

CCARC Meeting  
April 13, 2013  
nSpire Health  
Longmont, CO

Minutes respectfully submitted by John Maxwell, W0VG with excerpts from Tony Ferris NA0US

Meeting called to order by Chairman Doug Sharp (K2AD) at 1:30 p.m.

Doug began the meeting with a short program to give others time to arrive, due to the HamCon 2013 meeting scheduled on the same day involving many CCARC delegates. He discussed some of the new digital mode repeaters and the amateur community moving to this technology in the future. The group was shown a Motorola repeater, which was capable of both narrow band analog (using 12Khz bandwidth) and digital mode providing dual 7.6Khz channels. The technology was likened to the shift from AM to SSB many years ago. He suggested that member clubs begin to research these new technologies and consider utilizing them when possible, especially in the larger metropolitan areas.

Once all were present, the meeting began with introductions from member delegates and guests present. The meeting was heavily attended, with what appeared to be about 40 people present.

### **Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the meeting notes as published on the internet from the October, 2012, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The previous meeting notes are available here:

<http://www.ccarc.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/MINUTES-CCARC-FALL-MEETING-2012.pdf>

### **Chairman's Report**

Doug Sharp reported that the CCARC Secretary, Phil Schechter (W0OJ), submitted his resignation to the Executive Board, citing Phil's high level of travel out of the country due to family and personal issues. The constitution and by-laws provide for election of a new secretary, which would be handled during new business.

Doug Sharp reported that both he and the CCARC Treasurer, Wayne Heinen (N0POH) attended court in Larimer County on October 31, 2012, for the hearing to obtain the CCARC records held by Randy Long (K7AVV), the ex-frequency coordinator. Randy failed to appear at the hearing. Doug and Wayne provided records showing their affiliation with the group, along with testimony regarding the records being sought. Judge Lynch ordered the Larimer County Sheriff to recover these records from Randy and this was done. There are approximately 2 ½ large plastic bins of records which are now physically in the control of Doug Sharp. The Executive

Committee will see that these records are digitized sometime in the near future to allow for electronic archiving so that this will not happen again.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Wayne Heinen (NOPOH) submitted a written report, attached with this report. The beginning balance reported at the last meeting was \$7,623.10. The current balance is \$8,222.85. Allocated funds leave an available balance of \$5,269.25.

Wayne also reported that CCARC was notified by the IRS that they had lost their tax exempt status. After some research, it was determined that there had been a records purge with the IRS. Wayne was told by IRS staff that CCARC needed to get a new Employee ID Number (EIN) to re-apply. He then enlisted the aid of U.S. Representative Mike Coffman and the old EIN was re-instated. Paperwork has been filed to re-instate the tax exempt status of the group with the IRS and should be complete at some time in May.

### **Frequency Coordinator's Report**

Doug Sharp reported that the Executive Board received notification from Jim Reimer (ACOSO) that due to personal commitments, he was resigning the position as Frequency Coordinator effective immediately.

Constitution and by-laws allow the Executive Board to appoint a Frequency Coordinator in the interim, with the members electing a new Frequency Coordinator at the next meeting. (This will be in the fall of 2013.)

Doug Sharp has made it clear he does not wish to hold this position again and will not accept if nominated or elected. He has, however, agreed to temporarily act in this position until a new coordinator has been selected. He will be assisted by the Frequency Coordination Committee is handling all existing coordinations.

Doug reported that there has been some movement of new digital requests, along with some analog. There are a couple of pending requests. The old coordination committee will process these requests and all CCARC members should be aware that there will be a short delay due to the change in status of frequency coordinator. Doug stressed that the council will maintain coordination activities and there will be no lapse in the council's ability to continue coordination activities.

Doug reported that someone in Arizona (a Mr. Bigglesworth) claims to have a nationwide coordination body. CCARC has told him this body is not recognized. He also reported that a second group in Wyoming attempted to become the coordinating body for that state, but after about a year, that group has faded from the scene (not providing any policies, procedures and structure) and the Wyoming coordinating group continues to be strong and provide coordination activities.

## **Section Manager's Report**

Jack Ciaccia (WM0G), ARRL Section Manager, reported that there are currently 40 ARRL affiliated clubs in Colorado. This information is available on the ARRL website and clubs can update their status once per year at this site.

If two years go by without status updates, a club can re-affiliate with ARRL if they have 51% of their membership as ARRL members.

Jack noted that it is time for all clubs to file a 990N non-profit status with the IRS. Deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. He noted the problem CCARC itself had with the IRS and suggested all clubs evaluate their status with the IRS to make sure there are no problems in this area. He suggested this be done each year to prevent similar occurrences.

Jack reported the following upcoming events:

June 1<sup>st</sup> – The Montrose ARC will have a tailgate swapfest at Confluence Park in Delta, CO

June 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – The Wyoming state ARRL convention will be held in Buffalo, WY

June 8<sup>th</sup> – ARRL June VHF Contest

June 12<sup>th</sup> – Rocky Mountain ARRL Division Net on IRLP Node 9871

June 22<sup>nd</sup> – ARRL Field Day

June 28-30 – ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention in Estes Park, CO.

July 27<sup>th</sup> – PPRAA Megafest in Monument, CO

August 18<sup>th</sup> – Denver Radio Club Swapfest at Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, CO

August 31<sup>st</sup> – Colorado QSO Party

September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Boulder ARC BARCFest at Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO

Jack reported that for the first year of which he was aware, there were no nominations for the Ham of the Year or the Young Ham of the Year for Colorado. He suggested that nominations for these awards be made for next year.

Jack reported that ARES is creating statewide Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) with various organizations such as the Red Cross, Salvation Army, etc. He noted that there are also national MOU's with many of these organizations. The statewide MOU's should help member clubs and require less work for them in the future.

Jack reported that the Boulder ARES group (BCARES District 11) started a "Mountain Emergency Radio Group." They contacted all the mountainous communities in western Boulder County to discuss rural communications. They have gotten together and setup a mountain radio network. They have gotten over 60 newly licensed hams that are involved in this group, along with adding a new repeater in Allenspark, CO to serve the area. They have another 20-25 hams slated for licensing in a few weeks. Jack noted that much equipment was donated and each of these new hams received a radio, pre-programmed, that would provide them with various receive only channels, along with ham frequencies for mountain communication. BCARES has

provided training to all these individuals. Jack noted that this outreach has strengthened the ham community with these new hams and provided much needed emergency communications in the event of disasters, especially forest fires. He strongly encouraged all clubs to consider similar programs, especially those in rural or mountainous areas. BCARES representatives are available to assist others in getting similar programs started should member clubs desire assistance.

Jack reported that there will be a very large evacuation exercise on June 5<sup>th</sup> in the Denver metro area, involving many air, fire, and ems resources, along with some 200+ actors to play roles in the exercise.

### **HAMCON 2013**

John Maxwell (W0VG) reported that there had been a meeting earlier in the day of the HAMCON committee. HAMCON will be June 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> in Estes Park. Information is available at <http://www.hamconcolorado.org>.

John reported that there will be approximately 45 technical forums, two buses to tour the WWV station in Fort Collins where they will even disable the 50KW array to tour the actual transmitter location.

The hotel has filled and is no longer taking reservations. One alternate location available is the YMCA of the Rockies. Other locations for housing will be posted on the HAMCON website.

There will be a DX University program on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> of June in the hotel conference center. There is a \$45 registration fee for this program. There will be several of the premier DX'ers assisting in this presentation.

### **CCARC Repeater Maps**

Wayne Heinen (N0POH) reported that the repeater maps are very close to completion and almost ready to be sent to the printer. He noted that the last printing the cost to CCARC was about \$1.80 per map and this year it has reduced to about \$1.60 per map. There were a couple of complaints of the maps smearing on the last run and the group agreed that should a complaint arise, to just give the person a new map. Wayne noted that the maps use ink that is waterproof, but the ink is NOT oilproof. Oil substances can cause the maps to smear. The final copy will be ready in about 2-3 weeks.

### **Old Business**

None

## New Business

### Elections:

Up for election for two year terms were the offices of Vice-Chairman and Treasurer. Jeff Ryan (KORM) was nominated to serve as Vice-Chairman. Wayne Heinen (NOPOH) was nominated to serve as Treasurer. Both were unanimously affirmed by delegates.

Due to the resignation of Phil Schechter, the Secretary's position was also open. There were two nominees for this position. Marie Teto and Emit Hurdelbrink (WOUAW). Ballots were presented to delegates and Emit Hurdelbrink was elected to serve as CCARC Secretary.

### Frequency Coordinator/Coordination:

Doug Sharp spoke to the group about the problems with finding a qualified frequency coordinator. He suggested that delegates consider a new approach to bring frequency coordination into the future. Doug pointed out that the coordination of frequencies involves three distinctly different functions. 1) Policy, band plans, and working with the FCC; 2) Management of frequency coordination; and 3) IT functions involving database, ARRL repeater information, maps, and updates. He explained that the position has grown too much for one individual to handle, as is evidenced by the last two coordinators leaving the office. Doug suggested that any individual or representative from any club that has the desire to be involved in redefining the duties and structure of the office of Frequency Coordinator, should contact either Doug or the Executive Board of CCARC.

With the office of Frequency Coordinator up for election at the October, 2013 meeting, the Executive Board will bring forth any new proposals regarding this office and frequency coordination in general to the delegates. Many suggestions were discussed briefly, including separating coordination by band, geographical areas, multiple sub-coordinators, etc. Doug stressed that while the board felt that more should become involved in creation of such new proposals, the group should not be large. The biggest fear is that another group or individual will step in to fill any kind of void and "compete" as a coordinating body. CCARC has historically done very well at filling this position and serving the amateur community of Colorado.

### Colorado QSO Party:

In 2012, the Pikes Peak Radio Association (PPRA) sponsored the Colorado QSO party along with several other groups. CCARC assisted financially, donating \$400 towards plaques in various categories. A motion was made to offer the same level of support this year, at \$400. Additionally, the Executive Board can add up to \$250 in support if the PPRA presents a compelling case for the need for additional plaques and funding for them. The motion carried unanimously.

### Fall 2013 Meeting:

The next meeting will be held one of three weekends. October 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, or 26<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that the 26<sup>th</sup> was the CQ Worldwide DX contest and suggested this date not be scheduled. First choice was October 12<sup>th</sup>, with the 19<sup>th</sup> as alternate. There was no offer to host the meeting by

any of the members present. Doug Sharp said he would contact several clubs and notify membership of the location of the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06pm.