



VOLUME 69 ISSUE 3  
March 2018

## PPRAA Club Officers

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

\* In final year of 2-year term

**All officers can be contacted at: [boardmembers@ppraa.org](mailto:boardmembers@ppraa.org)**

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Club Historian Needed

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

## Monthly Ham Breakfast



*Saturday, April 7, 2018 8-9:30 AM*

*Western Omelette*

*16 S Walnut Street*

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

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## March PPRAA Club Meeting

The March 14th 7PM club meeting will be at the IHop on Stetson Hills Blvd  
(just west of Powers Blvd).

5749 Stetson Hills Blvd.

## 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/>

#### **LARC Fest**

- Saturday, April 7, 2018 (0900-1500)
- Boulder County Fairgrounds
- Longmont, Colorado
- More info [here.](#)

#### **Museum Ships Weekend Event**

- Saturday June 2, and Sunday June 3, 2018
- On Air
- More info [here.](#)

#### **Field Day**

- Saturday/Sunday June 23-24, 2018
- Club Station, Ellicott, CO
- More info under Field Day tab above

#### **PPRAA Megafest**

- Saturday July 7, 2018
- Lewis-Palmer High School, Monument, CO
- More info under Megafest tab above

#### **Central States VHF Society Conference**

- Thursday – Sunday July 26-29, 2018
- Wichita, Kansas
- More info [here.](#)

#### **Denver Radio Club Hamfest**

- Sunday, 26 August 2018
- Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, CO
- More info [here.](#)

**Colorado QSO Party**

– Saturday September 1, 2018

**2018 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention**

– Friday September 21 thru Sunday September 23, 2018

– Isleta Resort & Casino Convention Center

– More info [here](#).

**JOTA – Jamboree-on-the-Air**

– 19-21 October 2018

– More info [here](#).

**TechFest – 2018**

– Saturday November 3, 2018

– More info [here](#).

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## *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.

Received this update from the PPRAA Treasurer on status of our King Soopers card program.

Looks like we are doing good on this.

Hi all –

Received this from King Soopers today – we're over \$5,000 in reloads again:

# NEIGHBORHOOD REWARDS STATEMENT

KSC108823 - Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association

STMT-201801 - 01/28/2018 thru 02/24/2018

Statement Number	Cycle Start Date	Cycle End Date	Status	Reload Total
STMT-201801	01/28/2018	02/24/2018		-----
			Carry Balance	0.00
			Current Reloads	1,000.00
Thank You For Your Continued Business!				-----
			Total Reloads	1,000.00
			Rebate Threshold	>=\$5,000;5%
			Rebate Amount	0.00

Jan 10 2018 Club Meeting

Called to Order @ 7:00 pm Rich ADONP

Approximately 35 people in attendance

VP Mike WV7T

Presented Survey to gather interest of club members

Presented award to Aubrey Johnson for her stellar food service during our club functions

Ask about Date and Time change for 2 meter net

Announced he would not run for re election in October

Announced Glenn B N3ULW was being treated for cancer

Announced the repeater has be given to GGARC

Announced 4 members upgraded to General Class

Announced intention to operate June VHF Contest from Pikes Peak

Announced Field Day preps almost done

## Treasurers Report

	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018		
	General Meeting	General Meeting	General Meeting		
Ent Checking	\$4,116.14	\$4,071.14	\$3,035.06	\$2,950.76	\$3,283.44
Ent Savings	\$3,756.50	\$3,756.50	\$3,756.82	\$3,756.82	\$3,757.11
Wells Fargo	\$3,044.91	\$3,044.91	\$2,528.12	\$2,476.05	\$2,476.05
PayPal	\$94.02	\$94.02	\$64.02	\$64.02	\$40.02
Cash (or undeposited checks)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$152.00	\$0.00
Total	\$11,011.57	\$10,966.57	\$9,384.02	\$9,399.65	\$9,556.62

Note: PayPal will be minus PayPal fees when transferred to bank account

Temporarily restricted categories:

Awards	\$135.00	\$135.00	\$13.59	\$13.59	\$13.59
Scholarships	\$1,010.23	\$1,010.23	\$301.82	\$301.82	\$346.82

Major Expenses:

Megafest Prizes	\$2,638.68	\$2,638.68			
COQP Plaques and Postage	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$121.41	\$121.41	
Raffle License			\$100.00	\$100.00	
Raffle Tickets			\$339.95	\$339.95	
Scholarship			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
Web Hosting			\$420.15	\$420.15	
King Soopers Cards					\$50.00

Income:

COQP Plaque sponsorship					
Amazon Smile			\$23.80	\$23.80	
Ent Rewards (to savings account)					
King Soopers Cards (need \$5,000)	\$3,801.83	\$3,801.83	\$5,151.83	\$5,151.83	\$1,000.00
Soopers Card Reloads	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,350.00	\$1,000.00
King Soopers Check			\$257.59	\$257.59	

73

Jim Madsen  
K3ILC  
Treasurer, PPRAA



**Dear Charity Administrator,**

This email is to notify you that Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (EIN: 84-1476913) has been issued a \$23.80 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2017. The donation was deposited to your organization's bank account on or before February 15, 2018. It may take several days for the donation to appear in the account.

To help increase your organization's AmazonSmile donations, we've created a [guide with 10 ideas](#) that you can use throughout the year.

**Offline marketing:**

You can now use offline channels such as direct mail and printed marketing/fundraising collateral to tell your supporters about AmazonSmile.

**Online marketing:**

**Sign in to** <http://org.amazon.com> and click on Marketing Tools to access customized online tools.

**Share this link:** <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1476913> and ask your donors, volunteers, employees, and friends to bookmark this link so all their eligible shopping will benefit Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association.

[Get the guide](#)

**ISOTRON 20  
A WORK HORSE FOR 20 METERS**



[www.isotronantennas.com](http://www.isotronantennas.com)



# **IMPROVING THE AUDIO QUALITY OF YOUR STATION. - PART 1**

We have two audio qualities to consider. What you receive and what you transmit. Reception has its challenges. Depending on your location and antenna installation, determines the amount of unwanted noise you will receive.

Atmospheric noise is received through much of the HF spectrum. However, it gets quite high at the lower frequencies, 40, 80 and 160 meters.

This noise will sound more like a hiss than a crackling. Lightening sounds more like a crackling or snap. It will be more steady with a smooth fluctuation.

If you have other noises over riding the atmospheric noise, then it will have to be addressed.

The first place to start is with the receiving antenna. A resonant dipole or vertical will maximize noise. It will also maximize the received signal.

Height above ground and position of the antenna will affect the noise reception. Dipoles normally slightly quieter than verticals, but not always.

The end or tips of these two antennas are affected mostly by noise. This is normally where the RF voltage is highest. This makes this part of the antenna more sensitive to its surroundings, including noise.

If you are in to experimenting with antennas, you can find which antenna has the least noise, what position and height will offer the same. However, that is a lot of work and many have little choice where to put their antenna.

One good option is a receiving loop. You can build these quite easily. There are wire loops, coaxial loops and ferrite loops. It can be made uni-directional or bi-directional.

For it to be most affective, the wire and coaxial loops particularly should be outdoors and rotatable. The ferrite loops are more forgiving and may be used indoors. The ferrite actually bend the flux lines of the signals in the air, enhancing reception.

An amplifier is a nice addition to the receiving loops. However, many receivers have preamps that may be sufficient.

Rotating the antenna will isolate the signal to a degree that you want to listen to. It will also give you an idea of your noise location. The more you invest into a receiving antenna, the better your reception will be. These are small and easy to construct. You can find various designs in the antenna and other handbooks available.

The antenna is not the only place to work on noise. Also atmospheric noise is not the only one we have to deal with. Future articles will address this problem.

73,  
Ralph WD0EJA  
March 2018

**BILAL COMPANY**

137 MANCHESTER DR.  
FLORISSANT, CO. 80816 U.S.A  
PH/FX: 719/687-0650  
[wd0eja@isotronantennas.com](mailto:wd0eja@isotronantennas.com)

How to create a Ø (slashed zero) using a Windows keyboard:

The "Ø" character (slashed zero) is commonly used in amateur radio, to distinguish the number "0" from the letter "O". "Ø" is customarily used in amateur-radio call signs and written communications. Using a Windows PC, the "Ø" is easy to create; press and hold the "ALT" key, type in "0216", and release the "ALT" key. The "Ø" will appear. This character cannot be used in URL addresses, and don't even think about substituting this for a zero in an email address -- it won't work. This and all other characters available in all installed fonts on the PC may also be copied and pasted into documents using "Character Map", an application supplied with the Windows operating system. "Character Map" refers to the "Ø" as a "Latin Capital letter O with stroke".

73

Jim Madsen

K3ILC

## Two good soldering videos

march 2, 2018 by [dan kb6nu](#)

There are literally millions of YouTube videos on soldering. (Just now, [my search for "soldering" on YouTube](#) returned "about 1,000,000 results.") Here are two that I've seen recently recommended by fellow hams.

The first one was recommended by Will, [WI9LL on Twitter](#). You can't go wrong with a KE0OG video. [https://youtu.be/ggz1xGj\\_m\\_E](https://youtu.be/ggz1xGj_m_E)

The second was recommended by one of my Elmeres, David, W8DVD. It's an episode of the [Twit TV show Know How](#). Twit is the Internet TV network that also produces HamNation. <https://youtu.be/rUuUiZOArY4>

24 January 2018

PPRAA

Re: CO QSO P 2017

I received my lovely certificate for the 2017 CO QSO Party earlier this week. It came at a nice time – just got the last antenna on a new tower, and looking forward to more contesting in 2018.

I realize that it was a small group in my category (just me HI HI) but the positive reinforcement is nice.

Thank you and congratulations on a busy CO QSO P.

BTW, I was just in Colorado Springs for the full and half marathon (I did the half). Your altitude is impactful on us sea level dwellers.

73.

Donna  
AG6V  


## 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**



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### **Garden of the Gods ARC meeting**

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

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### **ARRL Incoming QSL Bureaus**

[www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service](http://www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service)

### **ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureaus**

[www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service](http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service)

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### **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](https://www.facebook.com/parkerradioassociation)

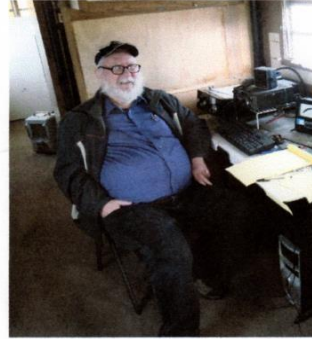
[parkerradio.org](http://parkerradio.org)

[@ParkerCORadio](https://www.instagram.com/ParkerCORadio)

## From the annals of PPRAA history

March 1981:

Fifty-six members attended the February meeting. The swapfest will be on April 12 at Peterson AFB, hangar #8. The club has to provide people to direct traffic at the site. Oak KØROL announced the CCARC is ten years old this year. Its first meeting was on Oct 24, 1970 in Denver. Its purpose is to coordinate club activities in Colorado. Larry Steimel WØACD is the current chairman. The CCARC is publishing new call sign directories this year for \$4. The club is planning to provide communications for the Sweet Adelines convention, Walk for Mankind, Black Forest Outhouse Race, SpringSpree, and the GT 10 mile run. Bill and Marilyn KAØGIT will begin working on the paperwork to get the club a tax exemption number.



**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 N0ABC, 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](mailto: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

