

Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs
Spring, 2007 Meeting
Aurora Public Library
14949 East Alameda Parkway
Aurora, CO
April 28, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM by Chairman Tim, WBØTUB.

Thanks were extended to Scott Brauer and the Aurora Repeater Association for hosting the meeting.

Introductions of attending delegates commenced. (Note: other members arrived after attendance was recorded by the Secretary, so a sign-in sheet was passed around and a complete list of attendees is at the end of these minutes.)

The minutes of the Fall, 2006 meeting were read.
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as read.
The motion was agreed to.

The Treasurer's report was given; a copy of which is attached and incorporated into these minutes by reference. Treasurer Wayne, NØPOH also read a thank you letter to the CCARC from Dave Sumner, Chief Executive Officer of the ARRL for the donation of \$250. to the League's Spectrum Defense Fund.

Wayne noted that mail addressed to CCARC member CARN had been returned, marked "not deliverable as addressed" and "no forwarding address".

Wayne also noted that there are approximately 250 maps remaining, which should be sufficient stock and no further orders will be needed before the next CCARC meeting. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.
The motion was agreed to.

The Frequency Coordinator's report was given. Frequency Coordinator Doug, K2AD reported that a check in the amount of \$301.00 has been received from the ARRL for the CCARC's listings in the ARRL Repeater Directory.

- A new server to host the coordination database has been installed but the data has not yet been migrated.
- Updates to the 900 MHz band plan will be made now that the FCC has removed the restrictions on this band in Colorado
- Several coordinations are in progress
- Auxiliary coordinations are on hold due to lack of registrations
- Doug reiterated his belief (stated at the last meeting) that the VHF/UHF Shared/unprotected pairs are not well used throughout Colorado.
 - o A discussion ensued and several members spoke on behalf of continuing to protect these frequencies and use them as currently coordinated.
- There are no VHF or UHF pairs currently available on the Front Range.

- A lengthy discussion ensued about the best use of the available spectrum in Colorado-- topics included the recovery of pairs not being used (paper repeaters) and also the fact that there are several pairs that have been coordinated for over 6 years but the current Frequency Coordinator has never heard from the trustees. It is unknown if these machines are actually on the air or not.
- Another topic discussed at length was future technology such as D-Star and P.25 digital radio. There have been inquiries to the Frequency Coordinator about where any such systems would exist. Currently, there is no spectrum available within the 2 Meter or 70cm spectrum on the Front Range.

The Chairman announced his intention to form a special committee to study this emerging digital technology and prepare a status report for the next meeting. Bob Witte, KØNR was appointed Chair for the Spectrum Use and New Technology Committee and he solicited volunteers from the assembled delegates. Several delegates advised they would solicit additional volunteers from their respective organizations. It was moved and seconded to approve the formation of this committee. The motion was agreed to.

- A further discussion ensued concerning the need for help in identifying the aforementioned trustees that have not been heard from in many years. Several delegates volunteered to assist. The Chair directed the Frequency Administrator to report on the status of efforts to track down these trustees and recover pairs not being used at each meeting of the CCARC going forward.
- Doug noted that long time Coloradoan Ted Cross, NØIAK recently became a silent key.

ARRL Colorado Section Manager gave his report:

- The League has withdrawn its petition for rulemaking to the FCC to regulate the spectrum by bandwidth. The League cited "widespread misconceptions" surrounding the petition as a primary reason for deciding to remove it from FCC consideration. The ARRL left open the option of refileing the same or a similar petition in the future.
- Since dropping the Morse code requirement for any Amateur Radio license, there as been a drastic increase in the number of upgrades and new licensees. One League survey shows an increase in March 2007 of 700 more Extra Class, 3625 more Generals, and 454 more Technician licenses than in the same month last year.
- Motorola has announced it is suspending product development of its Powerline LV BPL technology which was more ham-friendly than most other BPL schemes. Motorola noted declining interest in residential broadband service delivery via power lines as its reasoning.
- The FCC is poised to reduce vanity callsign fees from \$20.80 to \$11.70. No date has been announced as of yet.
- The Red Cross background checks have caused issues with many ARES groups across the county, but there doesn't seem to be much of an issue within Colorado

- Two hams have each field a petition for reconsideration with the FCC to request a reinstatement of Morse code testing for Amateur Radio licenses. The FCC has invited comments.

Unfinished Business-

No motions were offered.

New Business-

No motions were offered.

Elections:

The Nominating Committee reported that the incumbents for the positions of Vice-Chair and Treasurer have agreed to stand for reelection and those candidates are hereby submitted for consideration. The Chair requested nominations from the floor. After a reasonable time after which no further nominations were received, it was moved and seconded that the candidates, being unopposed, be declared elected by acclamation. The motion was agreed to.

The Delegates were on break from 2:30 PM until 2:45 PM at which time the meeting reconvened.

Vice-Chair John, NØWBW noted that the copy of the CCARC Constitution and Bylaws on the CCARC web page has a typographical error that removed the Frequency Coordinator as a member of the CCARC Executive Committee. A printed copy of the Constitution and Bylaws dated 2001 was produced to corroborate that the web version was in error and the Frequency Coordinator is indeed a member of the Executive Committee. John, who also maintains the web page, will ensure a corrected copy is posted. As this is a typographical error, it was determined that a motion to change the Constitution and Bylaws was not needed.

The delegates received a presentation from Jim Harris, ABØUK on the Colorado QSO Party scheduled for 1200 UTC 15 July until 0400 UTC 16 July 2007. At the conclusion of the presentation a discussion ensued concerning the CCARC sponsoring award plaques for this event. It was moved and seconded that the CCARC sponsor ten 1st Place Plaques (cost \$300.00) for the Colorado QSO Party. The motion was agreed to. The categories sponsored will be at the discretion of the Colorado QSO Party committee.

The Fall Meeting of the CCARC will be held on October 20th, 2007 in Pueblo, hosted by the Pueblo Ham Club. The specific venue is to be determined.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Ryan, KØRM
Secretary

Attendees: Spring 2007 meeting of the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs:

Delegate:

Tim Armagost, WBØTUB
John Maxwell, NØWBW
Wayne Heinen, NØPOH
Jeff Ryan, KØRM
Doug Sharp, K2AD
Bryan Steinberg, KCØCUA
Jim Harris, ABØUK
Glenn Cascino, WNØEHE
Nate Duehr, WYØX
Joe Southworth, KRØMAG
Bob Witte, KØNR
Scott Brauer, NØOWY
Kerry Driggers, NØURK
David Markham, WØCBI
Sharon Agun, KCØPBR
George Packer, WBØCDI
Sharlene Meydell, KBØWBT

Visitors:

Tom Lane, KØVKM
Ken Niles, KCØPBQ
Albert Straub, WBØCJH

Representing:

CCARC Chair
Vice Chair - Rocky Mountain Ham Radio
Treasurer - Grand Mesa Contesters
Secretary - Pikes Peak FM Association
Frequency Coordinator - Mountain Top Associates
Coordination Denver Radio Club
Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association
Rocky Mountain Radio League
Colorado Repeater Association
Cheyenne Mountain Repeater Group
Colorado VHF Group
Aurora Repeater Association
Ball Employees ARS
Denver Radio League
Big Sandy Radio Club
Boulder Amateur Radio Club
Colorado YL's

Representing:

Colorado Repeater Association
Big Sandy Radio Club
Boulder Amateur Radio Club