

Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs

Minutes of the Spring 2019 CCARC General Membership Meeting held at the East Boulder Community Center on May 4, 2019.

Chairman Doug Nielson N7LEM called the meeting to order at 1301 hours MDST.

Introductions – Introductions were made around the room. Chairman Nielson announced that Vice-chairman Doug Sharp K2AD, Treasurer Wayne Heinan N0POH and Secretary Emit Hurdelbrink W0UAW could not attend as they were attending the AUXCOM meeting. Orlen Wolf WW0LF was appointed to fill in as secretary.

Secretary Report - Minutes of the October 27, 2018 meeting were read (displayed on screen) and accepted as presented on a motion by John Maxwell W0VG seconded by Jeff Ryan K0RM.

Treasurer Report - John Maxwell W0VG gave the treasurer report. See attachment 1.

Frequency Coordinator Report - Chairman Nielson reported that Frequency Coordinator Jeff Carrier K0JSC resigned about a month ago and that election of a replacement will be addressed under new business. Willam Schreuder AC0KQ reported on efforts to rebuild the repeater database and the problems that have arisen. The rebuild is still in progress.

An membership application for the Down River Control Group was presented. John Maxwell W0VG moved to accept the application, seconded by Jeff Ryan K0RM. Motion carried.

Old Business

Repeater database – Willam expanded on his earlier report on rebuilding the database.

Repeater maps – There are no more printed maps on hand and printing new maps is HIA pending upgrade/rebuild of the database.

Publishing an online repeater list – This item was addressed by the Chairman. One downside of publishing an online list would be an erosion of a CCARC revenue source.

New Business

Officer elections

The floor was opened for nominations to the office of treasurer. Chairman Nielson noted that Wayne Heinan N0POH would accept another term as treasurer. Gary Hampton AD0UW moved to close nominations, seconded by Gerry Villhauer W0GV. Motion to close carried and Wayne was elected by acclamation.

The floor was opened for nominations to the office of Vice-chairman. Gary Hampton AD0WU volunteered to accept the position. John Maxwell W0VG moved to close nominations, seconded by

Gerry Villhauer W0GV. Motion to close carried and Gary was elected by acclimation.

The floor was opened for nominations to fill the vacant office of frequency coordinator. After some discussion Gerry Villhauer W0GV nominated Tracy Helmholt KI0AC seconded by Willam Schreuder AC0KQ. Jeff Ryan K0RM moved to close nominations. Motion to close carried and Tracy was elected by acclimation.

Colorado Section Manager Report – The Section Manager Report was given by SM Jack Ciaccia WM0G. See attachment 2 for text of his report.

Next Meeting - RMHAM volunteered to host the fall meeting on 12 October at Cherry Creek Schools. Doug thanked the Boulder Amateur Radio Club for hosting the current meeting.

The formal meeting adjourned at 1541.

Program

John Maxwell and Jeff Ryan outlined the RMHAM Network, a microwave network covering Cheyenne to Albuquerque and Denver to Vail.

Gary Hampton AD0WU gave a presentation titled “Improving the Health of Amateur Radio.”

Respectfully submitted

Orlen L. Wolf WW0LF
Sec. Pro-Tem

Atch. 1 – Treasurer's Report

Spring 2019 CCARC Treasurer's Report – May 4, 2019

Beginning balance from Fall Meeting Report Dated October 27, 2018 **\$7,077.03**

INCOME

Date	From	For	Amount
10/27/2018	Castle Rock Rptr Group	Dues	\$14.60
10/29/2018	Down River Control Group	Dues	\$25.00
12/01/2018	Castle Rock Rptr Group	Dues	\$14.60
12/19/2018	Pueblo ARC	Dues	\$25.00
12/20/2018	Aurora Repeater Assn	Dues	\$10.60
12/20/2018	Rocky Mountain Ham Radio	Dues	\$12.40
12/20/2018	CCYARC	Dues	\$5.00
01/07/2019	Estes Valley ARC	Dues	\$8.00
01/22/2019	Arkansas Valley Radio Club	Dues	\$5.00
01/22/2019	Boulder ARC	Dues	\$25.00
01/22/2019	Colorado Connection Rptrs Inc	Dues	\$25.00
01/22/2019	Colorado Amateur Repeater Network	Dues	\$5.00
01/22/2019	Cheyenne Mountain ARC	Dues	\$5.00
01/22/2019	Delbert E. Noakes KC0VJD	Dues	\$5.00
01/22/2019	Denver Radio Club	Dues	\$25.00
01/22/2019	Garden of the Gods ARC	Dues	\$5.00
01/22/2019	Pikes Preak Radio Amateur Assoc	Dues	\$25.00
01/22/2019	Pueblo West ARC	Dues	\$13.00
01/22/2019	Royal Gorge ARC	Dues	\$8.00
01/22/2019	Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club	Dues	\$8.40
01/26/2019	Tracy Helmhold KI0HC	Dues	\$5.00
02/02/2019	Colorado State University ARC	Dues	\$5.00
02/02/2019	Big Sandy ARC	Dues	\$5.00
02/02/2019	Weld Amateur Radio Society	Dues	\$6.40
02/02/2019	Montrose ARC	Dues	\$12.00
02/02/2019	Mile High DX Assn	Dues	\$8.00

02/02/2019	285 Techconnect Radio Club	Dues	\$10.00
02/02/2019	Durango ARC	Dues	\$5.00
02/02/2019	Paul Deeth	Dues	\$5.00
02/06/2019	Longmont ARC	Dues	\$25.00
02/06/2019	Mountain Amateur Radio Club	Dues	\$5.00
02/06/2019	Parker Radio Association	Dues	\$18.00
02/06/2019	Ski Country Amateur Radio Club	Dues	\$25.00
02/12/2019	Colorado Repeater Assn	Dues	\$25.00
02/12/2019	Indian Peaks Radio Club	Dues	\$5.00
02/20/2019	Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Radio Assn	Dues 2 years	\$20.00
03/04/2019	BCARES	Dues	\$16.00
03/04/2019	Loveland ARC	Dues	\$5.60
03/11/2019	Northern Colo ARC	Dues	\$25.00
03/25/2019	Pikes Peak FM Association	Dues	\$11.00
04/20/2019	Colorado Traffic League	Dues	\$5.00
04/24/2019	Grand Mesa Repeater Assn	Dues	\$25.00

Total Income **\$541.60**

EXPENSES

Date	To	For	Amount
03/04/2019	USPS	P.O. Box 24244 1 Year	\$134.00

Total Expenses **\$134.00**

Ending Balance¹ **\$7,484.63**

¹ Less Allocated funds: Repeater Maps \$318.27 =

Available Balance **\$7,166.36**

Prepared by Wayne Heinen NØPOH Treasurer

Treasurer's Report addendum – Spring 2019

In accordance with the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs Constitution ARTICLE III – MEMBERS Section 1 Sub section C. The Club or Organization must be accepted by a majority vote of this Council. I would like to make a motion that the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs accepts for membership the Down River Control Group.



Colorado Section Manager CCARC Report Spring 2019 Meeting

ARRL Membership in Colorado

- A. - ARRL members in Colorado = 3,603
- B. - ARRL members in Rocky Mountain Division = 7,286
- C. - ARRL members in USA = 156,874
- D. - Licensed Amateurs in Colorado = 18,117

Colorado	Technician-9711	General-4090	Advanced-843	Extra-3473	Total-18117
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As of April 2019, ARRL membership in the Colorado Section has remained about even to the preceding year ending April 2018. Colorado ARRL's 3,603 members out of the 7,286 current members in the entire Rocky Mountain Division (CO, UT, WY, and NM) make up almost 50% of the Rocky Mountain Division's total ARRL membership. There are 156,874 ARRL members in the USA as of April 2019. The Colorado section ARRL membership is approximately 2.3% of the total ARRL membership in the USA.

According to the FCC ULS database; as of April 2019, there is a total of 18,117 ACTIVE ham licensees in Colorado. Of which, 3,473 are Extra Class; 843 are Advanced Class; 4090 are General Class; and 9,711 are Technician Class. So, doing the math once again, approximately 20% of all the hams in Colorado are currently ARRL members.

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions:

- 5/17-5/19 - HamVention 2019, Greene County Fairgrounds, Xenia, OH
- 6/1/2019 - Montrose Amateur Radio Club Tailgate Party, Delta, CO
- 6/22-6/23/19 - ARRL Field Day
- 7/25 - 7/27/2019 - Central States VHF Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska
- 7/27/2019 - 49th Megafest - Lewis Palmer High School, Monument, CO
- 8/8-8/10/2019 - Rocky Mountain Division Convention (Utah Hamfest), Weber State University, Ogden, UT
- 8/10/2019 - Western Colorado Amateur Radio Club Hamfest and Swap Meet, Grand Junction, CO
- 8/18/2019 - Denver Radio Club Hamfest, JeffCo Fairgrounds, Golden, CO
- 10/6/2019 - BARCfest, Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO

Current ARRL Affiliated Clubs:

The number of current ARRL Affiliated clubs in Colorado as of this meeting = 34 which is an increase of 9 club affiliations or renewals since the Fall CCARC meeting

1. 285 Techconnect Radio Club
2. Arkansas Valley ARC
3. Aurora Repeater Assn
4. BARC Junior
5. Big Sandy ARC
6. Boulder ARC
7. Castle Rock Repeater Group
8. Cherry Creek Young ARC
9. Colorado QRP Club
10. Denver Radio Club
11. Denver Radio League
12. Disaster Emerg Response Assn
SAR
13. Estes Valley ARC
14. Grand Mesa Contesters of
Colorado
15. Longmont ARC
16. MARAC
17. Mile High DX Assn
18. Montrose ARC
19. Mountain ARC
20. Northern Colorado ARC
21. Park Country Radio Club
22. Parker Radio Assn
23. Pikes Peak FM Assn
24. Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Assn
25. Pueblo Ham Club
26. Pueblo West ARC
27. RADOPS of El Jabel Shrine
28. Rocky Mountain Ham Radio
29. Royal Gorge ARC
30. Ski Country ARC
31. Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Assn
32. Weld Amateur Radio Society

33. Western Colorado ARC
34. Wyoming/Colorado ARC

Clubs Not Currently ARRL Affiliated:

1. Arvada Radio Group
2. Chaffee Lake Amateur Repeater Assn
3. ***Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs***
4. Colorado School of Mines ARC
5. Colorado State University ARC
6. Colorado Traffic League
7. Cortez Radio Club
8. Denver Area Council of Boys Scouts ARC
9. Edge of Space Sciences
10. Grand Mesa Repeater Assn
11. ***HamCon Colorado***
12. Indian Peaks Radio Club
13. Loveland Repeater Assn
14. North Jeffco Amateur Radio League
15. Pikes Peak DX Group
16. Rocky Mountain Radio League
17. Rocky Mountain VHF+

Amateur Radio Parity Act:

At its annual meeting January 18 – 19, 2019 the ARRL Board of Directors decided that the organization needs to “review, re-examine, and reappraise ARRL’s regulatory and legislative policy with regard to private land use restrictions.”

In order to effectively undertake such a review, the Board adopted a resolution to withdraw its December 18 ***Petition for Rule Making*** to the FCC, which sought to amend the Part 97 Amateur Service rules to incorporate the provisions of the Amateur Radio Parity Act (**ARPA**), without prejudice to refiling. The resolution also is asking members of Congress who had refiled legislation to enact the Amateur Radio Parity Act (ARPA) to refrain from seeking to advance that legislation pending further input from the ARRL.

Board members noted that the ARRL has been pursuing adoption of the ARPA for the past several years, and that objective has not yet been achieved. While everyone understands that getting Congressional approval on any matter can be a lengthy process, the difficulties getting the ARPA approved have been a source of frustration to the organization and its members. A majority of the Board now believes that there is a need to reassess the organization’s approach to this issue.

The Board wants to make clear to its members, and to those whose policies and conduct prevent or impair the right of US Amateur Radio operators to operate from their homes, that this pause is not, and should not be interpreted as an abandonment of its efforts to obtain relief from private land-use restrictions. The Board noted that its intent is “to renew, continue and strengthen the ARRL’s effort to achieve relief from such restrictions.” This action represents a chance to get the best product possible for all US Amateur Radio operators.

The Board expressed its sincere appreciation to the thousands of ARRL members who took the time to contact their representatives in Congress to urge them to support the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The Board also offered its thanks to those members of Congress who have consistently

and continuously supported the rights of US Amateur Radio operators.

Volunteer Monitor Program:

ARRL and the FCC have signed a *Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)* that paves the way to implement the new and enhanced Volunteer Monitor program. The memorandum establishes the Volunteer Monitors as a replacement for the Official Observers (OO) program. Current OOs have been encouraged to participate in the new program.

“We are excited by the opportunity to codify our partnership with the FCC and to work together to achieve our mutual interests of protecting the integrity of our Amateur Radio bands,” said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. “This *Memorandum of Understanding* will serve as the foundation for a new level of partnership on this very important issue.”

ARRL has contracted with retired FCC special counsel and former Atlantic Division Vice Director Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, to oversee the ARRL’s role in the development and implementation of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Approved by the ARRL Board of Directors at its July 2018 meeting, the new Volunteer Monitor program is a formal agreement between the FCC and ARRL in which volunteers trained and vetted by the ARRL will monitor the airwaves and collect evidence that can be used both to correct misconduct or recognize exemplary on-air operation. Cases of flagrant violations will be referred to the FCC by the ARRL for action in accordance with FCC guidelines.

The intent of this program is to re-energize enforcement efforts in the Amateur Radio bands. It was proposed by the FCC in the wake of several FCC regional office closures and a reduction in field staff.

“Under this program, the FCC will give enforcement priority to cases developed by the Volunteer Monitor program, without the delay of ARRL having to refer cases through the FCC online complaint process,” Hollingsworth said.

Hollingsworth has identified three phases to the program: Development, Solicitation and Training, and Implementation.

- The Development phase will include drafting a mission statement, clearly defining the ARRL’s and FCC’s requirements and needs as part of the program, writing a job description for volunteer monitors, and developing a training manual for volunteers.
- The Solicitation and Training phase will involve identifying the geographic locations where volunteer monitors will be most needed, soliciting applications and guidance from Section Managers in reviewing applicants. (Those currently volunteering as Official Observers are invited to apply for appointment as Volunteer Monitors.).
- The Implementation phase will involve having the volunteers provide field reports to ARRL, with staff offering guidance to volunteers to ensure that the information collected meets requirements for FCC enforcement action.

Hollingsworth has committed to FCC and ARRL officials to ensure the adequacy of training for the new positions, to review the quality and utility of Volunteer Monitor submissions to the FCC for enforcement actions, and to advocate for rapid disposition of cases appropriately submitted to the FCC.

ARRL officials estimate that within 6 to 9 months the first Volunteer Monitors will be in place and ready to begin their duties.

ARRL Entry Level License Enhancement Petition:

The FCC has invited public comments on ARRL’s 2018 *Petition for Rule Making*, now designated as RM-11828, which asks the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges

on 80, 40, and 15 meters. Interested parties have 30 days to comment. The Technician enhancement proposals stemmed from the recommendations of the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry-Level License Committee, which explored various initiatives and gauged member opinions in 2016 and 2017.

"This action will enhance the available license operating privileges in what has become the principal entry-level license class in the Amateur Service," ARRL said in its *Petition*. "It will attract more newcomers to Amateur Radio, it will result in increased retention of licensees who hold Technician Class licenses, and it will provide an improved incentive for entry-level licensees to increase technical self-training and pursue higher license class achievement and development of communications skills."

Specifically, ARRL proposes to provide present and future Technicians with:

- phone privileges at 3.900 to 4.000 MHz, 7.225 to 7.300 MHz, and 21.350 to 21.450 MHz.
- RTTY and digital privileges in current Technician allocations on 80, 40, and 15 meters.

The ARRL petition points out the explosion in popularity of various digital modes over the past 2 decades. Under the ARRL plan, the maximum HF power level for Technician operators would remain at 200 W PEP. The few remaining Novice licensees would gain no new privileges under ARRL's proposal.

ARRL's petition points to the need for compelling incentives not only to become a radio amateur in the first place, but then to upgrade and further develop skills. Demographic and technological changes call for a "periodic rebalancing" between those two objectives, ARRL maintained in his proposal. The FCC has not assessed entry-level operating privileges since 2005.

The Entry-Level License Committee offered very specific data- and survey-supported findings about growth in Amateur Radio and its place in the advanced technological demographic, which includes individuals younger than 30. It received significant input from ARRL members via more than 8,000 survey responses. "The Committee's analysis noted that today, Amateur Radio exists among many more modes of communication than it did half a century ago, or even 20 years ago," ARRL said in its petition.

Now numbering some 384,500, Technician licensees comprise more than half of the US Amateur Radio population. ARRL stressed in its petition the urgency of making the license more attractive to newcomers, in part to improve upon science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, "that inescapably accompanies a healthy, growing Amateur Radio Service."

ARRL said its proposal is critical to develop improved operating skills, increasing emergency preparedness participation, improving technical self-training, and boosting overall growth in the Amateur Service, which has remained nearly inert at about 1% per year.

The Entry-Level License Committee determined that the current Technician class question pool already covers far more material than necessary for an entry-level exam to validate expanded privileges. ARRL told the FCC that it would continue to refine examination preparation and training materials aimed at STEM topics, increase outreach and recruitment, work with Amateur Radio clubs, and encourage educational institutions to utilize Amateur Radio in STEM and other experiential learning programs.

ARRL Reply Comments Stress Need to Update Technician Privileges in a Digital World

05/01/2019

In **reply comments** to the FCC (comments on comments already filed) on its ***Petition for Rule Making*** (RM-11828), ARRL has stressed that updating HF privileges for the entry-level Technician license "is the sole subject and intent" of the petition. ARRL filed its reply comments on April 29, urging the FCC to disregard comments irrelevant to its petition and maintaining that Technician privileges must be relevant within the context of today's technological environment.

“[T]he increasingly rapid pace of change in communications technologies, coupled with the national need for self-training in science, technology, engineering, and math” necessitate the rule changes requested, ARRL asserted. “ARRL made its request because of the gap between today’s digital technologies and the privileges accorded the current entry-level Technician license.” ARRL characterized its proposal to update the rules as “balanced and modest.”

“If adopted, there would be no change to the operating privileges for all license classes other than those of the Technician class,” ARRL said. ARRL in 2018 asked the FCC to expand HF privileges for Technician licensees to include limited phone privileges on 75, 40, and 15 meters, plus RTTY and digital mode privileges on 80, 40, and 15 meters. The FCC invited comments on the proposal in April.

ARRL pointed out that some comments filed on its petition address subjects related to other open proceedings rather than expanding Technician privileges, citing comments cross-filed in such proceedings as WT Docket 16-239, RM-11708, RM-11759, and RM-11831. “Those filings should be considered in the proceedings that they address, rather than here,” ARRL said.

ARRL said some opposition appears based on fears of increased interference potential due to additional digital operation by Technicians. “It is improbable that all, or even a majority, of Technician licensees suddenly would develop a passion for the same digital technology,” ARRL said. “Our hope and expectation is that many will engage with digital modes on the high-frequency spectrum at issue, but it is unrealistic to suggest that every Technician licensee blessed with new privileges would suddenly appear on the same band.”

The comments note the development of very efficient digital modes such as FT8, which occupies just 90 Hz of spectrum per signal. “The experience with FT8 clearly demonstrates the attraction of the digital modes *and* the spectrum efficiencies that can be achieved,” ARRL said. “This is why opening up limited digital opportunities to new radio amateurs so clearly would serve the broad public interest as well as the specific purposes of Amateur Radio in experimentation and innovation, as enumerated in the governing FCC rules.”

ARRL further said that comments regarding disagreement on the definition of encryption for masking the content of certain digital transmissions also are “out of place in this proceeding” and “should not delay initiation of a proceeding” proposing to update Technician privileges.

“Technology has changed dramatically in the Amateur Radio domain, and the ARRL believes the requested Technician license enhancement would foster the regulatory goals for the Amateur Service and continue to increase amateurs’ historical experimentation and service in a meaningful way,” ARRL concluded

Respectfully Submitted,



Jack Ciaccia, WMØG

ARRL Colorado Section Manager