

Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 272956
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2956



The Tribander

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The monthly Newsletter of the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club
For MARCH, 2011

Club Meetings are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month

*** LOCATION for MARCH***

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

All (Friends, family& kids) 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	Bill Dawson	K6VPE	970-353-7094	president@ncarc.net
Vice President	Chris McNair	KDØEGE	970-372-9842	vp@ncarc.net
Secretary	Jerry Williams	KE5INP	970-454-3821	secretary@ncarc.net
Treasurer	Monika Reinholz	KDØMVA	970-518-1138	treasurer@ncarc.net
Newsletter Editor	John Wells	KBØNE	970-568-7646	newsletter@ncarc.net
Control Op / Trustee	Tom Jungmeyer	K1TJ	970-484-8329	controlop@ncarc.net
Technical Committee Chair	Aaron Cathcart	NØWAR	970-214-1653	techchair@ncarc.net
Hamfest Chair	Charles Hess	KDØGMW	970-667-4357	hamfest@ncarc.net
Interference Coordinator	Justin King	NØAOL	970-290-9045	interference@ncarc.net
Webmaster	Ed Gage	NØTVQ	970-302-3455	webadmin@ncarc.net
Web Content Coordinator	Eugene Bentz	KI6MPA	970-371-2446	webadmin@ncarc.net

NCARC Repeaters

W0UPS: 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
W0UPS: 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
W0UPS: 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
W0UPS: 146.625 MHz – (146.025 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone [Will be relocated at some time... details as they become relevant] (40-50.266N, 105-3.017W, 5600 ft) SW of the Rawhide Power Plant, 17.5 miles north of Fort Collins, CO
W0UPS: 146.850 MHz – (146.250 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (1* on, 0* off) (40-25.341N, 104-44.182 W) Greeley, CO
W0UPS-5: 144.390 MHz – APRS Digital Repeater (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, about 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
W0UPS: 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
W0UPS: 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*
W0UPS: 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 	Sunday	~9:00 am	145.205 MHz
ARES Statewide VHF Net	Sunday	8:00 PM	145.310 MHz
Central Colorado Traffic Net	Daily	7:30 pm	145.310 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>

NCARC Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2011

The meeting was held at the Widow McCoy Restaurant in Loveland. It was called to order at 9:00 by President Bill K6VPE. Introductions were done all around, with call sign and location. There were 80 members, 3 visitors, and 4 new members.

Secretary's Report: No report was read because the last meeting was the Hamfest.

Notice: The monthly meeting for Board of Directors coming up on the second Saturday, to be held at Bruce's Restaurant in Severance, March 12, at 11:30 AM.

Treasurer's Report: Monika reported the balance from the statement was \$7774.46, the ledger says \$7328.48. There were several membership dues to be added in also.

Hamfest: The hamfest did well - 46% gross. We made just under \$2,000.00. There were some issues to be addressed, such as having more handicap parking, etc. We also need an alternate program for children while adults are at the hamfest.

We are hoping to have better prizes for next year's drawings. We need to remind donors that we are 501(C)3, so they will have some tax breaks.

Old Business:

Technical: Eric and Aaron are on the committee. Tom is working to link repeaters together from Greeley, Horsetooth, and Buckhorn (hub), so we can be able to turn them on and off. He suggested the club furnish the money to smart-link up in order of projected use - maybe \$2500.00 for completed use. He presented projected radios - all links with the same kind of radios. Willie moved to set aside \$2500.00 for this purpose, Kerry seconded.

Discussion: Buckhorn radios need to be fixed so they will give us better coverage to the North. Motion passed.

John Wells volunteered to help work on fixing the audio on the spare repeater. There was discussion concerning the reliability of the linking system in a possible emergency. Be sure to have a contact number when problems occur. Go to NCARC web site.

New Business: Buckhorn - severe radio problem - we need a dipole antenna to put up there, or the frequency coordinator may get us a 440 antenna. We have a 440 spare repeater. Any input on signal clean-up would be appreciated. Our club representative has talked to REA, and we are now there without charge.

We need to have a list of volunteers to help when projects come up.

Charles will need help to work on the hamfest for next year. He will have a job description for the website. He suggested having 3 or 4 people to start out now, with a head person doing 2 years. The first year would be to help, learning what to do, and the second year they would be in charge, training another person for their first year.

We need a paper or packet which will describe the club mission. We are here to help, not just to have fun. We need to tell where we have come from, what we are doing now, and where we are going from here.

Website: Eugene gave us information about the website. It will have pictures, new information, our mission statement, and it will not be secure. Go to <webadmin> for information.

We are discussing the option of making our payment of dues, etc. through PayPal. There will be a \$1.80

charge for each item to start. It would be easy to pay for your table or ticket at hamfest time, or renew membership. PayPal is a secure way to do these things. Bill Abbott moved to accept the choice of using PayPal to accept our money transactions or not, motion was seconded, passed.

We need information on our projects, like the marathons, to put on the website. It has APRS, weather maps, Skywarn, and other like activities. We could use a list of all the hamfests in our area, also training activities like tests, times, etc.

We wish to thank all those who put in long hours and their own equipment to see that our own hamfest came off in good style. We really appreciate all their work and dedication.

Just a reminder: The Longmont Hamfest is coming up on April 2.

Michael Hughey KF4DUS said he has 3 VE books to loan out, also some for CW.

Dan Magro showed some extra catalogs for connectors, etc., and had antennas to show.

Please contact President Bill if you have a show and tell. He will be glad to fill in a time and date for you.

April meeting program will be Ellie's kids.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:22 AM.

Submitted by Jerry Williams, Secretary

**A HUGE THANK YOU FROM
NCARC 145.205 repeater users to
Dave Fortenberry, ARS NA6DF
and to the crew that went up to the Buckhorn repeater site to do work.**

Hi all,

For some time the 145.205 repeater hasn't had crisp audio so I volunteered to give the repeater and its audio chain a look. In the process of learning what I could about our Vertex repeater I came across a dead link (Google search) to something that looked like it might be right on for the audio. I found Dave Fortenberry's web site and looked up his e-mail on QRZ to see if he had saved or moved a copy of the web page. He sent me a new link and the information there was spot on. Without much more messing around I modified the accessory connector audio path and VIOLA! 145.205 is sounding good.

Also, we discovered that the 50ohm load was absorbing most of the TX power. Using an MFJ antenna analyzer, Tom, K1TJ, discovered and swapped out a bad cable going to the duplexer. He also added an outboard CTSS decoder that has much better hang time characteristics than the built in decoder in the Vertex. More power to the antenna and less "PSSSST.....PSSST" false triggers.

John KBØNE

Thanks also to Nellie for pointing out my spell checker can't spell February!



Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club Information/Application Form



- ____ I would like more information on Amateur Radio.
- ____ I want to join the NCARC. My payment is enclosed.
- ____ I want to renew my membership. My payment is enclosed.

Annual Dues: (regualr yearly dues due January 1st of every year.)
Family Membership: \$25.00
Full Time Students: \$5.00

BEFORE FILLING THIS OUT, READ THIS MESSAGE -----

Name: _____

Callsign: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

License Class: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Receive Newsletter by E-mail? YES NO

Student? YES NO

ARRL Member? YES NO

□

You only need to fill in your name or callsign and anything that has changed. Any items left blank will be assumed to be correct in the NCARC database.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by E-mail, please indicate so here.
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Please mail this form to: NCARC
P.O. Box 272956
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2956