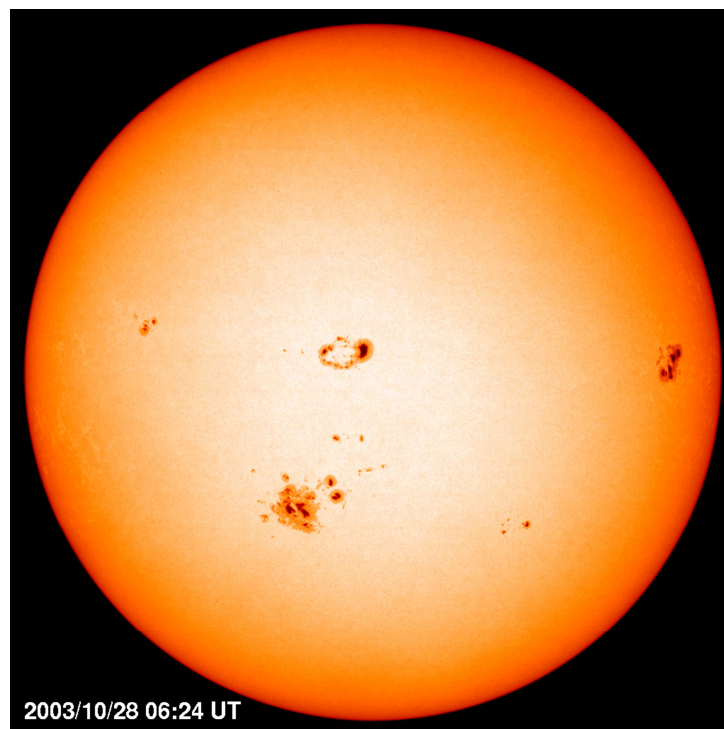




VOLUME 63 ISSUE 3

March 2013

ARRL AFFILIATED-SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB



Sunspots are what give us the ability to get to there from here. The sun rotates in a 28 day cycle. Did you know solar conditions repeat every 28 days? So if you have had a great day on the air, mark your calendar for 4 weeks ahead and enjoy the same conditions.

Monthly Ham Breakfast

LOCATION

Country Buffet

801 N. Academy Blvd

Saturday, March 2nd 2013

Time is from 8:00-9:30 AM

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



March PPRAA Club Meeting

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



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 Bishop	KDØKQL
Board	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board	Kerrienne Dixon	KDØIPR
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:

boardmembers@ppraa.org

Garden of the Gods Amateur Radio Club



Garden of the Gods ARC meeting

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

PPRAA FACE BOOK

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

Field Day at WV7T

WV7T will be holding Field Day at his home near I-25 and Fillmore and looking for hams who would like to become part of the Field Day team. A meeting will be scheduled to meet with folks to plan the pre-event Bar-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 be spent building and testing antennas as well as building an antenna tuner. This will not be a contest event but a hands-on training will be on soldering, putting antenna connectors on coax, designing and testing antennas with an antenna analyzer. Training also includes 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



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 (different day than license classes) training will begin on April 7th 2013, General from 1-3 pm, Extra from 3-5 pm. E-mail WV7T @ ARRL.NET for pre-registration.

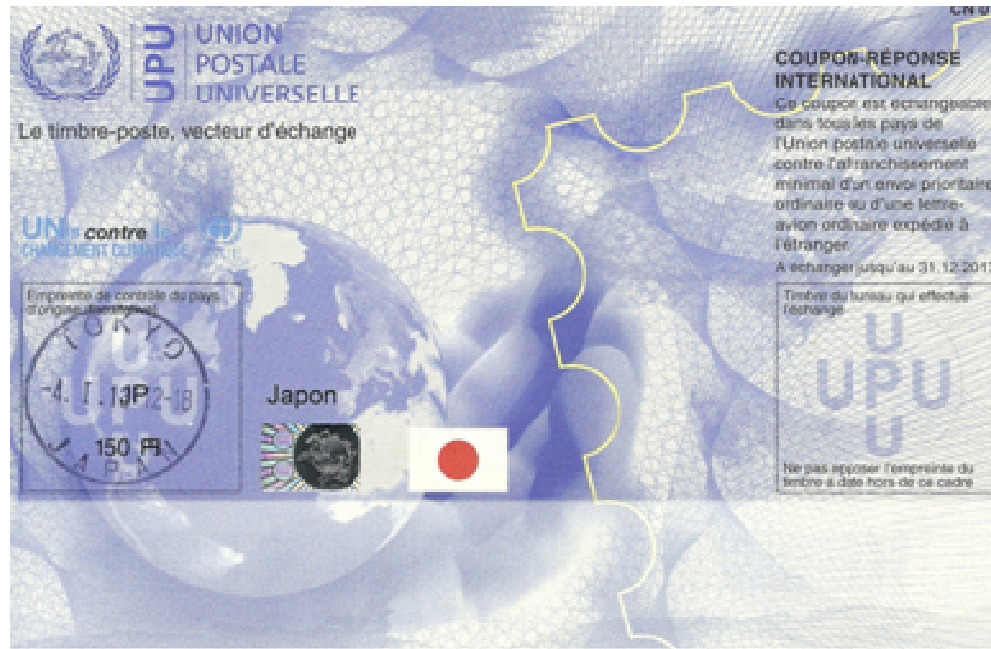
Hands-on Training

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

Study Materials

Licensing and technical books are available at Centennial Electronics. Kits are also available to build and gain experience in electronic construction.



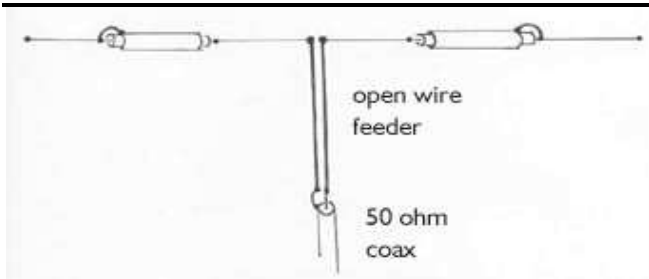


Japanese IRC

A-1 Operator Nominations

A-1 Operators consider nominating someone to become a member of A-1 Operators Club. Recognize those who embody the professionalism and skills of the best of the best.

New Antenna: Mystery Antenna



Materials

4 lengths of wire, 17 Feet long
2 lengths of coax, 16.5 feet long
35 feet of twin lead or ladder line (impedance not critical, 300, 450 or whatever)

1. Determine the velocity factor of your twin lead (borrow Joe's MFJ-259) and cut a piece one half wavelength long on 20 meters. This will vary between 27 and 35 feet, depending on the VF of your twin lead.
2. Attach one end of the twin lead to the center insulator, and connect one 17 foot length of wire to each leg. At this point, you have something looking very much like a 20 meter dipole, fed with twin lead.
3. Now you are ready to add the coax to each leg. Notice that we don't cut the coax inserts taking the VF into account. The coax pieces should be exactly 16.5 feet long. Connect only the *inner* conductor of one of the 16.5 foot lengths of coax to each end of your 20 meter dipole. That's only the inner conductor, right? Check again.
4. At the other end of each piece of coax, connect the braid and the shield to the remaining pieces of wire. Try to distribute the braid around the outside of the shield-to-wire connection. Go ahead, put lots of solder on this one.
5. Now connect the feed line coax to the end of the twin lead, braid to one side and center to the other. The feed line length is not critical, make it as long as you need.
6. Seal all the connections to keep moisture out.
7. Hang the antenna with the center insulator at least 25 feet off the ground. Horizontal, inverted vee, and arbitrarily bent because you are too close to the road are all configurations that will work.

Complete directions for the construction of the W5GI can be found in the July 2003 issue of CQ Magazine.

(This antenna was going to be used at the WV7T Field Day but it doesn't fit in the yard.)

Next month: 6m Ground Plane Antenna

WHY THAT PESKY RF INTERFERENCE?

Ralph WDØEJA

Last month was an explanation of how coax works. Radio Frequency interference from stations is a common occurrence. You start to transmit and your voice is coming through other speakers, phones, computers and maybe that gold tooth in your jaw. How could this happen with something as wonderful as coax? Remember coax has a strong field of RF energy travelling from transmitter to antenna. Yes, even on the shield. It is not difficult to have the field induce slightly to other items. It is a minute amount of power, but that is all it takes to disrupt other equipment. If the coax shield is parallel to a large piece of steel such as a mast or tower, the RF flow is usually unaffected. Positioning the coax in this way keeps both shield and metal with little voltage difference between them. However put a wire along side the coax and it can get real interesting. Even a heavy wire can cause a transformer affect diverting some of the RF energy into the wire. Not a lot in wattage, but enough to disrupt other devices. Some have concerns that this energy is what is doing the radiating rather than the antenna. If so, then it is a QRP (very low power) station because coax does work well as a non-radiating cable and very little of the field is diverted. When assembling a station it is wise to take careful notice as to the location of the coax in respect to other wires. This includes the house wiring and ground wires. In the future there will be information on how to make some simple measurements to determine the potential for RFI.

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 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



Russian SWL Card

Events In Colorado

2013 HamCon Colorado

- June 28-30, 2013 at the Rocky Mountain Park Inn in Estes Park, Colorado.
- See [here](#) for the latest information. (Field Day weekend)
(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 MARCH 1983

Part two of The Packet Pocket appears by John Varga WA8ZIA. He gets into the details of the ones and zeros in the control frames. Don KBØKQ reports that no class will be held until instructors step up and volunteer. He also asked for Ø Beat articles as he hasn't received any articles recently. The commemorative station at the National Sports Festival might be scrubbed because of its location. Most events will be at the Academy, but they'll also need stations on Pikes Peak, and up in Denver at Chatfield Reservoir. The most likely location for the swapfest will be the Polka Club at 2422 Busch Ave, behind the old El Paso Community College.

Concern was expressed over the mistaken assumption many hams have that the PPRAA is sponsoring the swapfest. The board is looking into the purchase of liability insurance; with all of the upcoming activities it may be a good idea. Don KBØKQ was approved to purchase a stapler for \$10. The March program will be by Tom Weatherly and Andy Freeborn and will cover the computer and its relation to packet radio.

CONTESTS

March 2013

March 2013

- | | |
|---|---|
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0200Z-0330Z, Mar 1 |
| ± ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB | 0000Z, Mar 2 to 2400Z, Mar 3 |
| ± Wake-Up! QRP Sprint | 0600Z-0800Z, Mar 2 |
| ± DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest | 1100Z-1700Z, Mar 3 |
| ± SARL Hamnet 40m Simulated Emerg Contest | 1200Z-1400Z, Mar 3 |
| ± AGCW YL-CW Party | 1900Z-2100Z, Mar 5 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0200Z-0330Z, Mar 6 |
| ± AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest | 2300Z, Mar 6 to 2300Z, Mar 7 and
2300Z, Mar 9 to 2300Z, Mar 10 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0200Z-0330Z, Mar 8 |
| ± AGCW QRP Contest | 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 9 |
| ± EA PSK63 Contest | 1600Z, Mar 9 to 1600Z, Mar 10 |
| ± Idaho QSO Party | 1900Z, Mar 9 to 1900Z, Mar 10 |
| ± North American Sprint, RTTY | 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 10 |
| ± Wisconsin QSO Party | 1800Z, Mar 10 to 0100Z, Mar 11 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 13 |
| ± CWops Mini-CWT Test | 1300Z-1400Z, Mar 13 and
1900Z-2000Z, Mar 13 and
0300Z-0400Z, Mar 14 |
| ± NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint | 1800Z-2000Z, Mar 13 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 15 |
| ± SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest | 1600Z, Mar 15 to 1000Z, Mar 17 |
| ± 10-10 Int. Mobile Contest | 0001Z-2359Z, Mar 16 |
| ± BARTG HF RTTY Contest | 0200Z, Mar 16 to 0200Z, Mar 18 |
| ± Russian DX Contest | 1200Z, Mar 16 to 1200Z, Mar 17 |
| ± AGCW VHF/UHF Contest | 1400Z-1700Z, Mar 16 (144) and
1700Z-1800Z, Mar 16 (432) |
| ± North American Sprint, SSB | 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 17 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 20 |
| ± RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB | 2000Z-2130Z, Mar 21 |
| ± QRP Fox Hunt | 0100Z-0230Z, Mar 22 |

± QRP Fox Hunt

0100Z-0230Z, Mar 27

± CWops Mini-CWT Test

1300Z-1400Z, Mar 27 and

1900Z-2000Z, Mar 27 and

0300Z-0400Z, Mar 28

± QRP Fox Hunt

0100Z-0230Z, Mar 29

± CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

0000Z, Mar 30 to 2400Z, Mar 31



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.

5. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to ARRL and covers all the different 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.

Galen Steele AGØA
PPRAA VE Contact
719-213-1109

Anyone passing their Technician Class examination at the PPRAA test session will receive a free year's membership to the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association.

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? Send 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**

**3 mobile speakers
\$5 ea**

**80m Double Bazooka antenna
\$40**

**160m sloper antenna
\$40**

WANTED

QRP wattmeter

**Digital camera that will produce 1 MB
image files**

Mike WV7T@ARRL.NET

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: