

2024-10-22 Hamlet Net - Roundtable

Announcements:

- Test Session Info
 - Next VE session is this Saturday, October 26th in the Clover Building at the Boulder County Fairgrounds, and starts at 10 am. It is an ARRL session, so there is a \$15 fee to test. ~~It is a PVET session, so there is no fee to test.~~ For more info, and to pre-register, see the Licensing/Testing page on the club web site, <https://w0eno.org/>, under the Education menu.!
- We are still looking for volunteers for Santa on the Air - we can use elves who act as net control, as well as Santas. We've got a script for the elf, and a list of questions for Santa to keep the net going when Santa doesn't have anyone to talk to. No experience is necessary. You can even participate over Echolink as well.
- I attended a CCARC meeting this weekend, which is the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs who performs the frequency coordination function here in Colorado.

Nothing earth shattering, but as part of the meeting, our ARRL section manager, Amanda Alden, K1DDN, gave some updates from the ARRL.

- Some ARRL services are still down from the cyber security event, including DXCC and the financial system. They are getting closer to fully recovering them, but don't have a date available yet.
- ARRL Auctions are live right now, and can be found at: <https://arrl.auctionanything.com/> Proceeds from the annual Online Auction benefit ARRL education programs.

Each item has its own closing time - the web page says this is a feature of the auction site to prevent last-minute bidding, but it seems to me like it would tend to enable it. Now I can try to snipe in a last-minute bid on multiple items. If they all closed at the same time, this would be a lot more difficult!

They have items from multiple sources, including new donated items, product review equipment, vintage books and the largest category - items of interest, which appears to contain many used items. There are a total of 206 items up for auction.

- The ARRL now has a partnership with Grouper which, if you qualify, will provide an initial and yearly payment of \$50 as well as \$20 wellness payments from Grouper every 3 months just for staying active. To qualify, you must be an ARRL member and have a Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan that

includes the RenewActive or OnePass program.

You do have to log onto your account each month to log how you were active. "Staying active" requires in-person participation in ARRL activities, which includes participating in local radio club meetings, attending training for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service®, and competing in ARRL Contests. You can also log your involvement in hamfests, ARRL Field Day, and informal get-togethers with other ARRL members, or even portable operating outings with friends who share your passion for amateur radio. Sounds like just going to the weekly breakfasts on Saturday mornings would qualify.

For more information, go to <https://arrl.org> and use the website search box at the top right to search for "grouper" - it was the first search result displayed.

- More locally, the section web site is back up and running, and can be used to find information about area club events and activities. It can be accessed at: <https://colorado-arrl.us/>
- Colorado section information, including the web site, Facebook, Twitter and Linked In information can be found at: <https://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/colorado>
- Past section manager - Robert Wheram - now in North Carolina and lives on the outskirts of Asheville. His neighborhood had all roads cut off, and just got power back on after about 18 days. Interesting what he learned - posted on Ham Nation.
- The 285 TechConnect Radio Club is putting on their yearly TechFest on November 2nd down in Lakewood. The event will have 5 hours of presentations on technical topics related to amateur radio, plus a "demo corner" where club members show off some of their operating technology.

Presentations are: The RMHAM Network, Choosing an HF Radio and Recommendations by Rob Sherwood NCØB, Ham radio in an HOA, Introduction to SDRs, and Radio Astronomy and Ham Radio Activities at Star Haven Observatory.

There is a \$15 fee to participate in person. Looks like they also provide a Zoom link for remote participation. For more information, and to see presentations from previous years go to <https://na0tc.org> and click on "TechFests" on the left side of the page.

- We have a new net on the LARC repeaters. It's run by Timothy Moss, KFØLAR, on the 22nd of every month at 6pm. The 22nd was chosen to highlight the average of 22 vets who commit suicide each day. While the purpose of the net is to connect veterans, non-vets are welcome to participate as most all of us have friends or family who are or have served.

- If you are an ARES member, the Colorado Section's Simulated Emergency Test, or SET, will be held on Saturday, October 26th, beginning at 13:00 hours. Colorado Section ARES districts have been preparing for this event for several months with mini SETs and tabletop exercises. While I don't believe the actual exercise is open to non-ARES hams, there will probably be some interesting radio traffic on that day!

For more information: <https://sites.google.com/view/coaresset>

- Looking for people to help out with LARCFest and Winter Field Day.
- We have some volunteer opportunities available where you can help out LARC:
 - Photographer / videographer - record team activities and upload to web site / YouTube
 - Newsletter Editor - put together the monthly Splatter newsletter
 - Event Coordinator
- You can start earning your 2024 membership or future renewal by acting as NCS for at least 5 nets this year. You can run either this Tuesday night net or the Thursday night net (or both). We have scripts available for both, so all you need is a good connection into the repeater, and somewhere to keep track of names and call signs as people check in. If you're going to be on the net anyway, why not save some dough at the same time! There are four free memberships available for 2023, so don't wait to get started!
- Chuck has set a goal for the Club of running at least one activity a month. This can be a hands-on construction activity, an operating activity like Field Day, a fox hunt, or a special event station. The goal is to get people together to have fun with amateur radio! We have multiple locations at our disposal, as well as lots of Club equipment, so if you have an idea for something you think others hams would like to do, please let us know, and if you're willing to run it, even better!
- The Club is also looking for presentation topics for 2024. If you have any ideas, or better yet, would like to present, please let Chuck know and we'll get you on the schedule!
- All club activities are open to anyone - members and non-members. If you have questions, ask them on a net or **send email to elmer@w0eno.org**

Topic: Roundtable Discussion

Notes:

- If you have ideas for net topics or general meeting topics / presenters, please let us know! Tell us on a net, or send email to k0itp@w0eno.org

Email to elmer@w0eno.org

1. K0ITP - Chuck - Firestone -
2. AE0DO - John - N of Longmont -
3. AF0W - Bryan - Longmont -
4. KF0QMP - Aki - Longmont -

End: 7:45pm