



VOLUME 59 ISSUE 3

March 2009

What is a club?

Mike Anderson WV7T ex-WBØLEY, WNØEQM

A club is a group of people organized for a common purpose, especially a group that meets regularly; a group of people associated for a common purpose or mutual advantage, usually in an organization that meets regularly; to unite for a common purpose.

The Board of Directors is a body of appointed persons who jointly oversee the activities of a club.

The PPRAA is a social and technical membership organization which provides educational and recreational activities for its members intended to further their knowledge in the art of radio communications.

I have always felt that club members were the driving force of a club. If there were activities or goals the membership desired to pursue, it was the board of directors that that helped support the work of the members themselves. It takes involvement of the membership to keep a club alive. I have been a member/officer in a large number of clubs and have seen that a core group of dedicated members/officers performed most of the work. Unfortunately, after a while these folks would burn-out and would leave the organization, a loss of a great deal of experience and enthusiasm. It is important that club members jump in and become involved by attending club meetings and activities, provide suggestions, become part of leadership, and share their expertise with the group so the club will continue to grow and thrive.

Bottom line is that the club members should be more involved and the driving force in the club allowing the board of directors to focus on and carry out the desires of the club membership.

(These are my personal thoughts and not that of the PPRAA board or other club members.

**Ham Breakfast
March 7th 2009**

**Country Buffet
751 North Academy
(Citadel Crossing)
8:00 am - 9:30 am**



**Invite new hams over to your house to
operate**

This was a Teletype contest in 2007 and these folks had so much fun learning to run the computer software, making and logging contacts. Some new hams have not gotten their "big rigs" yet or are still progressing up the licensing ladder. We can make a really big impact and show them what they have in store for them as hams.

MARC VE Session For March 2009

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10 am on Saturday, March 7th, 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 repeater system 146.820- or 448.650- (both 107.2 Hz) if you need help with talk-in.

73 Wes KØHBZ
MARC VE

NONPROFIT STATUS

The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions or donations may be tax-deductible.

PPRAA Club Meeting

11 February 2009

President Doug Neilsen N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys: Ray in Pueblo KØZL

Minutes: Dan/Les moved/seconded that the January meeting minutes be approved as printed in the Zero Beat. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dennis Rosas ACØIV reported that we had a \$6774.26 total balance in our three accounts as of 11 Feb 2009.

Committee Reports

HamCon 2009 – no official report. However, Early Bird registration (\$12, a \$3 discount) is encouraged, but expires March 1st. The event will be held May 29, 30, & 31 in Estes Park. See www.hamconcolorado.org for more info and to register.

Field Day 2009 – Mike WV7T stated that we still need a coordinator for this event. If interested, contact a club officer or board member. Location is not set as yet. Date is June 27 & 28, 2009.

MegaFest 2009 - Megafest Chairman Rob Roller N7LV. This event will be held Saturday, 18 July 2009 at Lewis Palmer High School in Monument. Rob still needs some people to attend the Longmont hamfest on April 4th to sell raffle tickets. Contact him if you can do that.

Colorado QSO Party – Doug N7LEM still needs some help with this year's event. It will likely be one of the first weekends in September (exact dates TBD). Contact Doug if you can help.

Technical Education – Mike WV7T reported that several people at his church are interested in a Tech class to be forming soon. He has study materials (CD) for the Tech license exam. These are also available for download from the club website.

EOSS – Balloon launch on 28 Feb, Fun Flight and Fox Hunt. See www.eos.org for more information.

Thursday Night Net - Dan ACØCC – Every Thursday night, 7PM, Doc's Glow Net on 28.4 MHz SSB. Also at 8PM on 145.55 MHz, AM 2M net. See www.ppraa.org for details.

Program

Both of our planned programs were cancelled due to the presenters being called out of town or not being prepared in time. In place of the programs, special event suggestions were solicited and discussed.

Next Club Meeting: The next regular club meeting will be the second Monday, 7 PM, 11 March 2009, at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 16 March 2009, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by:
John Wishart KCØJFH
PPRAA Secretary
22 February 2009

PPRAA Board Meeting

16 February 2009

Attendees: Dan WØRO, Mike WV7T, Dennis ACØIV, John KCØJFH, Doug N7LEM, Tom WØTOM, and Rhoda KB2BZY

President Doug N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

Minutes - Dan/Mike moved/seconded that the past minutes be approved as printed. Passed.

Treasurer's Report – Dennis reported that we have \$6797.47 total in our accounts as of 11 February 2009.

Committee Reports

HamCon 2009

Dan stated that the repeater serving the Estes Park area is down and not expected to be repaired by the event date. He will investigate the possible use of the MARC portable repeater. We are also looking at

other alternatives for QSO's. He also suggested that we offer a carpool alternative for those just attending for one day.

Field Day 2009

We are still looking for possible locations. We will investigate the use of Memorial Park in CS (for example) and other locations. We would also like to construct some of the antennas on site, if possible. John will contact the Park & Rec departments (city & county) to determine availability of local parks. Dennis will check with Walmart on Woodmen & Powers. Event date is June 27-28, 2009.

Megafest 2009

This will be July 18. We still need to sell tickets at area hamfests prior to the event (e.g., Longmont on April 4 and at Hamcon 2009. Contact Rob N7LV if you can assist.

COQP 2009

Probably the first weekend of September (5-6). Second choice is second weekend.

Zero Beat

We are still mailing some copies of this. The suggestion is to allow current mailed copies to continue, but new members will be limited to e-mailed PDF's or downloads from our website. The mailed version will be limited to B&W and four double-sided sheets. The online or PDF version has more sheets and is also in color. We will also eliminate the Zero Beat Only membership option.

New Business

PPRAA Forum

This is a new feature of the club.

(<http://ppraa.forumotion.net/forum.htm>) There was discussion concerning the possible restriction of certain features to PPRAA club members. Examples: Dits & Bits ads, creation of new topics, etc. Club members are welcome to register for the Forum.

We are trying to get something going for the Memorial Ships weekend, June 6-7, perhaps at the USS Colorado Memorial in Denver.

Around the Table

Dan – spoke about hosting a county hunter or mini-DXpedition event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next PPRAA Board meeting: 7PM, Monday, 16 March 2009, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

Submitted by:

John Wishart KCØJFH

PPRAA Secretary

22 February 2009

Free trailer needs home



I have this trailer in my driveway and would like to see it go to a nice home. This surely would make it easier for you to bring home all the treasures from Megafest!

Mike WV7T

wv7t@arrl.net

**Jess Miley
KØTAA**

719 W. 7th, Florence, CO 81226
Amateur & Hobby Radio Products.

We Trade.

Excellent Tech @ \$35 per hour
Commercial rates higher / 719-784-3040

Please call before you drive.

SKILL SEARCH

Do you have skills in ham radio you would be willing to share with others?

I am looking for folks that have special interests in our hobby they would be willing to share them with others. If you do, send me an e-mail with your callsign, a list of your skills/interests, and contact information for publishing in Ø-Beat.

Mike WV7T

wv7t@arrl.net

Do you have an interesting QSL or certificate? Send in a picture of the card and some info and it will show up in the pages of Ø-Beat.

Articles always welcomed!

If you have a funny story, a ham achievement, or just something you think the club members would find interesting just send it in to me and see it in the pages of Ø-Beat.

**THIS SPACE FOR
ARTICLES!**

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 of 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.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html.

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: _____	Nets or round tables	<input type="checkbox"/>
Zip: _____		Organize activities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Call: _____	Class: N T + G A E	Teach ham classes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		E-mail: _____	
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:			
Name: _____	Call: _____	Class: _____	ARRL? _____
Name: _____	Call: _____	Class: _____	ARRL? _____
Name: _____	Call: _____	Class: _____	ARRL? _____
		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"/>
		Ø-Beat Only	\$12: <input type="checkbox"/>
		Donation to Club:	\$ _____
		Total Enclosed: _____	
<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>			
Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered:			
(Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail			
<input type="checkbox"/> As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks			
<input type="checkbox"/> I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!			
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: