



VOLUME 68 ISSUE 7
August 2017

PPRAA Club Officers

President	<u>Raleigh Holcomb, N4HYF*</u>
Vice President	<u>Mike Anderson, WV7T</u>
Secretary	<u>John Wishart, NG0I*</u>
Treasurer	<u>James Madsen, K3ILC</u>
Ø-Beat Editor	<u>Jerre Redding, WA0BCM</u>
Webmaster	<u>Douglas Nielsen, N7LEM</u>
Board	<u>John Bloodgood, KD0SFY</u>
Board	<u>Glenn Brodt, N3ULW</u>
Board	<u>Dan Huber, KN0MAP</u>
Board	<u>Frank Rogers, KB3PDT</u>
Board	<u>Jim Rader, KD0NQM*</u>
Board	<u>Jim Bishop, KD0KQL*</u>
Board	<u>Virgil Yost, N0XRS*</u>
Board	<u>VACANT</u>

* In final year of 2-year term

All officers can be contacted at: boardmembers@ppraa.org

Monthly Ham Breakfast



Saturday, Sept.. 2, 2017 8-9:30 AM

La Tartine, 1420 Kelly Johnson Blvd., Colorado Springs

Phone number 719-634-7321

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



August PPRAA Club Meeting

The Aug 9th 7PM club meeting will be at the IHop on Stetson Hills Blvd (just west of Powers Blvd). 5749 Stetson Hills Blvd.

Deep Space Exploration Society Open House on August 12

Information about the upcoming open house at the radio telescope site in Haswell , of the **Deep Space Exploration Society. The date will be a week from Saturday, on August 12.** I was asked to provide information to you, so that you could distribute it to the club over email:

What: Deep Space Exploration Society Annual Astronomy Open House

Where: At our 60-foot dish radio telescope site in Haswell, Colorado (direction information attached)

When: Saturday August 12, 2017, all day and into the evening until midnight.

Details: DSES will host its Second Annual Astronomy Open House at our radio telescope site in Haswell, CO, Kiowa County. Our open house is especially for the benefit of the nearby communities of Haswell, Eads, and Ordway. Our fellow hams, and those interested in our work are also invited to visit us, during the day and evening. The date is during the Perseid Meteor Shower. If sky conditions are good after sunset, we will be able to observe meteors and the deep night sky, including the Milky Way. We will have optical telescopes for viewing. We will demonstrate a meteor scatter radio observation method developed by AAOL Ray Uberbecken. During the day we will give tours of our site and equipment, and show how we are observing hydrogen in our galaxy at 1.428 MHz with the 60-foot dish. We also have a radio science experiment observing HF radio pulses from Jupiter and its moon Io, as Io revolves closely in Jupiter's magnetic field. In addition, we will operate a special event ham radio station with our call sign K0PRT, on HF and VHF. (Special event station information is posted in QST.) We will self-spot on DXWatch.com . We plan to operate on 20 meters during the day, and 40 meters during the evening, on phone and JT65. We also will operate VHF.

DSES is a Colorado based nonprofit organization dedicated to practical astronomy and space science education for students, the general public, and society members. Many in the group are hands-on radio amateurs. The group's major project is restoring and operating a 60-foot dish antenna for radio astronomy and amateur radio experimenting. The antenna was originally built for Tropospheric Scatter work by the National Bureau of Standards in 1957. The site was unused since 1974, for several decades. Since 2009 our volunteer members have been working hard to restore and modernize the antenna and its support facilities.

Our site is located about 90 miles southeast of Colorado Springs, about 2 ½ hours drive, in Kiowa County. The location is on Kiowa County Road 20, about 5 miles south of the town of Haswell and Colorado Highway 96. Directions are attached. The last two miles of the route are unpaved.

Our site is remote, surrounded by open farm and ranch land. Please bring appropriate protection for the conditions, such as sun screen. Please also bring water and food. We plan to have a portable potty available.

Overnight camping is available primarily for DSES members and their guests. If you would like to stay overnight, or if you have any further information, please contact DSES President Dr. Rich Russell at drichrussel@netscape.net.

You can learn more about the group and its work at these sites:

<https://qrz.com/db/k0prt>

<http://dses.science/>

<http://www.dses.org/>

If you come, we will be happy to show you around and answer questions.

You can also contact me.

73, Gary Agranat, WA2JQZ

wa2jqz@arrl.net

Interesting gadgets I wish I had time for

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I'm on a lot of mailing lists and participate in a bunch of amateur radio forums. As a result, I see a lot of interesting gadgets that guys are buying or are thinking about buying. Here are three of the latest that look interesting to me. I wish I had time (and money) to purchase all of these and try them out.

Android antenna analyzer

On Reddit

(https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/60nnp1/finally_got_my_mini60_ebay_antenna_analyzer_time/), some of the guys have been talking about the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer (<http://www.ebay.com/itm/CW-USB-Interface-Cable-WINKEYER-compatible-3-5mm-plug-/132121085623?hash=item1ec307c6b7:g:up8AAOSw241YeTei>). Its frequency range is 1 – 60MHz, but the cool thing about this device is that you can use it standalone with the built-in LCD display or with some software (http://www.jtelectronics.co.nz/information_links/MINI60/Add-Bluetooth-Module-To-MINI60-Antenna-Analyser.htm) and a tablet with a Bluetooth interface to get fancy frequency vs. SWR plots. See <http://www.kb6nu.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/mini60-ant-analyzer.jpg> for a photo of the Mini60 Antenna Analyzer being used with an Android tablet.

Of course, this is made in China, but how can you beat the price? It costs \$112 shipped.

Multi-functional component tester

Here's another marvel of Chinese engineering and manufacture – a smart component tester (http://www.banggood.com/3_5inch-Colorful-Display-Multi-functional-TFT-Backlight-Transistor-Tester-p-1083042.html) for only \$30, shipped. It identifies and characterizes NPN and PNP transistors, capacitors, resistors, diodes (including Zener diodes), N-channel and P-channel MOSFET, IGBT, JFET, triacs, and batteries.

This isn't the first smart component tester to hit the market, but the unique thing about this unit is that it has a graphical display that not only identifies the type of component that you've connected to it, but also draws the schematic symbol of the part. You can see a video of this tester in action at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07FH6tjzwWg>.

Make your Raspberry Pi into a desktop PC

Newark/element 14 will soon start selling a kit of part that will make it easier to turn your Raspberry Pi into a desktop PC (https://www.element14.com/community/docs/DOC-83477?CMP=e-email-SEPO-210317-e14PI&et_cid=28941683&et_rid=1231362216&cmp=). The kit includes:

- Intelligent and Safe Power Controller
- Interface to connect mSATA SSD (upto 1TB)
- Real Time Clock to keep track of time
- Heat Sink
- Enclosure

They don't list the price just yet, but this might be what I need to actually make use of the Raspberry Pi 3 I bought several months ago.

If you have one of these gadgets, or buy one in the future, please let me know how you like it. I'll put your review up on my blog, so that everyone can benefit from your experience.

When he's not drooling over electronic gadgets, Dan blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, writes the "No Nonsense" amateur radio study guides, and teaches ham classes. You can contact him by e-mailing cwgeek@kb6nu.com.



PPRAA Board Meeting Minutes 10 July 2017

Present: Raleigh Holcomb, John Wishart, Jim Madsen, Mike Anderson, Glenn Brodt, John Bloodgood, Frank Rogers, Jim Bishop, Virgil Yost, Jim Rader, Doug Neilsen, Dan Huber

The meeting was called to order by President Raleigh Holcomb at 6:31 PM at the IHOP Restaurant at Powers & Stetson Hills.

Silent Keys: None.

June board mtg minutes were approved as published in the Zero Beat.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Madsen provided a treasurer's report showing \$14800.39 as of 12 July 2017. Motion was made/seconded to pay post office box rental of \$64. Passed.

Committee Reports

Zero Beat - no report.

ARES Report - John Bloodgood reported on upcoming ARES events. Summer Roundup Trail Run was supported last weekend. Upcoming: Rally Colorado car rally in Rio Blanco county. Balloon launch by EOSS needs GPS tracking for this weekend.

Old Business

No old business

New Business

Club station - Would like to have a scanner set up to monitor 6 & 10m beacons to check propagation on those bands. The club will have a working party in two weeks (weekend after next, July 22) to pour concrete pad and put up the delta loop.

Elections - All officers and four board members will be up for replacement at our elections in November. Nominations are now being accepted for these positions. If you are interested in any of these positions, contact a club officer or board member.

Club Picnic - we need to get a date and location reserved for this. Motion made/seconded to provide up to \$300 for food for the picnic. Passed. Motion made/seconded to provide up to \$100 for rental fees for a pavilion for the picnic. Passed. Picnic will be at Fountain Creek Regional Park on Sunday, August 20 (27th as backup), medium pavilion #3

Megafest 2017

6709 raffle tickets sold out of 7000 tickets purchased! We will need a new Megafest manager for next year. Jim Rader is stepping down, but will be available for guidance. Thank you for your service, Jim!

Next PPRAA Board meeting: Monday, August 7, 2017, 6:30PM at the IHOP on Stetson Hills at Powers.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
John Wishart NGØ1
PPRAA Secretary
23 July 2017



PPRAA Business Meeting Minutes 12 July 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Raleigh Holcomb at the IHOP Restaurant on Stetson Hills near Powers Blvd. Approximately 35 members and guests were present.

Silent Keys: None.

The minutes for the June meeting were approved as published in the Zero Beat and on the PPRAA website.

Raleigh had PPRAA embroidered patches available at \$1 each. However, they are now sold out.

Treasurer's Report Jim Madsen reported that we had \$14,700 in our accounts as of 12 July 2017.

Committee Reports

Megafest Report

Jim Rader - Event was a big success, with good attendance and favorable comments from attendees and vendors.

ARES Report

John Bloodgood reported that ARES provided support for Garden of the Gods 10 Mile Run, Mountain Top cycling club, Pikes Peak International Hill Climb, Summer Roundup Trail Run. Coming up: Pikes Peak Ascent and Marathon, Rally Colorado car rally.

VE Report

Dennis reported a good turnout at the Megafest exams.

Club Station

Want to put up a 6m delta loop. Work party a week from Saturday, July 22, to pour concrete pad, install the delta loop and another tower. Also will be doing a full inventory.

New Business

Would like to get a scanner to monitor 6m and 10m beacons.

Joe NØENM reported that the Colorado Springs Police Department wants to have more hams in their organization. We would like to support this effort with license training, testing, and other support. The purpose of this effort is to improve backup communications.

Upcoming Elections

Officer positions plus board positions are open for elections in October.

Picnic

Fountain Valley Regional Park Pavilion #3 on August 20. Meats and drinks are provided, please bring a side dish, salad, or dessert.

Club Historian Needed

If you can help with this position, contact a board member or club officer.

Field Day Report & Program

Mike A reported 2456 QSO points and 700 bonus points, for a possible total 3156 points.

Colorado QSO party

This PPRAA-sponsored event will be Labor Day weekend on Saturday, September 2. We will need operators at the club stations.

Program

Mike Anderson WV7T gave a report and slide show on our **club's** Field Day activities at our club station in Ellicott. He was very well-pleased with the event and felt it was the best Field Day he had ever attended.

Upcoming Events

Next PPRAA board meeting: 6:30PM, Monday, August 7, 2017, at the IHOP Restaurant on Stetson Hills at Powers.

Next PPRAA regular meeting: 7PM, Wednesday, August 9, 2017. Same location as above.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

John Wishart NGØ1

PPRAA Secretary

23 July 2017

PPRAA FACE BOOK

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

Contests and Events

WA7BNM contest calendars link

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

Duke City Hamfest

- Friday August 11 thru Sunday August 13, 2017
- Albuquerque Marriott, Albuquerque New Mexico
- More info [here.](#)

Denver Radio Club Hamfest

- TBD August 2017
- Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, CO
- More info [here.](#)

PPRAA Annual Picnic

- TBD August 2017
- 1000-1500 MDT
- Food served around 1230
- Pot Luck (Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert)
- Club provides brisket, burgers, brats, drinks

Colorado QSO Party

- Saturday September 2, 2017

BARCfest

- Sunday October 8, 2017
- Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO
- More info [here.](#)

60th Jamboree-on-the-Air

- 20-22 October 2017
- More info [here.](#)

CMRG Annual Meeting

- TBD October 2017 1:00 – 4:00
- Colorado Springs, CO

TechFest – 2017

- Saturday November 11, 2017
- Lakewood Elks Lodge, 1455 Newland Street, Lakewood, CO
- More info [here.](#)

You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. You can select a different charitable organization after signing in.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at smile.amazon.com

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1476913>

FOUNDATION FOR AMATEUR RADIO

[2017 Far Scholarship List](#)

(Updated 10 Apr 2017)

Garden of the Gods Amateur Radio Club



Garden of the Gods ARC meeting

First Monday of each month at Fargos Pizza at 11:00 AM. All are welcome.

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.



From the annals of PPRAA history

August 1980:

Field Day turns out a new club record for the novice station with 199 contacts. Thirty five folks stayed the entire time, and about 60 altogether showed up at some time to help. The PPRAA forms a public service event committee to handle all of the events they get requests for. The PPFMA replaces their tube repeater equipment with new solid state equipment. Program in August will be on non-ionizing radiation, given by WA9WWS.



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 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 FRN 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 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 Dean Buckhouse



PPRAA VE EXAMS

(MONTHLY)

PPRAA VE session will be held at 9:15 am on the second Saturday of the month at Pikes Peak Library District - Library 21c, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, United States. The exception is the Megafest month where testing will be at Megafest and will be at 10:00 AM

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 **ORIGINAL** amateur radio license (if any) **AND** a **PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.
3. The **ORIGINAL** of any relevant **CSCEs** you have **AND** a **PHOTOCOPY** for the VE Team to keep.

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

Dennis Major N0ABC, PPRAA VE Contact, 719-213-1109

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.

PPRAA VE Session

Monthly on the second Saturday

Where

Pikes Peak Library District - Library 21c, 1175 Chapel Hills Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80920, United States

[map](#)

Calendar

PPRAA

Created by

n7lem.0@gmail.com

Description

Testing will take place in the Ent Conference Center.



Study for your Amateur Radio License exam:

Technician (2014-2018)

General (2015-2019)

Amateur Extra (2016-2020)

Other...

HamExam.org Amateur Radio Practice Exams

Welcome, guest.

Log in using <https://hamexam.org/>

or click [register](#) to create an account.

If this is your first visit to the site, please read my brief [introduction](#).

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: