

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
For July, 2010
Club Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month

*** LOCATION for JULY ***

Widow McCoys Restaurant
1011 E. Eisenhower Blvd.
Loveland, Co 80537 970-667-0426

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	Willis Whatley	WA5VRL	970-407-6599	whatley@frii.com
Vice President	Mike Bates	N7DQ	970-219-3325	n7dq@comcast.net
Secretary	Jerry Williams	KE5INP	970-454-3821	jcwillie@mywdo.com
Treasurer	Paul Rulon	KDØBER	970-495-0181	paulrrulon@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Maurice Mines	KDØIKO	970-378-7065	minesm@me.com
Control Op	Tom Jungmeyer	K1TJ	970-484-8329	tom@completetowing.com
Technical Committee Chair	Eric Slutz	NØEAS	970-282-3752	eric@redginger.com
Hamfest Chair	Mike Bates	N7DQ	970-219-3225	n7dq@comcast.net
Interference Coordinator	Chris McNair	KDØEGE	970-225-9626	kd0ege@gmx.com
Webmaster	Ed Gage	NØTVQ	970-302-3455 970-356-5005	edward_gage@hotmail.com

NCARC Repeaters

WØUPS: 145.115 MHz – (144.515 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (1* on, 0* off) Autopatch Echolink Node 4236 (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
WØUPS: 447.275 MHz – (442.275 MHz input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone Autopatch (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
WØUPS: 224.520 MHz – (222.920 MHz input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
WØUPS: 146.625 MHz – (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
WØUPS: 146.850 MHz – (146.250 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (1* on, 0* off) (40-25.341N, 104-44.182 W) Greeley, CO
WØUPS-5: 144.390 MHz – APRS Digital Repeater (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, about 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
WØUPS: 448.025 MHz – (443.025 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone ARES Repeater (40-26.650N, 104-59.370W, about 5192 ft) Budweiser Event Center on I-25 at MM259
NEW* WØUPS: 145.205 MHz – (144.605 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Located on Buckhorn Mountain. (GPS: 40.6169, -105.3274) Link to 224.840 by touch tone 10* - unlink with 11*
NEW* WØUPS: 224.840 MHz – (223.240 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Located on Buckhorn Mountain. (GPS: 40.6169, -105.3274) Link to 145.205 by touch tone 10* - unlink with 11*

Nets

ARES HF Net	Sunday	8:00 am	~3.81 MHz LSB
Pine Beetle Net  <- Ringo, Net control	Sunday	~9:00 am	145.205 MHz
ARES Statewide VHF Net	Sunday	8:30 pm	145.310 MHz
Central Colorado Traffic Net	Daily	7:30 pm	145.310 MHz
220 MHz Informal Net	Monday	7:00 pm	224.520 MHz
Tech Net	Wednesday	7:00 pm	145.115 MHz
ARES District 10 Information Net	Thursday	7:00 pm	145.115 MHz

Web Page

<http://www.ncarc.net>

Submissions: News letter to be published one week prior to the beginning of the month.
All submissions are due 10 days prior to the beginning of each month.

NCARC

Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2010

The June meeting was held at the Widow McCoy Restaurant in Loveland. It was called to order at 9:10 by acting President Willis W5VRL. Introductions were done all around, with call letters. There were 31 members, and 3 visitors, one of whom was from Hawaii.

Secretary's Report: Report was passed out, read, motion made to accept as written, seconded, motion passed. Jerry had some name badges to hand out - will contact those left unclaimed.

Treasurer's Report: Paul KD0BER said our balance as of meeting date was \$6020.38.

Control Op Report: Tom K1TJ reported that the repeaters were working all right

Technical Committee: Eric N0EAS was not in attendance.

Hamfest: Mike N7DQ is still searching for a location for the hamfest to be held. If anyone has a suggestion, please contact him at n7dq(at)Comcast(dot)net. It will soon be time to start accumulating the prizes, etc.

Interference Committee: no report.

Coming Events:

June 27-27 Field Day at:

Home Depot, Ft. Collins, Mulberry & Lemay,
Valley Ham Shack, 4321 W. Eisenhower, in Loveland,
Loveland Fire Dept. EOC.

July 4 - Poker Run (Needs helpers)

August 21 Rist Canyon 10K run (Needs helpers) Deb Peterson has contacted the club about possibly backup support.

Memorial Day Weekend - ARRL 2-day event, State meeting

Old Business: Willis reminded everyone that meeting at this place was for this month and for July only, for the present time. He reminded everyone to please remember to pay their bill before they leave. Also, if you want a different entry on the menu, please see the manager.

Need to be sure that the new time and place reminders are on the website. Also need a price on the website (reflector) as to things to sell or trade. (ED: I think that was a place on the reflector for 'sale and trade' items.)

New Business: Question raised about what needed to be done to fix or upgrade the 2 meter repeater's power supply. A motion was made and seconded to replace a power supply and return a borrowed supply back to its owner; however, this was withdrawn to study the cause of the failure: possible wind damage or lightening damage, before actually buying a new supply. Motion was made to limit expense to \$250.00 and let repeater group see about it. Motion passed.

John Wells said that the deadline for items submitted for the newsletter was usually around 10 days before the end of the month, although this time he would be looking for pictures and articles concerning Field Day, and would publish after that.

(Editorial note: this edition was delayed in hopes of receiving some Field day Photos. If you have photos for field day 2010, please send them to either Maurice, KDØIKO or myself, KBØNE(dot)ars(at)gmail(dot)com. They will be put into the August news letter.)

Meeting was adjourned 10:20 AM.

Submitted by Jerry Williams, Secretary

What is Skywarn?

The day started out nice, the repeater was quiet and the skies blue. At 4pm there was the sound of thunder and an increase in wind. The repeater started to get busy, "This is your Skywarn net control and the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a severe thunderstorm warning for eastern Larimer and north central Weld counties that expires at 6pm Mountain." Amateur radio stations mobile and stationary are checking in from all over both counties and some from counties outside the area. Some of these stations are reporting golf ball size hail or damaging winds. The repeater is busy and you can't use it for your 5pm chat with your buddy driving home from work. **Why are these people tying up my repeater?**

Skywarn is a team of people, some amateur radio operators and some non-amateur radio operators, spotting and reporting severe weather ranging from severe thunderstorms, tornadoes, damaging winds, and flash floods. In addition, they report damage caused by these events. They provide, on the spot, real time information for the NWS and other local agencies. These reports help inform the public and emergency management agencies to prepare for weather as it approaches their area.

Some of the volunteers of Skywarn are involved for many different reasons. They enjoy weather and severe weather and in some cases are closer to being Storm Chasers than just being spotters. Or some enjoy the use of the technology, radios, APRS, weather radar, etc. And finally some do it to give back to the local community.

You can help and be part of the team. Either by joining ARES D10, get training as a weather spotter or being a net control. Training is key to the success of Skywarn. Understanding how severe weather develops and its life, help identify key features to watch and report via Skywarn nets. Net controls help manage the flow of information, track where team members are located, help ensure team members get home safely, and during emergencies help get resources to the right place at the right time.

Another way you can help is to understand what the Skywarn nets are doing and provide support by enabling them to use the local repeater systems to make reports.

The ARES D-10 Skywarn net will take reports from anyone at any location, preference is reports by trained spotters but this is not always possible. Skywarn nets are directed nets and it is critical that you listen to net control when participating in the net. If you have not participated in a net before you can find a weekly net to participate in and learn the procedures.

Some do's and don'ts for Spotters (for newbies and veterans)

First rule of spotting is think safety first. For yourself and those around you.

Second rule of spotting be prepared.

If you are a new spotter, go out with a veteran several times before going out on your own.

If mobile have at least two spotters per vehicle, one to drive and the other to watch and provide communications (radio or phone.)

Before reporting, think about what you are going to say first. For your first report, the situation may be very tense, regardless you will be very excited, and the pitch of your voice will change. Calm down, slow down and think.

Report specific details using a effect and location format.

For example:

One inch hail at Highway 85 and Weld county road 74, moving northeast.

Funnel cloud 1 mile north of Colorado 257 and Highway 60 moving east.

Road flooding 5 miles east of Highway 257 on Weld county road 54, approximate water depth at center of the road is 10 inches.

Do make your report slowly and keep it brief. Each of the reports above if spoken slowly will take about 15 to 20 seconds each. Remember someone is writing this down.

If you do not have severe weather at your location, do not report it.

Listen to net control and listen to what is going on over your radio before using it.

For those not active in severe weather spotting you still need to be prepared for severe weather. Make sure you have a place of safety to go to in the event severe weather is forecasted for your area. It is also a good idea to have supplies on hand in case you are impacted by severe weather. There are multiple web sites that can help you prepare in the event you are impacted, for example, <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/bou/?n=preparedness>.

If you want to help and in Larimer or Weld counties you can contact Mike Bates, N7DQ, at n7dq at Comcast dot net or Tom Levendusky Jr, AC0CH, at ac0ch at arrl dot net.

Mike Bates, June 2010



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

We are still looking for operators for the Greeley Stampede Poker run. ARES D-10 asks that you participate in at least one training event per year. This qualifies as one of those. We understand that the 4th of July is a busy weekend but your help is appreciated. We will be supporting the ride for Lyons to La Porte from 09:00-15:00. We are looking for 5 more operators to support this properly. If you would like to help out please contact me at [w0dwi\(at\)q\(dot\)com](mailto:w0dwi(at)q(dot)com). There will be more information on the weekly net on Thursday evening. Those of you that have already volunteered thank you and you should receive the preliminary comms plan this evening or tomorrow.

Dwite Stull W0DWI AEC Op/Comms

73s

