



Vol. 52

January 2002

No. 1

## Happy New Year!

As we begin the new year, it's fitting to think about how the club can be improved, and how you think you may be able to help the club improve itself. Think of this as suggestions for your New Years Resolutions list! There are many activities in store for the upcoming year, and you only have to look at past *Ø-Beats* to see what I mean. For every activity, we can always use some help.

- **Visit the ham class this month, even if you already have a license.** Frank can always use some moral support, and really appreciates it when club members show up to help out.
- **Help with the swapfest planning.** Another daunting task, which benefits when a bunch of folks help out to do the little things.
- **Sign up for a committee.** We have a relatively small committee list. One Pennsylvania club has a list of 44 different committee chairs and co-chairs! Imagine that! They had categories such as hamwear, refreshments, township liaison, youth programs, CW/ QRP, digital/ APRS, and Adopt-A-Highway. I'm not suggesting that we establish 44 committees, but if there's one thing that you think you can do and can do it well, volunteer for that on behalf of the club. For example, we could use one person that is willing to volunteer to coordinate the ordering of club jackets. Once every few months, poll the members to see if anyone wants to order a jacket, the place the order! It's the little things that can make the club run smoother.
- **Pick up net control at least once this year.** Although we thank the dedicated people that run our net, it would be nice to have a little relief once in a while.
- **Write an article for the web page or the Ø-Beat.** There's always room for one more article, especially when it comes from you!



PPRAA members enjoy a fine Christmas dinner of ham and turkey at the Springs City Church at the PPRAA Christmas Party. If you didn't make it, you missed some downright good food! Well, there's always next year!!

- **Be part of the welcoming committee (if we had one) at the club meetings.** There's nothing that makes newcomers feel more welcome than a member that personally greets them at the door, offers them a place to sit, and talks with them about the club.
- **Please ... Offer up suggestions!** If you see something that isn't happening, or needs a little adjustment here and there, please feel free to speak up at a meeting or better still, come to one of the board meetings and let us know what's on your mind. We can't read minds yet, so if you have an idea, let us have it.

**January Program is the Home Brew/Show and Tell !**

**Meetings** Our monthly meetings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 1318 N. Circle Drive, about 1/2 way between Platte Ave and Constitution Ave on N. Circle. Our Annual meeting is in October. Check the web site for any changes.

### Regular License Exam Sessions

Our ARRL VEC test sessions are on the 2nd Saturday of even numbered months at 0900 at the Denver Technical College, 3245 International Cr, across from Memorial Park. Contact Erik KGØXE for details. Examinees need to bring (1) \$10, preferably a check or money order payable to ARRL/VE; (2) picture ID; (3) the signed original and a copy of your current amateur radio license and CSEs you have (we keep the copies); and (4) a pen, pencil, and calculator if needed. Memory calculators will be checked.

**PPRAA Web Page** See it at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>. Thanks to Rick Brown KØSU, our webmaster and reflector maintainer.

**Get on the PPRAA E-mail Reflector** Stay on top of new or short-fused developments. Send e-mail to [majordomo@qth.net](mailto:majordomo@qth.net); within the body type "subscribe ppraanet".

**PPRAA Simplex Net** All amateurs are invited to join us on Thursday evenings at 1900 on 146.58 MHz simplex for our club net. Get the latest club and regional happenings!

## Officers and Directors

President	Rick Brown	KØSU	531-9423	k0su@arrrl.net
Vice-President	Vacant			
*Secretary	Mike Allen	NØMIK	594-4896	n0mik@arrrl.net
*Treasurer	Ron Deutsch	NKØP	593-8352	nk0p@arrrl.net
Board Member	Bob Wogaman	KBØB	531-0511	kb0b@worldnet.att.net
*Board Member	Jerry VerDuft	ADØA		verduftj@earthlink.net
*Board Member	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	570-1465	n0ntx@amsat.org
Board Member	Aaron Pelouze	KD6FLM		
Past President	Sid White	K4ARM		
Ø-Beat Editor	Rob Roller	N7LV	282-0204	n7lv@amsat.org

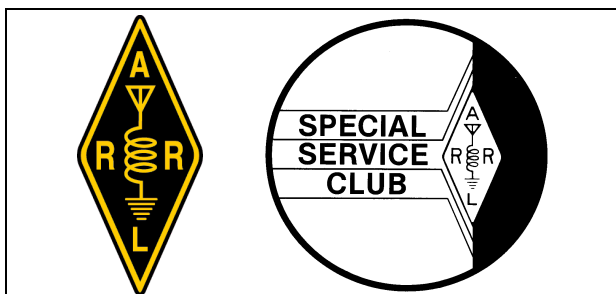
\* Indicates this Director is completing the second year of a two-year term

## Committee Chairs & Other Contacts

Activity	Sean Mullally	NØCT		
Auditing	Kate Ellis	KCØEGJ		
Asset	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
Historian	Roger Eslick	NØVR		
Interference	Bill Petty	NØNJX	532-1439	
Membership	Les Borst	KCØNC	634-3995	
Programs	Rick Brown	KØSU	531-9423	k0su@arrrl.net
Publicity	Rick Brown	KØSU	531-9423	k0su@arrrl.net
Public Service	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
Hamfest	Bob "Rails" Ryals	KIØGF	265-9950	rryals@pcisys.net
Technical Education	Linda Hedges	KBØRKW	683-7828	kb0rkw@juno.com
VE Testing	Erik Mugele	KGØXE		
Video Librarian	Rhoda Anderson	KB2BZY		ww7t@aol.com
AMSAT Coordinator	Tom McDaniel	NØNTX	570-1465	n0ntx@amsat.org
ARES EC	Wes Wilson	KØHBZ		
ARES Liaison	Mike Stansberry	KØTER		
ARRL Section Mgr	Jeff Ryan	NØWPA	260-6826	n0wpa@arrrl.net
CCARC Liaison	Moe Pierce	WBØRTF		
RACES Officer	Tony Dal Lago	KC4VMB	532-9046	kc4vmb@uswestmail.net

## Upcoming Club Programs

Jan.....	Homebrew Night / Show and Tell
Feb .....	Tentative: CO Section Government Liaison Erik Dyce WØERX, speaker



**Articles for the Ø-Beat** Deadline for articles or ads for the February issue is Jan 28. Submit articles by e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person to the editor. Editor reserves right to correct for readability, grammar, spelling, punctuation and length.

**Nonprofit Organization** The PPRAA is a federal 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and welcomes all contributions. Your contributions/donations may be tax-deductible.

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## Club and Local News

# DID YOU RENEW?

Since we're almost all on the annual plan now, the easy way to let you all know to renew is via the *Ø-Beat*! The annual membership dues are \$15 for full members, \$18 for family memberships, \$12 for senior family memberships, and \$10 for senior members. Most everyone's membership now expires on December 31. Check your label, and if you need to renew, contact Ron NKØP right away! This may be your last issue!

### President's Corner

*de KØSU Rick Brown*

I would just like to take a few lines here to thank everyone who helped with the club Christmas Party. I know that everyone who attended had a great time. First, I would like to thank Rosie WAØMNL for getting all of the wonderful door prizes and for bringing the table decorations. Thanks also to George KE6YAG and Nancy KE6WUW Murphy for cooking one of the turkeys and for helping to set up. Bill Bramley NØTUL again brought wonderful smoked turkeys and that was a real treat. Thanks also to Rhoda KB2BZY for setting up all of the drinks and for the cleanup. Of course Sid K4ARM cooked the ham and made arrangements for the use of the church. Mike WV7T helped with the set up of the tables and of course took care of the door prize tickets. Thanks to all of the rest of you for providing wonderful food and fellowship. It was great to see so many of you there.

I would like to remind you that we are now on a calendar basis for membership so if you haven't renewed your membership it is now time to do that. Ron NKØP will be very happy to receive your renewal notice.

As we start 2002 I would like to urge all of you to think of what you can do to support the club. Take a leadership position, give a club presentation, take part in a club activity, or just come to the meetings on a regular basis to help us all. Let's make this the best year ever for the PPRAA. 73 *de Rick*

### A PPRAA Primer

*de N7LV Rob Roller*

As I look back through the past year's worth of *Ø-Beats*, I wonder about how much new club members learn of our club by reading the *Ø-Beat*. I see a bunch of assorted articles on things that the club is engaged in, but it's scattered here and there, in this issue and in that. So I thought it would be fitting to try to summarize, mostly for the benefit of the dozen or so new members that have joined in the past year, and also for prospective members that might be viewing the *Ø-Beat* for the first time. What is the PPRAA all about? Quite a bit, actually! In no particular order, here's a short primer on what the club can

offer you as a member, and what the club does for the community.

**Classes:** As you can see in this issue, we have a class coming up this month. For years now, Frank McNally KFØWF has been teaching the largest ham licensing class in the region. These classes are a starting point for many a new ham in the Springs. Frank was recognized by the ARRL as the Instructor of the Year in 1997, so you can be assured of quality instruction. Other hams, like Mike WV7T, have conducted smaller, more personalized classes to get new hams into the hobby, or to help hams with Morse code or with other aspects of the hobby. The PPRAA wants to help you learn what you need to know in order for you to get your license.

**Elmering:** Even after the classes are through, you can almost always find someone to help with things, like putting up your first antenna, helping to install a mobile rig, setting up an APRS station or a satellite station. Elmering is a term given to hams when they take you into their fold and show you the way, so to speak. Oh sure, you can find out just about everything you need to know about ham radio via the web. But, there's nothing like having your own special ham buddy that you can call or can drop in on when you have a question. That's the spirit of elmering. The PPRAA is full of elmers, whether or not they'll admit to it. Contact the PPRAA board and we'll help you find an elmer if you need one.

**VE Testing:** Going along hand in hand with the ham classes is the actual licensing tests you must take in order to earn your license. Every other month beginning in February, the PPRAA offers a test session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday at 9 am. Location details are on page 2. We also conduct tests as a part of the class. Our volunteer examiners graciously volunteer their spare time to help you get your license. Many years ago, you had to drive to an FCC field office in order to get your license. Due to budget cutbacks years ago, the FCC instituted the volunteer program, so now getting a license is much more simpler. And, you can usually know if your license has been issued because it's available on the internet! If once every two months isn't good enough for you, you can also find other testing sessions in the region on practically any weekend in each month. Contact the PPRAA for more information.



**Meetings:** Of all the clubs in the region, the PPRAA is the only club to hold regular monthly meetings in Colorado Springs. Our current meeting information can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. The meetings are the heart of the club. It's where you can come to meet us, talk to us, find out in great detail what we do, and to enjoy a technical program on some aspect of amateur radio. The club has such a diverse population of hams that you can almost always find someone that knows something about everything - about ham radio, that is. Our programs cover the gamut: DXing, construction, satellites, emergency communications, you name it.

**Public Service:** One of the cornerstones of the PPRAA's purposes is to provide a service to the public in the form of education or emergency communications. Specifically, our Articles of Incorporation state that we are formed and incorporated "... for charitable and educational purposes relating to amateur radio, radio communications, public service and emergency communications...." You'll find that the PPRAA now and in the past has actively organized many a public service event, such as amateur communications for the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb. The PPRAA strongly encourages its members to participate in ARES or RACES or both, as these are the groups that are tied in directly with the city and county offices of emergency management.

**Education.** The PPRAA has been involved in education at one level or another for many years. Most recently, the Cheyenne Mountain High School has formed a ham radio club, and our members are helping to get it going. Our members have helped with the Panorama Middle School radio club as well, when they needed an antenna installed. Other activities include demonstrating ham radio to Boy and Girl Scouts at the annual Jamboree On The Air and Freezoree. We've even set up a contact between an elementary school and the Mir space station so kids could talk to an astronaut! We'll continue to find ways to introduce kids to ham radio in the coming years.

**Field Day:** This is probably the most popular contest/operating event in North America, and it certainly is popular here. The PPRAA has been participating in Field Day for decades to help hams learn about operating in emergency conditions, and just to get familiar with operating in general. In recent years the PPRAA and the Mountain Amateur Radio Club have teamed up to host an excellent Field Day site. Some sites are in the mountains, some are in town. Depends. In any case, all hams are invited to come out and participate, learn to operate a little CW, set up antennas, get you feet wet if you've never really operated like this before. Always the fourth full weekend in June. Mark your calendar now!

**Swapfest:** Each year in June, the PPRAA hosts the largest swapfest east of the Rockies (and west of the Kansas border, and south of Wyoming, and north of New Mexico), or we like to think it's the largest. It is big, no doubt. Vendors and individuals peddle their wares and lots of money changes hands as new and old hams alike search for that special used rig or capacitor. There are also some educational forums and VE testing to help get you kick-started in ham radio activities. Mark your calendar!

**Foxhunting:** From time to time, PPRAA members will organize fox hunts, or transmitter hunts, to give hams practice in locating hidden transmitters, jamming transmitters, and to just have fun. Usually a summer sport, This activity is usually scheduled for a weekend afternoon. Dave NØUVR and Doug WØMHP have been instrumental in keeping fox hunting alive in Colorado Springs, and they are probably the best people to contact to learn of any upcoming hunts.

**Repeaters:** Well, I just wanted to get this in to help clear up some confusion among some of the newer hams. The PPRAA DOES NOT operate any repeaters. There is another group called the Pikes Peak FM Association that DOES operate repeaters. Since the words "Pikes Peak" are in both clubs' names, it's sometimes easy for newcomers to get them confused. And from time to time, I'll hear hams refer to the Pikes Peak club -- now which one are they talking about?? In any case, you can come to the PPRAA monthly meetings, and use the PPFMA repeaters. But not vice versa. Personally, I think you should come to our meetings AND support the repeaters you use.

**Great people:** Probably the most important single part of the club is us ... our membership! It's the people that make a difference in how successful the club is. This club has been around since at least 1951, and probably years before that in another form. Our records don't go back far enough for us to know exactly when and how ham radio got started in Colorado Springs. Nevertheless, you can talk to us in person or on the radio, and you won't find a better bunch of hams. So many hams that are willing to go out of their way to help.

Well, that sort of sums it up in a nutshell. I hope I've enlightened some of you, especially the newest hams, so you know that the club you've joined is more than just a pretty newsletter. I hope to have stirred you up enough to ask more questions if something still is unanswered. I can't possibly put in everything our club has ever done into a single page of information. But I think this summarizes many of the things the PPRAA does. If you still want more, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our phone numbers are all on page 2.

**February & March Meeting Heads Up! Due to the well-known fact that the Mt Calvary Lutheran Church conducts services on Wednesday nights during Lent, we are planning to move the February & March meetings to the Springs City Church during this time. This will save us from running around at the last minute trying to find a meeting location. However, for February & March, the meetings will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday !! Note that in your calendar!**

## Public Service & Emergency Communications

The PPRAA is an ARRL Special Services Club, but it is not an emergency services club itself. The PPRAA supports all amateur radio involvement in public service and emergency communications in any way it can, including reporting activities happening in the region. These columns are based on available knowledge of the editor, and the opinions expressed are not necessarily the opinions of RACES, ARES, Skywarn or any other organization, or their leadership. Logos used with permission.

### RACES



<http://www.qsl.net/epcraces/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1930 on 146.76 MHz

CMRG repeater

Tony Dal Lago KC4VMB, RACES Officer

### ARES



<http://www.qsl.net/ppares/>

VHF Net Tuesdays at 1900 on 146.97 MHz

PPFMA repeater

Wes Wilson KØHBZ, EC

Not much happening with either RACES or PPARES during December. RACES had no meeting; both groups held weekly nets. Look for things to pick up again in the new year. There'll be plenty of training activities, public service events (already we know the March of Dimes Walk will be on April 27 at the USAFA), Skywarn training, and hopefully not as many real emergencies. The PPRAA urges all amateurs to get involved with one or both of these groups, as they are really the only groups that will provide emergency communications to the area's served agencies in times of need. Please check in to their nets and attend their meetings as you can.

### Skywarn Recognition Day a Blast!

de KØHBZ Wes Wilson

(Thanks to the Mountain Amateur Radio Club  
for the photos).



**Bill Fortune WØNHF (left, father), and Bill Fortune III KBØRPD (son, and NWS PUB chief)**

On Friday (11/30) and Saturday (12/1) Pikes Peak ARES/SKYWARN members (including many PPRAA and MARC members) participated in the third annual **ARRL/NWS Skywarn Recognition Day** at the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Pueblo. This is the second year that PPARES has participated in this fun event

which went for 24 hours straight — from 5 pm Friday to 5 pm Saturday.

Co-sponsored by ARRL and the National Weather Service, this event is a cross between a contest and special event — more relaxed than a contest, but more structured than most special events. This year, hams set up and operated stations at 96 participating NWS offices around the country. The object for most hams is to work as many of these NWS offices as possible, and certificates are offered with special endorsement stickers attached for working a given number of certain types of NWS offices. Each office is given a designated category or categories. NWS Pueblo was classified in the "Fire Weather" and "Digital" (digital station) categories. For example, there were 12 offices in the Fire Weather category, and to earn a Fire Weather endorsement, hams needed to work 7 or more of these stations. Other categories included Blizzard, Flood, Great Lakes Mariner, Hurricane, Lake Effect Snow, Mighty Mississippi, Monsoon, Nor'easter, Pacific Mariner, Tornado and Patriot.

The "Patriot" endorsement was new this year and very much sought after. To earn this endorsement, hams had to work both of the NWS offices that supported the World Trade Center and Pentagon terrorist attacks. These were New York City (K2U) and Sterling, Virginia (WX4LWX).

What makes this event so much fun is the fact that hams all over the US (and world, for that matter) are trying to contact as many of these NWS offices as they can. When a NWS office pops up on a frequency, it often results in a pile-up with numerous stations trying to contact the NWS station. There is rarely a dull moment!





**L to R: Tom Magunson, KBØZWX, unidentified operator, Jeff Smith KBØYCI, Bill Pierce KDØJU, Mike Stansberry KØTER (facing the packet station), and Wes Wilson KØHBZ.**

Pikes Peak ARES provided all four stations in the NWS Pueblo Conference Room: two HF single sideband

stations, one HF digital station, and a VHF/UHF/Packet station. One VHF/UHF dual band antenna and four HF antennas and were set up outside the forecast office.

NWS Pueblo was operating under the special event call sign WØP (Whiskey Zero Papa, or Weather Zero Pueblo). Twenty six hams participated during the 24-hour period at Pueblo, making 488 contacts — including 48 of the other NWS offices, stations in 44 states and two foreign countries. NWS Pueblo qualified for the Patriot, Flood, Lake Effect Snow, Mighty Mississippi, Monsoon and Tornado endorsements.

My thanks to everyone who participated and helped out with the event. Several Pikes Peak ARES members put in Herculean efforts providing equipment and antennas, helping with both setup and tear down, and operating throughout much of the event. These operators — who put in nearly 40 hours straight — included Dean Haskins (KAØPII), Jeff Smith (KBØYCI), Mike Stansberry (KØTER), Bill Wallick (KCØFNV), Sid White (K4ARM) and Wes Wilson (KØHBZ). **73**

## QSL Card of the Month

**K4BX/QRP**  
 Bill Milligan  
 213 Pin Oak Court  
 Spring Hill, TN 37174  
 United States of America

CONFIRMING QSO WITH DAY MONTH YEAR  
 KØSU 30 11 01

UTC	MHz	RST	2-WAY	QSL
0408	3.5	559	PSK31	TNX

Maury County EM65

#4488  
 CC 588

Bill  
 k4bx@arrl.net

**Submitted by Rick Brown KØSU.** Rick says, “Note the frequency and mode. He was using the K-2 QRP shown on the QSL and was running 5 watts. I had almost 100% copy for the entire QSO. Great QSO, great QSL, and great mode of operation.” *If you have a unique QSL card that you’d like all of us to see, please submit it to the editor!*

## Articles

### ***Transatlantic Radio 100 Years Old***

*de N7LV Rob Roller*

The 100-year anniversary of the first transatlantic radio contact came and went on December 12. In 1901, Guglielmo Marconi heard the letter "S" in Newfoundland, which was transmitted in Morse code from a station in Cornwall, England. The response was the letter "R" sent from Newfoundland. The anniversary was celebrated by a number of special event stations, including the station at Signal Hill, Newfoundland, contacting the International Space Station.

Marconi had been experimenting with wireless almost 10 years when he made the historic contact across the Atlantic. All of today's modern telecommunications, our ham radios, pagers, cell phones, all work off of the same principles of electromagnetic waves, which were "discovered" as early as the 1870's by physicists such as Maxwell and Hertz. Marconi put the knowledge of electromagnetic waves into practical applications, gradually extending his range until he proved that radio waves could follow the curvature of the earth. This led to the development of modern day broadcasting as well as other telecommunications systems. Marconi shared the Nobel prize in 1907 with a German physicist for his work in wireless.

### ***Thoughts for a Technical Article***

*de N7LV Rob Roller*

I'd like to entertain the idea of someone that has tried PSK31 to write an article describing their experiences:

where they got their information to build the system, how the interface was built, problems they had interfacing to a radio, computer software used, contacts made, etc. Any takers?

### ***Nostalgia***

#### **The Way It Was**

From the "Wireless Age", October 1913: "A wireless station, to be one of the links of a chain of such stations which will connect the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, may be established on the summit of Pikes Peak as the result of a trip made by Franklin K. Lane of the Department of the Interior, who was the guest of the management of the Cog road. Its purpose was to determine whether the summit of Pikes Peak would be a fit place on which to build a powerful wireless station which will connect the two oceans and be used solely by the U.S. Government. As a result of Secretary Lane's visit the Weather Bureau which was maintained by the government for so many years at the Summit House may be re-established."

#### **Meeting Notice**

"The January (1981) meeting of the PPRAA will be held on Wednesday, January 14, at 7:30 pm at Sabin Jr. High. The program will be on printed circuit boards, their design and production, and Al Bailey AD0Z will speak. All members and interested guests are encouraged to attend."

## Ham Radio Classes This Month

Once again it is time for the annual ham radio classes and time for the PPRAA to get the word out to anyone that might be interested in attending them.

These classes will be open to everyone interested in becoming a ham radio operator and will include all the necessary theory to obtain an FCC amateur radio license. A test session will also be included as part of the class structure.

All materials needed to take the classes will be available for purchase at the first class. Handouts will be given out free of charge. A \$10.00 license fee will be charged to take the FCC licensing examination.

### **CONTACTS**

Frank McNally – KF0WF (warm.fuzzy@bigfoot.com)  
or Barbara McNally – N0BAM  
(719) 596-6733  
or  
Linda Hedges – KB0RKW (kb0rk@juno.com)  
(719) 683-7828

#### **Dates**

**Jan 8 thru Feb 7, 2002  
Every Tuesday and  
Thursday Evening**

#### **Times**

**7:00 PM to 9:00 PM**

#### **Location**

**El Paso County Office of  
Emergency Management  
305 South Union Blvd**

**(Enter at east end, go  
down one floor)**

**PRE REGISTRATION IS  
REQUIRED  
BY JANUARY 5, 2002**

## Club Business

### Board Meeting Minutes *de NØMIK Mike Allen, Secretary*



The December 17, 2001 PPRAA Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Rick Brown, KØSU at the home of Ron NKØP, Treasurer. Other board members in attendance were Sid K4ARM, Aaron KD6FLM, Jerry ADØA, Rob, N7LV; Mike NØMIK, and Tom NØNTX. Rick began with a number of discussion items. First, the audit has been completed, and Kate KCØEGJ will drop off the results letter at a later date. (Kate dropped by later during the meeting with the letter). The inventory of club property has been completed with one item unaccounted for. The meeting then moved on to committee reports. Rick asked about the historian activity and said he'd touch base with them. Ron NKØP said he had a box of old papers, mostly receipts if anyone wanted them for historical purposes. The board recommended pitching any that was older than 7 years. The VE test team had collected \$50 from the Swapfest for their sessions at the last Swapfest. Rob noted that the *Ø-Beat* needs contributors and that he will post the *Ø-Beat* on the web for free download beginning with the January edition. Ron gave the Treasurer's report next. The club had \$899.13 in expenses and \$202.00 income for November, leaving a balance of \$4,827.40 in the club accounts. Expenses were for insurance, a donation to the church for the club meeting site, *Ø-Beat* publication and reimbursing Ben NØLNW for the club patches. The January Board meeting will be held at Rob N7LV's house. Rick had sent a letter regarding Mike WV7T's resignation to the club reflector. An election will be held at the January club meeting to elect a new Vice President to serve out Mike's term. Several names were mentioned as possible candidates. Programs for the next few months will be: Jan – Home Brew Night; Feb – a possible talk by the ARRL Colorado Liaison; Mar – a talk on PSK by KFØUR, and in April – a talk by Tom Magnuson on Skywarn. These last two programs may be switched around to accommodate the timing of the annual Skywarn training, which is usually held in late March. The Swapfest for 2002 will be held on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Lewis Palmer High School. The next Swapfest committee meeting will be held on 29 December at the CSPD Falcon sub station on Goddard. A site for Field Day needs to be determined. A site closer to Colorado Springs was discussed along with the site at the HP campground where it has been held in the past. Ron NKØP will donate his Hammy to the club beginning in January. It is highly "modified" by additions from many past recipients. A donation of \$25 was made several months ago to QSL for hosting the club website. Rob N7LV recommended joining the American Radio News Service. The ARNS membership will cost \$25 and they will print the *Ø-Beat*. The Board voted to allocate \$25 for the membership. A location for the February and March meetings will need to be obtained due to Lenten activities at the normal club meeting site. The Board agreed to have Sid K4ARM look into the possibility of holding the February and March meetings on Tues night at the Springs City Church. Once a meeting night and location have been determined, Board members will call club members with

the information. Frank KFØWF will be starting his class on January 8<sup>th</sup> of next year. Planning for the ARRL Division convention is beginning. A meeting will be held in Denver on January 12, 2002 to begin the planning effort. Jerry ADØA is the new Assistant Section Manager in charge of convention planning. Jerry noted that any club wanting to be a part of the convention planning process would need to bring \$150 to \$200 to show interest. If the PPRAA wants to be a part of the planning, we will need to find a representative to the planning committee. A motion was made by Sid K4ARM to allocate \$200 as interest money. It was seconded by Rob N7LV and passed unanimously. Inputs from each Board member were then offered. Rob N7LV noted he had taken the AREC Em Comm course as a review of the material to see if the club wanted to offer it in the future as a service to other hams. He noted it paralleled the CO ARES course very closely. Sid K4ARM said he'd delivered the HF equipment to John KBØUMU for his school station. Sid also noted he had also donated an HTX-202 along with the HF gear. An old RV generator was part of the donated equipment in Sid's possession and Seth KIØPE had offered to buy it for \$160. Since it is not readily transportable, the Board voted unanimously to sell it to Seth. Lastly, Sid noted that any equipment donated to the Red Cross for use at the Red Cross station should have a tag on each piece that says the equipment is on "Indefinite Loan" as a way of protecting our ownership of that equipment. Jerry mentioned the ARRL letter regarding the WARC 2003 fund. He will present this letter at the next club meeting as well as write an article for the *Ø-Beat* about WARC 2003. Tom NØNTX noted that it's time to award the Hammy of the Year. The Board will review the last year's recipients and determine a winner at the January Board meeting. Aaron mentioned that a number of small items from donated estate gear would be suitable for door prizes at the regular monthly club meetings. Finally, Ron NKØP noted that he had received a letter from the CO State Secretary and had sent that office the \$25 needed to maintain our status with the state. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM. *de Mike Allen NØMIK, Secretary*

### General Meeting Minutes *de NØMIK Mike Allen, Secretary*

The annual club Christmas party was held at the Springs City Church on 14 December in lieu of the regular monthly meeting. There was no formal meeting, but the President, Rick KØSU, did present three items of business. First, the Hammy for December was presented to Tom NØNTX. With the resignation of Mike WV7T as Vice President, a special election will be held in January to elect a new vice president to serve out Mike's term. Any club member is eligible for this office. Finally, the members present authorized the allocation of \$900 for Swapfest prizes. The grand prize is to be an FT-817, the battery powered QRP rig from Yaesu. The 817 covers 3-30 MHz, 6 and 2 meters as well as the 70 cm band. After business was concluded, the pot luck dinner began with ham and turkey provided by the club. It was all delicious, and from your club secretary who doesn't know how to cook ... THANK YOU! . *de Mike Allen NØMIK, Secretary*



### ***Ø-Beat Available on Web*** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

Beginning this month you'll have the opportunity to get the Ø-Beat off the web. There'll be a link to it from the PPRAA web page. The Ø-Beat has been available in electronic form for about two years now, and it seems to be a success. The nice feature is that it's in color! Some of you have been getting it as an e-mail attachment, and more recently, I've been making it available via the web

Take a look at it, and enjoy. If you want to get your Ø-Beat that way permanently, contact Les KCØNC and he'll withhold the paper version, helping to curb our rising costs. Or, better yet, use the form located on the web page where you download the Ø-Beat. But remember you'll always have the option of going back to paper. The monthly file will always be at

<http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/zerobeat.html>

### ***WRC-2003 Update*** *de ADØA Jerry VerDuft*

I direct your attention to page 9 of the January 2002 issue of QST regarding the proposal for a 300 kHz segment of 40 meters dedicated to amateur radio ONLY. This is a very important issue if we are to ever realize a 40 meter amateur radio segment that is free of high powered broadcasters from Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific, and amateurs in the rest of the world can access the same 300 kHz of bandwidth that we enjoy in the US. This is a major agenda item for the World Radiocommunication Conference to be held in Venezuela from June 9 to July 4, 2003. Other important issues involving our 70 cm spectrum allocations are under attack by the low-Earth-orbit mobile commercial satellite industry who are campaigning for frequencies around 450 MHz, and the satellite-born synthetic aperture radar scientists who want access to 432-438 MHz.

Planning for WRC-2003 (World Radio Conference) is underway at both the FCC and ARRL headquarters. In May, the FCC's WRC 2003 Advisory Committee prepared a "Preliminary View (PV)" supporting a realigned 40 mtr amateur allocation at 6900-7200 kHz on a worldwide primary basis. PVs do not represent FORMAL US positions and are subject to change as preparations for WRC-2003 move forward, but do indicate the thrust of subject proposals. 2002 is an important year for WRC-2003 planning as a Conference Preparation Committee meeting (CPM) will take place in Geneva on Nov 18-19, 2002 which is basically a "mini-WRC" where agreement on the contents of WRC agenda items is obtained with advantages and disadvantages of the various proposal options expressed.

The American Radio Relay League (ARRL) is deeply involved in this preparation process as is described in the January 2002 QST editorial. It is important that we

support this process through our ARRL membership and affordable donations to the ARRL's "Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies Fund." If you are not an ARRL member – join! If you are an ARRL member and haven't contributed, please consider a donation to this fund. It is tax deductible and all donors receive a Certificate of Appreciation. Donors of \$100 will receive a custom designed Mug plus a pin. Donors of \$50 will receive a custom designed pin. Send your donation to the Fund for Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies, The American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111-1494, or access the ARRL web site at <https://www.arrl.org/defense>

Vy 73, Jerry ADØA, ARRL Life Member

### ***ARRL Says "Eliminate Novice Bands"*** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

An ARRL study panel recommends that the existing Novice subbands on 10, 15, 40 and 80m be eliminated, and Novice stations be allowed to use up to 200W on frequencies that would essentially become part of the General subbands. Higher class licensees would be able to use the full legal limit in what is now the Novice bands, where ALL stations are currently limited to 200W. The ARRL is also suggesting that portions of these bands be set aside for slow CW operation to aid in the practicing by new CW operators working on developing their skills. The response comes from the results of a survey of nearly 5,000, of which almost 2/3 were Amateur Extra operators. Since the FCC is no longer issuing new Novice licenses, and the number of Novice licensees can only be expected to decrease, the reorganization of these subbands is a necessity.

### **Novices CAN Operate Voice on HF!**

On a side note, I and others (Wes KØHBZ is another) have heard this topic discussed more than once, and this topic is the legal operation of Novice and Technician licensees on the 10m band. ANYONE that has passed the 5 WPM element 1A (or 1B or 1C), plus has an otherwise valid ham license, can operate 10m voice between 28.3 and 28.5 MHz. Obviously this includes Amateur Extra, Advanced and General, but the question arises when hams are unsure if a Technician or Novice can operate voice on 10m. YES! A Novice, by default, has passed element 1A. A Technician must hold the Technician Plus version of the license, or hold a CSCE indicating that he/she has passed element 1A. Even if the CSCE is over 1 year old! If someone tells you different, or you doubt it yourself, re-read the FCC rules, section 97.301.

### **Contesting, Anyone?** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

With all the discussion of HF operating on this page, it should be fitting to start a list of upcoming contests to encourage all of us with privileges to get on the air and experience a little contesting. If you don't have the privileges, contesting can be a fun way to get lots of operating experience, and a definite incentive to upgrade!

I'll try to list some of the more well-known contests coming up, but there are many more out there. Check out the ARRL web site for even more of them.

**Jan 1:** Straight Key Night (okay, so this is too late, but it's here for completeness!)

**Jan 4-6:** ARRL RTTY Roundup

**Jan 11-13:** North American (CW) QSO Party;  
Japan International (CW) CX Contest

**Jan 19-20:** January VHF Sweepstakes; North American (phone) QSO Party

**Jan 25-27:** CQ WW 160m CW Contest

**Feb 1-3:** Ten-Ten International Winter QSO Party;  
North American Sprint (phone)

**Feb 9-10:** North American Sprint (CW); Utah QSO Party/Olympics QSO Party; Asia-Pacific Sprint (CW); FISTS CW Winter Sprint

**Feb 11-16:** ARRL School Club Roundup

**Feb 16-17:** ARRL International DX Contest (CW); YL International QSO Party

**Feb 23-25:** CQ WW 160m SSB Contest

### **PPRAA To Help with ARRL Convention** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

Still very early in the planning stages, but it is beginning to appear that the Rocky Mountain Division of the ARRL may hold its 2003 convention in Colorado! On January 12 there will be a meeting of the minds to see what kind of support there exists in the state for such an endeavour. Jerry VerDuft AD0A has been appointed Assistant Section Manager for Convention Planning. Jerry and the rest of the section leadership will see what support there is. Rick K0SU will represent the PPRAA at this meeting. We should have more details next month.

### **ARRL Standardizes its Club Identifiers** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

The ARRL has created a list of standardized names for the ARRL clubs that submit contest information electronically. This will make it easier for their computers to sort out and process the information and accurately count the scores received by club stations. As you might guess, the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association is an ARRL club station that submits information from Field Day. I'm not sure that we submit information from other contests, but Field Day is a definite. The official club name that has been assigned to the PPRAA is "Pikes Peak RAA". This should be what is used to identify logs submitted by our club to the ARRL.

### **Club Items for Sale** *de N7LV Rob Roller*

The PPRAA sells club patches of the PPRAA logo for \$5. Contact the board for information on how to get yours. You can also order a PPRAA yellow club jacket, monogrammed with your name and callsign, from the board. Cost has been typically about \$35, but may vary depending on the number of jackets ordered at one time. Also, the PPRAA has a CD-ROM containing back issues of the Ø-Beat, dating back to 1980. All issues are scanned in and viewed as JPG files. This CD sells for \$10 to members. Again, contact the board if you're interested in a copy.



Also available, but not for sale, the club has a library of VHS video tapes on various aspects of ham radio. Contact Rhoda Anderson KB2BZY at 634-7168 if you would like a list of tapes available. Then borrow them, view them, and return them so others can watch them.

# Pikes Peak Region Ham Radio Event Calendar

January / February 2002 -- Please see Page 2 for Points of Contact						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Happy New Year!	2	3	4	5 MARC VE Test
6	7	8	9 PPRAA Mtg	10	11 Lunch Bunch	12
13	14 Board Meeting	15	16 MARC Mtg	17 RACES Mtg	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 ZB Deadline	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 PPRAA VE Test
10	11	12 PPRAA Mtg	13	14	15 Lunch Bunch	16
17 ARA Hamfest	18 Board Mtg	19	20 MARC Mtg	21 RACES Mtg	22	23
24	25 ZB Deadline	26	27	28		

**Questions about any event on this calendar? Something missing? Contact a Board Member!**

<b>Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.</b> P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521	
Date: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____ Additional Family Members to Join/Renew: Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	In which activities would you like to participate? Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/> Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/> Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> Donation to Club: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: _____ <b><u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u></b>
<b>Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Standard hardcopy via U.S. Mail (Defaults to standard hard copy in the event that NO check boxes are checked) <input type="checkbox"/> As a PDF file attachment via e-mail, to help save a few bucks <input type="checkbox"/> I'll save the club a few bucks and download it from the Web!	
Circle your interests ⇒ HF / V/UHF / FM / SSB / Digital / DX / Contests / Technical / Hardware / Other _____	
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. <b>Please Type or Print Clearly!</b>	

**ALL NEW MEMBERSHIPS AND RENEWALS WILL BE PRORATED TO EXPIRE IN DECEMBER!!**



# RadioActivities!

## Lunch Bunch



The next **Lunch Bunch** is Jan 11 at Home Town Buffet (Austin Bluffs & N Academy), 1130-1300. *(Always the **Friday** following the club meeting.)* Moe WBØRTF is now coordinating the Lunch Bunch !!

## Dits & Bits

- **For Sale:** By Al Vrooman NØCMW: Icom 736, HF + 6m, \$500. 520-3979, avrooman@msn.com.

## Hamfest Horizon

- **Feb 17:** Aurora Repeater Association Hamfest, Adams County Fairgrounds, Brighton. 0900 to 1300. \$4 admission. Talkin on 147.15+. Wayne Heinen, NØPOH, 303-699-6335, n0poh@arrl.net. [www.qsl.net/n0ara](http://www.qsl.net/n0ara)
- **Apr 6:** Longmont ARC LARCFest, Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont. [www.qsl.net/larc](http://www.qsl.net/larc)
- **May 17-19:** Dayton Hamvention, Dayton, OH. 937-276-6930. P.O. Box 964, Dayton OH 45401-0964. [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)
- **Jun 1:** PPRAA Megafest 2002! Probably in Monument, but the deal hasn't been struck with the school yet. Stand by!! [www.qsl.net/ppraa](http://www.qsl.net/ppraa)

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