



VOLUME 61 ISSUE 1

January 2011

## WHAT IS YOUR NEW YEARS HAM RADIO RESOLUTION?



*License upgrading, more on the air time, contesting, project building, studying, sharing ham radio activities?*

*(E-mail me and let Ø-Beat share your resolution. WV7T@ARRL.NET)*

January Ham  
Breakfast  
LOCATION

## Black Bear Diner

975-A N. Academy Blvd  
Saturday, 1 January 2011  
Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

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

### January Club Meeting

The club meeting will be on January 12<sup>th</sup> (second Wednesday in January), at 7 pm at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

#### PPRAA Club Officers

President	Mike Derbort	KCØELG
Vice President	Galen Steele	AGØA
Secretary	Dan Scott	WØRO
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board	Gordon Dixon	KDØFKF
Board	Dave Moore	KØDAM
Board	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:

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

## PPRAA December Meeting Minutes

## Christmas Party

# PPRAA Christmas Party



Happy party goes!



More happy party goes!



Mike "the Boss" KCØELG Speaks



Why is Dan hiding the Megafest prizes?



Great turnout



When 2 hams get together, there are at least 5 opinions



Dick WØRAA receives Contest Award



Mike WV7T receives QRP Contest Award



Where are the instructions?



What the heck is this thing?

# My Amateur Radio Passion

An Interview with the President, Michael Derbort,  
KCØELG

## How long have you been a ham?

I have been a licensed HAM since August, 1998. A good friend of mine Michael (KBØUWN) got me interested in it and we pulled an all nighter. Passed my Technician exam but failed my General by just a few questions. I dropped out of amateur radio for a while shortly after that as a change in careers took me around the world for a few years. If I was smart I would have taken an HT with me. Anyway, in 2008 my license was about to expire so I decided to renew and upgrade my license. So I bought the Gordon West series of books and CD's and studied for a couple of weeks then took my General and passed with 100%, feeling confident I then decided to take the Extra exam and with luck passed it as well (not at a 100%, but I passed). Shortly after that I got my VE certification and have been attending every exam session I can manage. I have signed over 100 CSCEs and counting.

## What do you like most about amateur radio?

Wow, that's a tough one. What's not to like about amateur radio. I love a lot about it. Everything from emergency services, sky warn, rag chewing, contesting, antenna building, etc. etc. I'm reading a lot about amateur satellites and would like to get more involved in satellite work as well as radio astronomy. Anything to do with space has always been an interest of mind. I was one of those kids who wanted to be an astronaut when he grew up. Still waiting on the call from NASA.

## What equipment do you have in your shack?

Let's see, my VHF/UHF base station is an ICOM 910H connected to Diamond X300A antenna on a 30 ft mast. Hope to upgrade it soon to support satellite operation. My HF station consists of an ICOM 756 Pro III connected to a SteppIR vertical with about 48 – 60 foot radials on the ground. I also have a G5RV hanging up connected to a Palstar AT2K antenna tuner. My mobile station is a Yaesu FT-857 with an ATAS 120 antenna. I just got a 51 foot crank-up tower and hope to put a Steppir Yagi on it next year. Obviously need XYL approval for that one.

### **Can you tell us what you do for a living?**

Sure but then I would have to kill you. Just kidding. I am an Enterprise Architect for Applied Materials headquartered in the bay area. So what does that mean? Well, its two things first I develop the overall IT technology strategy and roadmap for the company and second develop the architecture, standards and identify tools to enable rapid integration of mergers & acquisitions.

### **Now the tough questions, why did you want to become President?**

I lost a bet. Seriously, organizations such as PPRAA need strong support and leadership from its members to continue to grow as an organization. I strongly encourage everyone in the club to become an officer or at least a board member at some point

### **Have you ever lead an organization such as PPRAA before?**

Yes, I was one of the founders of the Memphis Space Society a chapter of the National Space Society. That chapter still exists and has one of the highest memberships of all NSS chapters. I was also on the founding Board of the Memphis Space Center; we raised about \$1.2 million and established a Challenger Learning Center in the Memphis area.

### **What do you like about the PPRAA?**

I just think it's great; here is a club about 50 years old that has something for everyone. We support contesting in a big way sponsoring COQP as well as annual awards and field day. Emergency services are handled with our affiliation with ARES and Rob Rollers team. Technical education with the work that Mike Anderson does. This club has something for everyone.

### **What areas would you like to focus on in the coming year?**

Three things, Membership, Community Service, and fun. First, let's talk about membership. The key to a successful club is to grow its members and offer programs that every member can take advantage of. This can be very difficult in a touch economic year since we are driven by volunteers. I would love to see an increase in membership and more participation in programs and activities. Second, community service. I would like to establish a scholarship fund to help upcoming students with the higher cost of tuition. Don't know

the details of the program yet but open and welcome to ideas. Third, fun. If we don't have fun why are we doing this? The trick is to make sure that we offer something for everyone to enjoy.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone for their support and I look forward to a very prosperous new year.

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## **PPRAA December Board Meeting Minutes**

6 December 2010

Call to Order 7:00 pm

Approval of the November board meeting minutes – Gordon Dixon, KDØFKF moved, Mike Anderson WV7T second. The minutes were approved by all.

Reports

- Treasurer's Report - \$9,744.53 in the 3 accounts. This is down due to purchase of several of the raffle prizes for next year.

Unfinished Business

- Awards - Plaque Orders – Doug to pick up the ones to be handed out at Christmas party; others for the COQP aren't done yet, but they should be soon. Doug will pick those up and get them sent out.
- Christmas Party – Room Reservation? Galen to confirm
- Library Display (June) – Update? – no news
- Possible location for club station – Update? Doug talked to the owner of the land and will email everyone via the reflector about visiting the site soon.
- Megafest - Update? Prizes are as follows:

Flex Radio 5000 (received)

\$1,000 Ham Radio Outlet gift certificate (received)

Buddipole deluxe package (received)

Yaesu FT 60R (received)

\$500 Best Buy gift card (yet to be purchased as of this date)

Radio from CMRG – yet to be received

TechConnect will teach forums again next year. Need to check with Rob Roller if he will do something on ARES/RACES.

Dan to check with guy from Loveland about doing a special event station as well as checking with Boy Scout troop about selling food.

John Maxwell with Rocky Mountain Hams has said he will be down with his new trailer.

Need to invite with badge maker company.

Pam to submit the details to Brian Milesosky for approval of ARRL sanctioned event.

Tom Brereton, WØTOM would like it noted that we should be promoting hams to get their General or Extra license by having one of the prizes an HF rig and not a HT VHF/UHF radio. This can happen with the HRO gift certificate – the winner can choose what kind of radio/equipment they want

#### New Business

- Membership – reminder to pay your dues
- Dan Scott, WØRO moved that we change the membership forms to quarterly pro-rated instead of monthly. Gordon Dixon, KDØFKF second. Motion carried.
- Volunteers Needed for Salvation Army Holiday Dinners
- By-laws review
  - Committees – updated list from what was on the

#### website

Assets – Dan Beals, ACØCC

Auditing - VACANT

Contest/COQP/  
WACCO/ Field Day & other awards

E-Mail Reflector - John Wishart, KCØJFH

Field Day -

Megafest – Dan Scott WØRO

Historian/Membership - Les Borst, KCØNC

Interference -

Publicity – Terry Kift, KDØJAX

Technical Education & Licensing - Mike Anderson, WV7T

VE Testing - Jackie Cornwell, ACØCA

VE Team Liaison to ARRL/VEC -

Webmaster - Doug Nielsen, N7LEM

Ecom Liaison/Public Service -

ARRL Section Manager - Jeff Ryan, KØRM (move to contact list)

CCARC Liaison - Dan Scott, WØRO & Doug Nielsen, N7LEM

HamCon Chairman -

- Articles for 0-Beat – Michael to send Mike Anderson his profile for next newsletter. Michael suggested all board members get their profile ready and send to Mike A. for future issues.

Michael Derbort, KCØELG, to contact Les Borst about membership statistics – how many members do we have, what class license do they hold.

Michael Derbort, KCØELG would like to see the new board members take over in January and not in November right after the elections. He will make a draft up the changes to the bylaws before the next board meeting for us to review. Dan Scott, WØRO, suggested that there be an amendment to the bylaws that two check signers can't be from the same household. (i.e. Treasurer and President)

Discussion about having a new award program outside of contesting – maybe to include “most unique contact”. Mike Anderson, WV7T, to come up with criteria.

Around the table

Adjourn 8:33 pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING:

MONDAY, 10 JANUARY 2011.

LOCATION: DANIEL'S TACO SHOP.

Technical Education



Mike Anderson, WV7T  
[wv7t@arri.net](mailto:wv7t@arri.net)  
719-229-8610

\*\*\***LICENSE CLASSES**\*\*\*

Contact Mike WV7T for information.

The present classes are going very well.

License and code tutoring. Electronic theory.  
Technical instruction upon request.

Site for General Class PowerPoints:  
[www.rtsi.com/~HRInstructor](http://www.rtsi.com/~HRInstructor)

Another great study material site  
[www.K3DIO.com](http://www.K3DIO.com)

**AGB New Year Snowball Contest** 0000Z-0100Z, Jan 1  
**SARTG New Year RTTY Contest** 0800Z-1100Z, Jan 1  
**AGCW Happy New Year Contest** 0900Z-1200Z, Jan 1  
**AGCW VHF/UHF Contest** 1400Z-1659Z, Jan 1 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Jan 1 (432)  
**Original QRP Contest** 1500Z, Jan 1 to 1500Z, Jan 2  
**ARS Spartan Sprint** 0200Z-0400Z, Jan 4  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 5  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 7  
**NCCC Sprint Ladder** 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 7  
**Hunting Lions in the Air Contest** 0000Z, Jan 8 to 2400Z, Jan 9  
**WW PMC Contest** 1200Z, Jan 8 to 1200Z, Jan 9  
**MI QRP January CW Contest** 1200Z, Jan 8 to 2359Z, Jan 9  
**ARRL RTTY Roundup** 1800Z, Jan 8 to 2400Z, Jan 9  
**North American QSO Party, CW** 1800Z, Jan 8 to 0600Z, Jan 9  
**EUCW 160m Contest** 2000Z-2300Z, Jan 8 and 0400Z-0700Z, Jan 9  
**NRAU-Baltic Contest, CW** 0630Z-0830Z, Jan 9  
**NRAU-Baltic Contest, SSB** 0900Z-1100Z, Jan 9  
**DARC 10-Meter Contest** 0900Z-1059Z, Jan 9  
**Midwinter Contest** 1000Z-1400Z, Jan 9  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 12  
**CW ops Mini-CWT Test** 1100Z-1200Z, Jan 12 and 1900Z-2000Z, Jan 12 and 0300Z-0400Z, Jan 13  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 14  
**NCCC Sprint Ladder** 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 14  
**LZ Open Contest** 0000Z-0600Z, Jan 15  
**Hungarian DX Contest** 1200Z, Jan 15 to 1200Z, Jan 16  
**Feld Hell Sprint** 1600Z-1800Z, Jan 15  
**North American QSO Party, SSB** 1800Z, Jan 15 to 0600Z, Jan 16  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 19  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 21  
**NCCC Sprint Ladder** 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 21  
**BARTG RTTY Sprint** 1200Z, Jan 22 to 1200Z, Jan 23  
**ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes** 1900Z, Jan 22 to 0359Z, Jan 24  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 26  
**QRP Fox Hunt** 0200Z-0330Z, Jan 28  
**NCCC Sprint Ladder** 0230Z-0300Z, Jan 28  
**CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW** 2200Z, Jan 28 to 2200Z, Jan 30  
**REF Contest, CW** 0600Z, Jan 29 to 1800Z, Jan 30  
**UBA DX Contest, SSB** 1300Z, Jan 29 to 1300Z, Jan 30

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# January 2011 Contests

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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 28.390 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 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 you 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!

73s  
Dan WØRO

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Mike WV7T operating KØUSN as a Pearl Harbor Day special event station 12-7-2010

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## MARC January VE Exam

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10 am on Saturday, January 1st, 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:

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 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 Wes KØHBZ

THANKS everyone for the FREE one year membership in the club. I really look forward to reading Zero Beat each month to see what the club is doing. I need to have an electrician upgrade the service to my shack. Also drive a ground rod and ground the station. Then I'll be operational on HF. I have made several calls on the CMRG's IRLP but have not gotten any contacts. If you hear me, answer my call. If you are traveling East on I-70 take a break when you go through Richmond, call me 765-935-9611, and I'll buy you a cup of coffee.

Again THANKS and 73,  
Dave NØEOP



Channel lock pliers make a great temporary vise.

## Dits and Bits For Sale or Wanted

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.

## FOR SALE:

For Sale - FT-1000mp Mk-V Field with box, printed owners manual, nifty mini-manual \$1300.00

For Sale - AL-811 600 watt amplifier, \$400, with box, and printed owners manual. The Pair for \$1600

Galen Steele AGØA - (expires 12/12/2010)  
719-213-1109 or 719-574-6909(Colorado Springs)

"FOR SALE: Alinco DJ-580 HT Dual band, Dual receive with a Radio Shack Microphone. This also includes a drop in rapid charger, takes about an hour to charge, plus an Alinco Model EDC-34 Ni-CD Battery Charger. Everything works as it's supposed to. I would like \$140.00 obo. Reason for sale I have three HT's... Please email me at [N0mud@arrl.net](mailto:N0mud@arrl.net) or call 719-597-1906"

## STATION APPEARANCES



WBØLEY-QRP 1978. Heathkit HW-8 cw 4 band xcvr, crystal controlled 2m FM, Hygain TH3MK3 three element HF beam.

(Send in pictures of your present or past station)

**Ø Beat is always looking for interesting articles and pictures.**

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  New Membership  Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL mbr?  Yes  No

Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL mbr?  Yes  No

Additional Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL mbr?  Yes  No

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an ARRL member?  Yes  No

One year membership rates, prorated, January through December:  
(See schedule at bottom)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Member - \$15.00         | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (same address) - \$18.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Member over 65 - \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership (both over 65) - \$12.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member - \$12.00    | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter only \$12.00                    |

Please check activities for which you would volunteer:

- Field Day  Hamfest  
 RFI Committee  Radio demonstrations  
 On-Air Nets/Roundtables  Teach potential hams about ham radio (Elmering)  
 Special Event Communications (walks, foot races, bicycle races, etc.)  
 Hospitality  Public Relations

Your Interests:

- HF  VHF/UHF  Contests  Technical  FM  SSB  Pub Svc/Emergency Comm  
 Digital  DX  Hardware  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Full:	\$15.00	\$13.75	\$12.50	\$11.25	\$10.00	\$8.75	\$7.50	\$6.25	\$5.00	\$3.75	\$2.50	\$1.25
Family:	\$18.00	\$16.50	\$15.00	\$13.50	\$12.00	\$10.50	\$9.00	\$7.50	\$6.00	\$4.50	\$3.00	\$1.50
Senior:	\$10.00	\$9.17	\$8.33	\$7.50	\$6.67	\$5.83	\$5.00	\$4.17	\$3.33	\$2.50	\$1.67	\$0.83
Sr Fam:	\$12.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00
Associate:	\$12.00	\$11.00	\$10.00	\$9.00	\$8.00	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$2.00	\$1.00

*Please Note: You must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer for both new members as well as renewals. Thank you. PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY!*

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

**To:**