

**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 APRIL 2012

Club Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month

**\* LOCATION for APRIL 21 \***

**Golden Corral**  
1360 Sculptor Drive  
Loveland, Colorado

**Across the parking lot from Kohl's on East Eisenhower**

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

## ELECTED & VOTING OFFICERS and OFFICIALS

POSITION	NAME	CALL SIGN	PHONE	E-MAIL
President	Willie Williams	W5WIW	970-454-3821	president@ncarc.net
Vice President	open			vp@ncarc.net
Secretary	Jerry Williams	KE5INP	970-454-3821	secretary@ncarc.net
Treasurer	Tim Cottam	WØTJC	970-225-6566	treasurer@ncarc.net
Station Trustee	open			controlop@ncarc.net
Technical Committee	John Wells	KBØNE	970-568-7646	techchair@ncarc.net
Public Affairs Officer	Eugene Bentz	KI6MPA	970-371-2446	pao@ncarc.net
Member at Large	Bill Abbott	WBØZVE	970-232-8033	wb0zve@hotmail.com
Former President	Willis Whatley	WA5VRL		whatley@frii.com

### Sub-Comittee contacts:

Newsletter Coordinator***	John Wells	KBØNE	970-568-7646	newsletter@ncarc.net
Hamfest Chair***	Charles Hess	KDØGMW	970-667-4357	hamfest@ncarc.net
Web Coordinator***	Eugene Bentz	KI6MPA	970-371-2446	Webadmin@ncarc.net
Interference Coordinator***	Justin King	NØAOL	970-290-9045	interference@ncarc.net

## NCARC Repeaters

<b>W0UPS: 145.115 MHz</b> – (144.515 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS (1* CTCSS on, 0* CTCSS off) Autopatch <b>Echolink Node 4236</b> (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO <b>ARES &amp; Skywarn nets.</b>
<b>W0UPS: 224.520 MHz</b> – (222.920 MHz input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone (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 Located on Buckhorn Mountain. (40.6169, -105.3274) <a href="#">Link to 224.840 by touch tone 10*</a> - unlink with 11*
<b>W0UPS: 224.840 MHz</b> – (223.240 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Located on Buckhorn Mountain. (40.6169, -105.3274) <a href="#">Link to 145.205 by touch tone 10*</a> - unlink with 11*
<b>W0UPS: 447.700 MHz</b> – (442.700 MHz input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone Located on Buckhorn Mountain. (40.6169, -105.3274), west of Fort Collins, CO
<b>W0UPS: 448.025 MHz</b> – (443.025 MHz Input) 100 Hz CTCSS Subtone <b>ARES Repeater</b> (40-26.650N, 104-59.370W, about 5192 ft) Budweiser Event Center on I-25 at MM259
<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: 144.390 MHz</b> – <b>APRS Digital Repeater</b> (40-32.926N, 105-11.898W, about 7229 ft) Horsetooth Mountain, west of Fort Collins, CO
<b>W0UPS:</b> Rawhide location is being held in reserve at this time; no repeater. (40-50.266N, 105-3.017W, 5600 ft) SW of the Rawhide Power Plant, 17.5 miles north of Fort Collins, CO

## Nets

<b>ARES HF Net</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00 am</b>	<b>~3.81 MHz LSB</b>
<b>Pine Beetle Net</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>~9:00 am</b>	<b>145.205 MHz 447.700 MHz</b>
<b>ARES Statewide VHF Net</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>145.310 MHz</b>
<b>Central Colorado Traffic Net</b>	<b>Daily</b>	<b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>145.310 MHz</b>
<b>Tech Net</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>145.115 MHz</b>
<b>ARES District 10 Information Net</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>145.115 MHz</b>

# NCARC Meeting Minutes

## March 17, 2012

The meeting was held at the Golden Corral Restaurant in Loveland. It was called to order at 9:00 by President Chris KDOEGE. Introductions were done all around, with call letters, and a favorite Ham activity. There were 39 people present.

**Secretary's Report:** Report was read, approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning balance given as of March 6 was \$11,910.27. Expenses this past month were \$85338, (major expenses were the Hamfest venue and Liability Insurance), with an ending balance for February was \$11,065.89. There were 3 new members and 4 renewals in February for a total of 94 active members, including family members. The treasurer's report was seconded and approved. We were reminded that any donations to the club will be tax deductible. Tim asked for volunteers to help with the membership part of this department

**Technical committee:** John reports that the 625 repeater is installed on Buckhorn while the .115 is being repaired.

**Interference Coordinator:** Justin reported that there was no reply [re: Davinci Signs] as yet

**Control Operator:** TJ said he wanted to get together and finish the linking job on 205. [Now .625]

**PAO:** Eugene: He is working on getting our information out to the community. There will be the elections coming up, also 4 major events which we have agreed to help with. Marty runs the Marathon, and will also do the 1/2 Marathon. The call is out for volunteers to help with the 40+ bike run. He reports that the position of Public Affairs Officer will be available in June.

**Hamfest:** We are looking for volunteers to put together a committee to get started on the business of getting ready for the Hamfest next year. This committee should be ready to start working in April.

**Newsletter:** John: He reported that he has some unique articles from back history which will be in the newsletter from time to time.

**Old Business:** Nominations for the new slate of officers is coming up in April. The Executive Board will have some names to be considered, and there can be suggestions from the floor. The positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer will all be vacated at the end of this term, and also PAO. Be thinking of who you want to nominate for any of these positions, and be sure and come to the next meeting.

Jerry reports that she still has some badges which have not been claimed.

Tim reports that he is working on some guidelines to be used when we volunteer for any event which could be one connected to Ham Radio activities, or not. Our responsibilities are clearly stated in the FCC regulations, and these guidelines will help us stay within these lines.

Discussed new hams, and possible club membership. We would gladly welcome them into our club if they so desire, but we can not give them a free year's club membership for financial reasons.

**Clothing:** The opportunity to have a new jacket or hat, or the safety vest is still open. There will be some to try on if necessary to get the right size.

**New Business:** Test results from the license examinations can be posted on the website. We are reminded that those who are General and above can test for VE.

There will be training coming up on April 28 in Greeley, It will be a whole day - weather spotting in the morning and safety and net control during the afternoon. You can register at: [coloradoARESD10.org](http://coloradoARESD10.org)

Marty gave a talk about voting repeaters. He described how it senses the stronger signal. He said that Buckhorn was the best place for this type of repeater. He said it would be more reliable and easier to access. He was hoping to have one of these installed soon so it could be used for the bike race on July 7. Eugene asked for costs, etc. to get the new controller, and moved that it be ordered. Motion seconded. The Technical committee can get with Tim to order it

We were able to view the second part of the video presentation "Everything You Wanted to Know About Antennas but are Afraid to Ask", presented courtesy of our host, Jonathan Woo, It was very informative. Meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Submitted by Jerry Williams, Secretary

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Changes in the cages:

As stated last month, the Buckhorn 2 meter repeater frequency (was .205) is now switched to 146.625 mhz / 100 CTCSS as re-coordinated. The same Buckhorn repeater unit (a Vertex VXR-7000 VHF repeater) is used for the new frequency so coverage from Buckhorn will remain the same. This has freed up the Kenwood (dragging pipes) repeater and associated resources.

Also, due to personnel changes in the NCARC board, 2 board positions need to be temporarily filled until our next regularly scheduled election in June. Nominations will be accepted.

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Eugene Bentz (KI6MPA) was recognized for his employee volunteer activities by his company, CACI.



Photo courtesy Eugene Benz

**Using the equipment pictured here, Eugene Benz provides vital emergency communications for the Children's Hospital Colorado's annual fundraising bike ride.**

**CACI Office:** Fort Collins, Colorado  
**Organization:** Children's Hospital Colorado

**Why Do You Volunteer?** "In the Colorado Rockies, we don't have the convenience of reliable cell phone coverage. As an amateur radio operator, I like to use my talents to enable large numbers of people to participate in activities with access to reliable emergency response, if required. I'm now in my second year of providing emergency communications for the Children's Hospital Colorado's Courage Classic, an annual fund raising bike ride.

My role is to relay information to the correct people in a timely manner. I set up my own equipment in my vehicle or use portable equipment at specific locations. Typically, I communicate with anywhere from five to 40 different radio operators.

For events in the Fort Collins area, I also volunteer to facilitate communications with local agencies, including law enforcement, aid stations, and rest stops. Additionally, I volunteer for other events state-wide, such as the Fort Collins Marathon and Half Marathon, Realities for Children Motorcycle Ride and Rally, and the National Weather Service's SKYWARN volunteer weather spotters program.

During my volunteer career, I have dispatched an ambulance for a person who had a heart attack during a race, and I have notified the National Weather Service of severe weather so they could activate tornado warnings in Northern Colorado. I have provided organizations with communications when and where no other capabilities exist. It all comes down to helping people through the use of a skill I find enjoyable!"

To learn more about the Courage Classic, visit [www.couragetours.com](http://www.couragetours.com).

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Speaking of volunteer activities:

[I had an outrageous amount of fun doing this last year and actually hope that the same group of water passer outters show up again this year!!!!]

From MarathonMarty at [kc0qok@cowisp.net](mailto:kc0qok@cowisp.net):

**Sent:** Sunday, April 08, 2012 9:51 AM

**Subject:** Marathon

Hi Gang.

Just a reminder that the marathon is just around the corner, please let me know if you will be able to help. I haven't made any announcements on the ARES net this year as I have faith the positions will fill soon as they did last year! [Still need to fill a few positions]

Thanks crew!!

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This came into my mailbox right at the first of the month, it sounds a little too radical to me, but who am I to argue with a Dr.? But even then, I don't think I am willing to do what it says:

Sent: Saturday, March 31, 2012 8:57 PM

Subject: Walkie Warnings

You all should be aware that Homeland Security\*, in a bulletin due to be issued tomorrow, has discovered that almost all of the cheap little Chi-Com walkies flooding North America actually have homing devices and/or remotely controlled jammers that can wipe out our GPS systems and block large segments of the VHF & UHF spectrum, thus crippling our communications systems. They even suspect that the second harmonic emissions could reek havoc with the satellites and microwave ovens. One of two of these would cause no harm, but if every one of them ( thousands or more ??) all around the country were commanded to commence transmitting at once, well who KNOWS what could happen?

The recommended safeguard is to remove the battery and completely soak the walkie in a sealed container containing rubbing alcohol when you're not using it.

This was discovered and reported by noted Hungarian Physicist

\*Dr. Sloof Lirpa, LLiD., M.B.A., P.H.D., LIB, OMG., YMMV!

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WARNING:

IF you do follow the above advice for deactivating the radio when it is not in use... you will need to let the walkie thoroughly dry out for about a month **or longer** before reinstalling the battery and powering the radio.....

I googled "Dr. Sloof Lirpa" .... verrrrrry interesting!

"So many hats... so little time. Sorry, couldn't resist!"

John KB0NE 73s and see you at the next Golden Corral NCARC meeting.



# Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club

## Membership Application



I want to Join the NCARC.

Please Renew my membership

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For calendar year:

2011

2012

2013

Annual Dues -- All memberships expire December 31<sup>st</sup>

Individual or Family Membership: \$25.00 per year

Full Time Students: \$ 5.00 per year

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter by Email?            YES    NO

Student?                            YES    NO

ARRL Member?                    YES    NO

Family Members	
Name: _____	
E-mail: _____	
Callsign: _____	ARRL? YES NO
License Class: _____	
Name: _____	
E-mail: _____	
Callsign: _____	ARRL? YES NO
License Class: _____	
Name: _____	
E-mail: _____	
Callsign: _____	ARRL? YES NO
License Class: _____	
<i>Note additional family members on reverse</i>	

*We do not sell, trade, or rent personal identification information to others.*

See full Privacy Policy at <http://www.ncarc.net>

Please mail this form and payment to:

NCARC  
P.O. Box 272956  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2956

Club Use:	
Received: _____	Amt: _____
Recorded: _____	Version 20111114.1

**Or Sign-up Online at [www.ncarc.net](http://www.ncarc.net)**