

LARC Hamlet Net – 2/26/2019

**Thanks to Mark, NAØK for doing a great job running the net!
Also thanks to everyone who participated (or listened in)!**

What was the group that puts on the 3-day Extra class?

The Patriot VE Team. They've got a web page (<https://www.pvet.org/>), but looks like they're still in the process of constructing it (i.e. not much info).

They've got stuff on their Facebook group, which is called "Patriot VE Team" (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PatriotVETeam/>).

They offer a free 1-day Tech, 2-day General, and a 3-day Extra class. They're a Laurel VEC group, so there is no charge for taking the tests. The tests are open to the public (at no charge!), but you do have to pre-register on a couple of web sites (they are a lot more automated than the ARRL).

As I mentioned on the net, they mainly just go over the questions and correct answers (as opposed to bringing in demos and going into depth explaining things). They also use the Gordon West study materials (https://www.gordonwestradioschool.com/main/page_w5yi_training_resources.html) as opposed to the ARRL books. They do most of their stuff out of the Red Cross building in downtown Denver, but occasionally run test-only sessions at CU (as well as classes & tests in other locations).

List of Nets on Rocky Mountain Radio League web site

The web site for the Denver area net list is <https://rmrl.org/rl/denver-area-net-list-nets-held-on-denver-area-repeaters/>

The various "traffic nets" aren't about road conditions – they're National Traffic Systems (NTS) nets where messages are passed (see <http://www.arrl.org/nts>).

I've also participated on the weekly Boulder Amateur Radio Club net (Wednesday nights at 8pm on 146.700 (-), 100 Hz PL tone).

Contest List

When I do get a chance to get on the radio, I usually check out the 8-Day Contest Calendar at <https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php> to see if there are any contests going on. If you click

on a contest name to the left of the “calendar,” it’ll take you down to more info about that specific contest (including a link to the contest rules).

As I mentioned on the net, this was the first activity I participated in on HF. I think the first one we worked, Kat and I made just one contact as we were trying to learn how to work our HF radio and antenna tuner at the same time (and came in on the last few hours of the contest). Still had fun tho!