



VOLUME 69 ISSUE 12  
Dec. 2018

## PPRAA Club Officers

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<b>Vice President</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Jim Bishop, KD0KQL+</a></u></b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Jay Winterton, KD0VRB+</a></u></b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Dick Kohlhaas, W5UDM+</a></u></b>
<b>Ø-Beat Editor</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Jerre Redding, WAØBCM</a></u></b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Douglas Nielsen, N7LEM</a></u></b>
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<b>Board</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Jim Goodwin, KD0SFP</a></u></b>
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<b>Board</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Mike McLaughlin, K0JT</a></u></b>
<b>Board</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Ray Uberecken, AAØL*</a></u></b>

\* In final year of 2-year term

+ One year officer position

All officers can be contacted at: [boardmembers@ppraa.org](mailto:boardmembers@ppraa.org)

## Monthly Ham Breakfast



*Saturday, Jan. 5, 2018 8-9:30 AM*

(719) 266-0555

New Day Café, 5901 Delmonico Dr.

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



## Jan. PPRAA Club Meeting

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

# PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION

## TREASURER'S REPORT

PIKES PEAK RADIO AMATEUR ASSOCIATION TREASURER'S REPORT

Period: 12 Nov 2018 through 9 Dec 2018P

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### ASSETS

Ent Checking Acct 5704.13

Ent Savings Acct 3799.95

Wells Fargo Checking Acct 3851.55

Pay pal 0.21

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TOTAL 13355.84

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

CO QSO Party Awards 374.78

Scholarship Fund 323.00

Unrestricted Equity 12658.06

=====

TOTAL 13355.84

### INCOME

Membership Dues 130.00

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Interest 40.31

=====

TOTAL 170.31

### EXPENSE

Christmas Party prizes 401.60

2019 Raffle prizes 2266.50

Liability Insurance 2019 324.00

Other 3.89

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TOTAL 2995.99

NET PROFIT (LOSS) (2825.68)

NOTES: Scholarship Fund YTD: Outgo \$1000, Income \$1281.59

King Sooper \$865.59, other \$416.00)

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Respectfully submitted:

Richard Kohlhaas, W5UDM Treasurer

## Licensing exam results

Hi all.

Held a regular session on Saturday, Dec. 8. There were 27 applicants - I believe the most we have ever had at a regular\* session. (\* In this case, regular session means NOT a session where the code requirement was dropped (70+ applicants), or at Megafest (50-60 max, if I recall).)

27 applicants

11 were Discovery Canyon HS students

16 Got what they came for

1 Upgrade Gen to Extra

3 Upgrade Tech to Gen

1 New Gen

11 New Techs

Hi all –

I went out to Ellicott today.

As requested, I met with Ed Corn, and talked to him about security.

In regard to the police checking people driving around the back of the building, he said we don't need to do anything at this time, but he recommends that when we go out there, we have something showing our call sign in our possession to show, if stopped (such as our amateur-radio license). Also, Ed told me that where they keep the trucks in back of the building, they are going to move those and build a building containing two bedrooms, because they are running out of space in the fire station. This will be on the north end of the lot where the fire trucks are now parked. South of this building, Ed will be putting in an outlook box containing a 20 ampere outlet, which he said we could use for extra electricity if we need it.

Ed also gave me his dues renewal for him and Jesse Stump (I'm including this because someone may need to remind me).

In side our trailer, the door of the refrigerator was open again, and some of the sodas in the fridge had exploded (they froze). The refrigerator has soda-can guts all over the insides, and someone needs to clean the fridge. The thermostat was set on high (very cold), so I turned that down and unplugged the refrigerator, so hopefully this doesn't happen again.

I installed windows updates on all PCs except PPRAA-2 – the last update was downloading very s-l-o-w-l-y, and it did not go over 99%, and I didn't have any more time.

Also, I had problems logging in to one of the new PCs. I finally determined that the problem was that the numbers lock wasn't on. If you have problems, make sure the numbers lock is on and the caps lock is off – the lights on the keyboard are difficult to see under certain lighting conditions.

On the remote, the antenna tuner was confused – I had to restart it, to get it working again. Also, it appears that the SWR on 20 meters is a little higher than normal (about 2.0:1). I didn't have time to check it with the SWR meter. I looked at the Butternut, and it looks like the 6-meter stub, or whatever that wire is on the side of the vertical is loose and touching the main vertical – I can't tell if it is made of bare wire or not. The guy ropes are a little bit loose, and looks like they could use some adjusting (tensioning), to get the top part of the antenna a little bit more vertical.

BTW, I found out that Rich was not retired military.

If you need to contact me, send me a separate email, since I no longer receive emails addressed to the board.

Jim Madsen K3ILC



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CC&R FRIENDLY (XYL ALSO)  
STATION GROUNDING**

### **STATION GROUNDING**

We are certainly at risk from a lightning strike when we stick a piece of metal up just outside our home or on the roof. What is the safest way to install your antennas near your home?

Keep in mind, electrical discharges from weather can go from the sky to ground, or from the ground up. A direct hit is less likely than a partial hit from nearby lightning. We can not do much with a direct hit, but the partial discharges can be handled.

If you have a pole (metal) or a tower near your home, you will want to ground the structure to the earth. Using ground rod with a short heavy wire or braid to the bottom of your pole or tower.

For a tower, 3 ground rods are recommend close to the tower. However, not in the concrete base. In the dirt.

A pole or mast, one ground rod is sufficient.

You can get ground rods from 2 feet to 8 feet. Which one do you use?

Keep in mind, you are trying to dissipate a very high voltage. The earth can be referenced as 0 volts. When a storm comes in the atmosphere can get heavily charged, either negative or positive. Therefore, a discharge can go either way.

You want as much surface area in your grounding to conductible earth as possible. Depending on your type of soil will determine the type and size of your grounding system.

An eight foot ground rod in conductive soft soil may be sufficient. In some cases a 4 foot rod in harder, but conductive soil will work.

Remember, it is area of contact you want to maximize. A horizontal ground system is quite affective. Much like a radial system, except it does not need to be a tuned length and should be of heavy wire or rod.

Running a ground wire from your home to the grounding system of your antenna is a poor idea. You already have a coaxial cable entering your home to burn it down. You do not want to invite an electrical discharge into your home any worse than you have to. In most cases, it is best to use the grounding provided in your home for your equipment. Disconnecting during non-use is a good habit.

Your coax cable can be protected with coaxial lightning arresters. These can be placed at the tower or mast and grounded to the same

ground system. For added safety you can put one near your home with its own ground rod.

If your antenna is roof mounted, grounding is still important. Use a heavy ground wire connected to the base of your roof mount. Do not lay it on the roof. Neatly run it over the side with stand-offs. Make sure none of it touches the building. This holds true for the coax also.

Lightning is unpredictable, but using a few techniques can make your home and station safer.

73,  
Ralph WD0EJA

Dec 2018

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



## Upcoming events

### PPRAA Face book

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

### Contests and Events

#### **WA7BNM contest calendars link**

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

#### **Winter 2018 Hamfest**

- Saturday January 19, 2019 (0800-1300)
- Larimer County Fairgrounds
- Loveland, Colorado
- More info [here.](#)

#### **The Swapfest**

- Sunday February 17, 2019 (0900-1300)
- Adams County Fairgrounds
- Brighton, Colorado
- More info [here.](#)

*You shop. **Amazon gives.***

Happy Friday Curtis and Jim!

I wanted to email your club to give you some positive feedback on your radio web page! I've been referencing it for an emergency communication and technology seminar I'm teaching at my local library. We hold different seminars every week and they have been a big success! We like to focus on technology based lessons, since the younger generation will be using it for the rest of their lives. (I wish we had classes like this when I was still in school!)

With the recent Camp Fire, and other disasters this year like Hurricane Florence, Michael and the tsunami in Indonesia, we're teaching the kids the importance of amateur radios and how they can help relay important information in times of emergencies. Systems like ARES and SKYWARN are so crucial for public safety, don't you think?

We asked the group to do some research on their own, and they found these guides:

Amateur Radio and Emergency Communications

<https://alertfind.com/amateur-radio-and-emergency-communications/>

Disaster Preparedness on a Budget

<https://couponfollow.com/research/disaster-preparedness-on-a-budget>

I thought they'd make good additions...Would you mind including a link to them on your page with the rest of your resources? This is the page I was thinking: <http://ppraa.org/> (on the left hand side with your other links)

I know you're probably busy with the holidays coming up, but I'd love to show the group they're helping educate others out there and keeping the public safe!

Let me know - I meet with them Monday evening, if you get a chance to update over the weekend. I'd really appreciate it :)

Looking forward to hearing from you!

[Don@ccsvalley.org](mailto:Don@ccsvalley.org)

## From the annals of PPRAA history

### December 1981:

Al ADØZ proposes performing a club inventory and marking all property with labels. Frank WBØPAJ writes an article on George Ohm, the person after which Ohm's Law is named. December meeting is home brew night! The club discovers that it's no longer incorporated, at least, according to certain information gained by WBØLTV who contacted the secretary of state. A committee is still working on the bylaws and on getting legal assistance for the tax exempt status.

# ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureaus

[www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service](http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service)

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.

## **Parker Radio Association**

PPRAA Team,

Be sure to join us for our weekly nets Monday and Tuesday evenings!

First, Monday, at 8:30pm, on D-Star XRF223B, the PRA holds its D-Star net. There is plenty of conversations from everything digital to the latest projects and devices... from DStar / DMR / Fusion / Brandmeister / Hotspots, and even CW. This can be accessed via your local hotspot. Also, many have linked via the WOCDS 2M repeater as well. Considering our KOPRA repeater is being relocated, using the WOCDS 2M side would be best (please follow common/courteous practice when linking).

Second, at 8:00pm on Tuesday, is the PRA weekly analog net on the WOCFI 448.675 – (100Hz) repeater. This is a great way to catch up on the happenings of the PRA and is a great environment to ask any question related to the hobby or to give yourself some bragging rights on a recent license, upgrade, or new piece of equipment.

We’ll see you on the air!

73,

KØPRA

Your Friends at the Parker Radio Association  
[www.facebook.com/parkerradioassociation](https://www.facebook.com/parkerradioassociation)  
[parkerradio.org](http://parkerradio.org)  
[@ParkerCORadio](https://twitter.com/ParkerCORadio)



## PPRAA VE EXAMS (MONTHLY)

PPRAA VE session has relocated and will be held at 10:00 am on the second Saturday of the month at **EL Paso OEM, Mark Dabling near Fillmore, Colorado Springs, CO 80908**. This may soon be changing to a different address.

**TESTING IS FREE.** 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 **FRN NUMBER** (now required – this includes children).
3. 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. 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.

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

Jim Bishop [kd0kql@hotmail.com](mailto:kd0kql@hotmail.com), 719 332-5283



## **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](mailto:k0hbz@arrl.net) or call (719) 687-8758.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).

1. Your FRN NUMBER (now required – this includes children).
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.
4. 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

## Online Practice Test Sites



Study for your Amateur Radio License exam:

[Technician \(2014-2018\)](#)

[General \(2015-2019\)](#)

[Amateur Extra \(2016-2020\)](#)

[Other...](#)

## HamExam.org Amateur Radio Practice Exams

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](#).

QRZ.COM <https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>

Eham <https://www.eham.net/exams/>

AA9PW.COM

**Membership Application**  
**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, Colorado 80935**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  New Membership  Renewal

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

