



VOLUME 57 ISSUE 9

September 2007

Pikes Peak in the Colorado 14er Event

Bob Witte KØNR

The Colorado 14er Event originated from a simple concept: let's all go out and operate from Colorado's highest mountains on the same day. There are 54 summits in Colorado recognized as distinct 14,000 foot (or higher) mountains, commonly referred to as 14ers. Most of the mountains require a strenuous climb....a few can be driven. This year, I operated from Pikes Peak, a drive-up summit close to Colorado Springs.

I contacted my group of "usual suspects" to see who wanted to activate Pikes this year. The assembled crew turned out to be me, my wife Joyce KØJJW, Stephen KØFTQ and his son Steve (no license). Actually, the young Steve just passed his technician exam but the FCC had not yet seen fit to issue his callsign. No problem, we'd give Steve his chance to operate with one of us acting as control operator. Our usual practice is to operate under the club callsign KØYB, which is short and easy to understand over the air.

As I rolled out of bed at 5 AM, I thought about the guys out climbing who were on the trail by then. Any thought of complaining about getting up early faded quickly as I thought about the "real" mountaintop operators out there. Your typical fourteenner climb includes 4000 feet in vertical change and 4 miles in distance. Some are easier, some are harder . . . none are trivial.

I had loaded the SUV with all of the radio gear the night before and the tank was topped off. A short time later, Joyce and I were cruising west on Highway 24 towards the Pikes Peak Highway. We reached the tollgate at 7 AM, where there was a line of cars waiting for the road to open. It looked like most of them were headed to the reservoirs to fish. We headed up the road and arrived at the summit around 8:30 AM. We contacted Stephen and Steve on 147.42 MHz

on our way up and determined that they were just a few miles behind us (Figure 1). The primary operating hours for the event are from 9 AM to noon, designed to allow time for the climbers to make the summit and then retreat before the afternoon thunderstorms roll in.

2M FM Station

The first priority was to get the 2M FM station up and running. This band & mode is the most popular for this event, since most of the hikers carry FM handheld radios. Our 2M FM station consisted of a Kenwood TM-231A transceiver connected to a Diamond X-50 vertical antenna. Usually, the action is fast enough on the band that an omnidirectional vertical (with a little gain) works better than having to deal with rotating a yagi antenna. We inserted a DCI bandpass 2M filter in the transmission line to help suppress interference on the peak. Since there are multiple transmitters up there, I've had problems in the past with my transceiver being overloaded by all of the RF energy. The TM-231A didn't have a hint of a problem with the filter installed.

The X-50 antenna was placed on the top of 3 sections of Radio Shack standard TV mast, held by a homemade drive-on mount (Figure 2). The drive-on mount is a piece of 2x8 lumber with a short piece of pipe held by a floor flange (Figure 3). The pipe is just the right size to let the TV mast slip over it. This is a common portable operating technique, useful for special events, portable operation and emergency communications.

We had Steve running the 2M FM rig, with his dad supervising as control operator (Figure 4). This was Steve's first real radio operation and he sounded like a pro. He called "CQ 14er Event, this is Kilo Zero Yankee Bravo on Pikes Peak" like he had been doing it for years. He was able to click through contacts at a fast rate, using the right phonetics and operating procedures. I think his dad got to make a few contacts but the majority of the contacts from the Peak were made by Steve.

Cont'd...

Colorado 14er Cont'd...

Our SUV housed the other station, which covered 2M SSB using a Yaesu FT-100 driving an M2 9M2 horizontally polarized yagi. We used a special mount that fits into the 2-inch hitch receiver sized to hold a standard TV mast vertically. This vehicle also housed the 222 MHz FM station and the 440 MHz FM station, both using magmount antennas on the vehicle roof. The 222 MHz rig was an old ICOM IC-32A recently acquired via eBay. A Yaesu FT-50 covered the 440 MHz band for us.



Drive on mount and mast with the X-50 antenna installed on top.

For power, we used a Honda AC generator. This provides a steady power source and eliminates the hassle of relying on your vehicle battery. The generator runs very quietly and did not have a problem with running at that high altitude. (Driving to a summit does have its benefits.)

Mount Sunflower

When we arrived at the summit of Pikes Peak, another mountaintop radio operation was already in place from another high "peak". The Trojan Amateur Radio Club was operating a special event station using the callsign K4S from the highest point in Kansas: Mount Sunflower. At an elevation of 4,039 feet, Sunflower is lower than most of the state of Colorado. However, these brave souls fought the elements and risked exposure to oxygen deprivation to activate this Kansas peak. They ask for our understanding since

they don't have 14ers (14,000 foot mountains) in Kansas. They refer to Mount Sunflower as a "4er", hence the callsign K4S.

We knew about the planned Sunflower operation, so I wanted to be sure to work them during the event. This was one of the reasons for taking along the 2M SSB rig and a decent yagi. It turned out that this wasn't necessary since while we were setting up, I heard them calling on 147.42 MHz FM. I had the mobile rig monitoring this frequency using a not-so-optimal 1/4-wave antenna mounted on the hood of the vehicle. We easily worked them using that rig. (I am not sure what kind of power or antenna the K4S station was running. There could be heard quite strong on Pikes Peak all morning.)

Making the Contacts

Steve kept racking up the 2M FM contacts at a decent pace, while Joyce and I filled in on 440 MHz and 222 MHz. I fired up the 2M SSB station on 144.200 MHz a few times and worked a handful of station on that mode. I didn't operate there all of the time, as I knew I would interfere with the 2M FM station.

In the end, we made 77 QSOs

<u>Band</u>	<u>QSOs</u>
2M FM	50
2M SSB	3
222 FM	4
<u>440 FM</u>	<u>20</u>
Total	77

We worked hams on the summits of these 14ers: Sherman, Evans, Antero, Harvard, Torreys, Grays, Bierstadt, Quandary and Bross. We also worked a number of operators that were out hill topping on smaller peaks.

Around 12:30, we tore down the stations and packed up our gear. We stopped for our traditional picnic lunch at the Halfway Picnic Area, relaxed and discussed the results of the radio operation. We all agreed that this is a great event and allows hams to get on the air and have some fun.

A few days later, I received an email telling us that Steve is now officially licensed as KDØBIM. Congratulations, Steve!

Bob Witte KØNR
bob@k0nr.com

DITS & BITS

PPRAA Elections - The election of officers and board members for the PPRAA is coming up in October. If you are interested in running for a position as officer or board member or wish to nominate someone, please contact Doug, N7LEM at vice-president@ppraa.org.

ARRL CLUB ELECTIONS

Brian Mileschosky N5ZGT

Fellow ARRL members:

This October full members of the League across the Rocky Mountain Division (Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming) will be receiving ballots to elect who they feel will best represent them on ARRL's board of directors. As candidates for Director and Vice-Director, and as Hams who are passionate for our amazing hobby, we respectfully ask for your support and your kind vote.

As your current Division vice-director, Brian Mileschosky N5ZGT (now a candidate for Director) has been active in ham radio and engaged with our ham community for nearly 16 years. He is chairman of ARRL's ad-hoc Committee on Scouting, charged with studying and recommending improvements to ARRL's relationship with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America – a perfect audience to target for promoting our hobby. Brian has served in leadership roles for many New Mexico ham clubs, has first-hand experience working issues on the ARRL Board of Directors, and is nationally recognized for promoting ham radio to our hobby's future – youth.

An active ham for nearly 18 years, Dwayne Allen WY7FD (candidate to represent you as Vice-Director) has enjoyed fantastic progress during his tenure as Section Manager of Wyoming, including a 17% increase in new ham radio operators across Wyoming, a 7.5% growth in ARRL memberships. Dwayne has made a point to promote elmering and the introduction of ham radio to youth across the Wyoming section.

If elected, we pledge the following (in addition to representing what's important to you as ARRL members):

We pledge to improve, greatly, communication within and across our Division. That is, better

communication between the Division leadership and our four Section Managers (NM, UT, CO and WY); better communication between the Division leadership and ARRL affiliated clubs; and better communication between the Division leadership and its members who want their interests represented. The League has oftentimes found itself with a reputation of not listening to its members. We're committed to changing that perception, at least within the Rocky Mountain Division, and as best as we can across the organization.

We pledge to improve the level of advocacy within our Division. Ham radio has always faced technical and political threats, the latest being BPL. You can bet on there being more in the future. The FCC is no longer a regulatory body; it's become a political body (our candid opinion). These are all unfortunate realities. ARRL is the only group in the country representing ham radio and its spectrum in Washington DC. But the League's successes are hard to come by without an effective grassroots program, supported by ARRL members at home who can engage with their local representatives. The League has recently formed a Legislative Action Program for this purpose, and it will be our commitment to organize and kick it off within the Rocky Mountain Division if elected.

Recruiting new hams and elmering them in a proactive manner – *especially youth* – are important for the future of our hobby. It seems that activity on the airwaves has decreased significantly over the past 10 years, yet our hobby's average age continues to march forward. **We pledge to explore and recommend** ways for the League to better promote our hobby to prospective hams (especially youth), get them involved in the ham community once licensed, educate them so they become the model hams we wish to have on the airwaves, and – most importantly – help keep them involved.

On a lighter note, but still important to us, hams across the Rocky Mountain Division contribute talent, technical knowledge, money, and irreplaceable time for the betterment of ham radio in their communities and beyond. **We pledge to establish a Rocky Mountain Division awards program** to publicly recognize and thank such Hams for their outstanding contributions.

You are invited to visit our website – www.VoteRockyMountain.org – to learn more about

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VOTE ARRL Cont'd...

the upcoming election, our passion for Ham Radio, and our pledges to you.

We encourage you to vote this October, and kindly ask for your support so that we may represent you and our wonderful hobby as Director and Vice-Director of ARRL's Rocky Mountain Division.

Thank you and 73,

Brian Milesosky N5ZGT – candidate for Director
Dwayne Allen WY7FD – candidate for Vice-Director
website: www.VoteRockyMountain.org

COQP LESSONS LEARNED **Dave Sloan NØEOP**

I left from the house at about 0630. I was operating a single, low power, phone mobile. I was using a Kenwood TS50 with Hustler Antennas. I had installed the 40-meter antenna figuring that would be the best band at that time of the day. WRONG. I drove on Hwy 94 to the Lincoln line and never made a contact. There was a small road right on the county line so I turned onto that road and stopped. I tuned around while stationary and found that 40 was really dead. I put the 20-meter antenna on and was getting a LOT of QRM. I think the fence I was next to was an electric fence and was causing the interference. So I drove down the road to the next farm and found that 20 meters was workable. I set there and made several contacts. When I turned around and drove back along the fence I again had a very high noise level that made it impossible to hear most stations. As I drove through Lincoln County, I was able to make several more contacts. I use a tape recorder to record the contacts while I'm mobile and then enter them into the log after the contest.

I found the road that splits Crowley and Kiowa counties without any problem and was able to find a spot to pull off the road to operate. Twenty meters was still active and I was able to make quite a few contacts from this location. The problem was that I was in the direct sun and the nearest tree was several miles away. I rolled down my windows to allow the air to flow through the car to keep cool. WRONG. Very little breeze and what there was seemed to be carrying more dust than anything else. Plus every bug from all of the farms in the area got them same idea at the same time. I did not leave the windows down for very long. Anyone have any mosquito nets I could borrow for next year?

Back on the road again for what I thought would be a short drive to the Otero and Bent County lines. I had used MapQuest and found a township road that split the two counties. WRONG. I never found road WW. If there is one, it isn't marked on the road that I drove. So, I ended up driving through most of Bent County to Hwy 50. This time I found some telephone lines that gave me a noise level of about 10-15 db over S9. So, I was only able to make one or two contact while on the county road. I was lucky to find a place to stop right on the Bent and Otero county lines.

I then continued on Hwy 50 to the Otero and Pueblo County line. Again, I was able to find a location right on the county lines. This time I even had some shade. Good thing because my external thermometer in the car was reading 99 degrees. I was really glad I brought a lot of water and a lot of ice!

I finished up by driving to Pueblo and then taking I-25 north to El Paso County. I thought that 80 meters should be good towards the end of the party, but again I had some noise. When you're using an 80-meter antenna on a car, you might as well use a dummy load. I think I'll make myself a portable NVIS antenna for next year. Need to find a good location where I can set it up, which should allow me to work a lot more Colorado counties than I managed this year.

The biggest lesson learned from this year's party is that it is FUN! I can't wait for next year. I hope we are able to get a lot more mobiles out and cover all of the counties next year.

73,
Dave NØEOP

NONPROFIT STATUS

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



Colorado QSO Party!

1200Z July 15—0400Z July 16, 2007

www.ppraa.org/coqp



The 2007 edition of the Colorado QSO Party was on 15 July 2007 from 6AM to 10PM MDT for a total time of 16 hours. The judging team has been working hard to evaluate the received logs to determine winners in various categories. Winners will be

announced on Sept 12th on the COQP website at ppraa.org/coqp. Plaques and certificates for winners will be mailed a couple of days before so they arrive in winners hands at about the same time as the winners are announced.

Below are some interesting numbers from the COQP.

- 119 Operators - in & out of state
- 221 logs received
 - 70 out of state
 - 151 in state
- 56 of 64 counties were activated
- Total of 12447 QSO's during the COQP

There has been a tremendous amount of positive feedback received from the COQP participants.

1. It was a fun contest – We look forward to next year.
2. Seemed very good, especially CW.
3. Thanks for hosting the COQP.
4. This was a great contest. Hope it's this good next year.
5. This was one of the best.

The 2008 COQP will be held on September 20th, 2008. Many more details to come. Check the website periodically for revised rules and more information.

Jim Harris AB0UK

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 or arrrl.org.

Mark your calendars:

Oct. 13, Dec. 8

Jess Miley KØTAA

719 W. 7th, 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.

Closed Sept. 1-24, 2007

ARRL RM DIVISION ELECTIONS DIRECTOR DIVISION

Jeff Ryan, KØRM

For the first time in a dozen years, there will be an election for the position of ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director. ARRL Headquarters will mail ballots to all full members by October 1st and should be received shortly thereafter. Members need to mark and return their ballots in the envelope provided. Ballots must be received at League HQ no later than noon on Friday, November 16th (2007) to be counted so leave adequate time for the U.S. Mail to deliver before the deadline. I am a candidate for this position, along with current RM Division Vice Director Brian Mileschosky, N5ZGT. As neither of us knew the other was running when we filed, I don't consider that we are running 'against' each other; we each are running on our own merits. For those who don't know my background, I have been the ARRL Section Manager for Colorado since 2001 and I was Asst. Section Manager for five years prior to my election as SM. I've been in the telecom industry for around thirty years, over half of which has been as a manager of people and projects. I lived in Colorado Springs for 15 years and was very active in the PPRAA, PPFMA (I'm still on the board) ARES, RACES and SkyWarn. I moved to the Denver - North Metro area in late 2005. I hope all League members will participate in the upcoming elections and I hope you will consider supporting my candidacy by checking the box next to my name on the ballot. If you have any questions about my position on any issues or my candidacy in general, please send me an email or give me a call on the phone. Contact info is on page 16 of *QST*.

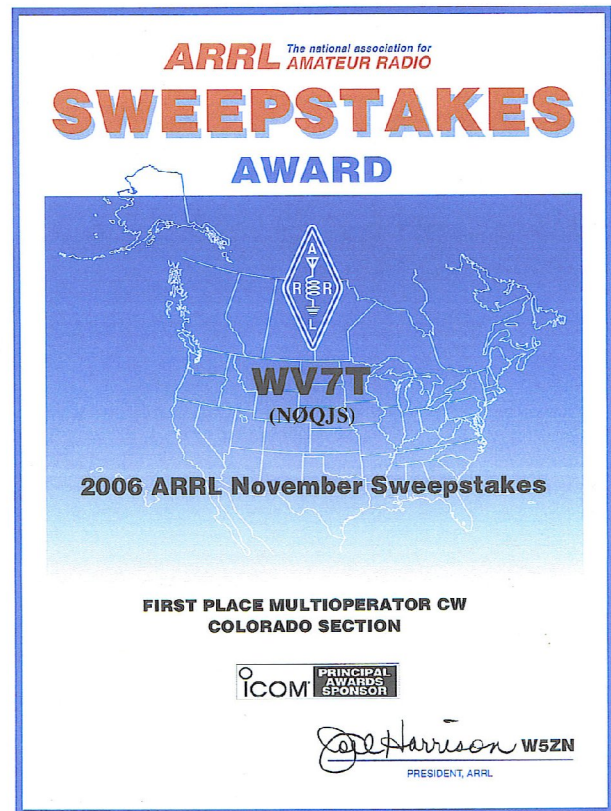
73,
Jeff Ryan KØRM



BIG WHEEL AND LIGHTNING
SUBMITTED BY MIKE ANDERSON WV7T

BRAGGING RIGHTS

Mike Anderson WV7T



PPRAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 13 2007



Attendees: Mike K0MLA, Susan KC0SYA, Jim AB0UK, Doug N7LEM, Dan AC0CC, and Jackie AC0CA

President Mike K0MLA called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM at the Stetson Hills Police Station.

The July Board Meeting minutes were approved as printed in the Zero Beat. (Motioned/seconded by Susan KC0SYA/Jackie AC0CA)

Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Dan AC0CC Treasurer: Beginning balance \$13,643.03, income \$99.57, expenses (\$628.20), net loss (\$528.63), ending balance \$13,114.40 as of 8/7/07. Total amount spent for field day was \$650. This included \$400 from PPRAA funds and a generous \$250 donation from Tom, W0TMH. \$88 in leftover food is set aside for the PPRAA picnic August 18. Total COQP funds in escrow is \$1,530.00.

Unfinished Business:

Membership Committee – Another 100 newsletters went out to prospective hams this month (will continue this each month). \$225.50 is needed to cover postage through remainder of year for all mailings, including member zero-beats. Approved by board (motioned/seconded by Susan KC0SYA/Doug N7LEM). Presented the idea of purchasing a label printer to use for mailings. More cost-effective and less wear-and-tear than on a normal printer. Cost will be \$110.97 for the label maker and two label cartridges to cover us through at least the end of the year for all mailings (motioned/ seconded by Susan KC0SYA/Doug N7LEM). Approved by board.

Club Picnic Chairperson - Will be at Dirty Woman Creek in Monument Aug. 18, from 0900 to 1500. Email picnic@ppraa.org to RSVP if you're coming.

Next year's board – Doug N7LEM is the chairperson for the election committee. Will send messages out on reflector every few weeks looking for volunteers to run, as well as posting on the website. Anyone interested in running for a board position in October should contact Doug as early as possible.

Christmas Party – Will be at north Golden Corral this year (on Woodmen Rd, just west of Powers), since their meeting room is larger than County Buffet. Will be held on Wednesday Dec. 12, 2007 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Attendees need to let cashier know that they are there for the PPRAA party and a 15% gratuity will be automatically added to their bill. Susan KC0SYA will raise door prizes again. Board approved \$200 for additional gift cards from Wal-Mart for door prizes (\$100, \$50, and two \$25 ones) and Susan will obtain those prior to party. (Motioned/seconded by Jackie AC0CA/Jim AB0UK.)

New Business:

Thursday Night Net – Bounced around ideas to increase "attendance" on the net.

Around the Table:

Jim AB0UK – QSO Party – making good progress in judging; costs coming in way under the projected \$400 that was approved previously; will start printing 2nd and 3rd place certificates in about a week; 1st place winners should be sent to plaque suppliers in a little over a week, receive back by Labor Day, notify winners by Sept. 10 and then mail out plaques and certificates; around Sept. 12 two lists will be on website (one showing name/call of all logs received and one showing winners). Any local winners will be presented at next club meeting. Showed us one of the plaques that will be mailed out, extremely high quality,

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beautiful work. Very happy with vendor selected. Have started thinking about next year's QSO Party. Sept 13 or Sept. 20, 2008 are possibilities for the date. Need to line up definite people to organize the event next year and then will request club to officially sponsor the event again. Website is at www.ppraa.org/coqp.

Next newsletter submission deadline is August 25, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Next PPRAA Board meeting: September 17, 2007 at the Stetson Hills Police Station on Tutt, directions available on PPRAA website.

Submitted by:
Susan Allison KC0SYA
PPRAA Secretary

PPRAA CLUB MEETING MINUTES August 8, 2007

President Mike Allison K0MLA called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM in the El Paso County Health Department Auditorium, followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys – John N0ZLU passed away this past weekend. Club received an email from AI VO1NO with condolences for the passing of Tom N0NTX and sending greetings to everyone else in the club.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance \$13,643.03, income \$99.57, expenses (\$628.20), net loss (\$528.63), ending balance \$13,114.40 as of 8/7/07. Total amount spent for field day was \$650. This included \$400 from PPRAA funds and a generous \$250 donation from Tom, W0TMH. \$88 in leftover food is set aside for the PPRAA picnic August 18. Total COQP funds in escrow are \$1,530.00.

Minutes: July minutes approved as printed in the zero-beat (motioned/seconded by Susan KC0SYA/Jim N0TUI).

Committee Reports:

Summer Picnic – Aug 18, 2007 at Dirty Woman Creek park (same as last year), and there is now a permanent restroom facility available. Will be 0900-

1500 hrs. See website for whether to bring a side, salad or dessert. Burgers, dogs, some Bird Dog BBQ and sodas will be provided. Tailgate swap at 0900 and eating begins around, or just before, 1200. Horseshoes and other non-radio activities available as well. If possible, please RSVP by email to Picnic@ppraa.org with the number of how many people will be coming, so we can plan for the food.

Contest Certificates – Dave N0EOP (2), Jim AB0UK, and Dan NK0PPM all received quarterly contest certificates.

Unfinished Business:

Colorado QSO Party – Jim AB0UK - See website at www.ppraa.org/coqp for details. Was held July 15, 2007 for a total of 16 hours. We had 117 operators in and out of state, 219 logs were received (68 from out of state), and 56 counties were covered. You can check the website to make sure your log was received. Judging committee began processing the logs on 8/06/07. Plaques and certificates should be mailed out by 9/15/07. Winner(s) will hopefully be published on website by 8/31/07. Got lots of great feedback and comments from participants; went really well and exceeded expectations.

Elections – coming up in October, several positions need to be filled, if interested please let Doug N7LEM know.

Hammy Award – Presented to Mike WV7T for all his hard work on Field Day.

Program – GPS and Geocaching – Doug, N7LEM and Mike, K0MLA

Next Club Meeting: September 12, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM on August 13, 2007 at the Stetson Hills police station on Tutt Blvd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Submitted by:
Susan Allison KC0SYA
PPRAA Secretary

IN OTHER WORDS...

The call goes out. Someone is in trouble. A hurricane has hit a community and taken out communications. A tornado has devastated a town and left thousands homeless, alone and out of touch with the rest of the world. A tsunami hits an island and takes wreaks havoc. The scenarios are endless, acts of God and nature that require a human response to help others. These people are strangers and probably have not heard of amateur radio operators or their equipment, but that doesn't matter. They are people just like us who need someone to keep them connected to the rest of the world and let their families, friends, and governments know they are all right. That's what amateur radio operators do. That is what we practice for on Field Day and in field exercises; it is our stock in trade – helping strangers. What about the people in our midst, people we may or may not have seen recently, but people whose names we have heard and know from the pages of this newsletter or others like it? What do we do then?

We quote bylaws and ask whether they are members in good standing. We urge caution and suggest gathering more information. We do everything but step up to the plate. We wait for someone else to pick up the slack while we sit back and watch from the sidelines. Where is our spirit of volunteerism? Where is our concern for humanity and our desire to help?

Every October the PPRAA holds elections and last year we nearly went without a treasurer because no one was willing to take on the task and help. Board members beg, plead, and cajole others to take a turn on the board and help make policy and see that things get done. No one wants to get involved if it means a little inconvenience or a little work. Where is the spirit of volunteerism that made amateur radio great, made hams a vast and oft-tapped resource? And it doesn't stop at getting involved in the PPRAA on a personal level; it extends to friends and fellow hams who have fallen on difficult times.

On Memorial Day in 2006, Dean Haskins KAØPII was working on his antenna and his ladder collapsed. Dean fell to the ground suffered a traumatic brain injury that kept him in a coma for weeks and in the hospital for months. Even though he has gotten better and is able to talk and manage some minor tasks, he still has a long road to travel before he is fully functional, and it is very likely he will never be the way he was. That's a shame because Dean has been a bright light in the amateur radio community in Colorado and has served on the board of directors of the Mountain Area Radio Club (MARC), as a VE for MARC and PPRAA, as director for ARES, and has held many positions in the community and amateur radio services for decades. You may or may not have heard of him, but he is one of our own, a comrade in arms who never failed to offer help and friendship whenever and wherever he was needed.

Dean's wife Lucie has had a hard time with insurance and finding facilities and services for Dean but she and Dean need your help. Whether or not you vote or take a seat on the board or run for office this year, think about the people here in the community who need a little of your time and help; think about Dean Haskins. His home hasn't been damaged by tornado or flood or mudslide, but he is one of our own. Take the time to send a card or offer a bit of charity to a fallen brother and comrade in arms. He and his family have seen enough trouble; now is the time to show them a little compassion and a bit of the spirit that we give so freely to strangers in need.

If you would like to make a difference in Dean's recovery, consider a charitable donation to the Dean Haskins Memorial Fund, Acct # 451404

Mail checks to:

Sonja Armstrong
1518 Laurette Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

73 as always...
Jackie Cornwell ACØCA

PPRAA PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings,

Are you prepared for winter weather? We had one of our busiest winters last year along the Front Range. It's important to be prepared and informed to protect yourself and your family. Winter weather too often catches people unprepared.

Researchers say that 70% of the fatalities related to ice and snow occur in automobiles; about 25% of all winter related fatalities are people who are caught off guard out in the storm, and most happen to males over 40 years old. As we all know living here in Colorado Springs, the day can go from sunny and fairly warm in the morning to below freezing temperatures and white-out conditions in the afternoon.

It is imperative to keep track of forecasts on a daily basis through your local news company, a NOAA Weather radio or your trusty ham radio. Survival kits are always a good idea to keep in your vehicle if you travel a lot or live outside the city limits. An excellent source for information on types of winter storms, the dangers associated with them, and how to prepare is located at

<http://www.weather.gov/om/winterstorm/winterstorms.pdf>. The site includes pretty much everything you need to know from types of storms, what each type of warning/watch means, what to wear, how to put together a winter storm survival kit and even a family disaster plan. A lot of people last winter had to be pulled out of ditches, rescued by emergency personnel and spent nights in shelters because they weren't prepared and didn't keep track of the ever-changing forecasts for our area.

Don't take risks with your life. If you aren't positive you can make it safely home from work and that the road you travel is open and safe all the way, find an alternative place to stay. Help educate your family and friends as well. And, of course, consider being available to help provide emergency communication support at local fire stations and shelters during the storms. Prepare and be safe!

As a quick side note, please remember club elections will be held at the October 10th meeting. So many people have many great ideas about how to run the club, increase membership and activities, but we need you on the board, too. Being a board member does not mean you have to put in hours and hours of work. Not only are all positions fairly straightforward and easy to handle, but also you get to help guide the club that

represents you as a ham radio operator. If you're interested in helping out, email Doug N7LEM at vice-president@ppraa.org before the October club meeting. Thank you.

73,
Mike, KØMLA
PPRAA President

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KØMLA@arrl.net / 590-4812

VICE PRESIDENT:

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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.

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"/>
	<i>Ø-Beat</i> Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
	Donation to Club: \$ _____
	Total Enclosed: _____
<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>	
Please indicate how you'd like your <i>Ø-Beat</i> delivered: <input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail (Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked) <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. Please Type or Print Clearly!	

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

To: