



VOLUME 57 ISSUE 05

MAY 2007

## The Great Colorado Grid Run

Bob Witte KØNR

The ARRL June VHF Contest (June 9-11) is a great opportunity to try out your gear for the VHF and higher bands. For complete information:

[www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/june-vhf.html](http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/june-vhf.html)

Under the theory that activity breeds more activity on the VHF bands, I propose a coordinated effort to activate all Colorado grids during the ARRL June VHF contest. This effort would collectively raise everyone's scores in the Rocky Mountain region as we all have more grids to work locally. More importantly, this would be a lot of fun!

How difficult is this? There are 16 VHF grids in Colorado. If you are not familiar with the grid system, take a look at the Colorado vhf grid map.

[www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf\\_grids.html](http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf_grids.html)

The usual Front Range VHF stations would have DN70, DM79 and DM78 covered. There are a couple of rover stations already planning to head east and hit

DN80, DM89, DM88, and DM87. One of the rovers will also activate DM77. On the Western slope, NØKE is usually on the air from DM69. With a little encouragement, we could probably get a Grand Junction station or two on in DM58. This still leaves DM57, DM67, DM68, DN50 and DN60 open. There may be a local or two we could get on the air or another rover could cover those grids. This idea is within capture range.

I think the minimum station should be active on 2M and 6M with decent Yagi antennas and running 100W or more. This would help facilitate QSOs across the state. Also, a good 6M opening would be a nice addition (depending on who is in charge of propagation this year). Of course, more bands would be better, especially from the rarer grids.

We especially need stations to participate from the western grids in Colorado (DM57, DM58, DM59, and DN50) near Cortez, Delta, Grand Junction and Rangely. These can be fixed stations, portable or rovers. Based on initial discussions with the VHF community, it appears there will be quite a few

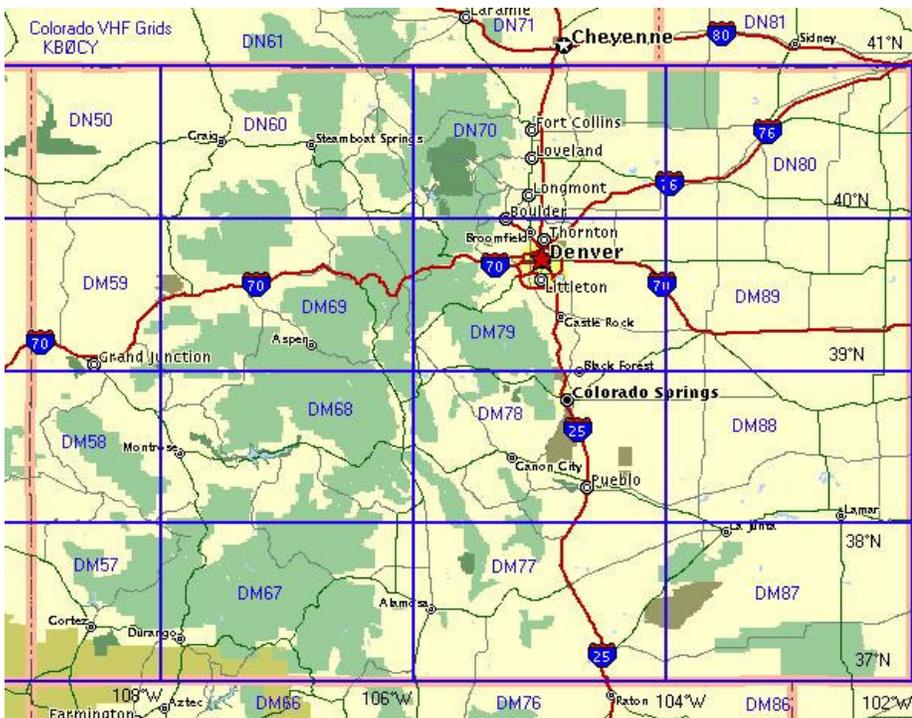
stations on the air for the contest, so come on out and enjoy the activity.

If you are interested in participating in this effort and can operate from one of the rarer grids, contact Bob KØNR at [bob@k0nr.com](mailto:bob@k0nr.com). To keep up to date on the status of this effort, subscribe to the Rocky Mountain VHF Plus email list. <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/rmvhf>

If you are new to VHF contests, check out *How to Work a VHF Contest*.

[www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf\\_contest.html](http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf_contest.html)

Bob Witte KØNR





## Colorado QSO Party!

1200Z July 15—0400Z July 16, 2007

[www.ppraa.org/coqp](http://www.ppraa.org/coqp)

**CQ CQ CQ de COQP**

**Colorado QSO Party is July 15th!**

PPRA is sponsoring the 2007 return of the Colorado QSO Party on July 15th! Mark your calendars now and plan to get on the air and work as many stations in the 64 Colorado counties as you can. The party runs from 1200Z July 15 to 0400 July 16 (Sunday the 15th in the U.S.). Operation can be CW, Phone, Digital, or any combination. Operating bands are all HF contesting bands, VHF, and UHF. Awards in several categories are available for top scorers. For complete rules and latest party information see COQP. Catch you on the air for COQP!

**Dave Sloan NØEOP**

[www.ppraa.org/coqp](http://www.ppraa.org/coqp)

### DXing Downside on 60 Meters

The ARRL is expressing concern that negative consequences could result from chasing DX on 60 meters. Some DXpeditions have announced plans to operate on Amateur Radio's only channelized band where amateur operations hold secondary status to fixed service operations, including some US government stations. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says that while it's legal for DXpeditions to operate on the 5-MHz band, provided the licensing administration extends privileges there, DX pileups on 60 meters pose the potential for real and unique problems.

"US amateurs are limited to five channels on 60 meters, USB only, maximum effective radiated power (ERP) of 50 W, audio bandwidth not exceeding 2.8 kHz, and not all of the channels are useable because of ongoing fixed service operation," Sumner points out. "Upon request of a primary service user," Sumner says, "it's

**absolutely imperative** that hams be prepared to relinquish any 60-meter channel immediately. This means constantly monitoring the transmitting channel. Hams also must not exceed the radiated power limit," he stressed.

Not all countries authorize amateur operation on 60 meters. Transmitting on a 5 MHz frequency without authorization not only breaks the law but jeopardizes the operator's continued participation in the ARRL DXCC program. Cards submitted for DXCC on 5 MHz may not be accepted for credit without evidence the operation was authorized.

Sumner emphasized that causing harmful interference to fixed and mobile service stations could jeopardize even the existing limited privileges as well as the chances of increasing those privileges on a domestic basis, plus any possibility of obtaining an international allocation on 60 meters.

*By permission of ARRL*

### PPRAA VE Session Results April 14, 2007

At the special session on Feb. 24, 2007, we had 15 candidates for our special session on February 24<sup>th</sup> and on April 14<sup>th</sup> we had an almost overwhelming 19 at our regularly scheduled session. Out of the 19 candidates, 15 were granted new license or upgrades:

- ✚ 2 Technicians
- ✚ 10 Generals
- ✚ 0 Admirals
- ✚ 3 Extras.
- ✚ Four candidates brought credit (CSCE) for Element 3.

Of special note, we had one "zero-to-General" and one "zero-to-Extra". Congratulations to all!

The ARRL/VEC is still running quite a backlog on processing applications. It took 11 days for results of the April 14th session to appear in the FCC database. This is compared to only 3-4 days prior the dropping Morse Code testing. It should be interesting to see how much the total of Amateurs and individual license classes changes this year.

*Dennis Major NØABC*

## DITS & BITS

Field Day and the Colorado QSO Party are right around the corner. What better way to get ready than to brush up your skills or get your feet with Contesting.

On Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, come to the PPRAA meeting and learn the basics of contesting. If you're a more accomplished contester, stick around, we have tips for you, too. Topics will include:

- ✚ Equipment
- ✚ QSOs
- ✚ Scoring
- ✚ And lots more

The COQP organizers have made many presentations to various clubs to gain support. Numerous individuals and clubs have already signed up to sponsor awards and to cover Colorado counties. Many more are expected in the weeks before the contest. We encourage clubs and individuals to sponsor a plaque and to cover a rare or remote county other than your home county. But, working the contest from your QTH is a fine alternative as well. To those already sponsoring a plaque and covering rare and remote counties we extend our thanks for your efforts.

Everyone is encouraged to take a few minutes and review the COQP website at <http://ppraa.org/coqp>. There you will find extensive details including contest rules, sponsoring and awards information, county coverage, logging software information and many other informative facts. If you are considering sponsoring an award or covering a rare or remote county the website is the location to get all the information you need. If you need to ask questions please email us at [coqpinfo@ppraa.org](mailto:coqpinfo@ppraa.org).

The COQP has something for all radio amateur licensees and skill levels. There is operation from 160 meters to near daylight with power levels from QRP to 1500 watts. If mobile is your game that is covered as well as fixed stations. Like to do multi transmitters or multi operators.....that is covered as well. Want to take the XYL or a significant other along when mobile? That's okay too! Just about every combination of modes,

bands and operating circumstances are covered so make plans now to join the contest and really make Colorado known throughout the radio amateur community in the USA and the World.

*Jim Harris ABØUK*

### Ø-BEAT DEADLINE

The deadline for the June 2007 Ø-Beat is May 25th. Send all submissions to the editor via e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person. Please feel free to submit an article, joke or news—we need your fresh content!

**Contact:** Jackie Cornwell ACØCA  
**PH:** 719-632-8254  
**Email:** [zerobeat@ppraa.org](mailto:zerobeat@ppraa.org)  
**USPS:** 2406 W. Kiowa St.  
Colo Spgs CO 80904

## Special Event Stations May/June

**May 5, 1400Z-2200Z**, Cambridge, OH. Cambridge Amateur Radio Association, W8VP. Birthplace of William Boyd "Hopalong Cassidy" American Hero. 14.260 7.235. QSL. Cambridge ARA, PO Box 1804, Cambridge, OH 43725. [w8vp.org](http://w8vp.org)

**May 6, 1600Z-2359Z**, Fort Smith, AR. Fort Smith Area Amateur Radio Club, W5ANR. Trolley Car Museum Special Event. 14.260 7.260 3.960. QSL. Fort Smith Area Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 32, Fort Smith, AR 72902-0032. [www.fsaarc.org](http://www.fsaarc.org)

*Cont'd...*

**May 11-May 13, 0100Z-2359Z**, Jamestown Island, VA. Dominion DX Group, K4J. Jamestown 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Official State Partner Station. 21.325 14.325 7.225 3.855. Certificate. DDxG, PO Box 29334, Richmond, VA 23242. [www.ddxg.net](http://www.ddxg.net)

**May 11-May 13, 1200Z-2300Z**, Harwich, UNITED KINGDOM. GB400AA events team, GB400AA. 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ships setting out for America (UK side). 14.284 14.024 7.040 3.724. QSL. Tom Robinson, 2 Beacon Heights, St. Osyth, Clacton-on-sea CO16 8JW, UNITED KINGDOM. [www.gb400aa.net](http://www.gb400aa.net)

**May 12, 1400Z-2200Z**, Hammondsport, NY. Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association, N2WEA. Aviator Glenn H. Curtiss -- 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Fastest Man on Earth". 28.400 14.275 7.250 3.925 possibly 21.365. Certificate. KLARA, c/o Carrie & Glenn French, 62 S Main St, Avoca, NY 14809. [www.klara.us](http://www.klara.us)

**May 12-May 13, 1330Z-2030Z**, Jamestown/Williamsburg, VA. Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club, W4J. 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, Virginia (1607). 21.350 18.150 14.250 7.261. QSL. Russell Chandler, KU4FP, 132 Druid Dr, Williamsburg, VA 23185. *Certificate for working all three special event stations for WAARC including Jamestown, Colonial Williamsburg, and Yorktown Battlefield.* [www.qsl.net/waarc](http://www.qsl.net/waarc)

**May 24-May 28, 1500Z-0300Z**, Indianapolis, IN. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS. 91<sup>st</sup> running of the Indianapolis 500. 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840. QSL. Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 18495, Indianapolis, IN 46218-0495. *Certificate and QSL available, see Web site.* [www.w9ims.com](http://www.w9ims.com)

**May 26, 1200Z-2100Z**, Chestertown, MD. Kent Amateur Radio Society, K3ARS. Reenactment of British tea dumped into the Chester River. 28.340 14.240 7.240 ECO LINK. QSL. K3ARS, PO Box 921, Chestertown, MD 21620. [www.k3ars.org](http://www.k3ars.org)

**May 26, 1300Z-2100Z**, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. XWARN, W8XRN. Celebrate ARMAD & USAF 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. 28.360 14.260 7.060. Certificate. WB8CEH, PO Box 546, Xenia, OH 45385-0546. [www.xwarn.net](http://www.xwarn.net) 21.330 14.250 7.250. Certificate.

West Essex ARC, PO Box 54, Essex Fells, NJ 07021-0054. [www.wearc.org](http://www.wearc.org)

**May 26, 1400Z-1700Z**, Fort Wayne, IN. Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day, KC9HAJ. Express thanks and appreciation to our Troops and Veterans. 7.260 14.260 Echolink IRLP. Certificate. ARMAD, 6116 Graymoor Ln, Fort Wayne, IN 46835. *Worldwide IRLP node # 9258 and Echolink nodes # 267069, 16686, 106819, and 6154. See Web site for full information.* [www.armad.net](http://www.armad.net)

**May 26-May 27, 1300Z-2200Z**, Millville, NJ. Thunderbolts Amateur Radio Club, N2M. Air show at "America's First Defense Airport". 145.550 14.265 7.265 14.070 PSK. Certificate. KB2OLT - Thunderbolts ARC, 356 Briar Dr, Millville, NJ 08332. *Memorial Day event featuring US Navy Blue Angels.* [www.thunderboltsarc.com](http://www.thunderboltsarc.com)

**May 28, 1200Z-2200Z**, Fayetteville, AR. ARKAN, W5T. Memorial Day Troop Train. 14.240. QSL. Joe Dunn, 12358 W Ervan Beeks Rd, Farmington, AR 72730. [www.arkansasmissouri-rr.com/passenger.html](http://www.arkansasmissouri-rr.com/passenger.html)

**May 28, 1400Z-2130Z**, Baton Rouge, LA. USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club, W5KID. Memorial Day. SSB 14.250 to 14.320 CW 28.060 21.060 14.060 10.106 7.040. QSL. W5KID, c/o USS Kidd Museum, 305 South River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. [www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS\\_Kidd.htm](http://www.lsu.edu/brarc/USS_Kidd.htm)

**Jun 2, 1600Z-2300Z**, San Diego, CA. USS Midway CV-41 COMEDTRA, NI6IW. 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Midway, June 4-7, 1942. 18.142 14.242 7.242. QSL. USS Midway Museum CV-41, 910 Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101.

**Jun 2-Jun 3, 1300Z-0700Z**, San Diego, CA. Sponsored by KI6FDN and W6NWG, W6P. Hale Telescope on Palomar Mountain dedication anniversary. 14.260 7.260. QSL. Michelle Thompson, W5NYV, 5379 Carmel Knolls Dr, San Diego, CA 92130. [www.palomararc.org/special-event.htm](http://www.palomararc.org/special-event.htm)

**Jun 2-Jun 10, 1300Z-2000Z**, Baltimore, MD. Historical Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club, W2W. The use of electronics in D-Day. 14.241 14.041 7.241 7.041. Certificate. HEMARC W2W D-Day Event, PO Box 746, Mail Stop 4015, Baltimore, MD 21203. [www.hemarc.us](http://www.hemarc.us)

**IN OTHER WORDS...**

Just when I think I know my relatives they throw me a curve. At least my relatives throw curves one at a time. This time it was my cousin, Bob Ryan.

My father had just died and Bob (I still think of him as Bobby) emailed to express his sympathy. During the course of our conversations the inevitable question came up: What have you been doing for the past 20 years since I saw you last? I told him about my travels and becoming a licensed amateur radio operator and he told me he repaired and restored old radios. He was surprised at first that I would venture into amateur radio, but talk quickly turned from catching up to show and tell.

Bob doesn't have a license but he loves to listen. He also loves to make radios and antennas and has a bit of an antenna farm on his land. (Good thing he lives out in the country.) The emails flew back and forth fast and furious as we discussed the finer points of antennas and vintage radios. That's when he sent me this:

*"I have a picture I wanted to send you of a foxhole radio made from old sea ration case wood and copper wire wound around a toilet paper roll that might be interesting to some of your ham friends. In WWII, soldiers made them from stuff they found lying around. They didn't have any*

*crystals or power to operate. The sliding solid steel rod [slides across the copper winding and serves as the tuner, picking] up strong signals from different bands by moving the slide back and fourth.*

*They used [this type of radio] because the Germans could home in on a crystal set, but not these. The frequency was picked up through the copper wire then led back into the toilet paper roll which actually works like a speaker. Pretty neat."*

Bob makes these for fun and to see how many different variations he can make. Of course, I had to find out about the foxhole radio.

*Cont'd Pg 9 ...*



**Homemade foxhole radio from modern components**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

April 16 2007



Attendees: Mike KØMLA, Susan KCØSYA, Jim ABØUK, Mike WV7T, Jackie ACØCA, Dan ACØCC, and Doug N7LEM

President Mike KØMLA called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Police Station on Tutt Blvd. The February Board Meeting minutes were approved as printed/corrected in the Zero Beat. (Moved/seconded by Susan KCØSYA/Jackie ACØCA)

**Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Dan ACØCC Treasurer: Beginning balance \$8,198.17, income \$342.14, expenses \$128.89, net income \$213.25, ending balance \$8,411.42 as of 4/10/07.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Megafest:** Planning meeting this past Saturday. Flyers are being distributed to various locations. Rob is planning to check with the boy scouts to see if they want to do food again and planning the forums.

**Field Day:** Checking to see if we can operate as an EOC, if we chose the fire stations site in the Tri-Lakes area to use. We're looking at operating a CW/Digital station, along with a phone station; as well as GOTA and satellite. Really want a big board member presence at field day this year.

**Colorado QSO Party:** Getting more award sponsors, have about 32 now. Have 13 counties covered so far. Working out some bugs with the recording software. Friday 4/20 doing a presentation to PPDYG, and on 4/28 doing one to CCARC.

**Membership Committee:** Reviewed a few different possible letters to send out with a complimentary zero-beat to a test sample of hams

locally, inviting them to come check out PPRAA and selected the one to use. Mailings will begin within the month. Jackie ACØCA submitted a suggested rate schedule for paid advertising in the Ø-Beat. Board approved the rate schedule (moved/seconded Susan KCØSYA/Dan ACØCC)  
**Club Picnic Chairperson:** Still need a chairperson to do the planning for this event.  
**Switching club meeting nights:** The East Library has a large meeting room that would hold everyone. Susan KCØSYA will check on if there

*Cont'd...***AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMINATIONS**

The PPRAA/VE team holds testing sessions at 9 AM at the Colorado Technical University, 4435 North Chestnut (just west of I-25 and just south of Garden of the Gods Rd).

**Exam fee:** \$14.00 for Elements 2, 3, and/or 4, payable to ARRL/VEC. No same-day retakes of same element. Walk-ins allowed; pre-registration not necessary.

**BRING:** Photo ID, original and copy of valid ham license and/or valid CSCE, and FRN for licensed hams.

**Contact:** Dennis Major NØABC at 719-531-6774 or [email](mailto:dennis@ppraa.org)

**Online:** [ppraa.org](http://ppraa.org) or [arrl.org](http://arrl.org).

**Mark your calendars:**

**Jun 9\*, Aug. 11, Oct. 13, Dec. 8**

\*10:00 AM at PPRAA Megafest, Lewis-Palmer HS, Monument, CO.

are any difficulties on ensuring a long-time reservation for the same night monthly starting in July.

**New Business:**

**Next year's board:** Would like to get an election chairperson started soon. Su KCØPRN has resigned her position on the board and we need someone to fill in for the remainder of her term, through October. Batted around names of people that might be willing to do this. Will contact them prior to next club meeting.

**Around the Table:**

**Mike WV7T:** Need to work on inventory of club assets more. Requested funds from the board to help pay for printer cartridges and printer paper for everything he prints for the club (i.e. certificates for COQP and quarterly club awards, workshop and license class handouts, welcome packages, etc). Board approved \$150 (moved/seconded by Jackie ACØCA/Susan KCØSYA). Any questions or inquiries, contact him at [WV7T@arrrl.net](mailto:WV7T@arrrl.net) or 229-8610.

**Dan ACØCC:** Renewal letters that went out, got a 25% response return, mostly positive with thanks for the reminder, also received some donations for the club. Approx. 103 current members on file now. After Jim reviewed the quarterly raffle report, it was sent out. Voted to drop our advertising in World Radio (moved/seconded by Jim ABØUK /Doug N7LEM). Voted to renew our CCARC membership (Mike WV7T/Jim ABØUK). If boy scouts or someone else isn't interested in doing the food for Megafest, Dan knows a professional willing to do the event. If we use a professional we'll require a bond or contract to ensure they actually do the event and don't drop out last minute without suffering monetary consequences. Only two tables rented so far for Megafest.

**Jim ABØUK:** Program calendar – Would it be better to have contesting program before field day and the QSO Party? Maybe move it to May. Doug

N7LEM will take a look at the schedule and probably rearrange to accommodate this change.

**Doug N7LEM** – PRB1 rules for antennas, Colorado does not participate, is this something that PPRAA might want to champion getting it approved by the state? Maybe think on the subject for a while and bring up in July after our major events are over for the year.

**Next newsletter** submission deadline is April 25, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Next PPRAA Board meeting: May 15, 2007 (Tuesday) at the Falcon Police Station on Goddard, directions available on PPRAA website.

Submitted by:  
Susan Allison KCØSYA  
PPRAA Secretary

**PPRAA MEETING INFORMATION**

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association meets monthly at 7 PM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at the El Paso County Health Department Auditorium, 305 S. Union Blvd, downstairs at the apex of the two buildings. For a map, please visit our web site at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/> or contact any of the board members for more information.

**CLUB MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 11, 2007**



President Mike Allison KØMLA called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM in the El Paso County Health Department Auditorium, followed by introductions around the room.

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning balance \$8,198.17, income \$342.14, expenses \$(128.89), Net income \$213.25, ending balance \$8,411.42 as of 4/10/07. Sincere apologies to anyone whose membership dues were missed being posted for this year. Hopefully we've got those all caught up now.

**Minutes:** April minutes approved as printed. (Motioned/seconded by Les KCØNC, Susan KCØSYA)

**Committee Reports:**

**VE Session:** Held a special VE Session on April 1, with two candidates taking exams. Next session is the regularly scheduled session one in April – on the 14<sup>th</sup> – second Saturday of even-numbered months, (April's will be in room 103 of Colorado Technical College, instead of usual room 101).

**Unfinished Business:**

**Field Day:** Still have not heard from County Parks Dept yet, so may be held at a fire station in Monument, in an adjoining field. No cost to use the location. Exact directions and further details to come soon. Digital station will be headed by Jim ABØUK; AMSAT will be headed by Tom NØNTX. Still need more volunteers to help with coordinating event and be station captains, contact Dan KBØPPM or Mike WV7T. Need GOTA station and HF station control operators.

**Swapfest:** Sold \$245 in ticket sales so far and sold one table and two admissions. Received

donated items from ICOM today for door prizes. Elecraft will be doing a table.

**Colorado QSO Party:** Jim ABØUK - The date for the event is currently set for 1200 UTC 15 July, 2007 until 0400 UTC 16 July, 2007, 6am-10pm MDT. Had a meeting prior to club meeting. No mandatory breaks. You can work the whole 16 hours if you like. See our website [www.ppraa.org/coqp](http://www.ppraa.org/coqp) for more information. Updates posted frequently.

Rules were set as of April 1. 12 counties either tentative or confirmed out of 63 total state counties, but these numbers will most likely increase quite a bit as we closer to the event. Have between 30 and 40 plaques sponsored already. Already taking suggestions and sponsors for next years QSO Party.

**New Business:**

**Changing the location of club meetings:**

Discussed possibility of other locations. East library on Union Blvd. has excellent parking, large conference room, and no cost. But may be difficult getting requested dates. Looking for suggestions of alternate places to consider.

**Resignation from board:** Due to family obligations Su Goguen, KCØPRN, has resigned her position on the board. Need someone willing to fill her position for the remainder of her term through October 2007. Will vote on this position at the May club meeting. If interested in taking her place, send an email to the board at [boardmembers@ppraa.org](mailto:boardmembers@ppraa.org).

**Hammy Award:** Given to Dan ACØCC by Dennis for all his past hard work as Treasurer and everything else he helps out with.

**Program:** AMSAT

*Cont'd...*

**Next Club Meeting:** May 9, 2007 at 7:00pm.

**Next Board Meeting:** 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, April 16, 2007 at the Police Station on Goddard St off of North Academy and Hwy 83, behind Village Inn and Chick-Fil-A.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by:  
Susan Allison KCØSYA  
PPRAA Secretary

***In Other Words...Cont'd from Pg. 5***

According to Lance Borden's article, *Build a World War II Foxhole Radio*, as it appeared in the Electronics Handbook vol. XVII, p. 47 the basic components are:

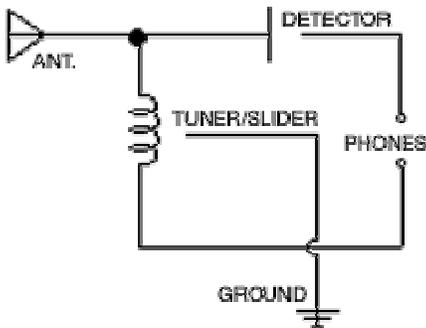
- ✚ Razor blade: PAL Super Single Edge, American Safety Razor Co., or a rusty regular one
- ✚ Cardboard toilet paper tube
- ✚ Wire coat hanger or other handy strip of workable metal
- ✚ Headphones or earphone (2 – 4 K ohms)
- ✚ Large safety pin
- ✚ Lead from a wooden pencil
- ✚ #22 AWG (or so) wire
- ✚ Something for a base (small scrap of wood)
- ✚ Lacquer, glue
- ✚ Small tacks or screws for fastening components

lacquer (or whatever is handy) to set it firmly. Scrape off whatever paint or varnish may be on the wire used for the tuner/slider. Spread the safety pin apart and bend the head 90 degrees to use it as a base for attaching the pin to the base. The pin should stick up from its bent head, then down to its point where the pencil lead is attached with some of the wire left from winding the coil. The sharpened pencil lead is the detector. It touches the razor blade and is in turn attached to the base at one of its ends with a screw or tack. The tuner should be mounted so it is free to pivot and slide across the coil. Use a scrap of paper or cardboard as a template to make the tuner/slider the correct size. Sand off the varnish on the coil where the slider touches. Connect the ground and antenna, hook up the head phones. With patient adjustment of the detector and slider, you should be able to pick up broadcasts. A capacitor (0.001 - 0.002 uF) between the ear phone terminals improves performance.

Caps can be improvised from cigarette or chewing gum foil cut into thin strips and stacks. The paper back serves as an insulating layer. Simple variable capacitors (condensers) were probably easily improvised. A blued hacksaw blade and hard drafting lead could be substituted. Think outside the box. The POWs and GIs certainly did.

Stay tuned to next month's column for more variations and the rest of the story.

*73 as always...  
Jackie Cornwell ACØCA*



Refer to the schematic for wiring and connections. Wind the coil 100 turns around the tube. #22 AWG wire is recommended, but it is likely that

whoever was in the field used whatever gauge was in the scrap coil, motor, or transformer they were cannibalizing. Spray / paint the coil with

**Jess Miley**  
**KØTAA**

719 W. 7<sup>th</sup>, Florence, CO 81226  
Amateur & Hobby Radio Products.  
We Trade.  
Excellent Tech @ \$35 per hour Commercial rates higher / 719-784-3040  
***Please call before you drive.***

## PPRAA PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Can you believe it's almost June; this year is flying by. Between family, work, school, church and PPRAA, I turn around twice and another week has passed.

We're hosting several events this summer and planning is well under way. The Megafest and Field Day are in June and this year is the return of the Colorado QSO party in July.

Rob Roller N7LV graciously agreed to head up Megafest this year, which will be held on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lewis Palmer High School. The door prizes include a Yaesu FT-897D, an Icom IC 718 and a Yaesu VX-6R. We're still selling raffle tickets so remember to pick up your tickets at a club meeting.

We're pursuing a couple of locations around town for Field Day that should make it easier for members to attend. Look for more updates as we work out the details. Set-up will be held on Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and operation will be Saturday and Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. PPRAA will provide coffee and meals free of charge but donations to help cover costs are welcome. Please contact Dan KBØPPM if you are able to head up a station or can help out.

The final big event this summer is the Colorado QSO party, which will be held July 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. This is the first QSO party in Colorado for many years. Several people and amateur radio that are involved in coordinating this event and PPRAA's representative is Jim ABØUK.

The last item I want to bring up is annual elections. It's time think about who will run the club next year. We need four new officers and there are positions on the board to be filled. Please let a board member know if you are interested in running.

All these events are important to the club and amateur radio in general, and I look forward to each and every one of them. I also want to thank those who have helped coordinate and plan these events, showing the volunteer spirit of amateur radio.

I hope that everyone has a great month.

73,

Mike KØMLA  
PPRAA President

### PRESIDENT:

Mike Allison KØMLA  
KØMLA@arrl.net / 590-4812

### VICE PRESIDENT:

Doug Nielsen N7LEM  
N7LEM@usa.net / 282-8554

### SECRETARY:

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susan@allisonfam.name / 590-4812

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### DIRECTOR/PAST PRESIDENT:

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### DIRECTOR:

Mike Anderson WV7T  
WV7T@arrl.net / 229-8610

### DIRECTOR:

Position vacant

### DIRECTOR:

Paul Moraine NØPWM  
pmoraine@msn.com / 638-0273

### DIRECTOR:

Jim Harris, ABØUK  
ABØUK@yahoo.com / 641-8477

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All memberships are up for renewal at the end of the year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please use the form at the bottom of this page, and fill out all of the appropriate information so that the Membership Committee can update the records. Include your family so they can share the value and the fun. If you know someone interested in joining, make a copy for them or have them visit PPRAA on the web and download a copy of the PDF file at [www.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html](http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html).

Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521	
Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	In which activities would you like to participate?
Name: _____	Field Day <input type="checkbox"/>
Address: _____	Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/>
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/>
Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____	Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/>
Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____	Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:	Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Donation to Club: \$ _____
	Total Enclosed: _____
	<b><u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u></b>
<b>Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered:</b> (Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked)	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail
	<input type="checkbox"/> As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks
	<input type="checkbox"/> I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!
Circle your interests ⇨ HF / V/UHF / FM / SSB / Digital / DX / Contests / Technical / Hardware / Other _____	
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. <b>Please Type or Print Clearly!</b>	

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**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 16521**  
**Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA**

**Standard Mail**

**To:**