

February 2018 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.

Technical Committee Chair (James Cizek KI0KN)

Horsetooth-

We had a climber all lined up around Christmas to do the final antenna movement. Sickness, travel, and weather postponed that several times. I am trying to line up some help again but with much less success so far. Still working on that scheduling. The outside video camera had a problem with it's IR filter for night time viewing that caused the picture to be unusable. This has been replaced with a warranty replacement camera. About half of the metal roof on the repeater building has been ripped to shreds and is missing. The site owner (Crown Castle) has tarped the inside ceiling to keep equipment dry until a new roof is put on. Luckily for us, our gear is in the other half of the building and there is currently no risk of damage. We are keeping a close eye on this though and will do whatever is necessary to protect our equipment.

Buckhorn-

We've decided since there has been a pretty significant uptick in requests for a 220mhz repeater, and the antenna retrieval from Horsetooth is delayed month after month, and given the latest donation of a new 220 duplexer to the club, all we needed to restore the Buckhorn 224.840 repeater to the air was a bit of heliax hardline to the feed the antenna existing there. This has been ordered and we'll get the 224.840 back on the air as soon as it gets here. The 224.520 will still be returned to operating status once it's antenna is down and it's new home is ready, but the 840 will be available very soon. If weather is cooperative, I should be able to put it back on the air within a week of the feedline arriving.

Budweiser Event Center-

The Fusion WIRES-X functionality on this repeater breaks every time there is a power glitch at that location requiring someone to go unplug the USB port and re-plug it in. This is an unsatisfactory solution given the time and difficulty in arranging visits there. I have a proposed solution to this and will present it at the club meeting this month.

New site buildout-

As reported in December, we are actively pursuing a new repeater site to host some of our displaced Horsetooth gear, as well as provide some redundancy and better coverage to our existing sites. Several leads have been investigated and still show promise. We are also working with private parties on some options of an entirely new (no existing tower) site. More to come on this soon. Since this is a joint build out, we need to have the representatives from our neighboring clubs involved in the discussion and providing a Go/No-Go commitment before we bring a vote to the membership. Stay tuned!

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Winlink-

Currently NCARC does not provide a Winlink gateway. There has been some discussion with the folks in Estes Park about this and I am investigating how we could best provide this service to our community. This will be a discussion point at the meeting this month so if you have thoughts or ideas, please come share!

Treasurer (Darren Kalmbach KC0ZIE)

Hamfest generated a little over \$4,000 net income
Our current cash balance is \$17,853
Current membership is 141 members.

By-Law updates

All proposed changes have been made and posted to the club web site as of Feb 10. After a 30 day waiting period, we will be conducting an on-line vote beginning March 12th through the 16th. A notification will be sent to club members when the site is ready. Results will be announced at the March 17th general club meeting. Thank you for your participation in the process!

HF Beginners Seminar!!

Come to our HF seminar on Feb 24 from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Poudre Valley Fire training center at 3400 West Vine in Fort Collin. We will have several HF stations setup with operators there to assist you or answer any question you might have on HF radio. Who knows, maybe Russia will be calling you.

Hamfest

Many thanks to the Hamfest Committee, Volunteers and Vendors! It was a great event that not only helps the club financially but helps promote the hobby and service of Amateur Radio. Well done.

Did you know... when you shop at amazon.com, Amazon will make a donation to a charity of your choice. Simply browse to **smile.amazon.com**, select a charity, and start shopping. Search for Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club to find NCARC in the list.