

Ø-Beat

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November 2004

Saint Paul Island, "Graveyard of the Gulf"

Have you ever spoken with an operator in a rare "DX" country and wondered what it would be like to be on the other side of the pile-up? Ever wanted to go to an island with weather so miserable that not even rats from shipwrecked vessels can survive there? Our guest speaker this month, Al Penney VO1NO, can tell you what its like. He has made several DX'peditions to islands in Atlantic Canada, and has prepared an interesting account of a visit to Saint Paul Island, a rocky islet in the Gulf of St. Lawrence north of Nova Scotia.

Known as the "Graveyard of the Gulf", the treacherous waters around Saint Paul have claimed hundreds of ships and thousands of lives. Thanks to the rules of the ARRL DXCC award, Saint Paul is also a separate DX entity. This has made it a much-needed "country" for certificate hunters. In 1999 Al and eight other intrepid Amateurs traveled by leaky fishing boat to Saint Paul. Overcoming rugged terrain, bad weather and ghostly spirits, they made over 14,000 QSO in a few days of operating, and finished first in North America in the Islands On The Air (IOTA) contest. Come hear Al describe the adventures of DX'peditioning (and look at some great photos of the ocean!) at the November meeting of the PPRAA, 7:00 pm, Wednesday 10 November, in the Office of Emergency Management, 305 South Union.

Welcome, New Officers!

Please note that at the top of Page 2 we have a new slate of elected directors. Welcome! And thanks to a job well done to the outgoing directors: Jerry VerDuft AD0A, Joanie VerDuft

KC0GMI, John Hasling K0AAI, Tom McDaniel N0NTX and Ben Cruise N0LNW!

NEWS BULLETIN! FIELD DAY RESULTS

Hello everyone,

The ARRL has just published the 2004 Field Day results. In a word, our performance was EXCELLENT! Of the 2261 stations that submitted logs, we were 65th overall, an outstanding showing. Among stations in our category, 2A, we were 16th overall, and first in Colorado. We were 5th overall in all categories in Colorado, but keep in mind that the stations ahead of us were all using more transceivers.

Can we improve our score next year? You bet we can! And we'll keep it just as enjoyable an experience as it was this year!

73, Al VO1NO / W0

Powerpole Order - Get Your Powerpoles!

The last group Powerpole order was a big hit, so we're doing it again. At the October meeting Rob N7LV announced he'll work out another group order. Hopefully we can get a group discount, but certainly we can save on shipping and quantity discounts on the plugs. If you would like to order items again from Powerwerx (www.powerwerx.com) please jot down what you want and sent a note to Rob (n7lv@amsat.org). Prepayment is a must, since the last order ran over \$1K! The November meeting will be the last day to place an order with Rob. Rob will get a dollar amount for each of you, and you can mail your check to Rob (good in the callbook ... or QRZ).

Board of Directors

President	Rick Brown KØSU
Vice President	Christopher Taylor NC6T
Secretary	John Wishart KCØJFH
Treasurer	Kate Muniz WB9BAH*
Ø-Beat Editor	Dennis Major NØABC
Director	Al Penney VO1NO*
Director	Pat Kelly KCØMIR*
Director	Dennis Major NØABC *
Director	Mike Anderson WV7T

* In final year of 2-year term.

PPRAA Meeting Information

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association meets monthly at 7 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management, 305 S. Union Blvd, in the basement. For a map, please visit our web site at <http://www.ql.net/ppraa/> or contact any of the board members for more information.

Amateur Radio License Exam Information

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association Volunteer Examiner (VE) team holds testing sessions every other month, in even-numbered months. They're held on the 2nd Saturday of these months at 9 am. For further details and for a list of what to bring, contact Dennis Major NØABC or visit our web site.

PPRAA Simplex Net

Don't forget about the PPRAA Simplex Net on Thursday nights at 7 pm! Jim Harris ABØUK and Pat Kelly KCØMIR have been doing a bang-up job in keeping the net going from week to week. Join everyone for a good time, find out the latest, test out your ability to copy other stations simplex, and listen to the ARRL Audio News! Frequency is 146.58 MHz simplex, with a backup frequency of 146.55 MHz, in case the primary frequency is busy.

PPRAA Is A Nonprofit 501(c)(3) Organization

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

Committee Chairs / Points Of Contact

Auditing.....	Open
Asset.....	Mike Stansberry KØTER
E-Mail Reflector.....	John Wishart KCØJFH
Field Day.....	Al Penney VO1NO
Swapfest.....	Open
Historian.....	Ron Deutsch NKØP
Interference.....	Bill Petty NØNJX
Membership.....	Les Borst KCØNC
Programs.....	Christopher Taylor NC6T
Publicity.....	Christopher Taylor NC6T
Public Service	Mike Stansberry KØTER
Technical Education.....	Mike Anderson WV7T
VE Team Liaison	Dennis Major NØABC
VE Testing.....	Erik Mugele KGØXE
Webmaster.....	

AMSAT Coordinator.....	Tom McDaniel NØNTX
ARRL Awards Manager	Rick Brown KØSU
ARES Emerg Coord.....	Dean Haskins KAØPII
ARES Liaison.....	Mike Stansberry KØTER
ARRL Section Manager.....	Jeff Ryan KØRM
CCARC Liaison	Moe Pierce WBØRTF
HamCon Chairman.....	Jerry VerDuft ADØA
RACES Officer.....	Les Borst KCØNC

PPRAA Web Site and E-Mail Reflector

PPRAA web site is at <http://www.ql.net/ppraa/>
Stay on top of new or short-fused developments by subscribing to our e-mail reflector. Visit <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/ppraanet> to subscribe. Thanks to John Wishart for maintaining the reflector.

Upcoming Club Programs

November: Saint Paul Island, "Graveyard of the Gulf" by Al Penney VO1NO

December: Christmas Party! December 10th, same location as last two years (Springs City Church, 1250 Vondelpark Drive).

Deadline for Next Ø-Beat Articles

The deadline for the December 2004 Ø-Beat is November 21, however, there may be some changes due to the Thanksgiving holiday that week; if there are changes they will be announced on the ppraanet e-mail reflector and on the PPRAA Simplex Net. Send all submissions to the editor via e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person.

President's Message

The Prez Sez

Just a quick note as we start another year with the PPRAA. First, I would like to thank all of the Board of Directors from last year for all of the hard work they put forth in making the club run successfully. One of the best swapfests in the state and a great Field Day effort are just two of the things that come to mind about being a part of the PPRAA last year. Congratulations to everyone involved.

I hope that we can continue to serve the hams in the Colorado Springs area and make this another successful year. I would ask you as members of the club to let us know what you would like from your club. At the first Board of Directors meeting after the election we already started talking about strategic planning and what we want the club to accomplish. While we are the elected leaders, we need your input to make this a successful club. I look forward to hearing from each of you.

On a very personal note, thanks to those who urged me to run for president of the PPRAA again! I am honored to be in this position and hope that I live up to folks' expectations. I will be asking a lot of you for help as we move forward. Please take the time to be a part of this organization. It is very rewarding.

TNX and 73,
Rick K0SU

Christmas Party Door Prizes

The PPRAA Christmas Party is just around the corner. Kate, WB9BAH has volunteered to be in charge of Door Prizes for the event. If you, your employer, your friends, or your favorite restaurant, want to donate door prizes, contact Kate at wb9bah@elpasotel.com. Door prizes can include gift certificates or gifts.

Thanks for getting into the spirit of Christmas with PPRAA!

Swapfest

Please mark your calendars for Saturday December 4th at 9:00 am for the first Swapfest meeting. Hopefully, it will be held at Falcon Police Station, but that location has not been verified yet.

PPRAA is in desperate need of a Swapfest chair for this year. Kate, WB9BAH, has offered to get the ball rolling, and assist in a co-chair capacity. If you aren't interesting in running the whole shebang, leaders are needed in the following areas:

Table Reservations
Programs
Raffle coordination
Publicity (Christopher??)
Door Prizes

The swapfest will be here before you know it. This is our club's ONLY fundraiser, and is said to be the largest swapfest in the state. Let's not let it fizzle out...let's keep on top of the pack!

Let Rick, K0SU or Kate, WB9BAH know of your willingness to help the club!!!

Club Inventory

Once again, after our annual meeting, Mike K0TER will be conducting a club property inventory. If you're holding club property, please contact Mike so he can confirm with you what his property list shows. He'll also be arranging for a date and time to conduct a "sight inventory" at your place.

Membership Committee Report

Please welcome these New Members

JAMES J.	BEAUDET	KC0RVE
JEFF	HAGAIN	KC0SXV
MICHAEL J.	MORA	

Total Number of Members
158

Club Meeting Minutes

PPRAA Meeting Minutes 10/13/04

The October meeting of PPRAA was called to order by President Al Penney, VO1NO at 7:04 pm. No silent keys were noted. Guests were introduced followed by introductions around the room. The September meeting minutes were approved. Kate WB9BAH gave the Treasurer's Fiscal Year Report: \$7054.32 income, \$5845.65 expenses, \$900 set aside for Computer Projector; \$8010.11 current funds available. Al noted that we need someone to audit the Treasury accounts by the end of the year. Les KC0NC discussed RACES Incident Command training and the rebuilding of antennas. Les advised that the OEM renovation should not affect our use of the auditorium (our regular meeting place). It was noted that OEM provides free monthly Citizens Emergency Response Training (CERT); more information will be placed on the reflector. Les noted that we currently have 156 paid-up members. Moe WB0RTF noted that the CCARC meeting is Saturday Oct 16th in Bailey CO. Al requested a volunteer to head-up next year's Swap Fest Planning Committee. Tom N0NTX advised that the ISS is in repeater mode and will put further information on the reflector. Al advised that our Field Day entries are in and should appear in December QST. Al presented a FOXY Trophy (similar to the HAMMY) to Mike K0MLA and Susan KC0SYA for winning the recent Foxhunt. Christopher NC6T noted that our club meetings are being listed in the Gazette newspaper. Mike WV7T advised he has openings in his Tue/Wed night Tech class, and will conduct a General class if there is enough

interest. Dan KB0PPM announced that JOTA is this coming weekend (Oct 16th) at Meadowlake Airport. The Tech Talk was presented by Mike WV7T on his visit to the USS Missouri, KH6BB. Al noted that we need someone to head up this years Christmas potluck dinner. Shelly VO1NOS advised her Guild has 3 metal storage cabinets for sale of \$25 each. Rob N7LV advised he was taking orders for power pole connectors. Kate WB9BAH presented the HAMMY award to Jim AB0UK for reviving the Thursday night simplex net. Following intermission and door prizes, the Election of Officers/Board members was conducted. K0SU was the sole nominee for President, NC6T the sole nominee for VP, KC0JFH the sole nominee for Secretary, and WB9BAH the sole nominee for Treasurer. All were individually declared elected by acclamation by VO1NO. There were two nominees for the remaining vacant Board Member position: WV7T and KD0JU. Each candidate gave a statement of there desire to serve. Secret ballot election was conducted and WV7T won. Congratulations Mike! The gavel was then passed by VO1NO to K0SU who announced the Oct 18th Board meeting will be at his home at 7 pm. Meeting adjourned at 9 pm. Respectfully submitted by Jerry AD0A. Sine die!

Board Meeting Minutes

The PPRAA Board of Directors met at the home of Rick Brown K0SU on 10/18/2004. Those in attendance were President Rick Brown K0SU, Vice-President Christopher Taylor NC6T, Treasurer Kate Muniz WB9BAH, Al Penney VO1NO, Mike Anderson WV7T, Dennis Major N0ABC, Pat Kelly KC0MIR, Rob Roller N7LV, Bill Pierce KD0JU, and Rhoda Anderson KB2BZT. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by our President, Rick K0SU. Rick welcomed the new officers for this year. There were no published minutes from the September board meeting. Bill KD0JU advised that the refurbished computer for the *Zero-Beat* Editor is ready. Rick will notify Sharon and confirm her

desires to only be an interim editor. Moe WB0RTF has expressed a desire to find a replacement as our representative to the CCARC. Kate WB9BAH has volunteered for this position. Susan KC0SYA has volunteered to be in charge of the Christmas party. It is tentatively set for Friday, December 10. Rick K0SU will contact Sid K4ARM to see if we can reserve the church where we held the party last year. After some discussion on door prizes, Kate WB9BAH volunteered to be in charge of arranging for door prizes. Kate WB9BAH moved that up to \$100 be authorized to purchase door prizes. Al VO1NO seconded the motion, which passed. Pat KC0MIR motioned to authorize up to \$100 be allocated as a donation for use of the church. Al VO1NO seconded the motion, which passed. After discussion about the future of the PPRAA Club meeting site, Rick K0SU will coordinate with Jim Mesite to make contact with the auditorium scheduler for next year. Sharon KC0PBR has expressed that she only accepted the *Zero-Beat* editor position on an interim basis. Rob N7LV has accepted the position only until we find a new editor. Rick K0SU is to contact Sharon KC0PBR to confirm her wishes. Later in the evening, Dennis N0ABC volunteered to become the *Zero-Beat* editor if Sharon KC0PBR is agreeable. In any case, Rob N7LV will continue to assist whomever is the editor. Kate WB9BAH will coordinate taking required paperwork to the bank and credit union to get the correct officers on record with proper signature authority. Christopher NC6T will action and update our ARRL Special Services Club status, point of contact information at the ARRL club page and the CS Library website. Upcoming programs and events are scheduled as follows: November meeting – DXepiditioning to St. Paul Island – Al VO1NO; December – PPRAA Christmas Party and January Meeting – Home Brew Night. The Strategic Planning meetings have been hard to schedule and coordinate. They have been delayed until early next year. In the mean time, board members were encouraged to talk it up and find out the direction club members want to go over the

next few years and the types of activities they want. We need to actively pursue volunteers for many of the chairman positions (in particular, Swapfest, Field Day and Picnic). We need to identify those positions so the planning and coordinating can start now. Lee K0QED has announced that he is ready to step down as web master and we need to look for a replacement. The board decided that names and e-mail addresses of all new members would be passed to the PPRAA Reflector editor to be added to the reflector. Kate WB9BAH will contact Ken Emry to see if the extra gym can be made available for next years Swapfest. Kate has agreed to get the ball rolling. But we must identify a new Swapfest Chair as soon as possible. Deadline for *Zero-Beat* articles and items for the November issue is October 25. Discussion was held to pass out small recruitment cards and other general information at the club meeting. Mike WV7T volunteered to set up an information table at the rear of the meeting room. Rob N7LV and Mike WV7T will work on the small info card and check with printers for costs. Kate motioned that we authorize up to \$50 to cover the printing costs. Al sectioned the motion, which passed. Al VO1NO agreed to coordinate recruiting efforts. All information about new/potential hams and new club members should be passed onto Al VO1NO. Kate WB9BAH will contact accounting people she is familiar with to schedule and conduct an audit of our financial records. Al VO1NO has been assigned to conduct the annual physical inventory of the club assets. Al VO1NO will contact Mike K0TER to schedule the inventory. At the request of a club member, a discussion was conducted concerning the selling of fund raising items at the club meetings. The overwhelming position was that the board members opposed endorsing or selling non-club related items at the meetings. However, the board does not object to members to sell such items individually at the break in the refreshment room. Mike WV7T advised the board that had received a letter from Frank KF0WF. In the letter Frank thanked the club for our offer of

assistance for the upcoming Ham Classes. However, none is needed. Frank KF0WF plans to conduct the new classes in January in the Office of Emergency Management at 305 S. Union. Rick K0SU asked board members to attend some of the classes in support of Frank KF0WF and to encourage membership in PPRAA with the prospective hams. Christopher NC6T questioned who had the PO Box key. Kate WB9BAH has one and Rick K0SU will contact the outgoing Secretary, Joanie KC0GMI to see if she has it. (Note: Joanie KC0GMI did have the key and it has been delivered to Rick K0SU.) Christopher NC6T questioned if the club insurance was up to date. He was advised it was. Christopher NC6T suggested the *Zero-Beat* and website be updated to include the new officers and board member. Rick K0SU agreed to contact the web master to inform him of the updated information. The interim editor(s) were present and took this item for action. The November Board Meeting will be held at the house of Pat KC0MIR.

Respectfully submitted Pat Kelly KC0MIR.

October PPRAA Foxhunt

The October PPRAA foxhunt took place on October 24th. The starting point was Coronado High School on Fillmore St. at 13:00; the actual start time was 13:05. The participants were:

Team	Members	Finish Time	Place
4	Dave N0UVR Moe WB0RTF Bill KD0JU	1505	1
2	Luke AC0AV	1540	2
6	Jeff K0RM	1540	3
3	Jim AB0UK Troy WB0LMX	1545	4
5	Al VO1NO Shelley VE1NOS	1545	5
1	John KC0JFH	1545	6

The location of the fox was such that there were numerous reflected signals. Most of the teams were, at least at some time, on the west side of town, while the fox was hidden in Rampart Park on North Union Blvd. There were two

teams that did not finish: Thomas KC0NRZ and Les/Jody (KC0NC/KA0NOZ)

Personality of a Ham

By KA4JQZ

Hams are a great cross-sectional representation of our society. Being a student of life I have noticed differences in the personalities of hams related to their preferred operating activities and modes. The only easy way to break this down is by mode, band, activity etc. Next time you are in a group of hams, look around, listen, and try to figure out just what type of ham the person you are talking to is. As a disclaimer, these are not all inclusive and just my personal observations.

The CW Operator: Often reclusive and concentrated on the task at hand. Not very outgoing, but get them in a ragchew and watch the CW fly. You would think they were 10 feet tall and masters of the universe. They can be identified by facial hair, and excessive use of Q codes. They often cannot write a complete sentence without using abbreviations known only to other CW operators.

The Contester: Very competitive, obviously, and usually very outgoing. These are great leaders and have the ability to make sense out of chaos. They are accustomed to listening to two different frequencies at the same time whether on the air or in casual conversation. They are very hard to identify because they move too fast. Look for a blur of a human body and chances are you have seen a contester.

The SSB DXer: Loud, demanding, and efficient. Must have the best of everything and takes great pains in making sure it happens. I think my drill instructor would have made a good SSB DXer. Nobody better at a field day to get and keep the ball rolling. Look for the SSB DXer by the rare DX QSL cards in their back pocket.

The Technician: I don't mean the technician license, class but the guys and gals that keep the repeater going, know how to build an amplifier from an old TV and would rather read a schematic than a good book. They try

everything new just to see how it works. A lot of the digital operators have this mindset and not only make sure their signal, antenna and computer operate efficiently, but they can troubleshoot and repair anything. They are constantly looking at the world wondering how to use everyday things in relation to Ham Radio. You can identify them by the pocket protectors, tape on the glasses and the fact that they proudly hold an Advanced or Extra Class License.

The VHF/UHF Operator: The public service backbone of amateur radio today. You hear them on the repeaters, running nets, watching for storms. Always looking for ways to provide a service to their fellow man. Often identified by the “brick” attached to the waist.

The QRPer: Timid creatures that are not often spotted in direct sunlight. Take the best of all operators and concentrate these qualities into 5 watts or less and obtain, what seem like, impossible goals. They are everywhere and a little of them is in all of us. They are constantly building, repairing, tweaking and operating from home, in the mountains, and at the beach. You can spot a QRPer by the bag of cables, batteries, solar cells, and headphones they carry.

And last but not least the 75 meter SSB Ragchewer. You will often hear them on HF nets, talking to old and new friends. You can tell the 75-meter ragchewer by the ability to talk about any subject whether they know about it or not. They often have an opinion on just about everything and if they don't, just give them 5 seconds and they will establish one and it is always the only correct one; just ask them. Often aurally identified by repeating the word HELLO-O-O until the amp is warmed up.

U mite wndr whch catgry u fall n2. Fer me cw is the only way to go, untl nx time 73 de KA4JQZ. . _ . _.

El Paso County RACES Activities



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

This month Doc W0MCT gave a RACES presentation to the Sheriff Department's "Citizens Advisory Committee".

Work is continuing on the rebuilding of the coax antenna cables.

We have started working on the updating of the inventory of all RACES property at the OEM facility.

Les KC0NC
RACES Radio Officer

Pikes Peak ARES Involved In Large Exercise



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

Pikes Peak ARES members participated in the nine-county exercise in southeast Colorado supporting the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. This exercise was a major deployment for the Disaster Response Team, DRT, and other ARES Districts. Most members deployed the day prior to the exercise in order to familiarize themselves with the operational location to which they were assigned and be ready to operate at 7:30AM the following morning. Some drove several hundred miles to reach their assigned locations. Cheyenne Wells and Springfield operators were so far out on the edge of the mission area HF communications was their primary means of communications. The mission was more critical than first imagined. The Control Cell for this exercise had one, repeat, ONE telephone that was constantly in use by controllers. Controllers were able to accomplish their job

only with the support of ARES operators. ARES operators from many ARES districts handled exercise traffic with teams composed of veteran operators and unseasoned yet highly motivated new hams. This was a hugely successful communications assignment for all involved and these efforts received accolades from the highest level of exercise controllers. For example, and edited for brevity:

"Hello All -

I have to echo Kris' sentiments. Exercise communication would have been extraordinarily poor had it not been for the ARES folks. We really do appreciate all the work that you put into the exercise! Just from an exercise control standpoint, Kris and I would've been in quite a mess trying to communicate with all the controllers just using one landline.

*Diana L. Harris
Preparedness Planning Coordinator
Emergency Preparedness and Response Section
Colorado Department of Public Health &
Environment"*

Many new friends were made, both amateur operators as well as local government officials. ARES D-14 continues to be involved in exposure to high-ranking federal governmental agencies. On November 10th, the National Disaster Medical System is conducting an exercise, Operation Mountain Move, which will focus on moving patients from outside Colorado to six care facilities in El Paso County and Parkview Medical Center in Pueblo. The exercise designers have written into the operation plan, that ARES will handle ALL communications. NO CELL PHONE, NO LANDLINE PHONES. D-14 Staff members met to discuss up-coming training events in order keep PPARES members well trained and highly qualified. It only takes a casual look around the D-14 area of responsibility to know that we have a large, multi-faceted community that may require our services. We need to remain ready, every hour of every day, to provide that service.

Dean Haskins, PPARES EC

CERT: I'm Ready!

Citizen Emergency Response Training

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), using the model created by the Los Angeles City Fire Department, began promoting nationwide use of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) concept in 1994. Since then, CERTs have been established in hundreds of communities.

The El Paso County Sheriff's Office and the Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management are using the LAFD model to develop CERT as a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. The goal is for emergency personnel to train citizens of our community in basic preparedness and response skills.

If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional response, citizens can better protect themselves by applying the response and organizational skills that they learned during training. These skills can help save and sustain their lives following a disaster until help arrives. CERT skills also apply to daily emergencies.

CERT will teach citizens to:

1. Describe the types of hazards most likely to affect their homes and communities.
2. Describe the function of CERT and their roles in immediate personal response.
3. Take steps to prepare themselves for a disaster.
4. Identify and reduce potential fire hazards in their homes and workplaces.
5. Apply basic fire suppression strategies, resources, and safety measures.
6. Apply techniques for opening breathing airways, controlling bleeding, and treating shock.
7. Conduct triage under simulated conditions.

8. Perform head-to-toe assessments.
9. Employ basic treatments for various wounds.
10. Identify planning and size-up requirements for potential search and rescue situations.
11. Describe the most common techniques for searching a structure.
12. Use safe techniques for debris removal and victim extrications.

Target Audiences include:

- ?? Neighborhoods
- ?? Businesses
- ?? Communities of Faith
- ?? Scouting Organizations
- ?? School Staff/Faculty/Students
- ?? Clubs/Organizations
- ?? Amateur Radio Emergency Services

This is a free 3-day class for citizens, put on by instructors from the City and County Offices of Emergency Management, area fire departments, and local medical providers.

November's class is at the Colorado Springs OEM at 375 Printers Parkway:

Friday, November 19 from 6 pm to 9 pm
 Saturday, November 20 from 9 am to 4 pm
 Sunday, November 21 from 9 am to 4 pm

No classes will be scheduled in December.

Interested citizens are asked to contact the Colorado Springs Office of Emergency Management at 385-5957 to register. The class is limited to twenty-five participants and will fill up fast.

Information obtained from www.springsgov.com and the CERT brochure.

Upcoming Amateur Radio Events

Nov 6: MARC VE Testing, regularly held in odd-numbered months, at the library in

Woodland Park, at 10 AM.
<http://www.nx0g.org/>

Apr 2, 2005: Longmont ARC, Boulder County Fairgrounds.

Colorado Technical Specialists

Bob Witte KØNR
 Technical Coordinator
 ARRL Colorado Section
k0nr@arrl.net

Technical assistance for Colorado hams

Have you ever needed some technical help but didn't know where to turn? Does your radio club have trouble finding someone to speak on a technical topic? Have you ever tried a new operating mode and needed some help in getting started? If so, the Technical Specialists of Colorado might be able to help, or connect you up with someone that can lend assistance.

Technical Specialists are volunteer radio amateurs that are interested in helping out their fellow hams by lending technical assistance. The work of the Technical Specialists is supervised by the Technical Coordinator and is part of the ARRL Field Organization. The ARRL Field Organization organizes amateur radio volunteers into sections (determined by geography). Our local section is the *Colorado* Section, which covers the state. One of the most visible parts of the ARRL Field Organization is the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Jeff Ryan (KØRM) is the *Section Manager* for the Colorado Section and Bob Witte (KØNR) is the *Technical Coordinator*.

The **Technical Specialists in Colorado** operate using three basic principles: *Educate*, *Assist* and *Network*. Technical Specialists *educate* by writing technical articles for club newsletters, speaking at radio club meetings and answering technical questions from fellow hams. TS's *assist* by providing technical advice and help in response to requests from individual hams.

For example, Bill Rinker (W6OAV) recently gave a presentation to the Denver Radio Club on how different configurations of vertical

antennas work. Randy Reynard (NQØR) has mentored several new hams in getting their radio licenses. Randy also recently investigated an RFI problem that a local ham was experiencing, identifying the interference source as an old alarm clock. Tom McDaniel (NØNTX) conducted a satellite forum at the PPRAA Swapfest in Monument. Bob Witte (KØNR) performed free transceiver testing at several Colorado hamfests this year. These are just some of the examples of how Technical Specialists are helping Colorado radio amateurs. Check the Technical Specialist web site shown below for a list of Technical Specialists and their technical interests.

The third principle is *network*, which means Technical Specialists consult with other knowledgeable hams, whether or not they happen to be Technical Specialists and make use of their knowledge. The focus is on helping and solving problems, independent of where the answers or assistance ultimately come from. A Technical Specialist might refer you to a magazine article, a web page or another ham that has experience with your question or problem. Clearly, the Technical Specialist team doesn't have all of answers and will seek help wherever they can find it.

To find out more about the Technical Specialists in Colorado and how to contact them, visit the web site at <http://www.k0nr.com/ts.html>. Alternatively, you can send an email to techhelp@k0nr.com or give Bob KØNR a telephone call (719 488-0859).

Contact Information:

Colorado Technical Coordinator:

Bob Witte KØNR, k0nr@arrl.net, 719 488-0859

Colorado Section Manager

Jeff Ryan KØRM, k0rm@arrl.net, 719 260-6826

Colorado Technical Specialists:

Web site: <http://www.k0nr.com/ts.html>**November Contesting**

November will be a great month for contesting. November 6-8 will be the CW Sweepstakes and

November 20-22 will have a SSB Sweepstakes. For stations making over 100 contacts, special CW/SSB pins are available (\$6 ea) from ARRL to participants. Mike, WV7T, will be active during each contest and invites anyone interested in joining his multi-operator effort. Mike can be reached at 229-8610 or WV7T@ARRL.NET.

PPRAA Tech Talks

Those of you checking in to the Simplex Net on Thursday evenings will have noted a new addition to the agenda: an on-the-air Tech Talk! We recently learned about ground loops and how to get rid of them. There'll be many interesting topics coming up. Check in to the net at 7 pm on 146.58 MHz and see what's up! And if you want to give a Tech Talk on the air, get with Jim AB0UK (ab0uk@yahoo.com)!

PPRAA Tech Talks - More

Speaking of Tech Talks, we're also looking for folks to give Tech Talks for about 5 minutes at each club meeting. Thanks to Al VO1NO for starting this tradition ... let's keep it up! If you've got an interesting topic to talk about for about 5 minutes, get with Rick Brown K0SU to schedule your night! Practically any topic is worthwhile.



Here is a little word search puzzle to keep you amused!

Team Sponsor's Names

S O W L O R T S A C G G K G L
 D C P E N N Z O I L M H R L R
 L R I P P I O N E E R G A V E
 A O E N I L O V L A V D D B L
 N T P K O S D A S Y N T E C L
 O C E C A R E S I E W D U B I
 D O N N N U T G K R A S R S M
 C D A R I S Q C N U W E T O O
 M P C E K L B A E A D A O I P
 X M I T O I O Q Y L R N Y O A
 F A R S M C L V I D E O L S R
 R T E E S K D N A Y A R W G Q
 U C M W U 5 E T E H D W Q E I
 I O A N L O H S I L E U F J L
 T U O M U G C I O U Z W E P R

WORD LIST

AIRWAYS AMERICAN
 BUDWEISER CASTROL
 DOCTOR ELECTRONICS
 FRUIT FUELISH
 GUMOUT HAVOLINE
 JEGS KENDALL
 MATCO MCDONALDS
 MILLER MOONEYES
 MOPAR ORANGE
 PANASONIC PENNZOIL
 PIONEER QUAKER
 REDLINE SLICK50
 SMOKIN STAR
 SYNTEC TORCO
 VALVOLINE WESTERN

Find the names listed vertically, horizontally, or diagonally

Membership Application for the Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc. P.O. Box 16521, Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521			
Date: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	In which activities would you like to participate?
Name: _____			Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Address: _____			Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____			Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____			Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew:			Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____			Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
			Donation to Club: \$ _____
			Total Enclosed: _____
MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"			
Please indicate how you'd like your Ø-Beat delivered: <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 <input type="checkbox"/> 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.			
Please Type or Print Clearly!			

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

Cheyenne Mountain Repeater Group Annual Meeting Held

Date: Saturday, October 23, 2004, at 9:30 for eyeball QSO, with the formal meeting beginning at 10:00 and running until noon.

It was held in the Main Classroom of the NxTrend Building, 5555 Tech Center Drive.

Two seats on the Board of Directors were up for election. Those board members, Alfred Sontag KAØWIE and George Lockhart WØGHL both retained their positions.

**Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 16521
Colorado Springs, CO 80935-6521 USA**

First Class Mail

To: