



VOLUME 61 ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2011



**COLORADO QSO PARTY
SEPT. 3RD!**

Is Your Station Ready?

Sept Ham Breakfast

LOCATION

Canyon Coffee and Café

1791 S. 8th Street
Saturday, 3 September 2011
Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

COME ON OUT

September Club Meeting

The club meeting will be on September 14th
(second Wednesday in September, at 7 pm at
Broadway Deli, 301 Garden of the Gods Rd.

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

PPRAA on the Web!

PPRAA Website: www.ppra.org

PPRAA Web Forums: www.ppra.forumotion.net

PPRAA Facebook Page:

Search for "PPRAA" and click "Like" (or visit
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/PPRAA-Pikes-Peak-Radio-Amateur-Association/185833894769325?v=wall> if
you don't use FB.)

For Ham Radio News Check Out This Site!

<http://ham-radio.alltop.com/>

PPRAA Sponsored Colorado QSO Party

As we sponsor the COQP, this
year let's all get on and show
our club spirit by participating!
Hams around the world want to
work Colorado stations, let
them work us!



Don't hide! Get in the COQP!

PPRAA ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER!

Consider running for office and support your club by serving!

By-Law Review

The Board is proposing and recommending the following changes to the By-Laws of the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association as part of its annual review. Please review the proposed changes and bring any comments or questions to the August Club meeting.

The Board is recommending for approval the addition of Section 7 of Article IV to allow for clear separation of duties between officers of the club and to avoid any potential conflict of interest in the handling of signature authority over the Associations financial accounts.

Article IV – Section 7: Separation of Duties – In order to avoid any conflict of interest and allow for separation of financial approvals the office of the President or Vice-President and the office of the Treasurer cannot be members of the same household or family.

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 3.

Article VII - Section 3. Program and Entertainment committee. The program and entertainment committee shall be responsible for the programs at monthly meetings as well as association party planning. ~~This committee is to be chaired by the Vice-President and who is responsible for all activities of the committee.~~

The Board is recommending for approval the removal of Article VII – Section 5 and to consolidate this committee with the special committees of Article VII – Section 11.

~~**Article VII – Section 5. Activity committee.** The activity committee shall be responsible for all activities of the association outside the regular monthly meetings not otherwise delegated.~~

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 7.

Article VII - Section 7. Membership committee. The membership committee shall be responsible for keeping the membership list current, including both new membership applications and renewals. This committee shall ~~print out the labels for Zero Beat monthly as well as a~~ complete a membership roster for publication in Zero Beat ~~at least once twice~~ a year. In addition, changes to the roster will be provided to the Zero Beat editor for publication as soon as practical after they are ~~compiled received~~ by the membership committee. ~~The chairperson or a committee member must have access to a computer and printer.~~

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 8.

Article VII - Section 8. Auditing committee. The auditing committee shall be responsible for the review, verification, and audit of the financial report(s) ~~of the prepared by the~~ treasurer and approved by the Board of Directors ~~for the proper audit of the same.~~

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 10.

Article VII - Section 10. Zero Beat committee. The Zero Beat committee shall be responsible for the production ~~and mailing~~ of the monthly association publication Zero Beat.

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 11.

Article VII - Section 11. Special committees. The Board of Directors shall be empowered to appoint special committees from time to time to carry out the duties set forth in appropriate instructions promulgated by the board.—~~These special committees shall be responsible for all activities of the association outside the regular monthly meetings not otherwise delegated.~~

The Board is recommending for approval the following changes to Article VII – Section 12.

Article VII - Section 12. Asset committee. The Board of Directors shall appoint an asset custodian, who shall be the Asset Committee Chair, and who is responsible for, but not limited to, accounting for, **inventory of**, warehousing of, issuing of, returning of, all tangible assets of the association.

The Asset Committee and the custodian shall prepare for and coordinate an annual physical inventory **and to ensure publication of the inventory in Zero Beat.** ~~be performed within 45 days following each annual meeting at which the general election is held. Not less than one outgoing or one incoming officer shall be signatory witness of the physical inventory.~~

The Asset Committee shall report any losses of non-functional conditions of any asset immediately to the **Board of** Directors, who shall evaluate the circumstances of such loss, and be empowered to take appropriate actions.

PPRAA August Board Meeting Minutes

1 August 2011

Call to Order – 6:42 pm

Those present were Michael Derbort (KCØELG, President), Gordon Dixon (KDØFXF), Galen Steele (AGØA, Vice-President), John Wishart (KCØJFH) and Doug Nielsen (N7LEM).

Approval of the July board meeting minutes – Motion by Gordon Dixon (KDØFXF), seconded by Galen Steele (AGØA), and motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report –No report given

By-laws Review – Brief discussion on next steps. Changes to By-laws will be published in September 0-beat and general membership will discuss and

vote at October general membership meeting.

Megafest – The Megafest planning committee met earlier and discussed some lessons learned and how to improve next years. Outcome of lessons learned meeting. Forums – Either have a Spring Event (285 Tech Connect) or perform better advertising with no overlaps. Tables – Email confirmation to be sent out sooner, next year we will assign tables, no entry no payment. Vendors to request – First, Second, Third choices. Doug, N7LEM – is working on a way to update the website with layout and show which tables have been reserved and which are available. Pam, WOPRS will standardize the sign in sheet. Each door will be issued a money bag to be collected periodically. Lock money in intercom room. Evaluate raising costs.

Electronic Media: Team is looking at several different tools to improve the website, also working on an a electronic reservation solution for Megafest.

Awards and Recognition: No update on program but Plaque Orders are for scheduled for October or November timeframe.

Scholarship Fund – The board discuss the overall requirements for the Scholarship program. The award would be to any student who attended any university and met the following criteria. The Award Size would be: \$1000. Colorado residency is preferred but not required. They must be a full time student and be pursuing an Undergraduate Degree only no graduate studies. The student must be a United States citizen. A degree in Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Astronautical, Aeronautical) and/or Hard Sciences (Chemistry, Physics, Computer Science) is required. The program would exclude community colleges and associate degrees. The Foundation for Amateur Radio who will be managing the program will need \$1000 by March. Michael Derbort (KCØELG) motioned that the club would provide a \$500 matching grant from PPRAA to donations to scholarship fund it was also agreed that the club would pay for the Fundraising letter campaign to

begin in September. John Wishart (KCØJFH) seconded and the motion was approved.

New Business – Club has received two donations. First a 2 meter Repeater - This includes: *Repeater (about 25W and still pretty much meets all specs), *Controller (Can reprogram the call sign ID for you), *Duplexer cavities (set of six, good quality – all tweaked up), *Antenna (don't remember the brand, but is commercial quality – might need a couple of U-bolts for mounting), *Cabling (May need coax, so not sure about that). The second donation is a 40 foot Rohn tower. The club will need help in taking it down. Michael Derbort to ask for volunteers at the next general membership meeting or contact Jim Bishop.

Special Events - Frame Twisters Motorcycle Event: No further updates, Request forwarded to ARES team.

Open Positions - VE Coordinator – Galen Steel, (AGØA) to assume responsibilities in October if no volunteers sign up. **Historian** – no new candidates at this time.

Do we have a program? Galen Steel, (AGØA) is still working on a program for the next general membership meeting.

Picnic – August 13th, Michael Derbort, (KCØELG) will send out an email reminding everyone of the picnic. Doug Nielson, (N7LEM) motioned that we needed a not to exceed bid of \$250 to purchase food and supplies for the picnic. Seconded by Gordon Dixon, (KDØFXF). Motion was approved.

HAM Breakfast? No conflicts were mentioned so the September breakfast will proceed as normal.

Library Display The take down occurred on Saturday, July 30th. The library said that it generated a lot of interest. Doug Nielson, (N7LEM) will follow up to see if display can be moved to different libraries.

Possible location for club station – Michael Derbort, (KCØELG) met with the Volunteer Council

of ARRL and discussed possible agreements needed on future club station. General advice was the club should not provide any guidance on donation amounts or dictate any terms for a donation. It was recommended that we have a Land Use agreement in place to allow either party to terminate with proper notice; will discuss with home owner at the picnic. The PPRAA is put on a wait list for any possible donations of storage sheds by Tuff Shed; will also reach out to Home Depot to see about donations.

Possible location for club – No updates provided.

Around the table

- **Michael Derbort** – nothing new.
- **Gordon Dixon** – nothing
- **Galen Steele** – Any ideas for future programs would be appreciated.
- **Doug Nielsen** – nothing
- **John Wishart** – nothing

Next board meeting: Monday, September 12, 2011. Location: Daniel's Taco Shop

Adjourned at 8:08 pm
Respectfully submitted by
Michael Derbort, KCØELG, Acting Secretary in Dan Scott's WØRO absence.

PPRAA August Club Meeting Minutes

10 August 2011

Call to Order – 7:00 pm

Introductions (What have you done in the past month)?

Silent Keys - Two silent keys were announced: Tom Hammond (no call recorded) and Dwayne Hill, NØDLH.

It was announced that Tom (W0TOM) had been in the hospital. It was briefly discussed that the club should send a card, or flowers. There was no motion to that effect, though.

Approval of the July club meeting minutes as printed in the Ø-beat – Motion by Dick Thompson (WØRAA), seconded by John Wishart (KCØJFH), and motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report –No report given

Upcoming Events

Perseid Meteor shower event – Arrive after 19:30. Shower peaks at midnight or around that

PPRAA Picnic – located at our club station site. Please RSVP and let us know what you will bring.

Colorado QSO Party – Get on the Air. September 3rd.

PPRAA Breakfast – On schedule for Saturday, September 3rd

VE Session – Saturday, August 13th at CTU

Scholarship fund – Making progress, accepting donations. Board has agreed to a \$500 matching grant to raise the first \$1000 scholarship. Program will be online by Fall 2012 school year. More details to come.

New club assets

- a. Club has received a 2m repeater.
- b. Also a 40 foot Rohn tower. If you are interested in helping take it down please contact a board member. There was discussion about an antenna/tower party to take down the antenna near the South 8th Street police station. No date, or time, were decided on.

General Presentation: Doug Moloney, WØHMP, did a presentation on Hammin' Sams.

Next club meeting: Wednesday, September 14, 2011. Location: Broadway Deli

Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted by

Gordon Dixon, KDØFKF and Michael Derbort, KCØELG, Acting Secretary in Dan Scott's WØRO absence.

Pikes Peak Ten Ten

Mike WV7T 10X-41660
Chapter Head

The Pikes Peak Ten-Ten chapter meets each Thursday night at 7pm local on 28.390 Mhz +/- . You do not have to be a 10-10 member to check in.

Ten-Ten website: www.ten-ten.org



PPRAA 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** then **50.125** USB. The goal of the net is for Technicians through Extra class operators to enjoy a weekly on-the-air chat. This is a great opportunity to meet local and out of state hams. We start on 10 meter SSB then go to 6 meters SSB. 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 asked for is a description of your rig, antenna system, and approximate location.

We give out 10-10 numbers!

PPRAA Six Meter Group?

SMIRK stands for SIX METER INTERNATIONAL RADIO KLUB. I am looking for SMIRK members and those who might be interested in starting a 6 meter group here.

Mike WV7T

Licensing



Mike Anderson, WV7T
wv7t@arrl.net
719-229-8610

***“Now I have my license now what?”
After Licensing Training Available.***

Vanity callsign fees increase

On August 10, the FCC announced via a Final Rule in the Federal Register that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call

sign will increase 90 cents, from \$13.30 to \$14.20. The new fees take effect 30 days after publication, making September 9, 2011, the first day the new fee is in effect.

30 Years Ago Ø-Beat September 1981

Biz Wichy WDØHCO, who left the area recently to live and work on Kwajalein Island in the Pacific drops a line to the club to tell what life's like out there. Novice classes will begin on September 15 at North Jr. High School, taught by NØDV (CW) and KBØKQ (theory). The club turns down a request for a public service event because the event was politically oriented, but suggested that members could support it without support from the club.

The Colorado FM Sprint

Sponsored by: [The Colorado VHF Group](#) (KØYB) and the [Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Radio Association](#) (WØTLM)

Direct any questions to k0yb@qsl.net

Saturday - September 10, 2011

This contest is held concurrently with the [ARRL September VHF QSO Party](#), with compatible rules and operating procedures. The purpose of this contest is to:

- Promote the use of FM VHF/UHF simplex
- Provide an opportunity for radio amateurs to test the limits of their stations using FM VHF/UHF and to experiment with ways to improve their stations
- Practice deploying portable and mobile operation as a means of identifying

effective locations for temporary relay stations

- Provide a simple and enjoyable radio contest experience (“Have fun!”)

Time:

Saturday, Sept 10, 2011; 1200 to 1700 Mountain Time (1800 to 2300 UTC)

Objective:

To work as many stations as possible using FM simplex on the 146 MHz, 222 MHz and 440 MHz bands in as many different VHF grids as possible.

Frequencies:

Operate on **FM simplex frequencies** consistent with the Colorado Council of Amateur Radio Clubs ([CCARC](#)) band plans

(Consistent with the ARRL Rules, 146.52 MHz is not allowed to be used in the contest.)

Suggested Frequencies:

2 Meters: **146.58**, 146.55

222 MHz: **223.5** MHz

440 MHz: **446.0**, 446.100 MHz

Do not operate on repeater frequencies or 146.52 MHz, the National Simplex Calling Frequency.

Remember to be a considerate operator and share the frequency with other operators.

Contest Exchange

To complete a contest QSO, you and the other station must copy each other's **callsign** and **4-digit Grid Locator**. You may optionally exchange Name and geographic location (city, landmark, etc).

Entry Categories:

The following entry categories are available for this contest, consistent with the entry categories for the ARRL September VHF QSO Party. All categories (excluding Single Operator Portable) operate within these power limits: (146 MHz--200 W PEP, 222 MHz 100 W PEP, 440 MHz 100 W PEP).

Single Operator – same as Single Operator Low Power in the ARRL rules

Single Operator Portable – power limit of 10 W PEP, operating from a fixed location using a portable power source, portable equipment and antennas

Rover – operates from 2 or more grid squares with 1 or 2 operators, same definition as Limited Rover in the ARRL rules. Rovers must sign “Rover” after their callsign.

Multioperator – operates with more than with operator from a fixed location

Scoring

QSO Points: Count one point for each 146 MHz QSO and two points for each 222 MHz and 440 MHz QSO.

Multiplier: The total number of different grid squares worked per band. Each grid counts as one multiplier on each band it is worked.

Final score: Multiply the total number of QSO points from all bands operated by the total number of multipliers for final score.

Rovers only: The final score consists of the total number of QSO points from all bands times the sum of unique multipliers (grid squares) worked per band (regardless of which grid square they were made in) plus one additional multiplier for every grid square from which they successfully completed a contact.

Miscellaneous:

1. Use only one call sign per entry per station, except family members who share a station.
2. A rover station may use only one call sign.
3. Soliciting contacts *during the contest* on repeaters, e-mail, telephone, etc. is not allowed.
4. Final interpretation of these rules is the sole responsibility of the contest committee.

Awards:

Certificates will be issued to top scoring entrants in each category. Other certificates may be issued depending on the level of competition present in the contest. Results will be listed on the KØYB web site at <http://www.qsl.net/k0yb>

Log Entry:

1. Log entries must be received by September 30, 2011.
2. A log entry contains the following for each contact completed: Date; Time (Universal Coordinated Time); Station Worked; Grid Locator
3. A summary contains: Your name, call, and address; entry category; grid locator; score calculation; and this statement: "I have observed all rules of the contest and have operated my station in accordance with FCC rules."
4. Entrants are *strongly encouraged* to submit an electronic log in Cabrillo format, using commonly available logging programs (configured for ARRL September VHF QSO Party). Send electronic logs to k0yb@qsl.net, with Cabrillo file attached and subject line containing your call sign and the words "FM Sprint".
5. Paper logs may be sent to: KØYB – Contest Logs, 21060 Capella Drive, Monument, CO 80132

Grid Locator Information:

Grids are 2° longitude x 1° latitude squares designated with 2-letters and 2-numbers, such as DM78. To determine which grid you are operating from, refer to this web page: http://www.k0nr.com/rwite/vhf_grids.html or use a GPS receiver that displays the location in Maidenhead (vhf grid) format.

Here are some general guidelines that may help in case you work someone who does not know their grid square:

- A. Greater Denver is in grid DM79
- B. Boulder is split between grids DM79 and DN70, so check the location carefully.
- C. Colorado Springs and Pueblo are in grid DM78
- D. Fort Collins, Loveland and Longmont are in grid DN70.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why aren't CW or SSB allowed in this contest?

This contest is focused on typical VHF/UHF emergency communication, which tends to be centered on FM. Also, we didn't want to have the typical FM participant have to compete with high-powered CW/SSB stations. If you have an interest in operating SSB or CW, please go ahead and do that as a regular ARRL September VHF QSO Party contestant. (You will find that SSB is much more effective than FM!) Keep in mind that you can only work stations once per band (except rovers) since the ARRL contest does not give credit for working additional modes. That is, you can't work a station on SSB and again on FM to gain more points.

Why are only the 146 MHz, 222 MHz and 440 MHz bands allowed?

The most common VHF/UHF FM bands for Emergency Communications (EmComm) and Public Service use are 146 MHz and 440 MHz. We tossed in the 222 MHz band as a bonus since it is in

between the other two bands and some EmComm organizations use it. We chose *not* to expand the contest to 50 MHz and the higher UHF bands, to keep it simple. Again, feel free to work the other bands as a regular ARRL September VHF QSO Party entry.

Is this a required ARES or RACES event?

No. Participation in this event is optional and anyone can participate. It is just a fun way to test out the capability of your station on VHF/UHF FM.

What is the real purpose of this contest? Is this some sort of secret plot to get FM operators on the air during the VHF contest?

It could be. We are not sure. Mostly, we want to encourage having fun on the VHF bands, regardless of mode, age, gender or religion.

What logging software should I use?

Any contest logging program that supports the ARRL September VHF QSO Party will work. Examples are N1MM, VHFCONT and N3FJP.

I am still confused, how does this work with regard to the ARRL contest?

The **Colorado FM Sprint** is a contest within a contest. The rules are consistent with the ARRL September VHF QSO Party but with a much shorter duration and an FM-only restriction. You can enter both contests if you'd like. Simply keep a log for the entire ARRL contest duration but submit two logs (one to the ARRL and one to the Colorado FM Sprint, which would be a subset of the ARRL log.)

Do I have to be in Colorado to enter the Colorado VHF Sprint?

No, you can be anywhere in the US or Canada. However, this is a Colorado-sponsored contest, so most of the activity is likely to be in Colorado and adjacent states.

Where can I find the rules for the ARRL September VHF QSO Party?

On the ARRL web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf-qso-party>

SEPTEMBER CONTESTS

September 2011

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Sep 2

± NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 2

± **All Asian DX Contest**, Phone 0000Z, Sep 3 to 2400Z, Sep 4

± Wake-Up! QRP Sprint 0600Z-0629Z, Sep 3 and 0630Z-0659Z, Sep 3 and 0700Z-0729Z, Sep 3 and 0730Z-0800Z, Sep 3

± **Colorado QSO Party** 1200Z, Sep 3 to 0400Z, Sep 4

± CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 3 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 3 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 4

± AGCW Straight Key Party 1300Z-1600Z, Sep 3

± **QCWA Fall QSO Party** 1800Z, Sep 3 to 1800Z, Sep 4

± DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest 1100Z-1700Z, Sep 4

± **Tennessee QSO Party** 1800Z, Sep 4 to 0300Z, Sep 5

± MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint 2300Z, Sep 5 to 0300Z, Sep 6

± ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, Sep 6

± QRP Fox Hunt 0100Z-0230Z, Sep 9

± NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 9

± PODXS 070 Club Jay Hudak Memorial 80m Sprint 2000 local, Sep 9 to 0200 local, Sep 10

± Kulikovo Polye Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 10

± WAE DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Sep 10 to 2359Z, Sep 11

± Arkansas QSO Party 1300Z, Sep 10 to 0100Z, Sep 11

± ARRL September VHF QSO Party 1800Z, Sep 10 to 0300Z, Sep 12

± ARCI VHF Contest 1800Z, Sep 10 to 0300Z, Sep 12

± SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Sep 11

± North American Sprint, CW 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 11

± Swiss HTC QRP Sprint 1300Z-1900Z, Sep 11

± NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Sep 12

± CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep 14 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 14 and 0300Z-0400Z, Sep 15

± RSGB 80m Club Sprint, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Sep 14

± NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 16

± Connecticut QSO Party 0000Z-2359Z, Sep 17

± ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest 0600 local, Sep 17 to 2400 local, Sep 18

± SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest 1000Z, Sep 17 to 1000Z, Sep 18

± Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW 1200Z, Sep 17 to 1200Z, Sep 18

± SRT HF Contest SSB 1300Z, Sep 17 to 1300Z, Sep 18

± South Carolina QSO Party 1300Z, Sep 17 to 2100Z, Sep 18

± QRP Afield 1500Z, Sep 17 to 0300Z, Sep 18

± Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 17 to 0700Z, Sep 18 and 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 18

± Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, Sep 17

± North American Sprint, SSB 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 18

± WAB 144 MHz QRP Phone 1000Z-1400Z, Sep 18

± BARTG Sprint 75 1700Z-2100Z, Sep 18

± Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Sep 19

± NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Sep 22

± NCCC Sprint Ladder 0230Z-0300Z, Sep 23

± CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z,
Sep 24 to 2400Z, Sep 25

± AGCW VHF/UHF Contest 1400Z-1659Z,
Sep 24 (144) and 1700Z-1759Z, Sep 24 (432)

± Texas QSO Party 1400Z, Sep 24 to 0200Z,
Sep 25 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 25

± QRP Homebrewer Sprint 0000Z-0400Z, Sep
26

± SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Sep 28

± CWops Mini-CWT Test 1300Z-1400Z, Sep
28 and 1900Z-2000Z, Sep 28 and 0300Z-
0400Z, Sep 29

± RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW 1900Z-2030Z,
Sep 29

Antenna Shootout

I was curious how well I would stand up to the serious mobile-philes. The test was done on 75M. The top 3 guys all had cap hats. I had a shortened whip borrowed from KØWJ so I would be under the testing height limits. (my 102" whip would have been closer to his score by a fraction of a point). Each antenna had a signal generator hooked up to it with all the same power out and the receiving station was about a quarter mile away in the New Mexico desert. Prior to starting my mobile install a few years ago, I contacted Alan, KØBG who directed me to his website for detailed info about mobile installs www.k0bg.com. Meeting Alan in Taos was a treat! This guy knows his stuff and has the best mobile install I have ever seen. I was happy to tie with 3rd place. The next plan is to squeeze another dB or so out by adding a cap-hat. (or do I need a bigger amp?)

73 Rick WØRIC

A and K Index

The Earth's magnetic field is continuously monitored by a network of magnetometers. These readings are converted into the A and K index values.

The K index is computed once every three hours (eight times a day) and the values can range from 0 to 9, with 0 being inactive, and 9 representing an extreme severe storm condition. The values are quasi-logarithmic.

- K = 0 Inactive
- K = 1 Very quiet
- K = 2 Quiet
- K = 3 Unsettled
- K = 4 Active
- K = 5 Minor storm
- K = 6 Major storm
- K = 7 Severe storm
- K = 8 Very severe storm
- K = 9 Extremely severe storm

The A index is linear, and is computed from the eight previous K index values. It ranges from 0 (quiet) to 400 (severe storm).

- A = 0 - 7 Quiet
- A = 8 - 15 Unsettled
- A = 16 - 29 Active
- A = 30 - 49 Minor storm
- A = 50 - 99 Major storm
- A = 100 - 400 Severe storm

Generally, propagation conditions are best when the A index is 15 or lower, and the K index is 3 or lower.

Besides causing auroral activity, high geomagnetic field conditions can affect the electrons in the ionosphere, reducing the maximum usable freq



MARC September VE Exam

The Mountain Amateur Radio Club VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 10 am on Saturday, September 3rd, 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 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 Wes KØHBZ

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 and see it in Dits and Bits.

FOR SALE

Yaesu FT-897D.

Purchased new June 2006.

Non- smoker.

Has original box....complete....manual, etc.

Condition is 10 of 10.

The only option is the Yaesu FP-30 built-in power supply.

This would be a great rig for a new ham.

HF, VHF, UHF....SSB, CW, FM, Digital, etc.

Priced at \$850

Frank, KFØZ

719-594-9386

fhilligas@msn.com

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 or call 719-597-1906"

FOR SALE

Spring cleaning continues!

Yaesu VX-5 \$150.00 Dual band HT. Includes original box, charger, antenna. It has a new battery as the Yaesu one died, no manual but you can download it from Yaesu.com. Manual could be at the Montana location.

Yaesu FT-857 HF Rig \$700.00 includes the optional 300hz and 2.3khz filtering. Radio has minor scratches and is in very good shape. It was not used mobile. Original Box, Mic, power cord, mounting bracket and manual included.

Nye Viking Squeeze key for keyers \$25.00 missing a rubber foot on the bottom. Otherwise in good shape.

(2) Rigblaster Pro \$150 each. Includes cables and manual. No boxes. They are in good shape. Great for contest interfacing, RTTY, PSK etc. These are the older units without USB.

Rigblaster M8 \$50.00 Great for rtty, psk etc. In good shape. No box, no manual.

(2) Astatic D104 mics with the UG8 base. \$60.00 each These are new but I do not have the boxes. They are in very good shape.

I am located near Castle rock. All items can be viewed, tested etc.

I am offering these to locals first before I put them on QTH.com or Ebay.

Mike WØMU
303 548 7222 cell

FOR SALE

MFJ VersaTuner V Model MFJ-989D.. Like new \$275.00

Daiwa CN-801 "H" Type.. Cross Needle SWR & POWER meter.. 1.8-200mhz..
\$75.00

Contact

DEL GIBSON...KC6R
719-510-6781 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
KC6R@Q.COM

FOR SALE

Yaesu FT-857D HF \$625
Butternut HF5B beam \$225

I am asking \$625.00 for the 857. I can demonstrate the 857. I also have a Butternut HF5B-five

band beam antenna. It regularly goes for \$525.00 and I would like to get \$225.

Mike Dassero, N0MUD
n0mud@arrl.net or n0mud@aol.com. Phone 719-597-1906

FOR SALE

I have a friend in Lima, OH who has a lot of stuff to sell. His call is WA8NFY and his name is Jim Sunderland. If interested in any of it, please call me at 520-0288 (Colorado Springs) and I will contact him and you can get together with him as regards shipping, etc. Dick – WØRAA

Listing:

1 – Drake TR-7 HF Transceiver
1 – Drake L-7 Amplifier
1 – Drake NS-7 Speaker
Power Supplies for TR-7 and L-7
2 – CDE Rotators (I don't know model or condition)
1 – Drake W4 Watt Meter
1 – Realistic Mini Weather Radio
1 – Heathkit Mobile Speaker
1 – Uniden 10 band handheld scanner
1 – Field Strength Meter
1 – Clegg 22er FM Radio
1 – Knight P2 SWR/PWR Meter
1 – Eico Signal Generator
1 – Knight Grid Dip Meter
Misc. coax connectors
Misc. microphones
Misc. Hustler Antennas & Coils
1 – Heath SB-630 SWR/Phone Patch
1 – Heath SB 610 Monitor Scope
1 – Dentron MT2000A Antenna Tuner
1 – MFJ-941 Versa Tuner
1 – Siltronix FC-1

1 – Regency HR-2A 2 meter Trcvr
1 – National 62 6 & 2 VFO
1 – Info Tech M-500 ASR RTTY
1 – Motorola 800 6 Mtr FM
1 – R392 HF Surplus Rcvr w/power supply
1 – TA33 w/40 mtr Kit
1 – Hustler 4-BTV (40-10) Vertical
1 – Heath Antenna 50 Ohm Dummy Load
1 – Bearcat 210 Scanner
1 – Cordless Phone
Misc Tubes
Teletype Parts

All reasonable offers will be considered.

FOR SALE

MFJ-989D 1500 WATT ANTENNA TUNER...
ALL FREQUENCIES 1.8 TO 30MHZ.. MARS/WARC
ALSO..

ROLLER INDUCTOR, PEAK/AVG WATTMETER, 4:1
BALUN,
300 WATT DUMMY LOAD BUILT IN..

IS LIKE NEW ...\$275.00 PLUS SHIPPING IF
NEEDED....

DEL GIBSON-- KC6R
719-510-6781

WANTED

3 or 4 magnet HF mobile antenna mount
Mike WV7T
229-8610
wv7t@arrl.net

WANTED

6' x 2" H.D. Steel Pipe
Virgil NØXRS
VPYPST@comcast.net
719-314-5354

**Don't forget the Colorado
QSO Party!!!!**



Do you ever feel like everybody is out
to get you?

Yeah, me too!

What is the smallest wire size that
could be used to handle a 20 amp
current flow?

- A) 20 gage
 - B) 16 gage
 - C) 12 gage
 - D) 8 gage
-

**IDEAS FOR THE
ZERO BEAT?
LET ME KNOW!**

Mike WV7T

B	Q	P	K	T	M	N	P	A	S	Q	G	K
Q	O	U	K	R	U	F	U	T	J	G	Z	H
G	S	E	H	A	Y	N	Y	V	A	E	Q	R
J	Y	S	Z	U	J	N	R	T	T	Q	F	F
Y	N	N	I	A	G	Y	H	E	O	K	S	G
B	J	T	E	N	T	E	C	W	T	Y	L	L
O	T	F	A	R	C	H	S	U	C	T	D	K
R	U	X	C	P	B	D	M	O	C	I	U	Y
E	N	O	H	P	O	R	C	I	M	X	S	B
Y	O	X	P	S	S	T	V	X	P	X	Q	Q
Q	S	J	K	B	Q	D	O	O	W	N	E	K
P	O	X	S	R	X	Y	A	E	S	U	H	K
G	A	S	A	L	K	B	H	R	D	Y	I	R

ATV
 BUTTERNUT
 CUSHCRAFT
 CW
 FM
 HYGAIN
 ICOM

KENWOOD
 KEY
 MICROPHONE
 QSL
 SSB
 SSTV
 TENTEC
 YAESU

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: _____

Do you want your newsletter delivered via e-mail in PDF Format? _____ ☐ Yes ☐ No

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

Your Interests:

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

	Jan- Mar	Apr-June	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec
Full:	\$15.00	\$11.25	\$7.50	\$3.75
Family:	\$18.00	\$13.50	\$9.00	\$4.50
Senior:	\$10.00	\$7.50	\$5.00	\$2.50
Sr Fam:	\$12.00	\$9.00	\$6.00	\$3.00
Associate:	\$12.00	\$9.00	\$6.00	\$3.00

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!

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

To: