



## From the NCARC President

*Joe Hawley KDØTYU*  
president@ncarc.net

We've had a hectic couple of months putting the Hamfest together for our January 21<sup>st</sup> date. We still have some tables for sale, so if you got something in the corner, you could get some cash - but you need to get yourself a table.

We've got many things coming up in the months ahead. On February 14<sup>th</sup>, we have our new Hamlet class for beginners; however, if you would like a refresher, please go on the website to sign up. We have some excellent instructors and some fascinating demonstrations for you.

Our Rosin Corps project will be in March, and we will build an AM / FM radio. We should have signups on the website very soon.

We're also looking at a possible Amateur Radio General class in the spring. We will try to publish some shorts from the course on our YouTube channel to help with our instruction.

The February club meeting will feature a lecture and demonstration of the NanoVNA. Everyone has one, and probably 10% of us use them, including me. It'll be an exciting meeting, hope to see you there. We will be streaming on zoom if you can't make the meeting. Thanks for supporting the club. Now back to work on the Hamfest.

We're finishing up our platform for the UNC microwave system. I'd like to give a big thanks to Greg, Jim, and James for putting this together. It was a great effort, and we have a solid platform to put up there. I think this one will never blow over. I will send a note asking for help assembling the platform and getting it on the air soon.

## Public Affairs Office

*Dave Winnett WØDDZ*  
pao@ncarc.net

Numbers as of January 10, 2023

### YouTube

Views (last 28 days): 2,072

Watch time (hours, last 28 days): 341.9

Subscribers: 2,402

New Subscribers (last 28 days): 35

### Facebook

Members: 535

New Members: 13

## Got something (or some things!) for sale?

Get a table at Hamfest! The best opportunity to reach the largest number of potential buyers!

Advance table reservations:  
[click here.](#)

Or contact Joe Hawley  
president@ncarc.net

This month's club meeting is.....

## HAMFEST 2023

Admission: \$7

*You know you want to go!*

**Great floor show, lots of vendors with great stuff to sell.**

**Superb line up of speakers and demonstrations.**

Estes Park Room (Virtual)		
Moderators: Dave Winnett and		
Time	Speaker	Topic
9	Callum McCormick M0MCX	Stealth, NVIS and Improving Antenna Reception
10	Joe Eisenberg K0NEB	Kit Building Techniques for Success
11	Bob Heil K9EID	Antennas and such

Timnath Room		
Moderators: Ann Donoghue and		
Time	Speaker	Topic
9	Tom Bullock AE3TB Wyatt Litts	PVREA electricity demonstration, starts at :10 of each hour, followed by Q&A
10		
11		

LaPorte Room		
Moderators: Bill Beach and		
Time	Speaker	Topic
9	Jeremy Turner NOAW	Getting Started with Parks on the Air
10	Leslie Varnicle WA3QLW	The National Traffic System
11	TBD	TBD

### Free License Exams

9:30 am

Bring your FRN number

If upgrading, bring your current license

#### Location:

Thomas McKee 4-H Building  
5280 Arena Circle  
Loveland CO  
40.44286, -104.9863

*(Do not park in handicap spaces in front unless you have a sticker/hang tag)*

# The Famous NCARC Hamfest Raffle

License No. 2023-17943

**Buy tickets at the door:**

**1 for \$1**

**6 for \$5**

**14 for \$20 (such a deal!)**

***Must be present to win!***

**Grand Prize:** Yaesu FT-891



**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize:** Yaesu FTM-300R



**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize:** Yaesu FTM 200R,



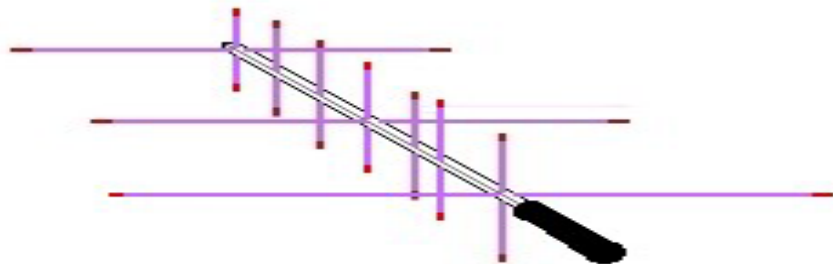
**4<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Yaesu FT70DR



**5<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Yaesu FT65R



**6<sup>th</sup> Prize:** Arrow Antenna 146/437-WBP10



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## Tech Report

**James Cizek, KIØKN**

[techchair@ncarc.net](mailto:techchair@ncarc.net)

**January 2023**

### Horsetooth

Things are operating pretty well at Horsetooth. We do have what sounds like either an occasional noise or sometimes an echo on 447.275. The Lee Hill 447.750 repeater controller PC died a little over a week ago and we re-pointed the repeater interface to the Horsetooth controller over the IP network to keep the repeater on the air. These particular repeater interface boxes (called RTCMs, short for Radio Thin Client Module) are hypersensitive to network latency. There is just no way to avoid occasional blips of delay on the network. I believe this is the cause of that and should be resolved once the Lee Hill computer is repaired (plans in the works for this now).

Thanks to all for your patience and cooperation with the "Santa Net" prior to Christmas. The event was a huge success and I think all had fun! Thanks to Longmont Amateur Radio Club for including us.

### Buckhorn

The 447.700 experiences periods of heavy intermod. This sounds like digital "brrrap" sounds on the audio usually at the end of a legitimate transmission. This is on the list to investigate/mitigate as soon as possible. Since this site is reachable nearly all winter, it will be on the top of my list.

We are now linking the 447.700 repeater to the WEOFUN machine set of linked repeaters in Southern Colorado from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm MT on the first Monday of each month to provide Northern Colorado (and South Wyoming) better access to the new ARRL Section Net. An opportunity for you as an ARRL member to have your voice heard or your questions answered by our Section Manager, Amanda Alden K1DDN.

### Coming soon!!:

Thanks to a donation by Bob WØBNC, I will be swapping the CSU Winlink node to an FM VARA node. This should give Northern Colorado a big advantage for fast packet and Winlink use!

As spring comes around, we'll have the following on our plate:

- Build the Sterling site
- Upgrade the batteries at Rattlesnake Ranch to LiFePO<sub>4</sub>
- Make some progress on the voter at Rattlesnake to increase receiver sensitivity (especially on VHF)
- Augment the battery system at Horsetooth to provide longer AC power out runtime.

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## Treasurer's Report

Darren Kalmbach KCØZIE

[treasurer@ncarc.net](mailto:treasurer@ncarc.net)

December 2022

Account	Checking	Raffle	Savings	PayPal	Total
Beginning Balance	\$1,447	\$761	\$1,110	\$5,035	\$8,353
Deposits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,198	42,198
Transfers	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Withdrawals	\$832	\$100	\$0	\$244	\$1,176
Ending Balance	\$615	\$661	\$1,110	\$6,989	\$9,374
Outstanding Items	\$0	\$0	\$0		\$0
Net Balance	\$615	\$661	\$1,110	\$6,989	\$9,374
Net Change	(\$832)	(\$100)	\$0	\$1,954	\$1,022

**Expenses:** Storage, Hamfest prizes/tickets, Rosin Corps, cables

**Revenue:** Memberships, Hamfest tables

### Membership Activity:

December 2022      249 (15 new)

December 2021:    278

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## Get the Goods!

The [NCARC Store](#) is open for business! We have stickers, t-shirts, patches, water bottles and keychains. We still have monogrammed clothing too.

<http://www.ncarc.net/?q=node/424>

## Winter Field Day is here!

Saturday and Sunday, January 28-29, 1900 UTC for 24 hours (noon to noon MST).

For rules and more information, go to <https://www.winterfieldday.com/index.php>

## In the “this is interesting” category:

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R.9670) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate some of the private land use restrictions on amateur radio.

Maybe he plans on introducing it again in the new congress! For more information, see <https://www.arrl.org/news/rep-bill-johnson-introduces-bill-to-eliminate-private-land-use-restrictions-on-amateur-radio>

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## Upcoming Ham Radio Events

**NCARC HamFest:** Jan 21, 2023, 8:00 am to noon. The Ranch, Loveland, CO

**Hamlet Class:** Feb 4, 2023, 1:00 to 4:00 pm, Harmony Library, Fort Collins, CO

## It's Renewal Time!

Renew your NCARC membership. It's quick and easy. [Click here!](#)

## Morse Code is Alive!

From the daily e-Newsletter *Nature Briefing*, Senior editor: Flora Graham

“Today I’m tickled to discover that there’s a boom in people enjoying [chatting in Morse code](#) (links to *Smithsonian Magazine* article). Sure, it’s slower than a phone call, but apparently it’s so nuanced that experienced tappers can recognize each others’ inflections — and it’s more reliable. “When you can’t get through with your own voice, Morse code gets you through,” says amateur radio enthusiast Bob Inderbitzen. This article in *Smithsonian Magazine* also includes a guide to building your own simple Morse-code machine.”

### From the Editor

Ann Donoghue KØARD  
[newsletter@ncarc.net](mailto:newsletter@ncarc.net)

A new year, with all kinds of things to look forward to, including Hamfest! Getting this newsletter out a little bit earlier, with all the info. Hope to see you there!