




VOLUME 63 ISSUE 2

February 2013

ARRL AFFILIATED-SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

Solar-Terrestrial Data/Predictions at www.qrz.com									
27 Jan 2013 1520 GMT			Current Solar		Band		Day	Night	
SFI	100	SN	055		80n-40n		Fair	Good	
A	018	K	2		30n-20n		Good	Good	
XRY	01.9	304A	140.5		17n-15n		Fair	Fair	
Aur	7	Lat	58.6°		12n-10n		Poor	Poor	
Bz	1.7	SM	440.9		Geomag Field		QUIET		
PF	0.1	EF	26.9		Sig Noise Lvl		S1-S2		
MUF	Boulder		14.57		CME (UTC)		None		
EME	Deg		Fair						
					(C) P Herrman N0NBH 2012				

A solar conditions for a day is information you can use. This display of Sunspot Numbers, MUF, Band Conditions, A&K Indexes lets operators see what to expect for the day. You can find this on PPRAA.ORG or at QRZ.COM. This information is offered free to be put on your computer by NØNBH.

These instructions are found on the QRZ NØNBH page:

“Click on the banner below for free solar-terrestrial data displayed on your web page or computer, updated every 3-hours. The site also contains solar and radio propagation information applicable to ham radio including solar conditions, space conditions, online propagation tool, online SN to SFI/SFI to SN conversion tool, online Aurora/Auroral activity to latitude conversion tool, and online K-Index to Signal Noise conversion tool.”

Monthly Ham Breakfast

LOCATION

Schnitzel Fritz
4037 Tutt Boulevard

Saturday, 5 February 2nd 2013

Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

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



February PPRAA Club Meeting

The February 13th club meeting will be at the IHop on Stetson Hills Blvd (just west of Powers Blvd). 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd.

Garden of the Gods ARC meeting

First Monday of each month at Fargos Pizza at 11:30 am. All are welcome.

PPRAA Club Officers

President	Mike Derbort	KCØELG
Vice President	Dan Scott	WØRO
Secretary	Diana Nordstrom	KCØNPP
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board	John Wishart	KCØJFH
Board	Doug Neilsen	N7LEM
Board	Jim Rader	KDØKQL
Board	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board	Kerrienne Dixon	KDØIPR
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:

boardmembers@ppraa.org

PPRAA FACE BOOK

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/PPRAA-Pikes-Peak-Radio-Amateur-Association/185833894769325?v=wall>

Field Day at WV7T

I will be holding Field Day at my home near I-25 and Fillmore and looking for hams who would like to become part of the Field Day team. A meeting would be scheduled to meet with folks to plan the pre-event B-B-Que, decide what antennas to build, what callsigns to use ie 1x1, KØUSN, WV7T. What stations the group wants to operate. I am looking at 2 HF, 1 VHF-UHF, 1 CW stations. Weekends will spent building and testing antennas as well as building an antenna tuner. Training on soldering, putting antenna connectors on coax, designing antennas, testing antennas with antenna analyzer. Training on how to log and make contacts. Lots of hands on. If you are interested e-mail or call me.

Mike WV7T

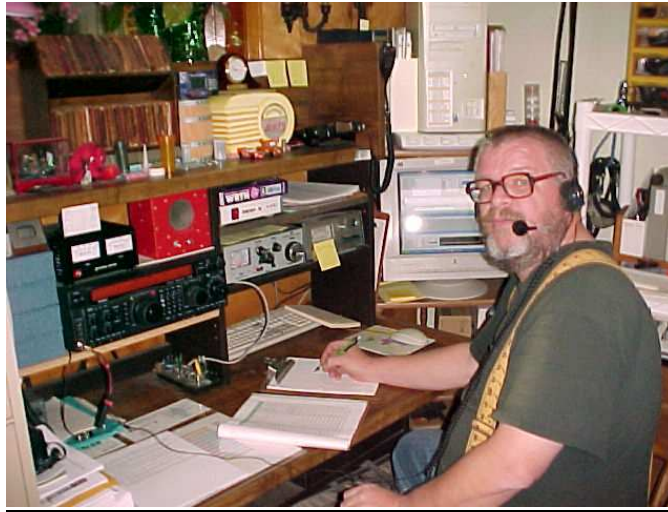
wv7t@arrl.net

719-229-8610

Technical Education

Ham License Instructors

There is a great need in Colorado Springs for Technician Class License instructors. If you can donate 2 hours a week and help someone get their Technician License, I can take them to General and Extra. Mike WV7T



Mike Anderson, WV7T
Teaching Ham Radio Since 1972
wv7t@arrl.net
719-229-8610

Licensing

New Technician License Class is now in session, Sunday afternoons from 1 – 3 pm. You can start where the class is and make up sessions later. Classes are at the Roswell Community Church, 2728 Beacon Street. Always call before class incase class has to be postponed

New license classes for General-Extra and hands-on training will begin in April 2013. E-mail WV7T @ ARRL.NET for pre-registration.

Hands-on Training

The hands-on training will use training modules to teach basic electronics, trouble shooting, the use of oscilloscope, multi-function meters, audio signal generators, and antenna analyzer.

Study Materials

Licensing and technical books are available at Centennial Electronics.



How hams use washing machines on Field Day!

New Antenna

Isotrons: Small size, big voice



The Isotrons are manufactured right here in Colorado. This is a Six-Band Isotron array, 6, 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80m. Receive is remarkable considering the size. A number of contacts have been made with antenna system. If you would like to check out the antennas contact Mike WV7T.

BILAL COMPANY
137 MANCHESTER DR.
FLORISSANT, CO. 80816 U.S.A
PH/FX: 719/687-0650
wd0eja@isotronantennas.com

Next month: The Mystery Antenna

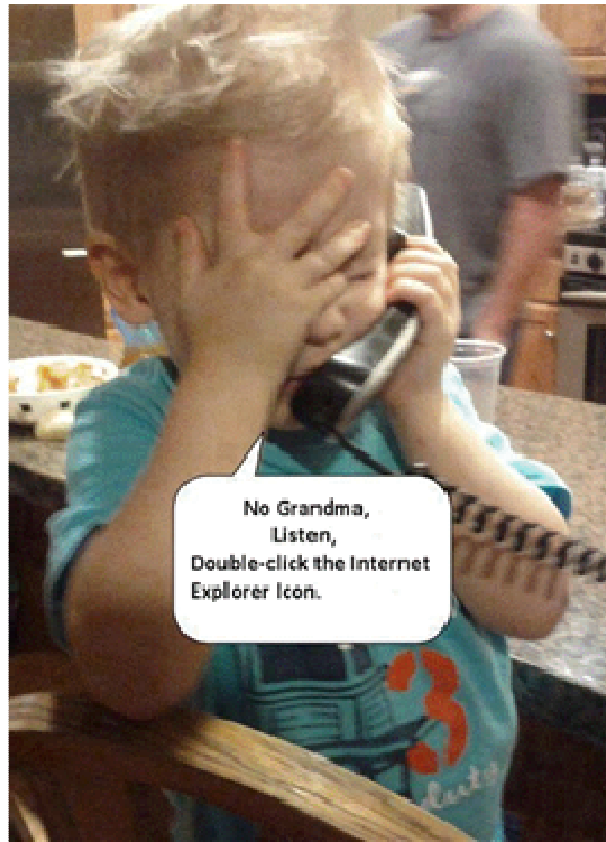


You gotta love this!



The Defense Department idea to increase their budget. A new golf course!





HOW DOES COAX WORK? Ralph WDØEJA

Coax cable is for the purpose of transferring RF energy from the transmitter to the antenna. Many are familiar with Ladder Line. 2 wires in parallel from the transmitter to the antenna. If the 2 wires are spaced very carefully with little variation, one side will be of a positive value (voltage or current) and the other will have a negative value exactly equal. The 2 RF fields cancel each other. This does not take away the RF energy, but keeps it from radiating into the atmosphere and follow the wires. In affect it makes a very high resistance to the atmosphere and a low resistance along the Ladder Line. The draw back with Ladder line is it is affected by

nearby objects. Something close to the Ladder Line will unbalance it. Therefore coax was developed to reduce that problem. Coax is doing the same thing as Ladder Line electrically. The center conductor has one polarity while the shield has the opposite. The same principal of cancellation is taking place. The shield is not really a shield in that RF is contained inside of it. There is just as much RF energy on the shield as the center conductor. Due to the physical shape of the coax, the shield can be kept at a zero voltage in respect to your grounding. So if you had an RF volt meter you would in theory measure 0 voltage from the shield to your grounded installation such as radio chassis, tower or mast, walls of your home and so on. Now a nearby object has little affect on the balance of the coax. At times this balance can be disrupted slightly. The result is RF feedback, interference to other electronic equipment, common mode currents or voltages, higher than normal SWR readings and more. The problem with coax is not severe, but aggravating. We will offer more information in the future on this. If you have specific questions feel free to email me. I will do my best to find an answer.

wd0eja@isotronantennas.com

ARRL Incoming QSL Bureaus

www.arrl.org/incoming-qsl-service

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureaus

www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service

ARRL Affiliated Clubs-Outgoing QSL cards

ARRL affiliated-club stations may use the service when submitting club QSLs for its members, who are ARRL 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.

PPRAA Apparel

Both **Silk Screen and Embroidered** (Shirts, T-Shirts, Hats, Badges, etc.), members pay for individual shirts. Embroidered - Club logo = \$7. Call sign and name ordered together = \$7, Call sign or name ordered separately = \$5 each. The number to call to order is: (719) 591-6151. Monograms by Jane.

Silkscreened - T-Shirts with a one color left chest logo only no name or call sign: Small thru Xlarge: \$8.75 ea. T-Shirts with one color logo on left and name with call sign on right side: Small thru Xlarge: \$9.60 ea. for XXlarge add \$2.00 per shirt. POC Dick Thompson, WØRAA 719-520-0288



Aren't you glad you live in Colorado.

This was taken after a fire was put out in Chicago.

Events In Colorado

2013 NCARC Hamfest

- The NCARC 2013 Hamfest will be held on January 19, 2013 at the Larimer County Fairgrounds, in the 1st National Bank Building at "The Ranch" in Loveland, Colorado.
 - Get the flyer [here](#) for all the specifics.
- (11/30/12)

2013 HamCon Colorado

- June 28-30, 2013 at the Rocky Mountain Park Inn in Estes Park, Colorado.
 - See [here](#) for the latest information.
- (07/12/12)

Megafest

MEGAFEST. Saturday July 27th, 2013. 0800 to 1300 (Vendors 0600) Ticket sales 0730.
Lewis-Palmer High School. 1300 Higby Road, Monument, CO

Ø-BEAT FEBRUARY 1983

John Varga WA8ZIA writes an article called The Packet Pocket which introduces us to packet radio. Bob KØDJ and Frank WBØPAJ volunteered to help with the National Sports Festival coming up. Ed WØVO gave an excellent presentation on the status of Phase IIIB, due to be launched in April. Late meeting – it adjourned at 10:05 p.m. It's February and the club still doesn't have a location for its April swapfest. Looking into Safeway hosting it. Ham classes will begin in March, and the normal classroom is unavailable. Also looking for teachers. The February program will be by Chuck Hill and will cover receivers and what makes a receiver a good one.

CONTESTS

February 2013

[±](#) QRP Fox Hunt

[±](#) NCCC Sprint Ladder

[±](#) Vermont QSO Party

[±](#) 10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB

[±](#) Black Sea Cup International

0200Z-0330Z, Feb 1

0230Z-0300Z, Feb 1

0000Z, Feb 2 to 2400Z, Feb 3

0001Z, Feb 2 to 2359Z, Feb 3

1200Z, Feb 2 to 1159Z, Feb 3

± EPC WW DX Contest	1200Z, Feb 2 to 1200Z, Feb 3
± Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 2
± AGCW Straight Key Party	1600Z-1900Z, Feb 2
± Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 2 to 0100Z, Feb 4
± Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 2 to 1759Z, Feb 3
± North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 3
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 6
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 8
± NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 8
± YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10
± CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2400Z, Feb 10
± SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 9 to 1000Z, Feb 10
± Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 9
± Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
± New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 9 to 2200Z, Feb 10
± FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 9
± AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	2300Z, Feb 9 to 2300Z, Feb 10
± Classic Exchange, Phone	1400Z, Feb 10 to 0800Z, Feb 11
± ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 15
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 13
± CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Feb 13 and 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 14
± PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint	2000 local, Feb 14 to 0200 local, Feb 15
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 15
± NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 15
± ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 16 to 2400Z, Feb 17
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 20
± AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 20
± QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 22
± NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 22
± CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 22 to 2159Z, Feb 24
± REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 23 to 1800Z, Feb 24

± UBA DX Contest, CW

± North American QSO Party, RTTY

± High Speed Club CW Contest

± North Carolina QSO Party

± QRP Fox Hunt

± CWops Mini-CWT Test

1300Z, Feb 23 to 1300Z, Feb 24

1800Z, Feb 23 to 0559Z, Feb 24

0900Z-1700Z, Feb 24

1500Z, Feb 24 to 0059Z, Feb 25

0200Z-0330Z, Feb 27

1300Z-1400Z, Feb 27 and

1900Z-2000Z, Feb 27 and

0300Z-0400Z, Feb 28





Amazing Russian Snow Sculptures



PPRAA / Pikes Peak Ten Ten / 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 Mhz** 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 great success. It gives new operators a better understanding of radios, filter usage, mic gain, transmission line..etc.

We give out 10-10 numbers!

SIX Meter Net

Thursday evenings after the 10 meter net on **50.125** MHz USB.



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 k0hbx@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) or **FRN** number.
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 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

PPRAA VE EXAMS

(February, April, June, August October December)

PPRAA VE session will be held at 9 am on the second Saturday of the even months at Colorado Technical University.

Directions to CTU are at the PPRAA website ppraa.org.

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 SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required – this includes children) or **FRN** number.

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 have **AND a PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.

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

Galen Steele AGØA
PPRAA VE Contact
719-213-1109

Ditz n Bitz

For Sale or Wanted

Have something to sell or trying to find something or just want to see something get to a good home? end it in to wv7t@arrl.net and see it in Dits and Bits. Also, visit the PPRAA Forum's online Ditz and Bitz at www.ppraa.forumotion.net !!

FOR SALE

5 element 10m beam.
Can be modified for 6m.
\$125
Mike WV7T

WANTED

QRP wattmeter
Mike WV7T@ARRL.NET

Digital camera that will produce 1 MB
image files
Mike WV7T

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: _____

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

E-mail address: _____

☐ 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

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

To: