

CCARC has new 2 and 220 Meter Repeaters

RCC Dec 2008 – Wayne/AI9Q

At the last board meeting, the purchase of a new Kenwood 2-meter repeater was approved. The old repeater was over 35 years old and was bought used in 1991. Lately the receiver has been having some problems and normal quick fixes didn't do an adequate job of correcting them. Rather than spending more money to replace the old receiver, it was decided that a new state-of-the-art machine was in order. The Board of Directors wanted to get the new repeater installed on the mountain top before winter sets in and access might be difficult. The new repeater is also much smaller and a good deal lighter in weight than the previous one.

Our repeater manager Wayne/AI9Q (on the left) ordered a new Kenwood TKR-750 from the area dealer Arcom Communications in Aurora, Oregon. That company is the same one that made the club's repeater controller. By purchasing both items from the same dealer, we'll get a customized package which is 'plug and play' on our frequency 147.24 MHz. Arcom pre-tuned the repeater to our specifications. The new repeater is a bit lower in power, but there are plans to purchase an amplifier and preamp, if required.



Saturday morning, November 15, Wayne, along with Loren/ KB7APU (on the right), and Robin McKay, K7ABC, made the installation on Mt. Livingston. Final checks were made with assistance from Jim Coville, W7RY, and the repeater was put into service prior to that day's ARES Simulated Emergency Test. First on air reports were very encouraging as all the early comments were that the repeater sounded very clear. It was noted that HTs were now able to access the new repeater with full-quieting in most cases. Time will tell what kind of coverage we can expect. We are using the same antenna as before.

Earlier in the month, the new 1.25 meter (23cm) repeater was installed. This repeater install was held up until a new antenna could be installed. The newly installed antenna radiates the VHF packet node on 144.99, the 224.36 repeater and will provide remote linking on UHF. The 224.36 repeater requires a 94.8 Hz tone to access it. The 23 cm system on 1291.5 will be reactivated at a later date.

There may be a couple other items needed to complete the installation, such as a power amplifier and preamp, if required. All these improvements and possibly others will require additional funds to pay for them. We also have ongoing expenses such as site

rental and telephone control lines. When you pay your 2009 dues, you might consider a small additional donation to the repeater fund.

The repeater expenses are segregated from the club's ongoing expenses and may be tax deductible for you.

Thank you for your gifts which make all these improvements possible