

Activities/Meetings

- The March 5th HAM breakfast will be at Big Train, 3050 N Nevada Ave. Join us anytime between 8:00-9:30 AM. All are warmly invited.
- PPRAA Board Meeting Mon, March 7th
- PPRAA Club Meeting, Wednesday, March 9th IHOP 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd
- 10 Meter/2 Meter net Every Thursday 7:00 pm 28.390 MHz—USB 144.200 MHz-USB
- Megafest July 9th Lewis Palmer HS Monument, CO

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Volume 66 Issue 02

February 2016

2016 SOTA Activity Days

By Bob KØNR

Summits On The Air (SOTA) operating events are a great way to promote activity and create opportunities for summit-to-summit radio contacts. Here's the 2016 calendar, an update of the 2015 list suggested by Guy N7UN. Many of these dates are aligned with VHF events but there will be HF activity as well.

- ⇒ Jan 30-Feb 1: ARRL Jan VHF Contest + NA SOTA Winter Activity Weekend
- ⇒ Apr 16-17: North America SOTA Spring Activity Weekend
- ⇒ Jun 11-13: ARRL June VHF Contest + NA SOTA Summer Activity Weekend
- ⇒ Jul 16-17: CQ WW VHF Contest + optional for SOTA
- ⇒ Aug 6-7: Colorado 14er Event + NA SOTA Rocky Mtn Rendezvous + W7 SOTA Activity Weekend + ARRL UHF Contest
- ⇒ Sept 10-12: ARRL Sept VHF Contest + NA SOTA Fall Activity Weekend

Of course, any day is a good day for SOTA activity. The August 6-7 weekend looks to be the alignment of the planets with four events happening around that weekend. Early August usually offers excellent conditions for hiking the

highest peaks in Colorado, so come on out and play.



For more info on VHF SOTA, see [How To Do a VHF SOTA Activation](http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2014/06/how-to-do-a-vhf-sota-activation/). (<http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/2014/06/how-to-do-a-vhf-sota-activation/>)

Get off the couch, put on your hiking boots, grab your backpack, grab your radio but most important: get on the air!

73, Bob K0NR

Bob K0NR is a long time member of PPRAA. For gobs of entertaining and informational articles, please visit Bob's blog site at: <http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/>

0-Beat and Hiram Percy Maxim

This month, my work got the better part of my time. That translates to a 0-Beat with a bit less content than normal.

PPRAA activities: In January PPRAA participated in the Winter Field Day from the club's station. To "add icing to the cake", or help reduce icing from the station, Jim KD0KQL added skirting around the base of the trailer.

PPRAA is sponsoring a special event operations commemorating the 80th anniversary of Hiram Percy Maxim's death. Hiram Percy Maxim was returning to

his home in Hartford, Connecticut, in February, 1936, from a trip to California to visit the Lick Observatory. He fell ill and was taken from the train to a hospital in La Junta, Colorado, where he died the following day, February 17, 1936.

PPRAA is sponsoring two special event stations on the 17th:

- ⇒ The PPRAA club station in Ellicott
- ⇒ A park in La Junta, CO with co-sponsor [Arkansas Valley Amateur Radio Club](#).

All are welcome to participate!



PPRAA Officers and Board of Directors

PPRAA Board of Directors consists of four elected officers, seven board members, as well as the past president (time limit dependent). The Ø-Beat editor is a board appointed position and is also a member of the board.

Officers include:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice-President
- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Treasurer

To send board member's email, browse to the officers section of our website: <http://ppraa.org/about-ppraa/officers>

President	Raleigh Holcomb	N4HYF
Vide-President	Rich Milligan	ADØNP
Secretary	John Wishart	NGØI
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board Member	John Bloodgood	KDØSFY
Board Member	Glenn Brodt	N3ULW
Board Member	Frank Roger	KB3PDT
Board Member	Jim Rader	KDØNQM
Board Member	Jim Bishop	KDØKQL
Board Member	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board Member	Mike Anderson	WV7T
Ø-Beat Editor	Dan Scott	WØRO
Webmaster	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM

Online Resources



PPRAA Website

<http://ppraa.org>

The PPRAA website is the cornerstone for club related information, events, and technical information.

In addition you can register, pay dues, and submit donations. Donations to the PPRAA college scholarship fund are managed by FAR Scholarship Committee

Facebook / Google+

Follow activities as they unfold, or get reminders of upcoming events.

Links to both Facebook and Google+ social media sites can be found on the PPRAA.org.

Or from each social media site search on: Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association.

PPRAA Forums

The PPRAA forums are intended to allow users to exchange ideas, ask and answer amateur radio related questions, and plan/discuss upcoming events.

This is a fantastic, but underutilized, tool. Check it out and register at:

PPRAA.Forumotion.net

Monthly Activities



Membership Meeting

Held the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00.

IHOP
5749 Stetson Hills Blvd
(Just west of Powers Blvd)

NOTE: Many show up at 6 pm for kibitzing and grub.

Board Meeting

IHOP
5749 Stetson Hills Blvd
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

6:30pm—8:00pm
On the Monday preceding the membership meeting.

Board Meetings are open to all members.

Ham Breakfast

Location changes monthly: Check ppraa.org or table of contents, page 1 for the breakfast meeting location.

10 Meter/2 Meter Net

Every Thursday at 7pm
Starts on 28.390 USB then transitions to 2 Meter SSB at 144.200 USB.

Changing Voltage On A Regulated Supply

By Ralph WDØEJA

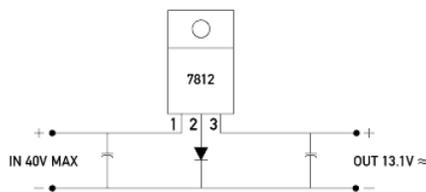
The last two articles were on a fixed voltage regulator and a fixed current regulator. However, there are times when a different voltage is needed. There are a couple of ways this can be done. This article will discuss one of the two ways.

For example, you want to use the regulator as a trickle charger for a 12 volt battery. Lawn tractors, generators and even cars and trucks that sit for a long time should have a charge on the batteries to keep it working year around.

Select a LM7812. You can use a wall wart that can handle at least .5 amps. If the wall wart claims 12 volts, it will probably be around 18 volts measured. Connect it to the LM7812 as in the schematic. Your output with lead #2 grounded will give you a slightly lower reading than 12 volt. This is not enough for trickle charging a 12 volt battery. Therefore, how can you raise it to 13.1 volts that is needed?

Simple, release lead #2 from ground. Then add a diode with the cathode to ground and anode to #2 lead. The forward direction of the diode will exhibit a resistance. This will increase the output voltage at lead #3. It will still be well regulated.

Depending on the diode used, will determine the output voltage. If it is not high enough, a second diode can be added in series with the first one.



A wall wart power supply can be picked for just a few dollars surplus. The regulator can be bought for as low as 50 cents. 2 filter capacitors will vary in cost, but will most likely be under \$2.00 each.

The circuit can be built on a small board. You can use a fancy project box to house it, or a large shrink tube.

You can build the whole charger in less than an hour. It will save the batteries that sit unused throughout the winter to be ready for use in the spring.

73,
Ralph WDØEHA
February 2016



What is it?

The top Tuning section for the ISOTRON 160C.

Columnist Ralph Bilal, WDØEJA is the president of Bilal Company. Ralph has been a presenter at the PPRAA club meetings.

2016 Colorado hamfests and convention calendar

- 03/26/2016 LARCFest (Longmont @ Boulder Co. Fairgrounds)
- 05/13--> 15/2016 HamCon Colorado (Keystone, CO)
- 07/09/2016 PPRAA MegaFest (Monument @Lewis/Palmer HS)
- 08/21/2016 Denver Radio Club HamFest (Golden @JeffCo Fairgrounds)
- 11/5/2016 TechConnect Radio Club TechFest (Lakewood Elks Lodge, Lakewood)



PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes—11 January 2016

PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes
11 January 2016

Present: Raleigh Holcomb, Jim Bishop, Jim Rader, Rich Milligan, John Wishart, Pam & Dan Scott, Frank Rogers

The meeting was called to order by President Raleigh Holcomb at 6:28 PM at the IHOP at Powers & Stetson Hills.

December minutes were approved as read and corrected. (Correction: electronic lock will be purchased. Mike A does not have it.)

Silent Keys: None.

Treasurer's Report

Pam reported that we had \$10590. in our accounts as of December 31, 2015.

Committee Reports

Winter Field Day

Raleigh noted that we will be conducting this on Jan 30-31 at the club station. All are welcome to participate.

Field Day

Mike Anderson has been planning for this event. He is trying to maximize our point count for the contest. Station captains will be needed.

Scholarship - No report of amount accumulated available at this time.

Megafest

Jim Rader has procured the prizes. Pam reported that the school has our paperwork to confirm the date within a

week or so. Pending confirmation, she can order the raffle tickets.

Solar Panels

Four have been donated to the NM Radio Telescope setup. Mike Anderson also has one.

Towers and Antennas

The log periodic we have is too big for our current setup. A heavier rotor and tower would be needed to support it.

New Business

None at this time.

Around the Table

John W - will try to get the minutes out sooner.

Mike A - still has some code students. Would like junk box contributions. Wants to get QSL cards printed up for the AFØS club station. Would also like to take back ownership of the call sign. Rich Milligan - Would like to get the past-due dues up to date. He volunteered to help with updating the membership list and get the dues updated.

Jim Bishop - Millenial Electronics is doing well and could use our business.

Frank - working on getting some new members.

Next Board meeting: Monday, 8 February 2016, 6:30PM at the IHOP at Powers & Stetson Hills.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Wishart NGØ1
PPRAA Secretary
24 January 2016

PPRAA General Meeting Minutes—13 January 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by President Raleigh Holcomb at the IHOP Restaurant on Stetson Hills near Powers Blvd. Approximately 30 members and guests were present.

Silent Keys: None.

Megafest

July 9 has been approved by LPHS for the event. Prizes have been purchased. Yaesu FT-991, Yaesu FT-60R, Alinco 2m/440 mobile, AA54 Antenna Analyzer, MFJ Antenna Tuner, 43' vertical antenna, 2m/440 base antenna.

Treasurer's Report

Pam reported that we have \$10590 in our bank account as of 31 Dec 2015.

Special Event

Dan Martin reported that he would like to have a special event in La Junta (Santa Fe Plaza), a commemorative operating event on Wed, Feb 17, commemorating the 80th anniversary of the death of Hiram Percy Maxim. He died suddenly in La Junta. Volunteers will be needed to support this. It was moved/seconded to allot up to \$200 to support this event. Passed.

Winter Field Day, Jan 30-31.

This contest activity will be held in Ellicott. Time is 1700Z Jan 30 to 1700Z Jan 31, 2015.

Hamcon

Flyers & registration are now available. It will be held May 13-15 at the Keystone Resort.

Education

Mike Anderson still has three code students. Also needs junk boxes donated.

ARES

John Bloodgood reported on upcoming ARES events, including the Falcon 50, PPHC, and others. Volunteers are needed to support these events.

Program

Skip of Millenial Electronics announced a new radio they have available, a low cost, 2m/70cm mobile rig. He also described a new, improved J-pole for 2m/70cm and a new roll-up dual band hang-up antenna.

Upcoming Events

Next Board Meeting: Monday, 8 February 2016, at IHOP Restaurant at Powers & Stetson Hills, 6:30PM.

Next PPRAA regular meeting: Wednesday, 10 February 2016, 7PM, at the IHOP Restaurant at Powers & Stetson Hills.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Wishart NGØ1
PPRAA Secretary
24 January 2016



PPRAA Scholarship Fund

One of the most important activities we do as PPRAA is awarding the \$1,000 scholarship.

The PPRAA scholarship is for a student in, or going into, a hard sciences or engineering related field. Another way to think of this, if the field of study requires a lot of math then this scholarship is one the student should apply for.

The applicant's application is weighted towards Amateur Radio licensees that are Colorado students and headed to Colorado colleges and universities. These are preferences, not requirements.

Please see the back cover of this 0-Beat for instruction on how to donate.



VE Testing & Education—Colorado Springs (PPRAA)

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA)

When:
Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec
2nd Saturday at 9 AM

Location:
Rawhide Realty
7075 Campus Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Directions available at:
ppraa.org/ve-testing
or contact:
Dennis Major
VE@PPRAA.org



Mike Anderson, WV7T does personal and small group training for all license classes.

Mike also does Morse code training.

Mike can be reached at:
719-229-8610
vv7t@aol.com

VE Testing Woodland Park (MARC)

MOUNTAIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MARC)

When:
Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov
1st Saturday at 10 AM

Location:
Woodland Park
Woodland Park Library-
Community Meeting RM
218 East Midland Avenue

Directions:
<http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html>
or contact
Wes Wilson (KØHBZ)
k0hbz@arrl.net
Call (719) 687-8758



Applicants will need the following items:

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 FRN or SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required - this includes children).
 3. Your CURRENT ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) and a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
 4. The CURRENT ORIGINAL CSCES you 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 ARRL. This covers all exams you wish to take at this VE session.
- Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.*
- PPRAA – Colorado Springs testing only:**
Anyone passing their Technician Class examination at a PPRAA test session will receive a free year's membership to the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association
- NOTE: PPRAA and MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE**

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.

PPRAA HAM RADIO

MEGAFEST

Saturday, July 9th, 2016

8 AM to 1 PM Lewis-Palmer High School
 1300 Higby Rd., Monument, CO 80132; East of I-25, Exit 158 or 161
 Vendor Setup at 6 AM — Raffle Ticket Sales Open at 7:30 AM
 Talk In: 146.970 MHz (-) 100 Hz Tone

Great Prizes

One Raffle Ticket Included with Admission
 Additional Tickets: \$1 Each, 6 for \$5, 15 for \$10,
 40 for \$20

Drawing at Noon, July 9th, 2016.
 Raffle prize winners need not be present to
 win.

Yaesu FT-991 HF Base radio

⇒ With programming software from RT Systems

ICOM ID-51A DSTAR HT

⇒ Radio donated by CMRG
 ⇒ With programming software from RT Systems

Icom IC2730A mobile

⇒ With programming software from RT Systems

Rig Expert AA54 antenna analyzer

MFJ 993 BRT remote antenna tuner

Alpha 43' fiberglass vertical antenna

Yaesu FT-60R 2meter/70cm HT

⇒ With programming software from RT Systems

Diamond X50A 2m/70cm 6' antenna

Scheduled Activities:

- License Testing at 10 AM
- Hourly Door Prizes
- - Door prize winners must be present to
win

Many thanks to our sponsors:

- ◆ *Cheyenne Mountain
Repeater Group*
- ◆ *Ham Radio Outlet*
- ◆ *RT Systems*

Contact info:

Megafest@ppraa.org
<http://ppraa.org/megafest>

6-foot Table Rental

Early Bird (before April 30): \$12

In Advance (April 30 – July 1st): \$15

Last Minute - after July 1st: \$17

Rental Does NOT Include Admission - \$5.00 per person

One chair provided with each table

Packets will be ready at the door at 6:00 AM.

No Friday night setup available

Early Bird Table Reservation Form Postmarked and Paid by April 30

In-Advance Table Reservation Form Postmarked and Paid By July 1st

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ ZIP _____

Phone (___) _____ Call Sign _____

Email _____

I would like AC power at my table (limited availability)

Number of Tables: _____ @ \$12/\$15/\$17 each = \$ _____

Admission Tickets: _____ @ \$5 each = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Check box for registration confirmation via email

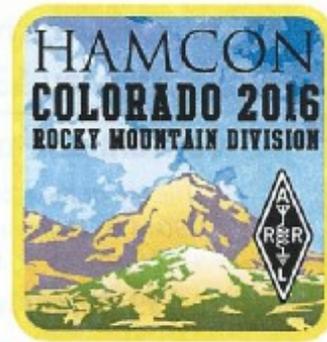
Make checks payable to PPRAA

Mail completed form and payment to:

PPRAA, PO Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935

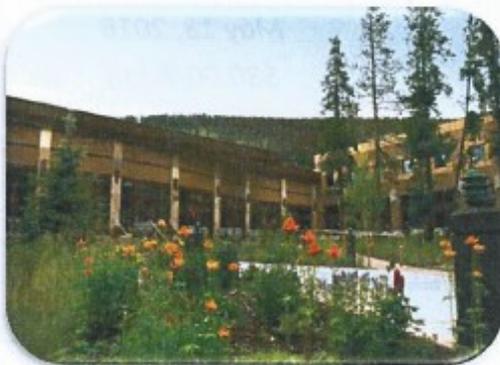
Or signup online at <http://ppraa.org/megafest> and pay with PayPal

The ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention



Registration is now open for HamCon Colorado 2016

The ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention is happening May 13-15, 2016 at the beautiful Keystone Conference Center in Keystone, Colorado.



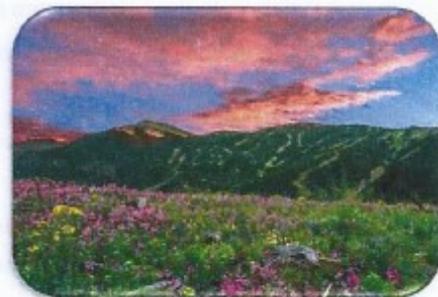
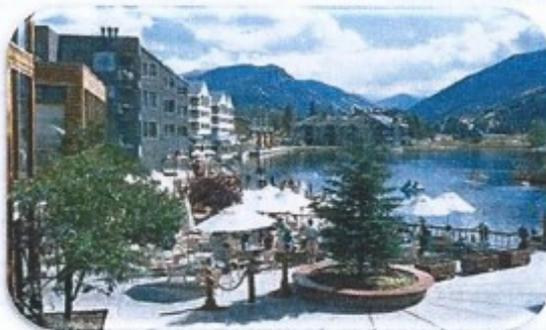
What a beautiful location to expand your knowledge of radio and learn about hundreds of fascinating topics.

Two action packed days of informational forums, nationally recognized speakers, opportunity to get on the air at the W1AW/Ø special event station, vendors galore, VE testing, fun contests and of course the Wouff Hong ceremony.

Make it a family fun vacation. Come early and stay late as the Keystone Resort and Summit County Colorado offers awesome golf courses, mountain biking, boating, horseback riding, fishing, hiking, river rafting & kayaking as well as ATV and Jeep tours. There is something for everyone in the beautiful Colorado Rockies.



REGISTER AT: www.hamconcolorado.org



**PIKES PEAK RADIO
AMATEUR
ASSOCIATION**

Send membership application to:

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur PO
Box 16521
Colorado Springs, CO
80935-6521

General Questions:
ppraa@ppraa.org

ØBeat:
zerobeat@ppraa.org



ppraa.org

Get Radio Active, get on the air!

Membership Application:

Date: ___ / ___ / ___ New Membership: Yes / No

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Call: _____ Class: ___ Phone # (____) _____

Email: _____

Are you a ARRL member: Yes / No

Additional Family Members:

Name1: _____ Call: _____ Class: ___ ARRL Member: Yes / No

Name2: _____ Call: _____ Class: ___ ARRL Member: Yes / No

Name3: _____ Call: _____ Class: ___ ARRL Member: Yes / No

___ \$15.00 Full Member

___ \$10.00 Full Member over 65

___ \$18.00 Family Membership

___ \$12.00 Family Membership over 65

\$___ Membership Amount

\$___ Scholarship Fund Donation

\$___ PPRAA General Fund Donation

\$___ Total

2015 Scholarship Fund

This last year the donations to PPRAA Scholarship Fund have been slipping.

The scholarship is for a hard science or math related field of study. Those fields of study are, or are similar to, Physics, Chemistry, Math, Electrical Engineering, Bio Engineering, etc.

There are many ways to make your tax deductible donation to this fund. Contributions may be made via:

⇒ [PPRAA website \(http://ppraa.org\)](http://ppraa.org)

⇒ Part of your membership renewal,

⇒ Club meetings and event.

⇒ Directly to the fund at:
FAR Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 911
Columbia, MD 21044

**Make checks to:
PPRAA Scholarship**

Ø- Beat Banner

This photograph of Pikes Peak from the USAFA taken by Pam W0PRS, Fall 2015.

The theme of the banner is Pikes Peak Region which include PPRAA activities.

If you would like to submit pictures for the Ø-Beat banner, please send them to:
zerobeat@ppraa.org

Please Include "[Ø-beat]" as part of the subject line.