



VOLUME 60 ISSUE 1

January 2010



Jerry Verduft, ADØA, receives award from Rocky Mountain Division Manager Jeff Ryan, KØRM, for his long tenure in Public Service.

December Ham Breakfast

January 2nd
Country Buffet

801 North Academy Boulevard
(Citadel Crossing)
8:00 am - 9:30 am

January Club Meeting

The club meeting will be on January 13th (second Wednesday in January, at 7 pm at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

PPRAA Club Officers

President	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM
Vice President	Mike Debort	KCØELG
Secretary	Dan Scott	WØRO
Treasurer	Pam Scott	KDØJRM
Board	Gordon Dixon	KDØFKF
Board	Dave Moore	KØDAM
Board	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board	Galen Steele	AGØA
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:
boardmembers@ppraa.org

**Congratulations to Pam Scott,
KDØJRM, or passing her
Technician license!**

Technical Education



Mike Anderson, WV7T
wv7t@arrl.net
719-229-8610

License and code tutoring. Electronic theory.
Technical instruction upon request.

Need help getting your ticket or upgrading, give Mike a call.

Site for Technician and General Class
PowerPoints: www.rtsi.com/~HRInstructor

Megafest 2010

Megafest planning has been proceeding slowly.
Megafest is scheduled for July 17th.

For the last couple years, Rob Roller (N7LV) did a fantastic job pulling the Megafest together. This year I am trying to fill his shoes, it will be very difficult coming even close to the efficiency which Rob organizes and moves events along. I think I speak for the club when saying how much we appreciate his efforts and support.

The next planning meeting is scheduled for January 9th. All planning meetings are scheduled for Noon, the 2nd Saturday of each month. The location is the Colorado Springs Police Department, Stetson Hills. This is where the PPRAA board meetings are held and relatively close to our normal meeting location at Panera Bread.

Please mark you calendars with the following planning meeting dates: - **Jan-9, Feb-13, Mar-13, Apr-10, May-8, Jun-12, and Jul-10**

The meeting begins at 12:00 (Feel free to bring a sack lunch). "[Stetson Hills Police Department](#)" is located at 4110 Tutt Blvd, Colorado Springs.

I'm sure you will agree these are really nice prizes:

HF:

K3-100 Elecraft

SDR-3000 Flex Radio

VHF/UHF DSTAR

ID-880H Icom Mobile donated by CMRG

IC-92AD Icom HT

I really enjoy this Hamfest. Last year they expanded the available floor space which allowed for a lot of full tables! They had a great turnout and a great turnout is expected again this year. We do not want to miss the opportunity.

CMRG is again donating a mobile DSTAR radio, which is the upgraded model as last year's Raffle drawing prize. Wow!!! Please be sure to thank the folks from CMRG for their continued generous support!

Currently we need planning coordinators for the following areas:

- Forums - *New position*
- Publicity Coordinator – A list of publicity contacts is available
- Door Prizes Coordinator (We already have a small stock started)

Please plan on attending one or several Colorado swapfests leading up to our Megafest and, while attending, work at the PPRAA Raffle Sales table part of the time. Attending swapfests are really fun, and even more fun with more PPRAA member attending. Here are a few of the upcoming swapfests and conventions:

Jan 16 Northern Colorado ARC Winter Hamfest
Fort Collins, CO

Feb 7 Aurora Repeater Association Swapfest
Brighton, CO

May 28-30 2010 Rocky Mountain Division
Convention
Casper, WY

The success or failure of large events, such as the Megafest, is determined by the support given early in the planning cycle. Interestingly, the amount of work greatly decreases when people are involved early on. Remember, helping plan the event is not necessarily tied to being at the event. So, if you are holding back helping plan because you are not sure you can attend, hold back no longer! Plan now, attend later.

Please contact me if you have questions, have ideas, and/or want to help with the planning process. I can be reached via email at "w0ro at arrl dot net", the PPRAA general meetings, during the planning meeting, and during the Thursday evening 07:00 PM 28.390 net.

Please help support this event.

HELP!

We need help selling raffle tickets at the Northern Colorado Amateur Radio Club (NCARC) Winter Hamfest, January 16th at the Lincoln Center, Ft. Collins. (see flyer: <http://www.ncarc.net/files/2010Flyer.pdf>)

This year I will be traveling the weekend of January 16th and will not be able to attend. Please consider helping our Raffle ticket sales effort by attending the NCARC Winter Hamfest. We have a lot of tickets to be sold. Plus our prizes are really the top of the line and we expect to generate a lot of interest.

Thanks for you consideration!

73,

Dan – WØRO

PPFMA Information Net Change

Beginning January 3, 2010, the Pikes Peak FM Association will be moving its Sunday Night Information Net from 8:30 pm to 8 pm. The net will still take place on the linked repeaters 146.97 and 448.450. Please note this so you don't miss the net when the changeover occurs. The PPFMA is a non-profit amateur radio VHF/UHF group which operates and maintains VHF and UHF repeaters serving the Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak region. Through its repeaters it supports other organizations such as ARES, RACES and Skywarn, emergency operations and public service events throughout the region. All repeaters are open repeaters. To find out more about the PPFMA or to join the PPFMA please visit their web site at www.ppfma.org. Thanks!

Rob N7LV

DECEMBER CONTESTS

AGB New Year Snowball Contest	0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1
SARTG New Year RTTY Contest	0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1
AGCW Happy New Year Contest	0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1900Z-2100Z, Jan 1 (432)
Original QRP Contest	1500Z, Jan 2 to 1500Z, Jan 3
ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z, Jan 2 to 2400Z, Jan 3
EUCW 160m Contest	2000Z-2300Z, Jan 2 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 3
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z-2400Z, Jan 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Jan 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 5
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 8
PODXS 070 Club PSKFest	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 9
Hunting Lions in the Air Contest	0000Z, Jan 9 to 2400Z, Jan 10
Mongolian RTTY DX	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 9

Contest	
MI QRP January CW Contest	1200Z, Jan 9 to 2359Z, Jan 10
WW PMC Contest	1200Z, Jan 9 to 1200Z, Jan 10
Midwinter Contest, CW	1400Z-2000Z, Jan 9
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Jan 9 to 0600Z, Jan 10
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 10
NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW	0630Z-0830Z, Jan 10
Midwinter Contest, Phone	0800Z-1400Z, Jan 10
NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB	0900Z-1100Z, Jan 10
DARC 10-Meter Contest	0900Z-1059Z, Jan 10
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Jan 13
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 15
LZ Open Contest	0000Z-0600Z, Jan 16
Hungarian DX Contest	1200Z, Jan 16 to 1159Z, Jan 17
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Jan 16 to 0600Z, Jan 17
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Jan 17
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Jan 18
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Jan 21
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	2000Z-2130Z, Jan 21
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 22
YL-ISSB QSO Party, SSB	0000Z, Jan 23 to 2359Z, Jan 24
MIE 33 Contest	1100Z-1500Z, Jan 23 and 2300Z, Jan 23 to 0300Z, Jan 24
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 23 to 1200Z, Jan 24
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z, Jan 23 to 0400Z, Jan 25
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jan 27
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jan 29
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 29 to 2159Z, Jan 31
REF Contest, CW	0600Z, Jan 30 to 1800Z, Jan 31
UBA DX Contest, SSB	1300Z, Jan 30 to 1300Z, Jan 31
SPAR Winter Field Day	1700Z, Jan 30 to 1700Z, Jan 31
Classic Exchange, CW	1400Z, Jan 31 to 0800Z, Feb 1

Amateur Radio Bill Passes Senate, Moves to the House

On Monday, December 14, S 1755 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- passed the Senate by unanimous consent; the bill now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration. Sponsored by Senator Joe Lieberman (ID-CT), and Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), S 1755, if passed, would direct the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to undertake a study on emergency communications. S 1755 points out that "There is a strong Federal interest in the effective performance of Amateur Radio Service stations, and that performance must be given -- (A) support at all levels of government; and (B) protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of the valuable communications provided by such stations. "Members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee considered S 1755 on December 10. After it passed through Committee, it was placed on the Senate's calendar to be voted on. "We are grateful to Committee Chairman Lieberman and Ranking Member Collins for sponsoring the bill and arranging for its swift consideration and passage by the Senate," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Similar in language to HR 2160 (also called The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 that was introduced this past April by Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee [D-TX-18]), S 1755 calls on DHS to undertake a study on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio Service communications in emergencies and disaster relief and then to submit a report to Congress no more than 180 days after the bill becomes law. The study shall: Include a review of the importance of Amateur Radio emergency communications in furtherance of homeland security missions relating to disasters, severe weather and other threats to lives and property in the United States, as well as recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency

communications and disaster relief efforts and improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives. Identify impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio Service communications, such as the effects of unreasonable or unnecessary private land use regulations on residential antenna installations; and make recommendations regarding such impediments for consideration by other federal departments, agencies and Congress. In conducting the study, S 1755 directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to "utilize the expertise of stakeholder entities and organizations, including the Amateur Radio, emergency response and disaster communications communities." S 1755 makes note of the fact that Section 1 of the Joint Resolution entitled Joint Resolution to Recognize the Achievements of Radio Amateurs, and To Establish Support for Such Amateurs as National Policy -- approved October 22, 1994 (Public Law 103-408) -- included a finding that stated: "Reasonable accommodation should be made for the effective operation of Amateur Radio from residences, private vehicles and public areas, and the regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and encourage amateur radio operations as a public benefit." The bill also pointed out that Section 1805(c) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 757(c)) directs the Regional Emergency Communications Coordinating Working Group of the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate their activities with ham and Amateur Radio operators among the 11 other emergency organizations, such as ambulance services, law enforcement and others.

JANUARY 2010 SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

Jan 1, 1300Z-2000Z, Northfield, MA. 72 Rag Chew Group, K1R. Celebrate and welcome in the new year - 2010. 7.272. Certificate. Robert

Lobenstein, WA2AXZ, 1958 E 36 St, Brooklyn, NY 11234. www.ragchewers.net

Jan 1-Jan 31, 0000Z-2359Z, All US Call Areas. Straight Key Century Club (SKCC), K3Y.

Celebrating 4 years of steady growth to nearly 6,000 members. 14.050 10.120 7.055 3.550. QSL. Dan Rhodes, KA3CTQ, 618 Seminole Dr, Erie, PA 16505. www.skccgroup.com

Jan 2, 1600Z-2000Z, Clinton, IA. Clinton Amateur Radio Club, WØCS. Eagle Watch on the Mississippi River Dam 13. 14.250 7.250. QSL. CARC, PO Box 1501, Clinton, IA 52733-1501. w0cs@arrl.net

Jan 2-Jan 10, 1400Z-0559Z, Newburgh, IN. Indiana Patriot Guard Riders, N9P. 5th Anniversary of Indiana Patriot Guard Riders. 21.300 14.265 7.210 3.825 SSB CW RTTY PSK. QSL. Rick Williams, 515 E Jennings St, Newburgh, IN 47630. *Indiana Patriot Guard Riders first mission honoring Pvt Jonathan Pfender, killed in Iraq December 30, 2005.* www.qrz.com/db/n9p or www.themmd.com/N9P

Jan 9, 1700Z-2359Z, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Radio Room, NI6IW. USS *Nautilus* (SSN-571) Underway on Nuclear Power 1955. 14.320 7.250 7.070 D-STAR. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 North Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101-5811. kk6fz@arrl.net

Jan 23-Jan 24, 1400Z-2000Z, Wilsona Gardens, CA. BioRem RAC, AL7LS. Release date for movie *Hot Rods to Hell* 27 Jan 1967. 14.105 7.243 7.105 3.952. Certificate. Bruce Rossi, 2127 Sierra Stone Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89119. bioremracnorthbase.club.officelive.com/Documents/hrth2010post.mht

Jan 29-Jan 31, 0001Z-2359Z, Fort Monmouth, NJ. Garden State Amateur Radio Association, K2USA. Farewell to Fort Monmouth from the Fort Monmouth MARS Station (AA2USA). 14.260 7.260 3.860 CW +50 PSK31 +70 W2NJR/R repeater. QSL. Garden State ARA, 8 Donner St, Holmdel, NJ 07733-2004. www.gardenstateara.org

Jan 30, 1400Z-2100Z, Punxsutawney, PA. Punxsutawney Area Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ. Commemorating Groundhog Day 2010. 14.240 7.240 146.715 147.390. Certificate. Mike Miller, N3HBH, 1097 Wishaw Rd, Reynoldsville, PA 15851. www.qsl.net/k3hwj

Jan 30-Jan 31, 1700Z-1700Z, Saint Marys, GA. Camden County Amateur Radio Society, KB4CC. Activation of Cumberland Island USI# GA-002S

IOTA# NA-058. 14.260 14.040 7.055 7.030. QSL. CCARS - USI#GA-002S, PO Box 2203, Kingsland, GA 31548. www.ccars.org

Jan 30-Feb 4, 1500Z-0400Z, Lubbock, TX. Buddy Holly Memorial, W5B. 51st anniversary of the death of Buddy Holly. 18.150 14.260 7.260 3.860. QSL. Bryan Edwards, 3801 68th St, Lubbock, TX 79413. www.amcrc.com/w5b

Thursday Evening Net

Please join us for the Thursday Night 10-meter net. We meet at 7:00 PM (Local) on or near 28.390 USB.

The goal of the net is for Technicians through Extra class operators to enjoy a weekly on-the-air chat, and experiment with various transmission modes. The outcome of the net has been a surprise to new old old-timers alike, we has all come away with a better understanding of our radios, filter usage, mic gain, transmission line, ...etc.

This is a perfect net for an introduction to HF and/or SSB too. The net is informal, just jump in with your call and net control will get you on the list. One thing that is (almost) always is giving a description of you rig, antenna system and approximate location.

Technicians remain operating SSB as do other class operators with SSB only radios.

If you are restricted to SSB do not let that bother you as we take that into account even as we jump between modes (AM, FM, DSB, LSB).

Hope to hear you Thursdays on the net!

73, WØRO

**Thanks to the PPRAA for
sponsoring the COQP!
73 Ken, WØETT, Parker, CO**

Made 173 QSOs in 8 counties; doesn't seem like a lot considering I put in the entire day driving from county to county, and stopping to operate as I can't drive and operate at the same time. Started at Silverthorne in Summit county and proceeded towards the home QTH in Parker, activating Summit, Lake, Eagle, Clear Creek/Grand CL, Gilpin, Douglas, and Elbert. My FT450 rig and hamsticks performed well although 20m band conditions didn't seem the best. When I started up Sat. morning, I heard loud DX stations on phone in a EU contest but couldn't get them to answer to collect a name and country. Things seemed slow in the morning but QSO rates picked up around noon and were good in the afternoon and evening, especially on 40m.



MARC JANUARY VE SESSION

What better way to celebrate the New Year than to get that license upgrade or a brand new ticket for a newcomer!

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10 am on Saturday, January 2nd, in the Community Meeting Room of the Woodland Park Library, 218 East Midland Avenue. The MARC VE Team is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC and examinations for all classes of license will be offered.

Full information, including driving directions to the Woodland Park Library, is available under "VE Sessions" on the MARC website at <http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html> or contact Wes Wilson (KØHBZ) at k0hbz@arrl.net or call (719) 687-8758.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

1. A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
2. Your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required – this includes children).
3. Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
4. The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSCEs you may have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
5. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to MARC and cover all different exams you wish to take at the VE session.

MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

For already licensed hams, MARC members should be monitoring the MARC repeater system 146.820- or 448.650- (both 107.2 Hz) if you need help with talk-in.

Please plan your travel to arrive about 10 minutes early so the session can start on time.

Everybody have a wonderful Holiday season and Happy New Year!!!

73 Wes KØHBZ
MARC VE Team

Dits and Bits For Sale or Wanted

Have something to sell or trying to find something or just want to see something get to a good home? Send it in to wv7t@arrl.net and see it in Dits and Bits.

PPRAA 2009 Christmas Party



The dinner was great and so was the ragchewing!



Dick Thompson, WØRRA, receives Contest Award plaque.



Found these signs (above) at a convenience store on a long stretch of open highway. Somebody surely understands!





A good place to get project parts.

If you have some neat pictures, QSL cards, or certificates send them in for publishing



I had heard of "flippin" things...but now I believe!



I will never doubt again!

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 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.ppraa.org.

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 Email: _____	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"/>
	Donation to Club: \$ _____
	Total Enclosed: \$ _____
	<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>
<i>The O-Beat</i> monthly club newsletter is available at WWW.PPRAA.ORG.	
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: