



March 2017 Board Member Reports NORTHERN COLORADO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Board member reports are distributed at the general membership meeting and posted on the club website under the Newsletter tab. Not all content will be discussed during the meeting. If there are questions or comments, please raise them with board members or when invited during the general meeting. Not all board members will have a report each month.

President (Darren Kalmbach KC0ZIE)

Out of town

Vice President (Gerry Mitchell)

General Meeting Program Plan:

- March - Greg Ella : Coordinate systems and GPS
- April - Show and Tell
- May - Election

Treasurer (Joe Hawley KD0TYU)

February Report:

- Current cash balance: \$12,088.
- Invoice expected for Laird antenna for APRS Digipeater (See Tech Report)
- Total Membership: 89, 2 new members in February.
- Several renewals have been received so far in March
- Membership renewal is falling behind last year's rate at 114 members.

A copy of the full treasurer report is posted on the club website in the member's only area.

Secretary (Tim Cottam W0TJC)

Both board and general meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the club website in the member's only area.

Station Trustee (Jeff Ford K0JEF)

Our license is current.

Public Affairs Officer (Kevin Utter N7GES)

We have the possibility of a tour of the WWV antenna/tower site near Fort Collins. We're looking at late April for this. If we schedule on a Saturday, we are limited to about 10 people. I'm still waiting to see if there is a possibility of having 2 small groups back to back. If we scheduled on a week day, we could include more people, but this is probably not convenient for many who are working. I will need to know this morning how many people would be interested, and the overall



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group preference of either weekend or weekday. Other information I'm still waiting for are their requirements from us, e.g., whether they need a list of names, background checks, etc. More information will be forthcoming.

I've had very few people express actual interest in the personal station tours we mentioned in the past, either from visitors or hosts. Perhaps this isn't a popular enough choice to pursue at present.

We are thinking about doing a prominent public location field day, similar to the one we did 2 years ago in Fort Collins. The intention is to present a public presence where we can answer questions, and hopefully garner further interest in the hobby. Any comments are welcome. Please email pao@ncarc.net with questions, suggestions, or ideas.

Thank you for communicating your thoughts and ideas for the club with me. This will help in planning interesting activities for all of us.

Technical Committee Chair (James Cizek KI0KN)

Horsetooth

All parts are in hand to finish the fix. We now have several well qualified volunteers to help. We expect a trip to be scheduled in 1 to 2 weeks. During that trip, the following work will be performed:

- Replace (2) jumpers between the 1-5/8" hardline running up the tower and the antennas
- Replace a 1/2" hardline run the entire length of the tower with a 7/8" run of hardline
- Rebuild/clean the Diamond X50 antenna that was being used for the APRS digipeater and repurpose it as the voting receiver antenna for the Buckhorn voters.
- Install a new Laird single band 2Meter antenna for the APRS station
- Install the new Radio/TNC setup and connect to the PC to launch the new APRS I-Gate service (This will be W0UPS-10 upon return to the air)
- Take a further look at the on-site generator to determine needed repairs
- Reprogram the Buckhorn voting receivers to have only a single channel (this will fix the 145.115 coming out on the 146.625 problem since someone unauthorized changed the radio channel)

At the conclusion of this trip, we expect to have both UHF and VHF repeaters working back to full capability, along with the Digipeater/I-Gate fully functioning.

Buckhorn

No current work planned. Site is working very well.

CSU

The new 3Ghz link was installed between Durward Hall and University Services Center to change where the internet is fed into our microwave system. Since the change, the internet connected services have been rock solid.



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Greeley

We've found someone with a spectrum analyzer that covers the microwave frequencies. They will be available next week (Week of March 20th) to take a trip to the site and identify possible interference. The Greeley-Buckhorn link has been working pretty well lately for an unknown reason. The 146.850 repeater will have an additional part installed that allows proper use of CTCSS protection (Currently it's tone squelch only)

Budweiser Event Center

The WIRES-X continues not to work. Repeated (on the order of 20 something) phone calls to Yaesu has resulted in ZERO return phone calls/emails/etc. I visited their booth in Florida at Hamcation and my name/number was taken down with a promise to follow up. Nothing heard. The Fusion repeater is working well in standalone mode. Last week, the new microwave link to Namaqua hill was brought up and all network routing updated. This brought the Loveland Repeater Association online to the digital backbone. In exchange for the link, LRA is allowing us to use their Internet ISP located at the repeater site as an alternative way into and out of the system for backup access and emergency internet services.

As soon as Horsetooth is completed, work will resume on trying to rectify the long squelch tail crashes on some of the repeaters, as well as finishing program of repeater linking codes for Skywarn/ARES uses, and possibly re-adding voice announcements to some repeaters.

The Buckhorn voter will be placed on the Boulder repeater site soon adding additional coverage to the South and East for the Buckhorn VHF repeater. An APRS I-Gate will also be included at that site to fill in further holes along the front range. These projects are in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Ham and are not costing NCARC any money. All gear was donated by Doug Sharp, Myself, and RMHAM. In return, we will assist in running this equipment.

Member at Large (Greg Ella AD0JP)

No report this month

Calendar Events (See more on club web site)

Apr:	1	LARCFest Longmont	http://w0eno.org/
May:	13	Quad Rock	
June:	18	Kids day -- set-up at Discovery Center?	
	24-25	Field Day -- NEED COORDINATOR	
	14-25	MS 150	
July:	22-23	Never Summer 100k	
	23	40-in-the-Fort	
Aug:			
Sept:			
Oct:	8	Horsetooth Ache	
	8	BARCfest - Longmont, CO -	http://www.qsl.net/w0dk
	21	Sky Marathon	
	20-22	Jamboree on the Air	