary goal is to make a profit, you will have a more enjoyable experience marketing your items through one of the many on-line auctions available on the Internet.

As a seller, there are techniques that you can use that will enhance your enjoyment and increase your chances of leaving with new treasures or cash rather than the items you brought. One of these is to do your homework and price your items to sell. You should know the actual second-hand value of the items based on its intended use. Stated another way, don't use the sales prices found on an auction site (such as E-bay) to forecast the sales price you should expect to get at a non-auction event such as a swapmeet. Hoping to find a chump in an effort to maximize your achieved sales price can result in your having to take the items back home and may cause you to be labeled as a seller to be avoided at future events.

It is not hard to sell between two thirds and three quarters of the items you bring if you price them reasonably and are willing to barter. Learning or knowing how to barter as a seller or buyer should be part of the enjoyment of the event, not an obstacle to be overcome.

If you need to achieve a specific sales figure in order to buy a rather expensive item that you want, you should consider bringing numerous "mid and low dollar" items and selling them at reasonable prices. It is fairly easy to walk out of a swapmeet with a fairly new dual band VHF/UHF mobile or HF rig purchased with funds received from selling numerous items covering one or two tables, none of which sold for more than 20 or 30 dollars.

This works because most attendees arrive with limited funds and are "bargain" hunting. Only a limited number of buyers come to these events with funds to buy "high dollar" items, which reduces the seller's chances of marketing such equipment. Do not avoid bringing high dollar items to a swapmeet because of this, just realize that the target buying population is smaller and your other less expensive items will probably sell quicker.

Although having an enjoyable experience is defined by each person's expectations, coming in as a seller has quite a few advantages and can increase your ability to enjoy the overall event.

