



2003 Swapfest Brings in Record Numbers!

Kate, WB9BAH
Swapfest Chairperson

The 2003 PPRAA Swapfest was a rousing success to the club and to the vendors.

Over 90 vendor tables were set up in the Lewis Palmer High School gymnasium, and the aisles flowed with buyers and onlookers. 488 adult admissions were recorded at the gate. (Those 17 and under were admitted free, and no one thought to count them!) A net profit of \$2,268 was brought in for the club through our efforts. (How does this compare with prior years, you ask? 2002: \$1,580; 2001: \$1,312; 2000, \$1,177)

Raffle Prize winners were as follows:

YAESU FT-817 K BØB, Bob Wogaman

YAESU FT-8900 RKØLOB, Jim Gifford

YAESU VX-1R NKØP, Ron Deutsch

Boy Scout Troop 631 reported success with their food stand, and were happy to have been there for us. They wish to thank everyone for letting them have this opportunity.

ARRL Division Director, Walt Stinson, WØCP; and Section Manager, Jeff Ryan, KØRM, presented an ARRL Forum, which was well attended. Questions were answered regarding the ARRL political involvement and help was offered to the new EC in the Canon City area.

Dennis Major, NØABC, reported that

23 tests were administered in the VE session. His report will be elsewhere in this issue of Zero Beat.

Many door prizes were given out to attendees. Of note, the G5RV antenna, donated by The Radio Shoppe, went to NØABC; the ACE-HF Software program, donated by Sue at ACE-HF, went to KCØMIR; the MFJ Dual Band Mobile Antenna donated by HRO went to KIØHI, and the Paper Chaser's Log Software, donated by NØOKS Software, went to KBØB.

Thanks to our donors who are listed on page 4. Please patronize their businesses, and thank them for their support. Also, thanks to everyone who pitched in for this Swapfest and helped in the various locations needed. Your availability and enthusiasm made our event run smoothly!

Eight months of planning led to the culmination of the Swapfest June 14th. The dedication of the PPRAA Swapfest committee made this year's event a success. Committee members included Rick, KØSU; Dennis, NØABC; Rob, N7LV; Moe, WBØRTF; Bill, KDØJU; Bob, KBØB; Ron, NKØP; Ben, NØLNW; Tom, NØNTX; and Ted, NØNKG. I appreciate their dedication, hard work, and commitment.

We look forward to using lessons learned this year, and applying them to our next year's Swapfest!

Issue 55

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Please Note

August 0-Beat deadline
July 25, 2003

Please try your best to get all content in by the deadline.

Meetings Our monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm, temporarily at the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management, 305 S Union Blvd. Our Annual meeting is in October. Check the web site for any changes.

Regular License Exam Sessions Our ARRL VEC test sessions are on the 2nd Saturday of even numbered months at 0900 at the DeVry Institute annex, 3245 International Cr, just east of Memorial Park, but west of Printers Parkway. Contact Erik KGØXE for details.

Examinees need to bring (1) \$12, preferably a check or money order payable to ARRL/VE; (2) picture ID; (3) the signed original and a copy of your current amateur radio license and CSEs you have (we keep the copies); and (4) a pen, pencil, and calculator if needed. Memory calculators will be checked.

PPRAA Web Page See it at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>. Thanks to Lee Inman KØQED for maintaining these pages.

Get on the PPRAA E-mail Reflector Stay on top of new or short-fused developments. Subscribe at <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/ppraanet>. Thanks to John Wishart KCØJFH for maintaining this list.

PPRAA Simplex Net All amateurs are invited to join us on Thursday evenings at 1900 on 146.58 MHz simplex for our club net. Get the latest club and regional happenings!

Officers and Directors

President	Ben Cruise	NØLNW	n0lnw@arrl.net
Vice President	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	n0ntx@amsat.org
Secretary	Joanie VerDuft	KCØGMI	verduftj@earthlink.net
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Board Member	Jerry VerDuft	ADØA	verduftj@earthlink.net
Ø-Beat Editor	Tom Dawson	KCØNRZ	kc0nrz@arrl.net

* Indicates this Director is in the 2nd year of a two-year term

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Upcoming Club Programs

The Ø-Beat is published monthly in the interest of the members of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc, P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521. Permission is granted to reprint articles provided credit is given to both the author and the Ø-Beat. For membership and subscriptions see the back inside cover of this publication. Monthly advertising rates: Full page \$48; Half page \$24; Quarter page \$12; Business card \$6. Rates are billed quarterly. Send advertisements and payments to Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc, P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521.



Articles for the Ø-Beat Deadline for articles or ads for the July issue is June 20. Submit articles by e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person to the editor. Editor reserves right to edit for readability, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length.

Nonprofit Organization The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions/ donations may be tax-deductible.

Ø-Beat Available Electronically in PDF form via e-mail and on the web. Contact the editor for details.

Club and Local News

President's Corner

Ben, NØLNW

The Swap Fest was a great success. Thank you Kate!

Here in the Pikes Peak area we are very fortunate to have many very fine repeaters. Most all of us utilize them almost daily and get a great deal of enjoyment from them. These repeaters serve many different interests. They are also most important in the event of an emergency.

There was a recent situation where two hams were rag chewing, on the repeater, when another operator came on with a "Break" and then a "Break-Break". The two rag-chewing hams paid no attention. The breaking operator repeated the "Break-Break", again with no attention being paid to him. He waited till they were finished and then passed, what turned out to be a serious emergency bit of information.

We all get a little careless with our operating courtesy and procedure so it is good to review them occasionally.

"Break" is not a request to join the conversation.

Generally the term Break indicates that the breaking station has an urgent need to use the repeater. The term "Break-Break" indicates that the breaking station has an emergency situation requiring immediate use of the repeater! In either case, and especially in the double "Break", it is essential that the repeater be cleared at once for the breaking station.

Our Vice President, Tom NØNTX is taking over the duties of Program Chairman. Rick, KØSU, has been filling in at this position. Rick has done a great job. Our club meetings have very good programs. Thanks to both Tom and Rick. Tom asks that you contact him with any ideas for programs you would enjoy, NØNTX@amsat.org. will reach him.

It is not too early to begin thinking about the October election of officers. If you would like to be an officer let me know.

I hope you all have a great and safe summer.

73's

Ben, NØLNW

President

Membership Committee Report

Les, KCØNC

Total Number of Members: **167**

June 14th VE Test Session Results

Dennis, NØABC

Swapfest VE Session

As happens each year during our swapfest, a VE session was held at 10:00 in the morning. It turned out to be a rather busy session with 23 candidates, and a few situations that were slightly different than the norm. But with the VE team veterans helping me out, we managed to make our way through to a successful session. To date, the new callsigns have still not been posted, so I cannot provide that information. I might mention that one new Technician, Jaclyn Gifford, must have felt she was in a sibling rivalry - at 13 years old, she achieved 100% on her exam - trying to compete with her sister, KCØPRK. Congratulations to all who attained new licenses, upgrades or CSCEs!

Of 23 candidates,

11 new Technicians (one Novice to Tech w/HF)

2 Generals

1 Extra

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Board Meeting Minutes, May 19, 2003

Joanie, KCØGMI

The PPRAA Board of Directors met at the home of Aaron Pelouze, KD6FLM on June 16th. Those in attendance were Pres - Ben Cruise NØLNW, VP - Tom McDaniel NØNTX, Treas - Bob Wagaman KBØB, Rick Brown KØSU, Kate Muniz WB9BAH, Aaron Pelouze KD6FLM, Jerry VerDuft ADØA, Rob Roller N7LV, and Dennis Major NØABC. Board members absent were Joanie VerDuft KCØGMI (ill) and Tom Dawson KCØNRZ. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by NØLNW. KBØB presented the Treasury Report as of 6/1/03: \$2463.57 in checking, \$2609.22 in savings, \$247.59 in raffle account, total-

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Club Meeting Minutes, May 14, 2003

Joanie, KCØGMI

Meeting called to order at 7pm by President, Ben Cruise NØLNW followed by introductions around the room. The May meeting minutes were approved. Rick KØSU noted that he was relinquishing the Programs Chair to Tom NØNTX who (reluctantly)

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Dayton Hamvention

Bill, KDØJU

Well here we are, first time at the Dayton Hamvention! Never thought we'd make it!

KDØJU managed to get off work early Wednesday afternoon. So he did some errands, a store run, check tire pressures, look at books on CD and tape (ended up not buying any!) The moment KDØJU got home he packed the car and left town. Oh by the way he did not forget his night driver, WBØRTF. We try to call KØGS on his firehouse repeater in Deertrail to let him know we had left, Bud was no where to be found. We tried several times on our way out on Highway 24 going to Limon. Still no Bud. Moe called a couple of time too. We get to Limon and still no Bud. So we decided on Denny's for supper. About half way into our meal Bud and Toni, KØGS and NØGBC walk in! We had a nice chat and dinner with them before heading east.

We drove east until about 0700Z and pulled over at a rest stop near Salina KS for a couple hours or for rest then continued on. We mostly monitored the 3905 Century Club net on 7233.3KHz. Did not check into the net this time. About the only bad incident on the way to Dayton was trying to stay on I-70 through St Louis MO. Also we had got a side-wall flat after lunch in St Louis due to some big truck parking so close I could not fully back up. The side wall got a nail when I turned the wheel to try getting out forward. We drove to Van Dellan, ILL and spent our first night in a motel. We arrived in Dayton around 1230 Friday afternoon and got our first peek at the Dayton Hamfest. KDØJU took WBØRTF to the YLRL forum. Then he wandered into the main arena to look for his late birthday present. We visited with a few people after the YL forum then went looking for our motel.

Early Saturday morning after breakfast we headed back to Dayton. They had a shuttle bus between a mall and the arena. Parking was free but the bus cost \$3 per trip. Unless you had a dolly on wheels you weren't buying anything big! When the bus arrived at the arena, we debarked and wandered around the arena and went to the youth forum where the BARC juniors were talking. We were planning on going to one more forum but KDØJU was tired of pushing WBØRTF around and some joints were hurting so we did not make the MARS forum. After the youth forum we wandered around in the arena. I parked WBØRTF by one of the booths and started looking for the booth that had antenna tuners, the SGC booth. After wandering and looking at the convention map and wandering some more, I found them, and purchased the tuner. Then I forgot where I had set WBØRTF! I lost my night driver and she didn't even know it!! I wandered around looking for her and found her after about 15 minutes of being lost. We wandered out found the bus and the car and left for the motel. Early the next morning we headed south to Georgia, and the Blue Ridge mountains. We found Blue Ridge Georgia nestled in the mountains. We stayed with some relatives for a few days, walked a little of the Appalachian Trail,

looked at a bee farm, ate southern fried catfish, and took a pontoon boat ride around Blue Ridge lake.

When we left Georgia we headed west on highway 40. That evening we worked 10 states on the Century Club net on 7233.5. Some of the states worked were Vermont, Maine, Colorado, Oregon, Washington state, South Dakota and others. Still haven't receive any cards to reply to though. They might have sent them to the wrong address.

We stopped for a few hours in Arkansas to rest and headed for Tulsa Ok. WBØRTF had an old family friend living there to visit. We headed north from Tulsa to Hwy 50 then 40 the west to Colorado Springs. We got back around 1830 Friday evening. We had a great time at Dayton but didn't get to see the outside swapfest because of rain and lack of time. Maybe next year or so!!

2003 Swapfest Donors

Please support and thank these individuals and businesses for their generosity (in no particular order):

The Radio Shoppe
Conway's Red Top
N0OKS Software
Bronco Billy's Casino
Dick Pache (K2LCT)
Doug Paris (N4TGO)
Gold Rush Hotel & Casino
Centennial Electronics
Outback Steakhouse
Hamtestonline.com
The Remodeler
ACE-HF
Heil
Jamba Juice
HRO
ARRL
Mike Allen (NOMIK)
Shelley Penney
Olive Garden

Hamcon 2003

Steve, KØSRW

Hamcon 2003, the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention held May 30 - June 1 in Estes Park, is now in the history books. By all accounts, the gathering has secured a high position in the Amateur Radio history of our division. Read on, I think you'll see why...

The Estes Park Holiday Inn was the venue for this convention, the first of its kind held here in Colorado in many years. The beautiful surroundings and wonderful weather set the stage for an unforgettable weekend for the 467 attendees. Lots of new friendships took root, faces and names were connected with call signs, and old friends had the chance to eyeball each other once again. We learned, we played and we networked, all for the betterment of the rich amateur radio heritage we're each privileged to be a part of.

It was hard to choose between the fantastic set of offered forums! Each grabbed our attention, and satisfied our thirst for knowledge, though it was impossible to attend them all. Such is the nature of any top-flight convention program! Enthusiastic and knowledgeable speakers, including ARRL HQ staff and field appointees, addressed a rich spectrum of engaging technical, educational and operational topics.

We learned about QTH selection, QRP, traffic handling, antennas, propagation, DXing, DXpeditions, contesting, microwave, HDTV, digital TV, fast-scan ham TV, the ISS and AO-40. We discussed important issues affecting our disabled hams, legislative issues, ARRL operations, ARES lessons learned, Colorado Search and Rescue, science

and education, digital modes, APRS, digital radio, IRLP and even South Pole operations!

As perhaps one of the highlights of the convention, the Boulder Amateur Radio Club Juniors were in strong force as a vibrant group of 13, 14 and 15 year-olds lead a spirited session entitled "Kids: The Future of Amateur Radio." With young people like these involved, amateur radio has a bright future indeed!



VE sessions produced a number of fresh new licensees and upgrades. And several card checking activities resulted in new DXCC, WAS and VUCC awards. A hair-raising CW pileup contest, along with a joint-bending QLF contest (sending CW with one's left foot) and a midnight Wouff Hong ceremony contributed to the fun, as did the Sunday morning transmitter hunt. Many attendees had the chance to operate the legendary W1AW/Ø station, and when propagation permitted, several had their first opportunity to be on the other end of a pileup!

More than 23 companies supported the convention through their exhibits and sales booths. Denver's HRO was there in force, and was of assistance with our purchase of the convention's grand prize. ACE-HF, Alpha Power, ICOM, PVC Antennas and US Tower were among the corporate exhibitors that also donated very substantial door prizes. US Tower even brought their brand new, custom made 18-wheeler flat-bed demo truck, used at Dayton 2003 for the first time. With the large United States flags flying high atop their towers, it was truly an inspirational landmark for the

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convention.

Door prizes worth many thousands of dollars were donated by more than 35 companies, clubs and individuals. Needless to say, there were lots of happy winners, and we are grateful for the wonderful support of these donors.

We were honored to have Jim Haynie, Wayne Mills, Rosalie White and Dan Miller from ARRL HQ in attendance for the weekend. We were moved by their calls to action, and were inspired by their infectious personal commitment to amateur radio. Many had opportunity for uninterrupted one-on-one time with each of them.

A world-class event like this can't possibly come off without insightful planning and crisp execution. The convention committee did an absolutely outstanding job in all areas, so don't forget to let them know of your appreciation and support, along with any comments or suggestions you have for future conventions.

Jerry VerDuft, ADØA, General Chairman/Facilities

Joanie VerDuft, KCØGMI, Treasurer/Banquet

Bill Leahy, KØMP, Forums/Technical Sessions

Ed Hilton, KCØHUF, Supporting Member

Benjamin Baker, KBØUBZ, Security/Webmaster

George "Bud" Saum, KØGS, Registrations Chairman

Toni Saum, NØGVC, Registration

Dick Schnieder, ABØCD, Program Book/Publicity

Rick Brown, KØSU, Exhibits/Prizes

Timothy Armagost, WBØTUB, Wouff Hong

Eileen Armagost, WDØDGL, Supporting Member

Wes Wilson, KØHBZ, Special Events Station/VEC

Judy Hilton, KCØHVD, Secretary/Ladies Programs/Tours

Ron Taylor, KØHRT, Wouff Hong

Ron Klein, WØOSK, Talk-in Station

Jody Klien, NØAJB, Supporting Member

Greg Dunn, WØZA, DX/Contest Breakfast

Moe Pierce, WBØRTF, Supporting Member

Bill Pierce, KDØJU, Supporting Member

John Crawford, KBØVZI, Exhibits/Prizes

Daniel Meyer, NØPUF, Transmitter Hunt

Ted Cline, NØRQV, Talk-in Station

Rob Roller, N7LV, Certificates

Jeff Ryan, KØRM, Supporting Member

Walt Stinson, WØCP, Ex-officio Member

In the coming weeks, we'll be publishing a picture CD from the convention. When the CD is ready, www.hamconcolorado.com will contain all the instructions for how you can get your own copy. Don't miss out! Check www.hamconcolorado.com frequently!

See you at the next Colorado Hamcon in 2006!



Rob Roller, N7LV (right) accepts the Colorado Section Amateur Radio Operator of the year award from Colorado Section Manager Jeff Ryan, KØRM. (N7KOH photo)

Rob Roller Wins Operator of the Year

Rob Roller, N7LV has been named the Colorado Section Amateur Radio Operator of the year. Rob was primarily responsible for maintaining the staffing, scheduling and assignments for the Southern Command of the Hayman fire last year in his role as Asst. EC for Resource Management of Pikes Peak ARES. As well as being very active with the PPRAA (where he just stepped down as treasurer and newsletter editor); he is an ARRL VEC; webmaster for Colorado ARES; recently elected chairman of the Pikes Peak FM Association; and is a member of El Paso County RACES. The award was presented by Colorado Section Manager Jeff Ryan, KØRM at the Rocky Mountain Division convention held last weekend in Estes Park, CO.

21st Annual

Mountain Amateur Radio Club *Campfest*

Friday – Sunday, August 22-24, 2003

Golden Bell Camp & Conference Center



Activities

For the Ham:

Portable Stations
Tailgate-Style Swapfest
VE Testing
QLF - Left Foot Code Contest
Knee-Knocker Iambic Contest
Morse Code Copy Contest
Fox Hunt
Doorprizes
Grand Prize Radio

For the Family:

Potluck Dinner
Indoor Pool
Full-Size Gym
Archery Range
Miniature Golf
Game Room

For over twenty years, the *MARC Campfest* has been a favorite, family-oriented, weekend outing for ham radio operators and their families in the Colorado high country. Make plans now to join us for a relaxing, fun-filled

Free Admission – Day Visitors Welcome!
Vendor/Seller Fee \$5.00 (one-time)

Lodging & Accommodations

All reservations for lodging/accommodations are to be made directly with the Golden Bell Camp Office at (719) 687-9561 or E-mail GBCCC@juno.com.

Indoor restrooms, showers and all Golden Bell Camp facilities available for all paying guests.

\$10/Day – Tent Camping/Self-Contained RV (no hook-ups)
\$20/Day – RV, full utility hook-ups (+/- 14 spaces only) - Reserve early!
\$60/Day – 18 VERY rustic cabins, no facilities in cabin

Frequencies

Talk-In

MARC Linked Repeaters
(All utilize 107.2 Hz Tone)

Woodland Park & Divide
146.820-/448.650-
Cripple Creek
147.015+
Lake George/Florissant
146.685-



Raffle Grand Prize

Food

The MARC Concession stand will have hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, sodas, snacks, etc., for sale on Saturday. *Campfest* potluck dinner, 6 pm, on Saturday. Bring your own meat for the grill (BBQ grills provided) and a side-dish to share — bring your own table service. Snacks and beverages also available from vending machines at the camp.

Campfest Rules

Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on Golden Bell property. Absolutely NO SMOKING in any facility structure. Smokers must use their private tents, RV, or private vehicle to indulge. Outdoor smoking depends on burn ban restrictions. Unruly, offensive or inappropriate behavior will not be toler-

Questions???

Visit our website at
www.qsl.net/nx0g or
contact Pete Rawson, N3VW

Public Service Communications

RACES



<http://www.qsl.net/epcraces/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1930 on the 146.76 MHz
CMRG repeater

Les Borst KCØNC, RACES Officer

This has been a very easy spring for all emergency communication groups in our area. We have the usual afternoon thunderstorms, but nothing that has involved any major danger to people or property. It's great to save on the water bill.

The next RACES meeting will be on the 17th at the county OEM at 7:00 PM. The scheduled training will be on the Incident Command System.

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3 added HF privileges via Element 1 Code exam

REMINDER: P-l-e-a-s-e, remember to bring COP-IES & originals of your most recent/valid/current license and any valid CSCEs along with you to any VE session you attend for attempting an upgrade. This makes our jobs so much simpler and allows us to get the session materials back to the ARRL/VEC with

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ing \$5320.38. Bob read a card the club received from KCØPRN thanking us for the April exam session. Kate presented the Swap Fest preliminary financial report reflecting income of \$5100 and costs of \$2853.50 resulting in overall return to PPRAA of \$2246. 50. A great job done by all who participated! Kate also noted an article in the July 1980 issue of Ham Radio Horizons which discussed the first Field Day in 1933. She will provide this to our Historian NKØP. NØNTX noted that he was taking over the monthly program planning and solicited ideas for future club programs. He suggested a program on the current broadband power line interference issue. ADØA announced that the club will receive its convention seed money (\$150) plus \$122.94 in convention proceeds money. Jerry and Joanie are donating a Yaesu FT-32 HT to the Club for one of the new license examinees to be randomly selected by NØABC. N7LV suggested that the Board consider targeting a portion of our Swap Fest proceeds for future purchase of a PC Projector that the club can use for Speaker Presentations and special events such as HAMCON con-

ARES



<http://www.qsl.net/ppares/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1900 on the 146.97 MHz
PPFMA repeater

Sid White K4ARM, PPARES EC

No news to report and lets hope it stays that way.

ventions. The Board concurred with this idea and voted (WB9BAH moved, KBØB seconded) to set aside \$400 from this years Swap Fest proceeds towards the PC Projector. The Board will continue to identify a specific amount from each year's Swap Fest proceeds until there is sufficient funds to purchase a PC Projector. NØABC advised that he has received the General Class course material from ARRL. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. Submitted by ADØA in the absence of KCØGMI. (NOTE: Whoever picked up the sign-in book at the June meeting, please bring it to the July meeting!)

Showers

Paul, w0rw

The Arietid and zeta Perseid showers are considered to be among the best showers of the year for radio observers. In fact, both showers were discovered by radio observers using the Jodrell Bank radio telescope in England in 1947 .

The month of June comes to an end with another daytime meteor shower, the beta Taurids, which peak around June 29 with as many as 25 meteors per hour. All in all, June seems to be the best month of the year to be a radio meteor observer. This story explains how one Ham listens to them. http://www.southpole.com/headlines/y2000/ast06jun_1m.htm

Swapfest

Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club (NCARC) Superfest 2003, Saturday, July 19, doors open 8 am. Admission \$4, tables \$12, Talk-in 145.115- (100) and 146.52 simplex. VE exams at 10 am. Larimer County Fairgrounds, 710 S Railroad Ave, Loveland, CO. Grand prize Yaesu VX-7R.

Tables: contact Willis Whatley WA5VRL, 970-407-6599.

ARRL General Class Video Course

Dennis, N0ABC

The PPRAA is now the proud owner of the ARRL's General Class Video course. This was purchased to help fill the need of members to continue on to upgrade to General class. We already have Frank, KFOWF, giving the live (and free) Technician class course each year (and sometimes with the 5 WPM code thrown in at no additional charge!). And, at times, others (Mike WV7T, Jerry ADOA, etc.) give code classes. But, this video class should help others work on their Element 3 written exam, without having to wait for a class to be given, and/or if studying the book isn't quite enough.

According to the ARRL's Publications brochure, the ARRL Video Courses are "The Fastest Way to License Success!" "Why do things the hard way? Sit back, relax and learn everything you need to know. Each ARRL video course gives you everything you need to ace your written license exam."

As Frank's Technician class instruction is usually only given once a year, we were thinking of purchasing the Technician Class video course once the new edition is available, to make it available to those not able to wait for, or attend, Frank's class. The club members' feedback on this idea is certainly welcomed. You can present that feedback to me at n0abc@arrl.net or at a club meeting.

As Video Librarian, I will be maintaining and coordinating the loan of the video course. Please contact me, Dennis Major, NOABC, at 531-6774, 9AM to 9PM, (unless I get a job, then 6PM to 9PM M-F!) to set up the checkout of the course. We purchased the course, along with one additional workbook (with software), but we still request that you refrain from making marks within the workbooks. As soon as the course arrived it was checked out to an individual, but since there are three video tapes, and two workbooks, I'm sure we can coordinate the use by two parties at once!

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agreed! Kate WB9BAH discussed the Swap Fest planning and that 2000 flyers have been sent out. Rob N7LV announced that he still needs more volunteers to help out on communications for the Pikes Peak Hill Climb. Jeff KØRM announced that he was the only nominee for the next two year term as ARRL Colorado Section Manager. Congratulations Jeff! Jerry ADØA thanked everyone for their support of HAMCON and the recent convention in Estes Park. Jerry noted that HAMCOM is tentively planning on another Convention in Estes Park in 2006. Kate WB9BAH discussed her attendance at the Legislative Issues Forum at the Convention and the need for us all to write our Legislators about supporting HR 1478, reasonable antenna accommodations. Kate will provide a sample letter on the club website that can be used for this. The more our law makers here from us, the more impact it will have! Meeting broke for refreshments followed by a discussion on Field Day led by our FD Chairman, Al Penney VO1NO. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm. Respectfully submitted by Joanie K

New Call Sign

Kate, WB9BAH

I finally got my dad's call sign.

My dad was WB9BAH first (well, not first...he was WN9BAH as a novice) when he got licensed in the 60s. When he got his extra, he became AA9M until he became a silent key in May of 1992.

I did not apply for his call right away because I had hoped to study for and get my extra, and get AA9M. Unfortunately, time passed, and in October a ham from Illinois got the call. After several months of correspondence (there's a lot of paperwork to getting a vanity call!) I logged onto the FCC one day, and found that KC0EGJ was a cancelled call.

My mom, WB9MMS, and my brother, WB9ARG, are excited that I was able to carry on his call. I never bonded with EGJ...who could: The phonetics are lousy and code is cumbersome! I grew up with WB9BAH, so the code flows (maybe I'll break out the key again) and the phonetics...easy: Broke and Hungry!

Thanks to all my friends who encouraged me. Thanks especially to whoever pushed me by saying: "If you have a choice between a W callsign and a K...always take the W!"

And thanks to all the old-timers who will tolerate me having a seasoned callsign. I know I am a greenhorn (a 5-year ham still wet behind the ears), but I know my dad is pleased up there that I am carrying on his call.

Radio Activities!

AF0S Contest Results

The results posted in the ARRL site Contest section showed PPRAA AF0S placing overall 19 of 31 in the 2002 10 Meter contest and 11 of 14 in the 2003 RTTY Roundup in the Colorado Section. Operators were: John, N0QJS, Mike NOMUD, Tom, W0TMH, and Mike, WV7T.

RAC Bulletin 03-012E

Two way transatlantic QSO from Newfoundland.

The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland (MRCN) takes pride in announcing a historic achievement: the first two way transatlantic LF QSO from Newfoundland. The event marked the culmination of five months of intensive research and experimentation within MRCN and the collaboration of radio amateurs in the US and UK and of course, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). "We are gratified by the success of our experiments, and especially by the cooperation in the traditional amateur spirit that made it possible," said Joe VO1NA, who headed the project with MRCN and completed the contact with Jim Moritz M0BMU. In Newfoundland, a 125 watt transmitter assembled from junk box parts was used to send slow speed Morse on 137.777 kHz while over 3700 km away near London, a 1200 watt Decca amplifier transmitted on 135.922 kHz. Loop aerials two metres in diameter were used to receive the signals and communications were maintained between the two stations from about 0050- 0330 UTC on 12 June. This date was chosen based on the predictions of Alan Melia G3NYK, an LF propagation expert, who first copied the Newfoundland station on 2200 metres a fortnight earlier. Larry Kayser VA3LK who completed a transatlantic QSO just over two years earlier was also acknowledged. The MRCN resumes experimentation on 60 metres next weekend in Phase 3 of their propagation experiment. Both experiments were proposed in cooperation with Radio Amateurs of Canada and the approval of Industry Canada with a view to assisting RAC to secure additional Amateur allocations in the RF spectrum and promoting interest in 2200 metres. Additional information may be found on the MRCN web site by searching for VO1MRC with your favourite search engine.

For more information, please read TCA and/or QST. RAC does not necessarily endorse, support or vouch for the accuracy of the information provided.

What!?!? 6 meters on HF?

Mike, WV7T

The night before the PPRAA Hamfest after table/chair setup and pizza, the word started going around that 6 meters was open. John, N0QJS, and I set up my FT-817 on the van roof and using a Hustler mobile antenna mast on a tripod we started making contacts, working a number of stations with 6m QRP. After returning home from a fine PPRAA swapfest, at which I did quite well, I started listening to 50.125 MHz, the 6 meter SSB calling frequency. I had just one problem, no 6 meter antenna up. So what is a ham to do??? Using my MFJ 969 antenna tuner I loaded up my Cushcraft A3 HF beam for 6 meters. And guess what...I started working stations all over the place. I filled an entire log page with contacts. Not bad for an antenna that is so far from resonance (21 MHz) to be unbelievable. So even though the antenna may not be quite right you might just be surprised what you can work.

Contest Season is just around the corner!

Mike, WV7T

The sad but lovable casual contest group of the PPRAA are looking for people who would like to join in the upcoming contest season. The group works the ARRL SSB-CW Sweepstakes, RTTY Roundup, 10 meter contest, the CQ World Wide events, and now may add the VHF-UHF contests to their lists. No experience necessary, no skills needed, equipment and location provided, food optional. Being casual contesters, the group enjoys contesting by setting a goal and working towards the goal in a laid-back if-we-get-it-great-if-we-don't-oh-well atmosphere. Operators can walk in and walk out at their leisure, participate or just rally on the team. It is rumored chips and sodas are part of contest operator's staple diet! Cookies have been known to be smuggled in! Do contact Mike, WV7T, for all the down and dirty info on the worst group of contesters you may ever loathe coming into contact with!

Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch has been canceled until further notice. Schedules have changed; people can't make it, etc. Contact Moe WBØRTF with any questions!!

Classifieds

To place a classified add please email to KC0NRZ@ARRL.NET. Add should be short and concise. Remember to include a phone number and email address.

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