



VOLUME 60 ISSUE 10

October 2010



CLUB ELECTIONS THIS MONTH

It is important to have a change in leadership to bring a fresh prospective in the direction an organization is going. Please consider running for an officer or board position and help PPRAA to grow and flourish.

October Ham Breakfast

LOCATION

Wade's Café

3504 N. Academy Blvd
Saturday, 2 October 2010
Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

August Club Meeting

The club meeting will be on October 13th (second Wednesday in October), 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 Derbort	KCØELG
Secretary	Dan Scott	WØRO
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
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

IT IS COMING!

Dave NØEOP

What is coming? What is IT? The main contests of the year are upon us! Better band conditions! Halloween! Old man Winter isn't far away! Need

to have the furnace checked. Have the automobile checked and maybe even replace your tires. Think about putting the lawnmower into storage for the winter. Making sure that you know where the snow shovel is and or service the snow blower so that it will work when needed. Think we got all of the fall chores done so we can now enjoy operating in all of the fall-winter contests. Nope. Now the work just begins! Time to check out everything that you have outside of your shack. I remember my Elmer in 1960 telling me that the most important portion of a ham station is the ANTENNA system. Nothing has changed in the last 50 years. You can buy the newest radio with all the bells and whistles. Buy a large amplifier. And still not be able to work anyone outside of the Pikes Peak region. If your coax, support system, or antennas have a problem you just will not enjoy operating. So, now is the time to double check everything from the side of the house to the tip of your antenna. Start with the most obvious. Your coax! Take time to inspect it from one end to the other. Look for any cuts in the coax (rabbits like to chew on the rubber and they can chew all the way through coax very quickly), kinks, supports not protecting the coax from rubbing during the winter winds and ice, replace all old electrical tape (so moisture will not get into the coax), and the connectors on the end. Replace anything that looks suspect so that you can operate through the winter without having to fight the winter elements to fix problems. Next inspect any support systems that you have. Trying to find the end of a dipole because the support rope (or whatever you have used) failed and the end of your dipole is now in a snow drift somewhere in your yard. I have found that heavy duty weed eater line holds up very well outside. Although it is hard to tie off. If you have a tower with guys, don't forget to inspect the guy wire (rope) that you have used to make sure it is not frayed, cut, rubbing, or coming loose. Then check any rotor that you might be using. Check all antenna element connections to make sure they are tight. Again, check the whole system. Make sure that when you are pointing your antenna to the south, that the antenna is actually pointing to the south. Check that all coax connections are waterproofed. Also check all mechanical connections to make sure that everything is nice and tight and hasn't worked loose with all of the wind that the spring brought. Last but anything but least is to check out your

ground system. Make sure that all connections are tight and do not show any corrosion. Once you have checked everything outside and you are sure you are prepared for old man winter, go to www.arrl.org. Click on 'On the Air' and then look at what contests, awards, and special events will be coming up during the coming months and mark your calendar so you will not forget them. Looking forward to making contacts once we all get our fall chores out of the way!

Club Meeting

September 8, 2010

President Doug Nielsen, N7LEM, called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room. Welcome to all, especially to those that haven't been here in awhile.

Silent Keys: None.

Minutes: Dennis Major, NØABC, moved and Dan Scott, WØRO seconded that the August meeting minutes be approved as published in the Zero Beat. Passed

Treasurer's Report: Pam Scott reported that we had a \$13,862.89 total balance in our three accounts as of 31 August 2010. Still need to pay the school for the rental for Megafest– still haven't received their invoice.

Summer picnic – good attendance, good weather, good time was had by all.

Colorado QSO party – propagation was good, even close-in states, already have almost 90 logs received only 4 days after the event. Several foreign countries as well as lots of out of state logs. GMCC is going to give a bottle of Grand Junction wine to the out of state operator who contacted the most mobile stations.

Board Elections - reminder that elections are coming up in October. Please consider being a board member. We have 4 positions to fill.

WACCO – Worked All Counties Colorado - This new award became effective 9/1/10, details on the website.

Thursday Night Net - Every Thursday night, 7PM, Doc's Glow Net on 28.390 MHz USB. See www.ppraa.org for details. Modes are changed during the evening for experimentation purposes. He has held 100 meetings thus far.

Ham breakfasts – last one was held at Kresse's Kitchen. October's breakfast will be at Wade's Cafe, 3504 N. Academy Blvd, October 2. Check website for more details and future locations.

Tech Ed – next VE session the club is sponsoring is October 9th at Colorado Tech University. More details are on the website.

CCARC Fall Meeting - October 30, 2010, hosted by the Boulder Amateur Radio Club. Time: 1- 4PM, location is the nSpire Health, Inc. Facilities, 1830 Lefthand Circle, Longmont, CO 80501.

Pikes Peak BSA Scout Show – October 9th 10-5 and October 10th 11-4 at Phil Long Expo Center. Also trying to get a trailer to set up at the campsite. Contact Gordon, KDØFKF, for more information.

Program – Dick, WØRAA, presented about contesting. Great program!

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM, Monday, October 11th Daniel's Taco Shop

Next Club Meeting: The next regular club meeting will be Wednesday, 7 PM, October 13th 2010, at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm
Submitted by: Dan Scott WØRO
PPRAA Secretary

PPRAA September Board Meeting

6 September 2010

Call to Order – 6:51 pm – location change due to Daniel's Taco being closed – meeting was held at Dairy Queen next door

Approval of the August board meeting minutes – Motion by Gordon, KDØFKF, seconded by Mike Derbort, KC0ELG, approved

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Pam reported that we are still solvent. We have \$13,862.89 in the three accounts.

Picnic (Aug 28)

- great food, good attendance, discussed possibility of holding field day or another picnic there in the future

COQP (Sept 4)

Conditions were good, good comments from those who participated. Lots more DX logs than in the past. Already have numerous logs received via email.

Unfinished Business –

Elections in October - terms expiring for Dan Scott, Doug Nielsen, Dave Moore, Tom Brereton. Dan said he would continue on the board.

New Business –

Briargate Library display – We've been contacted to do a display next year, we'll contact them to see if May or June is available. Discussed what we would have in the display.

Pikes Peak BSA Scout Show – Gordon, KDØFKF gave us an update on the Scout Show. We have to pay for a display table at the Phil Long Expo Center. We had hoped to be able to make contacts from the scout show to the camporee site, but realized that the noise level inside the PLEC would be too loud to be able to hear. After discussion, Pam Scott, WØPRS, moved that we have a display table at the scout show and pay the \$60 fee. Gordon, KDØFKF second. Approved. We will have just a table display of Radio merit badge book, Now You're Talking book, and radio with receive only, etc.

Camporee – Rocky Mountain Hams will be taking their trailer to the camporee site. Since Pikes Peak BSA is expecting a large number of scouts to attend, we are looking to have another trailer there so the boys can have a

second place to learn about ham radio. If we can't get a volunteer with a trailer, we're asking for volunteers to listen in on their radios that weekend (October 8-10) so the scouts will have someone to contact.

Around the table – Mike Anderson, WV7T, is looking for 2 desktop computers. Mike Derbort asked about the YL meeting. Pam reported that Diana Nordstrom, KCØNPP, Kerianne Dixon, KDØIPR and Pam were the only ones to show up. Next YL meeting will be back in Denver in November.

Next board meeting: Monday, 11 October 2010.
Location: Daniel's Taco Shop. Adjourn 7:30

Technical Education



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

The new Technician License question pool is now in effect!

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

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

Site for General Class PowerPoints:
www.rtsi.com/~HRIInstructor

TECHNICAL CLASSES

Workshops will be available on soldering, assembling, building station accessories, and other topics. If you are interested e-mail to

wy7t@arrrl.net.



Do you know what will happen if you don't vote?

OCTOBER CONTESTS

ARCI Fall QSO Party 1200Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17

Iowa QSO Party 1400Z-2300Z, Oct 16

New York QSO Party 1400Z, Oct 16 to 0200Z, Oct 17

Worked All Germany Contest 1500Z, Oct 16 to 1459Z, Oct 17

Feld Hell Sprint 2000Z-2200Z, Oct 16

PODXS 070 Club 160m Great Pumpkin Sprint 2000 local, Oct 16 to 0200 local, Oct 17

Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 17

UBA ON Contest, 2m 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 17

Illinois QSO Party 1700Z, Oct 17 to 0100Z, Oct 18

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Oct 18

Araucaria VHF Contest 0000Z, Oct 23 to 1600Z, Oct

24

FOC QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Oct 23

10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW 0001Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24

Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z, Oct 23 to 1500Z, Oct 24

W/VE Islands QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 23 to 2359Z, Oct 24

SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Oct 27

RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 27

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Oct 30 to 2400Z, Oct 31

ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31

10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital 0001Z, Oct 30 to 2359Z, Oct 31

50 MHz Fall Sprint 2300Z, Oct 30 to 0300Z, Oct 31

TARA PSK Rumble Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Oct 2

ARRL EME Contest 0000Z, Oct 2 to 2359Z, Oct 3

EPC Russia DX Contest 0400Z, Oct 2 to 0359Z, Oct 3

Oceania DX Contest, Phone 0800Z, Oct 2 to 0800Z, Oct 3

F9AA Cup, CW 1200Z-2400Z, Oct 2

International HELL-Contest 1400Z-1600Z, Oct 2 (80m) and 0900Z-1100Z, Oct 3 (40m)

EU Autumn Sprint, SSB 1600Z-1959Z, Oct 2

California QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 2 to 2159Z, Oct 3

F9AA Cup, SSB 0000Z-1200Z, Oct 3

UBA ON Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 3

RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest 0700Z-1900Z, Oct 3

German Telegraphy Contest 0700Z-0959Z, Oct 3

ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Oct 5

432 MHz Fall Sprint 1900 local - 2300 local, Oct 6

SARL 80m QSO Party 1700Z-2000Z, Oct 7

YLRL DX/NA YL Anniversary Contest 1400Z, Oct 8 to 0200Z, Oct 10

Makrothen RTTY Contest 0000Z-0759Z, Oct 9 and 1600Z-2359Z, Oct 9 and 0800Z-1559Z, Oct 10

Oceania DX Contest, CW 0800Z, Oct 9 to 0800Z, Oct 10

Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB 1200Z, Oct 9 to 1200Z, Oct 10

WAB HF Phone 1200Z, Oct 9 to 1200Z, Oct 10

Arizona QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 9 to 0600Z, Oct 10 and 1400Z-2359Z, Oct 10

EU Autumn Sprint, CW 1600Z-1959Z, Oct 9

Pennsylvania QSO Party 1600Z, Oct 9 to 0500Z, Oct 10 and 1300Z-2200Z, Oct 10

FISTS Fall Sprint 1700Z-2100Z, Oct 9

SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Oct 10
North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Oct 10

10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint 0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
UBA ON Contest, CW 0600Z-1000Z, Oct 10
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Oct 13

CWops Mini-CWT Test 1100Z-1200Z, Oct 13 and 1900Z-2000Z, Oct 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Oct 14

RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Oct 14
JARTS WW RTTY Contest 0000Z, Oct 16 to 2400Z, Oct 17

Microwave Fall Sprint 0600 local - 1200 local, Oct 16





Anna, WØANT, operating mobile from Gilpin County during the Colorado QSO Party.

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 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!

73s

Dan WØRO



PPRAA OCTOBER VE EXAMS October 9th, 2010

PPRAA VE session will be held at 9 am on Saturday, October 9, 2010, in Room 101 Colorado Technical University.

Directions to CTU are at the PPRAA website ppraa.org.

Applicants will need the following items at 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 and includes children). Your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or FRN (FCC Registration Number) if already licensed or previously obtained (required for ALL candidates, regardless of age).
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 \$14 (standard ARRL VE Fee).

Jackie Cornwell ACØCA
POC VE Team
719-632-8254

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.

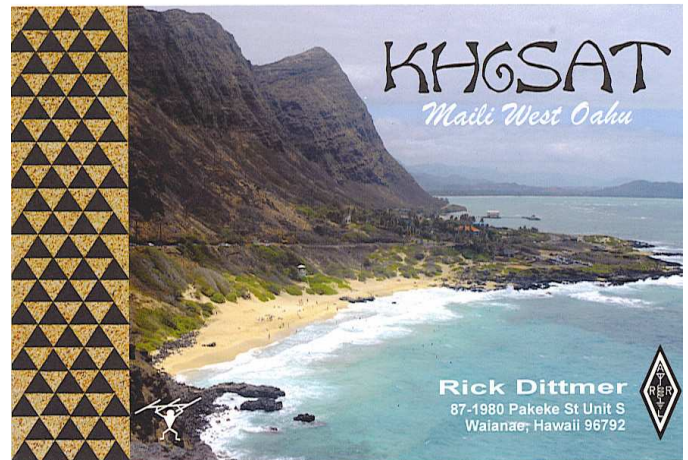
FOR SALE:

Kenwood TS-450sat (internal antenna tuner) 160-10m
Astron RS- 20A power supply
Kenwood HS-5 head phones
Microphone
This station is from the estate of a ham who passed about a year ago and the proceeds will go to his wife. Everything is in excellent condition with no sign of ware.

Asking \$400

Les KCØNC
719-634-3995

Ø Beat is always looking for interesting articles and pictures.



KH6SAT was worked on PSK running 5 watts at 9:30 at night. The band looked dead but it appears not so dead.

This is amazing!





HAM RADIO NEWS

NY HAM WINS CASE

NY judge declares ham radio is not a cell phone. A ham operating an HT in his car was cited for using a "cell phone" in his car. The ham went to court and his first court action was in favor of the citing officer. The ham took his case to a higher court which agreed with the ham declaring that mobile radios do not fit the description of wireless telephones.



BOULDER FIRE

Boulder County ARES hams are assisting with Boulder fire fighting efforts by providing support to the Boulder County Sheriff's and the American Red Cross.

Colorado section manager, Jeff Ryan, KØRM, said hams are providing voice and Amateur TV resources for the incident command post and the emergency operations center, also voice and packet communications for the Red Cross.



Homebrew ham shack

Prorated club dues

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Full:	\$15.00	\$13.75	\$12.50	\$11.25	\$10.00	\$8.75	\$7.50	\$6.25	\$5.00	\$3.75	\$2.50	\$1.25
Family:	\$18.00	\$16.50	\$15.00	\$13.50	\$12.00	\$10.50	\$9.00	\$7.50	\$6.00	\$4.50	\$3.00	\$1.50
Senior:	\$10.00	\$9.17	\$8.33	\$7.50	\$6.67	\$5.83	\$5.00	\$4.17	\$3.33	\$2.50	\$1.67	\$0.83
Sr Fam:	\$12.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00
Associate:	\$12.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00

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? Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			
Call: _____ Class: N T ÷ G A E Phone: _____			Full Member \$15 <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$18 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 \$10 <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 Family \$12 <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$12 <input type="checkbox"/>
Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Email: _____			
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew			
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Donation to Club: \$ _____
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Total Enclosed: \$ _____
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS</u> <u>PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>
<i>The O-Beat monthly club newsletter is available at WWW.PPRAA.ORG.</i>			
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: