



VOLUME 69 ISSUE 1
January 2018

PPRAA Club Officers

President	<u>Rich, AD0NP</u>
Vice President	<u>Mike Anderson, WV7T</u>
Secretary	<u>Curtis Cookson, W0CEC</u>
Treasurer	<u>James Madsen, K3ILC</u>
Ø-Beat Editor	<u>Jerre Redding, WA0BCM</u>
Webmaster	<u>Douglas Nielsen, N7LEM</u>
Board	<u>John Bloodgood, KD0SFY</u>
Board	<u>Glenn Brodt, N3ULW</u>
Board	<u>Dan Huber, KN0MAP</u>
Board	<u>Frank Rogers, KB3PDT</u>
Board	<u>Jim Rader, KD0NQM*</u>
Board	<u>Jim Bishop, KD0KQL*</u>
Board	<u>Virgil Yost, N0XRS*</u>
Board	<u>Ray U, AA0L</u>

* In final year of 2-year term

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

Club Historian Needed

If you can help with this position, contact a board member or club officer.

Monthly Ham Breakfast



Saturday, Feb. 3, 2018 8-9:30 AM

Mountain View Café

11425 Black Forest Road

All are warmly invited to come on down and join us!



January PPRAA Club Meeting

The Jan. 10th 7PM club meeting will be at the IHop on Stetson Hills Blvd
(just west of Powers Blvd).

5749 Stetson Hills Blvd.

The following does not represent the opinion or endorsement of the Zero Beat staff. It is included as an informational article.

What the heck is the ARRL Board thinking?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About a month ago, I received an email from the ARRL. Attached were minutes of a Special Board Meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors (<http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Minutes-of-Special-Board-Meeting-ARRL-Board-of-Directors-1.pdf>) held by teleconference on Tuesday, November 14, 2017. At first, I didn't think much of it, but after reading the minutes, I thought to myself, "What heck are these guys thinking?"

What the minutes document is the censure of Dick Norton, N6AA, for "criticizing publicly the collective action of the Board of Directors adopting said Code of Conduct[sic] and drawing the Board's collective decision making into disrepute." I won't quote the whole thing here, but you can find the text on my website at <http://www.kb6nu.com/heck-arrrl-board-thinking/>.

So, what is this ARRL Code of Conduct? It's official name is the ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors, and the board adopted this code at the January 20-21, 2017 board meeting. You can find this code on the ARRL website at [http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ODV/ARRL Code of Conduct.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ODV/ARRL%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf).

To be fair, this document does include some good things, such as acting responsibly when it comes to ARRL financial matters and treating ARRL staff with respect. What seems to be questionable, and the reason for N6AA's censure, however, is Section 8 Support of Board Decisions. I won't quote the entire section here, but basically what it says an ARRL board member must accept and publicly support board decisions, even if they voted it against it. If they express any dissenting opinion about a board decision, they can be censured, as N6AA was in this case.

In effect, this is a gag order on a director if he disagrees with a Board decision. Not only that, this section seems to say that once someone gets elected to the Board, his allegiance to the Board is more important than the views of the amateur radio operators he represents.

One of my Twitter followers put it this way, "Where else can those ostensibly in a position of representation of the organization's members be punished for publicly criticizing the organization's rules? US Congress? Parliament of the UK? No, and no. [@arrl](https://twitter.com/arrl) board is looking more like North Korea than a representative body." Seriously, can you imagine if the U.S. Congress had such a policy in place?

What did Norton actually do?

I emailed Norton to find out what he said exactly to bring on this censure. Understandably, he was a little hesitant to speak to me directly. I then asked if I could see the supporting statements.

I then received two emails. The first was from Mark Weiss, K6FG. His email contained the text of an email he sent to the ARRL Board of Directors. A second contained an email sent to the board by Tim Duffy, K3LR, the owner of DX Engineering. Both emails supported N6AA, noting that he stated that he supported the board action and that any opposition came from the audience and not from Norton.

So, I go back to my original question. What the heck is the ARRL Board thinking, first in passing this draconian ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors, and second in using it to censure a director, who, according to several accounts, didn't commit the infraction in the first place? Are they so insecure in their decision-making that they have to resort to gag orders like this? Don't they see that taking actions like this brings them more "disrepute" than an honest dissenting opinion?

If this situation angers you as much as it does me, I encourage you to contact your director and make your feelings known. One of my blog readers suggests that your message be "short, non-aggressive, and to the point." He suggested the following:

Dear [your director's name here]

I am unhappy with both the ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Member of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors (aka the "Code of Conduct") and the N6AA censure.

I want to freely discuss issues with our directors. I want our directors to tell me where they stand, not where the board stands.

I want the directors to be free to express their opinions and to know how they voted.

I want directors to not fear censure.

Therefore, I urge the following immediate actions:

1. Modify the Code of Conduct to allow the above.
2. Revoke the N6AA censure.

73,

[Your name and callsign go here.]

I hate to say this, but this is only the beginning. Some ARRL directors are planning to propose changes to the League's Articles of Association and By-Laws at the board meeting in January 2018. These changes will make the ARRL even less democratic and more authoritarian.

As reported by CQ magazine (<http://cqnewsroom.blogspot.com/2017/12/changes-proposed-to-arrrl-governing.html>), if these changes are enacted "the board of directors will be able to revoke League

membership 'for cause' and to remove board members by revoking their League membership; lesser disciplinary actions against board members, such as censure, will be allowed without the member receiving advance notice or an opportunity to respond to allegations.” Another change will grant voting privileges to the president and three vice-presidents, even though these are appointed positions.

Again, I ask, what the heck is the ARRL board thinking? Do they really think that this is going to make the ARRL a stronger organization and a better advocate for amateur radio? If so, I'd like to hear their reasoning. ARRL membership has been declining for many years (as a percentage of licensed radio amateurs), and these moves are only going to accelerate that decline. I have already heard from many hams that they plan to let their ARRL membership lapse.

Please consider contacting your director today. It may already be too late to save the ARRL.

Upcoming Events

PPRAA Face book

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/PPRAA-Pikes-Peak-RadioAmateur-Association/185833894769325?v=wall>

Contests and Events

WA7BNM contest calendars link

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

Winter 2018 Hamfest

- Saturday January 20, 2018 (0800-1300)
- Larimer County Fairgrounds
- Loveland, Colorado
- More info [here.](#)

The Swapfest

- Sunday February 18, 2018 (0900-1300)
- Adams County Fairgrounds
- Brighton, Colorado
- More info [here.](#)

*You shop. **Amazon gives.***

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. You can select a different charitable organization after signing in.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at **smile.amazon.com**

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1476913>

*FCC Opens 640 and 2200 Meter bands. Stations
Must notify UTC before operating.*

09/15/2017

The FCC has announced that the Office of Management and Budget has approved, for 3 years, the information-collection requirement of the Commission's *March 29 Report and Order (R&O)* that spelled out Amateur Radio service rules for the two new bands — 630 meters and 2200 meters. Notice of the action appears in today's edition of the *Federal Register*. Before using either band, stations must **notify** the Utilities Technology Council (**UTC**), formerly the Utilities Telecom Council, that they plan to do so, and if UTC does not respond within 30 days, they may commence operation.

Last March 27, the FCC adopted the 2012 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-12) implementation Report and Order (ET Docket 15-99), amending its Amateur Radio rules to

— in the FCC’s words — “provide for frequency-sharing requirements in the 135.7-137.8 kHz (2200-meter) and 472-479 kHz

(630-meter) bands.”

Section 97.313(g)(2) of those rules requires that, prior to starting operation in either band, radio amateurs must notify UTC that they intend operate by submitting their call signs, intended band(s) of operation, and the coordinates of their antenna’s fixed location. The new rules do not permit any mobile operation.

“Amateur stations will be permitted to commence operations after a 30-day period, unless UTC notifies the station that its fixed location is located within 1 kilometer of Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems operating on the same or overlapping frequencies,” the FCC said. PLC systems are unlicensed. “This notification process will ensure that amateur stations seeking to operate [on 630 or 2200 meters] are located beyond a minimum separation distance from PLC transmission lines, which will help ensure the compatibility and coexistence of amateur and PLC operations, and promote shared use of the bands.”

The FCC announced that it is making effective immediately the Part 97 rule amendments, § 97.3, 97.15(c), 97.301(b) through (d), 97.303(g), 97.305(c), and 97.313(k) and (l), which do not require OMB approval

Click [HERE](#) to access the UTC notification website.

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

[Scholarship Information & Application](#)

[FAR Overview](#)

[Contact FAR](#)

Scholarship Information & Application The Foundation for Amateur Radio, Inc. will be awarding a total of 57 scholarships, worth an aggregate of \$94,575 for the 2017/2018 academic year. Those scholarships range in value from \$500 to \$5,000 each.

Note that the QCWA and Chichester scholarships have a requirement that you obtain a recommendation from the QCWA or an ARRL affiliated club, respectively. When you apply, you are applying for all of the scholarships for which you qualify. Getting the recommendations qualifies you for an additional \$38,000 in scholarships! A complete description of the 2017 scholarships that were awarded may be found at: •

[2017 Far Scholarship List](#)

Garden of the Gods Amateur Radio Club



Garden of the Gods ARC meeting

First Monday of each month at Fargos Pizza at 11:00 AM. All are welcome.

ARRL Incoming QSL Bureaus

www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureaus

www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service

ARRL Affiliated Clubs-Outgoing QSL cards

ARRL affiliated-club stations may use the service when submitting club QSLs for its members in bulk ("pooling" their members cards together in one package) by indicating the club name inside the package. Club secretaries should check club affiliation on the ARRL web site to ensure that their affiliation is current. In a "pooled" package, each club member using this service **must also be an ARRL member**. Cards should be sorted "en masse" by prefix and a proof of membership should be enclosed for each ARRL member. QSLs for unaffiliated club calls may also be sent via the outgoing bureau to foreign destinations if the trustee of the club call is a member in good standing. The trustee's proof of membership must be included with the club call-QSLs.

Team,

Be sure to join us for our weekly nets Monday and Tuesday evenings!

First, Monday, at 8:30pm, on D-Star XRF223B, the PRA holds its D-Star net. There is plenty of conversations from everything digital to the latest projects and devices... from DStar / DMR / Fusion / Brandmeister / Hotspots, and even CW. This can be accessed via your local hotspot. Also, many have linked via the WOCDS 2M repeater as well. Considering our KOPRA repeater is being relocated, using the WOCDS 2M side would be best (please follow common/courteous practice when linking).

Second, at 8:00pm on Tuesday, is the PRA weekly analog net on the WOCFI 448.675 – (100Hz) repeater. This is a great way to catch up on the happenings of the PRA and is a great environment to ask any question related to the hobby or to give yourself some bragging rights on a recent license, upgrade, or new piece of equipment.

We'll see you on the air!

--

73,

KØPRA

Your Friends at the Parker Radio Association

www.facebook.com/parkerradioassociation

parkerradio.org

[@ParkerCORadio](https://twitter.com/ParkerCORadio)

From the annals of PPRAA history

January 1981:

Front page of Ø Beat has a good article on Nikola Tesla, pioneer of radio. Fifty-three people attended the Christmas party last month at the Iron Springs Chateau. Sounds like everyone had a good time. Meeting place for the December meeting and this coming meeting is Sabin Jr. High School, at 7:30 pm. Don Lohse and Doug Moloney receive kudos for arranging a fine Christmas party. AAØL, KAØGJO, NØAVY and NØDV came in first place, multi-op mode, in Colorado for the 1980 ARRL September VHF QSO Party! The Hammy in December went to Bill Allen NØATE, for passing out the wrong date for the Christmas party to a number of members. Dave Vierling NØDV's memory keyer won first place at the December home-brew night. Board meeting night is changed to the first Monday after the club meeting (apparently it used to be the first Monday of each month at about 7:30 pm.) The board is looking at either April 12 or 26 for the swapfest to be held at Peterson AFB. A newly formed Colorado Springs Contest Club will have its first meeting on January 11 at 2 pm at NØST's home. The club is trying to get some HF activity going on 21.125 as an HF happening. Autopatch codes are published for the 735/135 KBØNN Pikes Peak Community Repeater. This is an open autopatch. Dues for the club are going up from \$6 to \$12 for regular membership.

From: Douglas Ducote [mailto:douglas.r.ducote@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, November 01, 2017 7:26 PM

To: AB5SI

Subject: 2 meter Repeater

Jim,

I had an epiphany, and managed to get two CDM1250's interfaced to my controller. It's on the air, and seems to not be horrible.

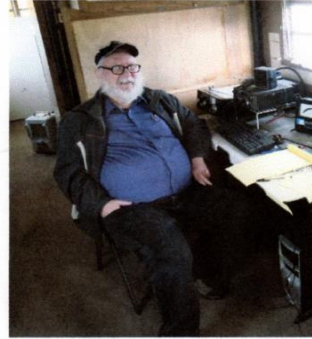
146.85 (-) PL156.7

Just a CW ID for now. I need some folks to try it out, and tell me if anything needs changed. Feel free to give out my email, if you choose to distribute this via the club mailing list. I would also welcome reports of coverage.

The CW ID is purposefully set to under-deviate (I hate loud IDer's), and the time out is set at 3 minutes.

Tell everyone that I'd like them to use the hell out of it.

73,
Doug



FREE

**Ham Radio License Classes and Tutoring
Technician, General, Extra, Morse Code, Hands-on
Skills.**

Mike Anderson, WV7T
PPRAA Senior License Instructor
wv7t@aol.com 229-8610

Raleigh Holcomb, N4HYF
ARRL Registered Instructor

Free Exams!



PPRAA VE EXAMS (MONTHLY)

PPRAA VE session will be held at 10:15 am on the second Saturday of the month at Pikes Peak Library District - Library 21c, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, United States. The exception is the Megafest month where testing will be at Megafest and will be at 10:00 AM

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 FRN NUMBER (now required – this includes children).
3. Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
3. The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSEs you have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.

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

Dennis Major NOABC, PPRAA VE Contact, 719-213-1109

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.

PPRAA VE Session

Monthly on the second Saturday

Pikes Peak Library District - Library 21c, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, United States

Where

[map](#)

Calendar

PPRAA

Created by

n7lem.0@gmail.com

Description

Testing will take place in the Ent Conference Center.



MARC VE EXAMS

(January, March, May, July, September, November)

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club (MARC) VE Team conducts VE exam sessions in Woodland Park every odd month at 10 am on the first Saturday 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:

A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).

- 1. Your FRN NUMBER** (now required – this includes children).
- 2. Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license** (if any) **AND a PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.
- 3. The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSCEs** you have **AND a PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.

4. **Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15** (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to MARC and covers all the 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. 73 Dean Buckhouse



Study for your Amateur Radio License exam:

[Technician \(2014-2018\)](#)

[General \(2015-2019\)](#)

[Amateur Extra \(2016-2020\)](#)

[Other...](#)

HamExam.org Amateur Radio Practice Exams

Welcome, guest.

Log in using <https://hamexam.org> or click [register](#) to create an account.

If this is your first visit to the site, please read my brief [introduction](#).

Membership Application
Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935

Date: _____ ☐ New Membership ☐ Renewal

Name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Call: _____ License Class: _____ Telephone: _____

Are you an ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional Name: _____ Call _____ Class _____ ARRL member? ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Full Member - \$15.00

☐ Full Member over 65 - \$10.00

☐ Free - VE Signature Required:

☐ Family Membership (same address) - \$18.00

☐ Family Membership (both over 65) - \$12.00

