

PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION (PPRAA)

Activities/Meetings

- Ham Breakfast—
Omelets Etc.,
Drop in any time August
2nd between
8:00 AM and 9:30 AM
- PPRAA Board Mtg
Mon,
August 11th
Daniel's Taco
- PPRAA Membership Mtg
Wed. August 13th
IHOP 5749 Stetson Hills
Bvd
- 10 Meter/2 Meter net
Every Thursday 7:00 pm
28.290 MHz—USB
144.200 MHz-USB
- Augues 16th
PPRAA Picnic

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Ø-BEAT

Volume 64 Issue 8

August 2014

PPRAA Megafest

A big thanks to all attendees and vendors who turned out to support us this year and make it a great event. We had over 500 paid admissions. Boy Scout Troop 8 sold coffee & donuts, burgers & brats, chips, and sodas. The weather was great and everyone seemed to have a great time. Congratulations to this year's raffle winners:

- Grand Prize:
Elecraft KX-3
Jarret Rush, NM0V
- Second Prize:
ICOM ID-51A
w/ RT Systems
programming kit
Jarret Rush, NM0V

- Third Prize:
Kenwood TM-71A
w/ RT System
programming kit
Eric Freund, K0EWF
- Fourth Prize:
Rigexpert AA-54
Antenna Analyzer
Skip Juhasz, WB2UFV
- Fifth Prize:
Tigertronics Signal Link
Robert Carpenter,
KD0PNR
- Sixth Prize:
Butternut HF9V Ant.
Dan Scott, W0RO

This year a challenge was added by the school system. Our normal doors for the vendors and the door for general attendees were in a construction area. This made for a very long walk with equipment for our vendors. A special thanks to

Boy Scout troop 8 and members of PPRAA for stepping in and helping vendors during setup and tear down.



PPRAA 75th Year

This year PPRAA celebrated our 75th anniversary with a special event station. (PPRAA is at least 75 years old.)

The event was organized by Jim, WØEM and operation of the 3 stations was from the club station.

Although the lighting and tornados in the area cut the

event short, it was a great time for all those attending.

A special PPRAA QSL card is being sent to all stations worked.

Happy 75th!





PPRAA special event operation.

PPRAA Officers and Board of Directors

PPRAA Board of Directors consists of four elected officers, seven board members, as well the past president (time limit dependent). The Ø-Beat editor is a board appointed position and is also a member of the board.

Officers include:

- ⇒ President
- ⇒ Vice-President
- ⇒ Secretary
- ⇒ Treasurer

To send board member's email, browse to the officers section of our website: <http://ppraa.org/about-ppraa/officers>

President	Michael Derbort	KCØELG
Vide-President	Jim Bishop	KDØKQL
Secretary	John Wishart	NGØI
Treasurer	Pam Scott	WØPRS
Board Member	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM
Board Member	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board Member	Jim Rader	KDØNQM
Board Member	Diana Nordstrom	KCØNPP
Board Member	Jim Harris	WØEM
Board Member	Virgil Yost	NØXRS
Board Member	Chris Schroeder	KDØUQI
Ø-Beat Editor	Dan Scott	WØRO

Online Resources

PPRAA Website

<http://ppraa.org>

The PPRAA website is the cornerstone for club related information, events, and technical information.

In addition you can register, pay dues, and submit donations. Donations to the PPRAA college scholarship fund are managed by FAR Scholarship Committee

Facebook / Google+

Follow activities as they unfold, or get reminders of upcoming events.

Links to both Facebook and Google+ social media sites can be found on the PPRAA.org.

Or from each social media site search on: Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association

PPRAA Forums

The PPRAA forums are intended to allow users to exchange of ideas, ask and answer amateur radio related questions, and plan/discuss upcoming events.

This is a fantastic, but underutilized, tool.

Check it out and register at: PPRAA.Forumotion.net



PPRAA Megefest. RT Systems and Arrow Antennas

Monthly Activities

Membership Meeting

Held the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00.

IHOP
5749 Stetson Hills Blvd
(Just west of Powers Blvd)

Next meeting is
August 13th 7 pm

NOTE: Many show up at 6 pm for kibitzing and grub.

Board Meeting

Daniel's Taco Shop
6:30pm—8:00pm
6817 Space Village Ave
(Just outside the north gate of Peterson AFB)
Board Meetings are open to all members.

Ham Breakfast

Location changes monthly
Omelets Etc,
1616 South 8th Street
2 August 2014
Anytime between
8:00-9:30 AM

10 Meter/2 Meter Net

Every Thursday at 7pm
Starts on 28.390 USB then transitions to 2 Meter SSB at 144.200 USB.

Meeting Presentation Topics

Last Meeting

Kevin, KØBBA talked about personal preparedness and how to tailor your preparedness for different scenarios.

August 13th

Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ founder and CEO of QRZ.COM. Fred visited our June general membership meeting and will be back as our speaker/presenter for our August

September 10th

Public Information Officer (PIO) for ARES Region 2 District 2, Colorado ARES will be the September speaker.



COQP

The Colorado QSO Party is quickly approaching.

Operating times are 1200 UTC 30 August 2014 until 0400 UTC 31 August 2014. Or in more easily understood in these parts: 6AM to 10PM MDT August 30th.

For information about the COQP please see the PPRAA web site at:
<http://ppraa.org/coqp>

PPRAA Club Station

The station is coming along very nicely. Carpeting is complete, operating surfaces and chairs are now in place. .

There is work to do on the walls, ventilation (ceiling vents/fans). We need to install the electrical system and solar system.

The antenna prospects are coming along superbly. We have a couple OK antennas, but we have a couple new

donations that will exceed what we thought we would have at this stage.

There is a lot of digging, cement to pour, and tower construction that needs to take place.

The trailer was used to easily operate 3 stations during the PPRAA 75th Anniversary special event.

“The trailer was used to easily operate 3 stations during the PPRAA 75th Anniversary special event”

Zero Beat

If you have a short article, or some amateur radio related information, please forward it to ZeroBeat@ppraa.org.

I hope people are enjoying reading the ØBeat! It does take a bit of effort to put together. The more articles that I get the easier it is to publish.

If you have shack pictures, SOTA pictures, ARES related pictures, or whatever you might be working on...etc. Please send picture to zerobeat@ppraa.org. Include a short (or long) explanation or title of the picture.

When emailing articles or pictures, please include “[ØBeat]” in the email description. I just makes it easier for me.



RT Systems booth at Megafeat



PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes—7 July 2014

Present: Michael Derbort, Pam & Dan Scott, Virgil Yost, Jim Bishop, Randy & Diana Nordstrom, Jim Rader, Jim Harris, John Wishart, Tom Brereton, Doug Nielsen

President Michael Derbort called the meeting to order at 6:40PM at Daniel's Taco Shop Restaurant.

June board meeting minutes were approved as published.

2014 Goals & Objectives -

no changes in G&O

1. New Leadership
2. Financials
 - ⇒ Members
 - ⇒ 20 more paying members is our goal (150 total)
 - ⇒ Megafest - \$2500 profit is our goal.
3. Club Station
 - ⇒ goal: at least one operating position and the building completed
4. Special Events
 - ⇒ Special events station for the 100th anniversary of ARRL at the Megafest operating as W1AW/0. We would also like to have another special events station on July 12-13.

⇒ 75 yrs of service for our club

⇒ Scouting event

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report - Pam reported that we have a bank balance of \$11091.19 as of 30 June 2014.

Building Committee -

Station Building - Was put to use on Field Day. Have received an offer to donate a batch of carpet squares for the floor. Land Use Agreement - Brad has requested a couple of changes to the document.

Megafest 2014 - 63 tables reserved as of today. Pam needs to get the school a copy of our insurance policy.

Electronic Media - Facebook is getting plenty of "Likes."

Asset Committee - Virgil asked if we were going to put electricity out to the trailer (not at this time). Also needs to know what we want to do for insurance (equipment only). Will insure through ARRL program.

Scholarship Fund

Elliott Gordon was the recipient of our scholarship award. He sent us a very nice thank you card. \$573.69 is the amount in the fund for 2014-15 school year at present.

Zero Beat

Zero Beat is looking good. Dan noted that he still needs short articles of interest from members. Please submit articles and pictures to Dan at zerobeat@ppraa.org.

Saturday Ham Breakfast

Some discussion arose around the starting time (8 vs. 9AM). Will remain at 8-9:30AM for

the time being.

ARES

Jim Bishop reported on several local events that need ARES volunteer support. See local ARES website for info: www.ppares.org. The link to the volunteer web page is <http://216.161.57.107/ARESPSE>.

Special Event Station -

July 12. Will try to operate it out of the garage, so we can also work on the trailer & fence at the same time. Jim Harris is heading this up. We will have a transceiver for SSB & maybe CW operation on 20 meters. 14.245 MHz is the target operating frequency. Operation will be from 8AM-8PM if personnel are available. Doug/Jim moved/seconded to provide up to \$50 for food. Passed.

Technical Education - still looking for General class volunteer instructors for the various phases of the General class course.

New Business

No new items.

Unfinished Business

No items.

Upcoming Events

Ham Breakfast - 1st Sat in August (the 2nd) at 8AM -- Omelets, Etc. on 8th St. near post office.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, August 11, at Daniel's Taco Shop.

Megafest 2014 - July 26, Lewis-Palmer High School, Monument, CO.

Annual Picnic - Aug 16 at Memorial Park

Special Event Station - 75 years of service, Sat, July 12 at the club station, around 14.245 MHz +/-, 8AM-8PM (14Z -- 02Z), call sign AF0S.

Around The Table

Jim H - two different fonts in agenda title:>) Michael will correct.

Pam - WGØAT has a new goat video

Virgil - thanks to John for assistance on the gate installation. Need to return post hole digging tools to Brad's neighbor. Thanks to Christopher for organizing FD activities.

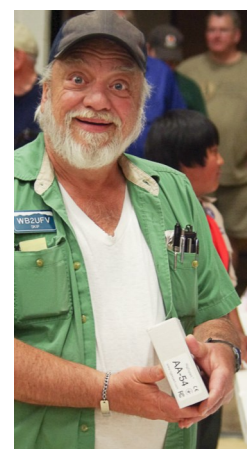
Meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Wishart NG0I

Secretary

28 July 2014



PPRAA 2014 Megafest
Rigexpert AA-54
Antenna Analyzer
Skip Juhasz, WB2UFV

PPRAA General Meeting Minutes—9 July 2014

President Michael Derbort called the PPRAA general meeting to order at 7:00 PM at IHOP Restaurant at 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO.

Silent Keys – none.

June minutes were approved as published.

2014 Goals and Objectives
- no changes

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report - Pam stated we had \$11091 in our bank accounts as of 30 June 2014.

Asset Committee - Virgil obtained an initial quote of \$3350 for a 8' x 20' storage container, but expects to get a lower one from the vendor's Denver office.

Building Committee - will be working on installing the gates, stabilizing the trailer, and area cleanup at the Special Event Station activity this coming weekend. Pam and Dan purchased some tables and chairs for the station.

Field Day

Thanks to Chris and his family for organizing the activity. It was very successful and well-attended. We received over 2600 points during the operation. It was done entirely on generator and solar power.

Electronic Media - Doug reported we've received a bunch of "Likes" on our Facebook page.

Tech Ed - Dan Scott reported that we are setting up a General exam class. He needs more instructors for the class.

Zero Beat - Dan needs more articles for the publication.

ARES Update

⇒ Jim Bishop reported on local ARES events and upcoming activities that need volunteers. ARES website is www.ppara.org. The volunteer link is <http://216.161.57.107/ARESPSE>. You need to be an ARES member.

⇒ John Bloodgood also reported on the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb and Summer Roundup events.

Scholarship Fund

Elliott Gordon is this year's recipient. Please donate to our college scholarship fund for the upcoming school year. Tax-deductible donations can be made via PayPal on the PPRAA website (www.ppara.org).

Megafest 2014

Saturday, July 26th at Lewis Palmer High School, Monument, CO. Raffle & table sales are running ahead of last year. Setup at 4PM on Friday, July 25. Extension cords and power strips are needed.

Special Event Station

This Saturday at the club station. 8AM-8PM. Setup is this Fri at 6PM. Operations will commence at 14.245 MHz on SSB and possibly CW. We will have at least two radios available. Please come out and operate if you can. Jim Harris W0EM is the organizer. This event is to celebrate our 75th anniversary as a radio club. We will also be working on the gates and the trailer.

Zero Beat

Article deadline is July 25.

ARES Report

John Bloodgood reviewed the upcoming events for which volunteers are needed.

Volunteer Examiner (VE) Report

VE session is on the second Saturday of even months. Next one is Saturday, June 14, at 9AM at Colorado Technical University, Room 100. Our club Members are encouraged to get qualified to be a Volunteer Examiner. It's an open book exam, with the Volunteer Examiner Manual available as a PDF for study and reference on the arrl.org website.

Elections

Coming up in October. If you are interested in an officer or board position, please let a board member or officer know.

Program

Emergency Preparation by "Prepper" Kevin Polk K0BBA (aka "Bubba").

Upcoming Events / Notices

Ham Breakfast - Saturday, August 2. Sandy's at Omelets, Etc. on 8th St., 8-10AM

Thursday Night Net: On the air every Thursday, 7PM, at 28.390 MHz (USB, 10 meter band, vertically polarized). The July 10 net is #294.

Next Meeting: 7PM, Wednesday, August 13 2014, IHOP Restaurant, Stetson Hills Blvd. & Powers. (2nd Wed of the month)

Next Board Meeting: 6:30PM, Monday, 11 August 2014, Daniel's Taco Shop. (Mon before the 2nd Wed of the month)

Club Picnic - Aug 16, Memorial Park, Pavilion B. Operate in AM

and eat at noon

Rocky Mountain Regional ARRL Convention Aug 8-10 in Albuquerque.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Wishart NG0I

Secretary

28 July 2014



Second Prize: ICOM ID-51A
Grand Prize: Elecraft KX-3
w/ RT Systems programming kit
Jarret Rush, NM0V

Calling all potential instructors

PPRAA is looking for people to help with a General Class licensing course.

The text will be from HamRadioSchool.com General Licensing Course.

Dan, WØRO, is looking for a location and time to start organizing the class, any ideas?

The course author, Stu Turner has volunteered helping and teaching a couple of the sections.

Why this book?

"Unlike most other intermediate ham radio books, this one does not pad its pages with the public domain questions from the exam question pool and try to "teach the test" by requiring you to memorize answers without understanding them."

"This book really teaches radio and when you "get it" you don't have to rely on mine numbing memorization."

Don't just memorize!

Really get it!



ANTENNAS FOR TIGHT LOCATIONS—Part 5



ISOTRON 20/15/10

Last article was about "Capture Area" and size of the components of the antenna. Now that you have made an antenna that does not look like a dipole or vertical, what kind of radiation pattern can you expect? What other characteristics may the antenna have?

If you build a resonant antenna that is a 3 dimensional design, it will not have much physical length compared to the wavelength you designed it for. Electrically the antenna radiates at a good efficiency, but what does it do to the radiation?

A dipole or vertical wire or piping will naturally line up the magnetic lines with the length of the antenna.

For a dipole, this will give it a stronger radiation in 2 directions and a weaker radiation in the 2 directions that are at 90 degrees. If you can get the antenna high enough and in the clear, you can take advantage of this small, but noticeable characteristic. A little more punch in 2 directions and a little rejection of other signals

in the direction at right angles to the antenna.

For a vertical, you can mount the antenna closer to the ground and have it work well. It can have a very even pattern around the antenna.

Now for this 3 dimensional thing you made, what can you expect?

The magnetic lines are at random, going many different ways. Some call this a random polarization. Is this bad? Not really.

This design will be close to an isotropic radiator. This means radiation is equal in any direction from the antenna. Does that mean you loose radiation going straight up, or as some say a cloud warmer?

If you were floating in outer space, this might be the results. However, we have good old earth to fix this for us. Much like a horizontal dipole, the earth gives the antennas a vertical gain depending on how high the antenna is from the ground.

Therefore, the 3 dimensional antenna will exhibit the same response, increasing radiation toward the horizon per height above ground. There will be no need to rotate the antenna as you would the dipole.

An other nice characteristic is the 3 dimensional, or randomly polarized antenna receives less noise than either the vertical or dipole because noise many times are vertically or horizontally polarized.

The Isotrons, which is of this randomly polarized design, have been tested by Gilfer Associates on 60 meters. They found a 3 db reduction in noise while received signals were of the same strength as their 1/2 wave dipole.

For the coming articles, I would be glad to entertain questions on installation challenges you may experience in setting up your station.

73,
Ralph Bilal WD0EJA

AUGUST 2014

ARRL Club support could improve

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

ARRL support for clubs could use some improvement.

Often, when you hear ARRL officials speak, they extol the virtues of amateur radio clubs, saying things like, "Clubs are the lifeblood of amateur radio." For example, Dale Williams, WA8EFK, in response to my e-mail congratulating him on his appointment as the new ARRL Great Lakes Division director, said that his "plans are to push to keep things local, club-related, and bottom-up driven." Of course, that kind of set me off. When it comes to club support, the ARRL is more talk than action.

One example of this lack of support is that there hasn't been an issue of the ARRL Club News newsletter for years. Even so, if you log into the ARRL website and look at your e-mail subscriptions page, you'll see that it says that it's supposed to be a monthly newsletter.

I'll also note that the ARRL CEO Harold Kramer, WJ1B, left this particular newsletter off the list of available newsletters in his June QST

column. I don't know who at HQ is responsible for producing this newsletter, but the fact that there hasn't been one for so long speaks volumes to me.

Another example is the club commission program. Under this program, clubs get a \$15 commission when they sign up a new member. That's not bad, but the commission falls to only \$2 for renewing members. According to a former treasurer of ARROW, my club here in Ann Arbor, MI, \$2 just wasn't enough to make it worth his while to process renewals.

To be fair, it's not all bad news. The ARRL website does have a page with information on how to set up and run an active club (<http://www.arrl.org/affiliated-club-resources>). The ARRL also has a club liability insurance program is a decent deal for clubs, but that program probably doesn't require much effort on the ARRL's part. The ARRL is also supposed to refer new hams to clubs, but I'm not sure exactly how they do that, and I don't think ARROW's gained any new members from this recently.

Let me ask you. Is your club getting the support it needs from the ARRL? If so, I'd like to hear about what you think they're doing right. If not, I'd like to know what you think they should be doing to help your club.

When he's not writing this column for club newsletters, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and teaching ham radio classes. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



PPRAA 2014 Megafest
Butternut HF9V Ant.
Dan Scott, W0RO

PPRAA Picnic—date set

PPRAA annual picnic

Saturday, August 16th

Memorial Park Pavilion B

1605 E. Pikes Peak Ave

**The pavilion is reserved
from 5:00 AM - 9:00 PM**

More details to follow. Please check ppraa.org for more details.

NOTE: This is the same location as the 2013 Club Picnic



Arrow Antenna at PPRAA 2014 Megafest

Kenwood TM-V71A Installation on BMW K1300GT



I passed my Technician Class Exam in 2004 and have not really done anything serious with Amateur Radio since I left California in 2008. My company transferred me to Colorado Springs then and I was busy with work and road racing motorcycles. I had a really bad road racing crash in August of 2011 that convinced me that it was time to retire from racing. My wife Cindy (still newlyweds from Aug 2006) thought it was way past time.

Fast forward to Dec 2011, I retired from Northrop Grumman as an antenna system engineer and then later in 2012 I bumped into an old friend, Ray Davis, at the 2012 SCMA Three Flags Ride, starting in El Paso, Texas. Ray renewed my interest in Amateur Radio and I began working on some nets here in Colorado Springs (actually we live in Falcon about 10 miles east of the 'Springs). In 2013 I saw Ray and Bonnie again at the Finish banquet of the 2013 SCMA Three Flags ending at Winnipeg, Manitoba, CANADA. So now I'm really thinking about putting my HT on my Bike.

I discussed this a few times on-line and on the telephone with Ray (even one time while he was riding his bicycle). Ray convinced me to scrap the idea of using a low power HT when I could integrate a mobile rig on the bike with gobs (technical term) more power. So in October, I started getting really serious.

To start, I have a BMW and I found that it was going to be different in that not many of us in Motorcycling Amateur Radio Club (M.A.R.C.) have BMWs. Second, I use SENA Bluetooth Headsets on this bike for everything; GPS, XM satellite radio, Cell phone, MP3 player and radar detector. So the first thing was to try to make the SENA work with the Kenwood TM-V71A. SENA has a Two-Way Radio Bluetooth Adapter that I had tested with my HT, a Kenwood TH-F6. They even had a nice cable that worked for that radio. I tested that first on the bench wearing my helmet and received good signal reports.

Then I had to adapt the TM-V71A to the SENA Bluetooth Adapter. First I had to find a source for the connector SENA uses for their adapter. It is a Hirose HR10A-7P-6P (73) connector. I found a source at Mouser Electronics and I used

a shielded CAT 5 cable from the Kenwood PG-5F Remote location Kit to connect to the MIC connector (RJ-45) on the Kenwood. I also had to add a pigtail to the cable to connect an RCA plug to an external speaker jack on the back of the radio for audio. After building that cable I hooked up the radio on the bench and once again was on the local ARES net to test it out. Again, good reports.

I'm using a Comet SBB-5 with a Diamond Cable assembly which uses RG-316 cable. The radio is mounted in the trunk of my bike which is an add-on aftermarket case (Coocase), of medium size (37Liters). I had to drill holes for the cable access and also a vent for airflow for the radio. I found an enclosure vent that keeps the rain out that I mounted onto the bottom of the trunk. You can see the air vent just below the radio in Fig.1, below.

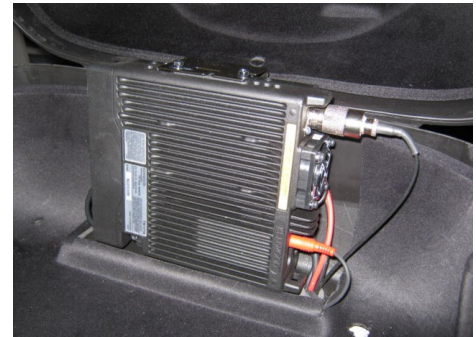


Fig.1. Radio Mounted inside front of Trunk

Power is directly from the battery with fuses for both +12VDC and the Ground wires (12AWG) and I use Anderson Power Pole connectors under the seat to make the installation/de-installation easier. The RF cable comes from the antenna mounted off the luggage rack under the trunk to a place under the seat where I made a loop and tied it out of the way before it goes to the radio in the trunk. I'll add Ferrite beads to the extension cables if needed to reduce noise.

Kenwood TM-V71A Installation on BMW K1300GT—Continued

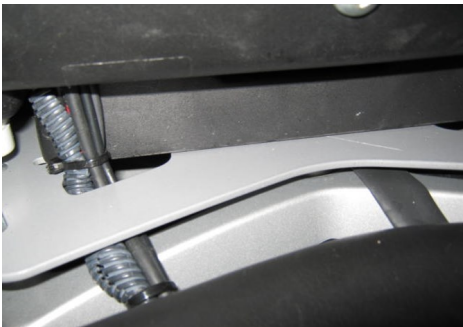


Fig 2. Cables and Ground strap exit the Trunk.



Fig 4. Cables and Ground strap exit the Trunk.



Fig 3. Cables and Ground strap exit the Trunk. Air Vent on bottom of Trunk.



Fig 5. View from the seat.

The front panel is mounted on a panel that is rubber mounted to the handlebar and fork area of the bike. It has to go there since there is no other place to locate it on this bike where it can be conveniently operated. The SENA Bluetooth Adaptor came with an auxiliary PTT button that I mounted on the left handlebar and I will use it until I find something better. Time for testing so I could only push the out of the garage, since we had snow. I tested using a local net and a few Simplex ops showed and it had good signal reports. With the Tupperware (all of the

plastic bodywork) back on, and the sun out, it's time to go riding. bike .

Just held up riding for a time since I had back surgery in May. Looking forward to riding again in late July.

73 to you all!

Charlie Coyner

KD6CBC



PPRAA 75th Anniversary
HF SSB and CW stations



VE Testing Colorado Spring (PPRAA)

Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA)

When:
Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec
2nd Saturday at 9 AM

Location:
Colorado Technical University (CTU)
4435 North Chestnut
Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Directions:
<http://ppraa.org/ve-testing>
or contact:
Dan Martin
VE@PPRAA.org



VE Testing Woodland Park (MARC)

MOUNTAIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB (MARC)

When:
Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov
1st Saturday at 10 AM

Location:
Woodland Park
Woodland Park Library-
Community Meeting RM
218 East Midland Avenue

Directions:
<http://www.nx0g.org/ve.html>
or contact
Wes Wilson (KØHBZ)
k0hbz@arrl.net
Call (719) 687-8758



Applicants will need the following items:

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 FRN or SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required – this includes children).
3. Your CURRENT ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) and a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
4. The CURRENT ORIGINAL 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. This covers all exams you wish to take at this VE session.

NOTE: PPRAA and MARC VE Team policy, as with many VE

Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

PPRAA – Colorado Springs testing only:

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

Making Plans for the Colorado 14er Event

Reposted from "The KØNR Radio Site" at: <http://www.k0nr.com/wordpress/>

The [Colorado 14er](#) Event (Aug 3) is a few days away so it is time to get ready. This event was born out of the basic observation that many hiking hams were taking along their radios (typically, a VHF/UHF handheld) when they climbed the Colorado 14,000 foot mountains. So we thought "let's all climb on the same day and see who we can contact." The typical 2m FM contacts have expanded to other frequencies and modes, including the high frequency bands, with the potential for worldwide propagation. We've also embraced the [Summits On The Air \(SOTA\)](#) program, opening up over 1700 summits in Colorado for ham radio activity.

How can you join in the fun? The most active way to participate is to operate from a summit. If you are interested in [climbing 14ers](#), then you may want to operate from one of the 54 14,000 foot mountains. In my opinion, all of the 14ers are strenuous hikes, so be sure to assess your ability and check out the challenge of any summit you attempt. There are a few that you can drive up, Pikes Peak, Mount Evans and Mount Bross (4WD only). Note that a "non-motorized

final ascent" is required if you want to qualify as a SOTA activation, which is encouraged. See [this web page](#) for some great tips on activating a SOTA peak. If you want to try something less difficult, consider one of the easier [SOTA peaks](#) (more than 1700 in Colorado). Everyone can find a SOTA peak that fits their particular hiking ability.



If you can't get out and operate from a summit, you can still have fun trying to contact the radio hams on the various summits. There will be quite a bit of activity on 2m FM, starting with 147.42 MHz and moving up from there using the standard Colorado band plan. You'll want to be roughly within "line of sight" to as many peaks as possible for working them on VHF. Many radio operators will be on the HF bands, too. See the recommended [frequency list](#)

[here](#).

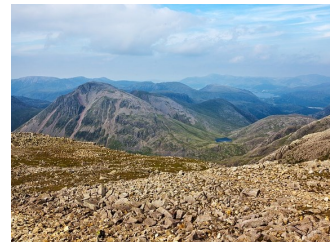
Summits On The Air has some great infrastructure that we can use during the event. [The SOTAwatch web](#) site is used for "spotting" SOTA stations so that you know who is on the air. Spotting yourself is encouraged and can be done from many peaks using a mobile phone. [SOTA Goat](#) is a great iOS app for making and tracking spots.

Take a look at this posting for some additional SOTA resources. There's quite a bit of information out there so take advantage of it. Remember, the Colorado 14er Event is based on the fundamental purpose of ham radio: to have fun messing around with radios. But be careful out there, we don't want anyone to get hurt.

Questions, comments, let me know.

73, Bob KØNR

Disclaimer: Climbing mountains in Colorado can be dangerous. Only you are responsible for your safety. In particular, be very aware of the lightning danger if you are hiking above tree line.



2014 PPRAA Megafest

**PIKES PEAK RADIO
AMATEUR
ASSOCIATION**

Send membership application to:

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

General Questions:
ppraa@ppraa.org

ØBeat:
zerobeat@ppraa.org



ppraa.org

Get Radio Active, get on the air!

Membership Application:

Date: ____ / ____ / ____ New Membership: Yes / No

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Call: _____ Class: ____ Phone # (____) _____

Email: _____

Are you a ARRL member: Yes / No

Additional Family Members:

Name1: _____ Call: _____ Class: ____ ARRL Member: Yes / No

Name2: _____ Call: _____ Class: ____ ARRL Member: Yes / No

Name3: _____ Call: _____ Class: ____ ARRL Member: Yes / No

____ \$15.00 Full Member

____ \$10.00 Full Member over 65

____ \$18.00 Family Membership

____ \$12.00 Family Membership over 65

\$____ Membership Amount

\$____ Scholarship Fund Donation

\$____ PPRAA General Fund Donation

\$____ Total

2015 Scholarship Fund

There are multiple ways to donate to the PPRAA

Scholarship Fund.

1. Use the form found on this page and send it, along with a check to PPRAA.
2. On the PPRAA web site you can donate via PayPal
3. At club meetings
4. Directly to the our scholarship fund.

Make checks to:
PPRAA Scholarship

The scholarship fund can be reached at:

FAR Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 911
Columbia, MD 21044

Ø- Beat Banner

The Ø-Beat banner picture was taken on or near Pikes Peak and illustrates the wildflower you may find hiking the area.

The theme of the banner is Pikes Peak. If you would like to submit pictures of Pikes Peak to be made available for the Ø-Beat banner, please send them to:
zerobeat@ppraa.org
Please Include "[Ø-beat]" as part of the subject line.