



VOLUME 59 ISSUE 7

July 2009

# PPRAA MegaFest

July 18th, 2009  
Monument, Colorado

## Field Day 2009 Report



June 27th and 28th this year was "Field Day" which is a combination contest and practice of emergency communications. PPRAA, along with the Tri-Lakes Monument Auxiliary, hosted a station at the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Station #1.

While some things were dropped off on the 26th, most of the setup took place bright and early on the morning of the 27th. Arriving at 8:30 am found one antenna up, with several people at work on three more. Shortly after 10, the GOTA station (AFØS) was up and running, with the digital station (WØTLM) not far behind. Both

stations were on the air with five minutes to spare before the noon start time. The fire department was kind enough to give the group a safety briefing before we got truly started and then followed up their kindness by giving a tour of the station when Boy Scout Troop 248 arrived at 1pm. When it came time to get on the air through the GOTA station, the boys were hesitant to use the radio, but once one of them started calling and even made a contact, they were very eager to keep talking. In the end, each boy made at least two contacts, with a few making three or more.

Around 5pm, the stations had to shut down for lightning, and the groups took the opportunity to grab some dinner provided by PPRAA.

Everyone enjoyed the break and the brisket before getting back to work around 7pm. The site shut down for the night around 2 am on the 28th.

While the first attendees on the 28th showed up at 5am, the station was not up and running till 7am or so. Again, it was another eventful morning, with breakfast supplied by PPRAA. By 11am, the group had begun to break down some of the antennas and by 1pm, everything was cleaned up and stored away, just waiting for the next event.

**Diana, KCØNPP**



**Okay the antennas are up!**



**What are you waiting for? Field Day started 2 seconds ago!**



**Let's get those antennas up!**



**Who has the instructions?**



**Shift change**





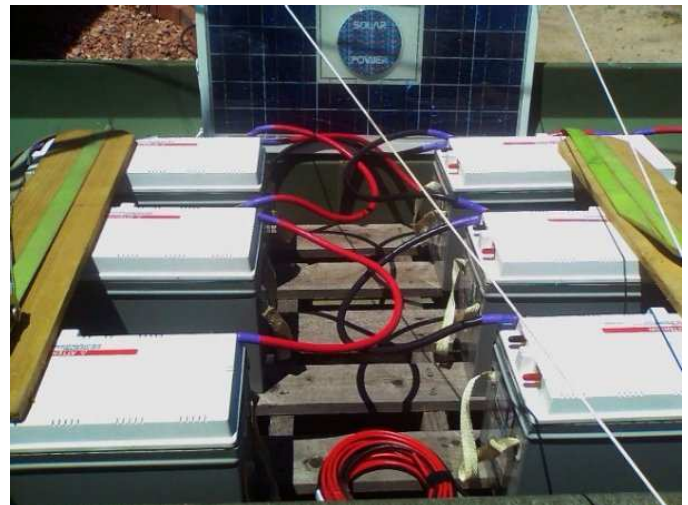
**The scouts are here! The scouts are here!**



**Youngest operator on site!**



**Scouts at the GOTA station**



**Now I call that a power supply!**



**Who brought the lawn mowers?**



**Mike is the power supply OOC?**





**Rick, KØSU, manning the digital station**



**The stations ionized the atmosphere**



**Mike, WV7T, operating CW**

## July Club Meeting

The program for July will be on the Megafest. The club meeting will be on July 8<sup>th</sup> (second Wednesday in July), at 7 pm at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

## PPRAA Officers

<b>President</b>	<b>Doug Nielsen</b>	<b>N7LEM</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Dave Moore</b>	<b>KØDAM</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>John Wishart</b>	<b>KCØJFH</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Dennis Rosas</b>	<b>ACØIV</b>
<b>Ø-Beat Editor</b>	<b>Mike Anderson</b>	<b>WV7T</b>
<b>Board</b>	<b>Dan Scott</b>	<b>WØRO</b>
<b>Board</b>	<b>Dennis Major</b>	<b>NØABC</b>
<b>Board</b>	<b>Tom Brereton</b>	
<b>WØTOM</b>		
<b>Board</b>	<b>(open)</b>	

**All officers can be contacted at:**

[boardmembers@ppraa.org](mailto:boardmembers@ppraa.org)

## Megafest VE Session

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA) VE Team will be conducting a VE session at the Megafest July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Additional information is at <http://www.ppraa.org> or you may contact Jackie Cornwell ACØCA at [ac0ca@arrl.net](mailto:ac0ca@arrl.net) or by calling 719-632-8254.

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 CSCs you may have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.

PLEASE NOTE: The standard ARRL/VEC exam fee for 2009 has increased to \$15 effective January 1st. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to ARRL/VEC and will cover all the exams you wish to take at the VE session.

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

73 as always...

Jackie Cornwell ACØCA  
PPRAA VE Contact  
719-632-8254

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## Thursday Evening Net

Please join us for the Thursday Night 10-meter net. We meet at 7:00 PM (Local) on or near 28.400 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

old old-timers alike, we have all come away with a 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 your 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!

73,  
WØRO

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## PPRAA Board Meeting

15 June 2009

**Attendees:** Dennis ACØIV, John KCØJFH, Doug N7LEM, Dan WØRO, David Moore KØDAM, Dennis NØABC

President Doug N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

**Minutes** – Dennis/Dennis moved/seconded that the May minutes be approved as printed. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report** – Dennis ACØIV reported that we have \$8143.80 total in our accounts as of 10 June 2009.

### Committee Reports

#### HamCon Colorado 2009

Dan WØRO reported they did over 800 contacts from W1AW station with poor operating conditions. There were at least 499 attendees at the event.

#### Field Day 2009

We are doing this event at the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Station #1 (same place as last year) along with

the Tri-Lakes Monument Radio Club. We will provide the food and the GOTA station. Dennis/Dennis moved/seconded to allot up to \$300 for Field Day food. Passed. Setup help will be needed on Friday & Saturday. All are welcome.

### **Megafest 2009**

This is July 18 at Lewis-Palmer High School in Monument. Contact Rob N7LV if you can assist. We have received door prizes from HRO and Morse Express.

### **Picnic**

We are still looking for a park location closer in to town. It will be August 22.

### **COQP**

We now have eleven sponsored awards. Number of categories has been reduced.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **Worked All CO Counties Award**

Still working on this item to resolve the question about the QRP Worked All Counties offered by the CO QRP Club. Ours would be a non-QRP power level award.

### **Meeting Locations**

We again have Panera Bread for July, Aug, Sept, & Oct. November is open at this time. However, there will be no Ham Breakfast in July due to construction.

### **Ft. Carson Event**

Steve Alt N0AJI suggested that we have an operating table at a community event at Ft. Carson on September 19. We will be participating in this activity. Volunteers will be needed to work at this. Contact Doug if interested.

### **Rocky Mountain Division Meeting**

Dennis AC0IV participated in a conference call on June 11. If you have changes in club officers or other info, please keep your website and ARRL info up to date. Division officers would like to set up a Division webinar on various topics. The Rocky Mountain Division Net is held on the second Wed. of the month.

### **Around the Table**

Dennis – reviewed VE activities from last Sat.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

**Next PPRAA Board meeting:** 7PM, Monday, 13 July 2009, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

Submitted by:

John Wishart KCØJFH  
PPRAA Secretary  
23 June 2009

## **PPRAA Club Meeting**

10 June 2009

President Doug Neilsen N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Panera Bread. There was a mixup on Panera's part in the room scheduling, so we were forced to conduct business in the restaurant proper. This situation will NOT be corrected next month, so a new meeting location will be announced prior to the July meeting. See our website for location.

**Silent Keys:** None.

**Minutes:** The May meeting minutes were approved as printed in the Zero Beat. Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dennis Rosas ACØIV provided an email report that we had an \$8,143.80 total balance in our three accounts as of 8 June 2009.

### **Committee Reports**

**HamCon 2009** – Dan W0RO stated that the event was a success with 499 reported attendees.

**Field Day 2009** – The location has been set: the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District Station #1 on Highway 105 in Monument, between the RR overpass and the bowling alley. Same place as last year. Date is June 27 & 28, 2009. Setup help will be needed on Friday afternoon.

**MegaFest 2009** – Megafest Chairman is Rob Roller N7LV. This event will be held Saturday, 18 July 2009 at Lewis Palmer High School in Monument. We still need volunteers for recruiting vendors and other communications.

**Colorado QSO Party** – Doug N7LEM still needs some help with this year's event. It will be the first weekend in September, the 5th-6th, 2009. Contact Doug if you can help. Some minor changes have been made to the contest rules.

**Thursday Night Net** - Every Thursday night, 7PM, Doc's Glow Net on 28.4 MHz SSB. Also at 8PM on 145.55 MHz, is the AM 2M net. See [www.ppraa.org](http://www.ppraa.org) for details. Modes are changed during the evening for experimentation purposes. AM, FM, and sideband modes are used.

### Program

Field Day preparation discussion. We will be operating in class 2F, with 2 transmitters plus a GOTA station. Location is the TLMFPD fire station in Monument, as noted above.

**Next Club Meeting:** The next regular club meeting will be the second Monday, 7 PM, 10 June 2009, at a location to be determined. Check the club website ([www.ppraa.org](http://www.ppraa.org)) for the July meeting location.

**Next Board Meeting:** 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 15 June 2009, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Submitted by:  
John Wishart KCØJFH  
PPRAA Secretary  
13 June 2009

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### Colorado QSO Party link:

<http://ppraa.org/coqp/index.php>

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**Dits and Bits**  
For Sale or Wanted

For sale:

- 1) Yaseu FT-980, matching speaker SP-980, desk mic MD-1 Asking \$850.00
- 2) Motorola BC-120 commercial 2m capable HT. \$100.00
- 3) Siltronix 500 watt 10m rig, no mic. \$125.00
- 4) Unknown make 2m HT, box, mic, software \$120.00

Harland WØYP

Wanted: Speaker/mic for HTX202.

Mike WV7T

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](mailto:wv7t@arrl.net) and see it in Dits and Bits.

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## Contests

RAC Canada Day Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Jul 1

Digital Pentathlon 1800Z-2200Z, Jul 3

Venezuelan Ind. Day Contest 0000Z, Jul 4 to 2359Z, Jul 5

WLOTA Contest 0600Z, Jul 4 to 1200Z, Jul 5

DL-DX RTTY Contest 1100Z, Jul 4 to 1059Z, Jul 5

Original QRP Contest 1500Z, Jul 4 to 1500Z, Jul 5

PODXS 070 Club 40m Firecracker Sprint 2000 local, Jul 4 to 0200 local, Jul 5

\*\*MI QRP July 4th CW Sprint 2300Z, Jul 4 to 0300Z, Jul 5



DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Jul 5  
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 6

ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Jul 7

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 10

FISTS Summer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Jul 11

IARU HF World Championship 1200Z, Jul 11 to 1200Z, Jul 12

Feld Hell Sprint 1500Z-1800Z, Jul 11

SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Jul 12

ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint 2000Z-2359Z, Jul 12

RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 15

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Jul 16

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 17

Russian Radio Team Championship 0700Z-1459Z, Jul 18

DMC RTTY Contest 1200Z, Jul 18 to 1200Z, Jul 19

\*\*North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Jul 18 to 0600Z, Jul 19

CQ Worldwide VHF Contest 1800Z, Jul 18 to 2100Z, Jul 19

RSGB Low Power Field Day 0900Z-1200Z and 1300Z-1600Z, Jul 19

CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush 2000Z-2159Z, Jul 19

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Jul 20

SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Jul 22

RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Jul 23

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 24

RSGB IOTA Contest 1200Z, Jul 25 to 1200Z, Jul 26

NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Jul 31

### NONPROFIT STATUS

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



New prospective hams at Field Day



## 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](http://www.ppraa.org).

<b>Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.</b> P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521	
Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Email: _____ Additional Family Members to Join/Renew Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	In which activities would you like to participate? Field Day <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Demonstrations <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Nets or round tables <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Organize activities <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Teach ham classes <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span>  Full Member \$15 <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Family Membership \$18 <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Over 65 \$10 <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Over 65 Family \$12 <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span> Associate \$12 <span style="float: right;"><input type="checkbox"/></span>  Donation to Club: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____  <div style="text-align: center;"><b><u>MAKE ALL CHECKS</u></b> <b><u>PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u></b></div>
<i>The O-Beat</i> monthly club newsletter is available at <a href="http://WWW.PPRAA.ORG">WWW.PPRAA.ORG</a> .	
Circle your interests <input type="checkbox"/> HF <input type="checkbox"/> V/UHF <input type="checkbox"/> FM <input type="checkbox"/> SSB <input type="checkbox"/> Digital <input type="checkbox"/> DX <input type="checkbox"/> Contests <input type="checkbox"/> Technical <input type="checkbox"/> Hardware <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. <div style="text-align: center;"><b>Please Type or Print Clearly!</b></div>	

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**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 16521**  
**Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA**

**To:**