

BCARES ANNUAL MEETING – 28 JANUARY 2008

Attendance

The Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (BCARES) Annual Meeting was held at the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder Building at 6:30 p.m., January 28, 2008. Members and guests enjoyed a light buffet and social conversation prior to the meeting. The following 45 members and guests were present:

Jerry Tate OEM	Tim Groat/KRØU	Jack Flory/NØJPF
Jim Smith BC SO	George Gielow/NØGBE	John Stanssky/KFØRQ
Jeff Ryan/KØRM	Jack Ciaccia/WMØG	Eric Richards/KBØYDN
Wes Wilson/KØHBZ	Jane Przedpelski/KCØFGE	Andy Przedpelski/KØABP
Jim Kubitschek/KGØHU	John Clary/KØBCO	Steve Price/WB8VQI
Dale Scott/KAØQPV	Rick Woodsome/KØETN	Suzy Price/N2LZR
Mark Huff/KBØLRS	John Varga/WA8ZIA	Scott Olson/KC0YDQ
Dave Sharpe/KIØHG	Al Beu/WØLMQ	Bill Paschen/NØJVO
George Weber/KAØBSA	Carol Tuttle/KCØSPA	Maryanne Paschen/NØMKN
Louis Perley III/KCØVJE	Stephen Meer/KØSCC	Don Baune/ACØEX
Michael Derr/W3DIF	Michael Borenstein/NØBP	Angee Baune/ACØEW
Peter Goldman/WB2DVS	Kathy Borenstein/NØOBR	Ray Rayburn/N1IUU
Ed Schlichting/KBØTVH	Allen Bishop/KDØARK	Michael Braitberg/ABØMH
Willard Crary/NØAWZ	Chip Stewart/ABØXH	Jack Quinn/KØHEH
George Kretke/NØRUX	Doshia Kretke/KBØNAS	Ed Cole/WBØSUT

BCARES Activity Review

The meeting was chaired by Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU). Jim called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and presented a brief BCARES overview. Jim pointed out that 2008 is the 30th anniversary of BCARES and recognized two original charter members who were present, John Varga (WA8ZIA) and Al Beu (WØLMQ). Jim welcomed seven new members, who joined BCARES during 2007: Steve Meer (KØSCC), Scott Turton (KC9APF), Jack Flory (NØJPF), John Clary (KØBCO), Allen Bishop (KDØARK), Mike Bartosewicz (N6TOL) and Bryan Wheeler (KB9UZO).

BCARES is Colorado State ARES District 11 and also serves as the Boulder and Broomfield County RACES organization. BCARES “is a volunteer organization of licensed amateur radio enthusiasts formed for the express purpose of providing communication and public service pertaining to the protection of life and/or property in support of local, state and federal agencies which may need supplemental communications in times of natural or man-made events.”

Jim reviewed 2007 BCARES activities and noted that 1610 volunteer service and training hours had been logged by members during the year. BCARES activities included:

January 13	Operation Hospital Handshake (with State EOC)
January 22	BCARES 2007 Annual Meeting
April 7	LARCfest, Boulder County Fairgrounds
May 5	Four Mile Canyon Flood Exercise
May/June	Boulder City and County Siren Test Monitoring
June 11	School Exercise, Broomfield High School
July 7-8	MS 150 Bicycle Race
July 28	Bikerpelli Sunrise Century Bicycle Race
August 7	National Night Out, Broomfield
August 25	Tour de Cure Bicycle Race (with Longmont)
September 15	C.U. Football ATV

September 22 C.U. Football ATV
September 23 BARCFest, Boulder County Fairgrounds
September 29 C.U. Football ATV
October 20 C.U. Football ATV
October 27 Boulder County Mass Casualty Exercise
November 3 C.U. Football ATV
November 23 C.U. Football ATV

Jim reviewed and discussed BCARES Board positions and responsibilities (see Attachment 1, below). A new Board responsibility is under consideration for 2008 – a Public Information Officer (PIO) to work in coordination with served agency incident PIOs and the State ARES PIO. Jim recognized served agency and other representatives associated with BCARES, and discussed their relationships.

Guest Speaker -- Jerry Tate, OEM

Jerry Tate (Boulder County Office of Emergency Management) was introduced. Jerry discussed the “failure of initiative” surrounding the 2005 New Orleans Hurricane Katrina disaster. Mitigation measures included railroad coaches which are now available for New Orleans evacuation shuttle service. Evacuation plans have been expanded to be “pet-friendly,” because it was determined that some people will refuse to leave if their pets cannot be accommodated.

Like New Orleans, Boulder risks potentially devastating disasters, but local hazards, such as a history of creek flooding are less obvious, making it more difficult to maintain energetic preparedness. Jerry likened the situation to a football team preparing for a game, when the day and even the year of ‘game day’ are unknown. Both the OEM and BCARES must be constantly trained and ready. Jerry expressed appreciation to BCARES for continuing to be dependably available to help when emergencies occur.

Guest Speaker -- Jim Smith, BCSO

Jim Smith (Boulder County Sheriff’s Office) was introduced. Jim said that, on behalf of Sheriff Joe Pele, he thanked the members of BCARES for what they do. He pointed out that BCARES Amateur Television (ATV) and packet capabilities were unique and valuable resources, not available to many other served agencies. Jim expressed appreciation for BCARES’ availability (24/7 pager response), compassion (volunteerism), dependability (willingness to sacrifice) and generosity (partnering with served agencies).

Jim discussed the new, state-of-the-art, Boulder County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), currently under construction, near the Boulder Municipal Airport. BCARES will have a dedicated operating area and readily accessible, ground-level equipment storage. Initial occupancy is expected in June 2008.

Guest Speaker -- Jeff Ryan, ARRL

Jeff Ryan, KØRM (ARRL Colorado Section Manager), was introduced. Jeff explained his role as Section Manager and his relationship to Colorado Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) groups. He congratulated BCARES on 30 years of service and expressed appreciation for the local and state-wide support BCARES provides. It was mentioned that Jeff’s Assistant Section Manager is Tim Armagost (WBØTUB). George (KAØBSA) was recently asked to assist Jeff with scouting and youth.

Guest Speaker -- Wes Wilson, State Emergency Coordinator

Wes Wilson, KØHBZ (Colorado State ARES Emergency Coordinator), was introduced. Wes referred to BCARES as a state-wide ATV resource, which may be called upon when needs arise. He expressed appreciation for BCARES’ 30 years of service. He recalled his own early Heathkit “Two-er” which he built for operating on the, then-nearly empty, two meter band of 30 years ago. Technology has changed dramatically in 30 years. Now, Wes says he carries a small, dual-band handheld transceiver, which is a much stronger performer than the Heathkit at a small fraction of the size.

The value of amateur radio makes itself apparent on a regular basis. During a 2007 Colorado Department of Health exercise, ham radio messages got through, when Department phones become overloaded. Wes recalled several key ham radio/served agency incident milestones, from past years, including the Y2K call-out. Although Y2K did not turn out to be an emergency, it could easily have been, and served agencies had the confidence of knowing that amateur radio back-up communications were available. Another major milestone was 9/11 (September 11, 2001). After 9/11, ARES and RACES grew in national priority. Amateur radio became more important to served agencies and invitations to assist more common. Amateur radio's responsibility has also grown. Training is a key to success. Training includes NIMS IS-100, 200, 700 and 800 courses. Wes also encouraged taking the ECOM course on the Colorado ARES website.

BCARES Elections

After a short break, Jim (KGØHU) conducted annual BCARES Board elections.

- 1) At Large Primary (two year term) – Incumbent, George Weber (KAØBSA)
Nominated – George Weber (KAØBSA)
Elected by acclimation – George Weber (KAØBSA)
- 2) At Large Primary (one year term) – Incumbent, Dale Scott (KAØQPV)
Nominated – Dale Scott (KAØQPV)
Elected by acclimation – Dale Scott (KAØQPV)
- 3) At Large Alternate (two year term) – Incumbent, Ed Schlichting (KBØTVH)
Nominated – Louis Perley (KCØVJE)
Elected by acclimation – Louis Perley (KCØVJE)
- 4) At Large Alternate (one year term) – Incumbent, Louis Perley (KCØVJE)
Nominated – Ed Schlichting (KBØTVH), Jack Flory (NØJPF), Don Baune (ACØEX)
Elected by paper ballot – Jack Flory (NØJPF)

2008 BCARES Activities

Jim (KGØHU) discussed BCARES activities planned for 2008. These included:

- Actual emergency call-outs (as required)
- Annual Simulated Emergency Test (interagency events), all modes
- C.U. football (public service and ATV training)
- LARFEST, BARCFEST (BCARES information booth)
- EOC move – BCARES equipment cache and station relocation
- Training (packet, ATV, net control, E-com, ICS/NIMS)
- New equipment integration and activation
- Winlink and PACTOR focus
- National Night Out
- County-wide site survey – communications site assessments\
- Monday night nets (micro-exercises)
- Special projects

2007/2008 BCARES Board Activities and Agenda

Jim (KGØHU) discussed BCARES Board activities during 2007. These included:

- Elected Board positions and arranged liaison positions
- Planned and conducted training events and exercises
- Met with served agency representatives
 - Boulder and Broomfield EOCs
 - MACs meetings
 - C.U. CERT
- Established BCARES policies and direction
- Equipment acquisitions – C.U. and Boulder County
- Equipment maintenance and upgrades

- Packet cluster upgrade and implementation
- New web page
- EC meetings and reports

Jim expressed appreciation for the exceptional support of C.U. and the Boulder County Sheriff's Department for 2007 purchases of equipment for BCARES to use. Jim also expressed appreciation to Pete Goldman (WB2DVS) and other BCARES members for assisting with equipment maintenance.

Jim (KGØHU) discussed the BCARES Board agenda for 2008. Items included:

- Further updates to Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with served agencies and supporting organizations, as required.
- Continued emphasis on recruitment and membership expansion.
- Continued commitment to training (new member, packet, ATV, NIMS/ICS).
- Technical committee appointments and technical improvement agenda
- Continued BCARES equipment acquisitions, upgrades and maintenance
- Broaden distribution of responsibilities and tasks (general membership and Board)
- Continued enhancement of the new BCARES web page
- Continued support for improvement and expansion of packet cluster system
- Activity planning
- Bring more PACTOR on-line (and Winlink)
- Public Information Officer (PIO) position

General Discussion

Jim (KGØHU) opened the floor for general discussion:

- A question from the group addressed amateur radio's anticipated role in the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver:
 - Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) – Districts 13, 22 and 24 may provide resources, which could expand to all Denver area Districts, as plans develop.
 - Jim (KGØHU) – Boulder County is involved. Possible BCARES involvement could develop.
- Distribution of a general BCARES membership list update was requested. It will be sent by e-mail. BCARES currently has 119 members. A comment was made that it may seem like a large number, but participation by all could be needed in an extended emergency.
- Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) – Training exercises can be expected to increase in scope. State-level and regional, multi-state, exercises are expected to become common.
- Dale (KAØQPV) – BCARES members are encouraged to update their contact information with Membership Chairman, George Weber (KAØBSA).

Adjournment

Jim (KGØHU) adjourned the meeting about 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
 Michael Derr (W3DIF)
 BCARES Secretary

Attachment 1 – BCARES 2008 Board of Directors and Board Member Responsibilities

- BCARES Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation
- BCARES Bylaws state that the Board shall consist of nine positions
- Only four of these are specifically named in the Bylaws
 - Chairman (EC) – Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU) – (2 year At-Large Primary, odd year)
 - Vice-Chair (AEC) – Dale Scott (KAØQPV) – (1 year At-Large Primary)
 - Secretary (AEC) – Michael Derr (W3DIF) – (Boulder Amateur Radio Club)
 - Treasurer – Jerry Tate -- (Boulder County OEM)
- BCARES “Articles of Incorporation” list served agencies and club representatives who serve on the Board

- 2008 Board Positions (Primary and Alternate)

• Office of Emergency Management	(OEM)	Jerry Tate
• Boulder County Sheriff’s Office	(BCSO)	Jim Smith (Support Svcs. Division Chief)
• Boulder Police Department	(BPD)	Robert Sullenberger (Commissioner)
• Rocky Mountain VHF Society	(RMVHFS)	Len Koppl (KDØRC)
• Rocky Mountain VHFS (Alternate)	(RMVHFS)	Mike Borenstein (NØBP)
• Boulder Amateur Radio Club	(BARC)	Michael Derr (W3DIF)
• Boulder Am. Radio Club (Alternate)	(BARC)	Dave Sharpe (KIØHG)
• Longmont Amateur Radio Club	(LARC)	Scott Turton (KC9APF)
• Longmont Am. Radio Club (Alt.)	(LARC)	Don Bessee (KCØQZR)
• At-Large Primary (2 year, even year)		George Weber (KAØBSA)
• At-Large Alternate (2 year, even year)		Louis Perley III (KCØVJE)
• At-Large Primary (2 year, odd year)		Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU)
• At-Large Alternate (2 year, odd year)		Mark Huff (KBØLRS)
• At-Large Primary (1 year term)		Dale Scott (KAØQPV)
• At-Large Alternate (1 year term)		Jack Flory (NØJPF)

- Additional Board Responsibilities

• Staffing	Dale Scott (KAØQPV), Len Koppl (KDØRC)
• Training / Membership	George Weber (KAØBSA)
• Hospital Liaison	Doshia Kretke (KBØNAS)
• Louisville, Lafayette, Erie Liaison	Dale Scott (KAØQPV), Jack Ciaccia (WMØG)
• Lyons, Allens Park Liaison	Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU)
• C.U. Liaison / Boulder Police	Mark Huff (KBØLRS), Jim Kibitschek (KGØHU)
• Red Cross Liaison	George Kretke (NØRUX)
• Longmont Police	Mark Huff (KBØLRS)
• OEM Liaison	Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU)
• BCARES VHF Net Manager	Jane Przedpelski (KCØFGE)
• State Net Liaison	Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU)
• Equipment Chairman	Pete Goldman (WB2DVS)
• Packet Coordinator	Len Koppl (KDØRC)
• ATV Coordinator	Jim Kubitschek (KGØHU)
• Web / E-mail	Mark Huff (KBØLRS)
• Broomfield and D27 Liaison	Len Koppl (KDØRC)
• Broomfield Liaison	Louis Perley (KCØVJE)
• WØBCR Club License Trustee	Jim Andrews (KH6HTV)
• ATV Repeater Mgr. (Fixed & Portable)	Jim Andrews (KH6HTV)
• Public Information Officer (PIO)	(Planned for 2008)