

Ø-Beat

Volume 55, Number 3

March 2005

March Meeting Program

CSPD Air Support Unit

If you've been out operating mobile in the Springs area in the evenings, chances are you've seen (and maybe heard) a critical piece of the Colorado Springs Police Department's crime fighting resources - the OH-58C helicopter of the CSPD Air Support Unit! At the March club meeting join CSPD Officer and Pilot Joe Schmaltz as he describes the function and activities of the Air Support Unit. You'll hear about the ups and downs of flying all around the city in the name of the law at night, and Officer Schmaltz will tell of some of the more unique calls he has responded to. Multiple modes of radio communications are utilized aboard the helicopter - you'll learn about them all. And be sure to ask Officer Schmaltz about the "Beam of Justice" - it won't replace your Yagi anytime soon!

2006 ARRL Rocky Mountain Div. Convention Save the Date!

Planning for the 2006 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention officially got underway in January with its first meeting in Castle Rock. Under the leadership of General Chairman, Jerry VerDuft ADØA, another creative and energetic committee is assembled and raring to go!!

As those of you who attended know well, the bar was set extremely high with a superb 2003 convention. To make the 2006 convention be even better, we've really got our work cut out for us! So, please take a look at the list of committee chairs in this article, and let us know

your comments, suggestions and ideas. We really want to hear from you!

The 2006 Convention will be held again at the Holiday Inn in beautiful Estes Park, Colorado on June 9-11, 2006. The hotel was tremendously supportive of us in 2003, and has given us excellent rates for 2006. Make plans now to join us for the entire convention!

We'll keep you well updated over the coming months, but again, please let us know your thoughts as to how this convention can be the best ever!

For the committee, 73, Steve Williams, KØSRW

2006 Rocky Mountain Division Conv. Committee:

General Chair/Facilities, Jerry VerDuft, ADØA, ad0a@arrl.net
Secretary/Treasurer/Banquet, Joanie VerDuft, KCØGMI, joanie1975@earthlink.net

DX/Contest Breakfast, Greg Dunn, WØZA, w0za@arrl.net
Exhibits/Prizes, Steve Williams, KØSRW, k0srw@arrl.net
Forums/Technical Sessions, Steve Finch, AIØW, ai0w@direcway.com

Slide Show/Certificates, Rob Roller, N7LV, n7lv@arrl.net
Ladies Program/Tours, Judy Hilton, KCØHVD, HVDIODE@aol.com

Program Book/Publicity, Dick Schneider, ABØCD, schneiderdick@comcast.net

Registration, Tim & Eileen Armagost, WBØTUB & WDØDGL, tim@armagost.net & eileen@armagost.net

Security/Webmaster, Ben Baker, KBØUBZ, kb0ubz@arrl.net
Special Event Station/VEC, Wes Wilson, KØHBZ, k0hbz@arrl.net
Talk-in Station, Tom Levendusky Jr., NØMWY, n0mwy@arrl.net
Transmitter Hunt, Dan Meyer, NØPUF, n0puf@earthlink.net
Wouff Hong, Tim Armagost, WBØTUB, tim@armagost.net

Supporting Committee Members:

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Jeff Ryan, KØRM, k0rm@arrl.net
Bob Proctor, KCØOUQ, kc0ouq@arrl.net
Rick Kile, WB7THT, wb7tht@colomail.com

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* 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 Health Dept. auditorium. For a map, please visit our web site at <http://www.qsl.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, at the Colorado Technical University, 4435 North Chestnut (just west of I-25 and just south of Garden of the Gods Rd.). Exam fee is \$14.00 for 1, 2, 3, or all 4 elements at a session. Checks should be payable to ARRL/VEC. For further details and for a list of what to bring, contact Erik Mugele KGØXE or Dennis Major NØABC, or visit the PPRAA 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 via simplex, and listen to the ARRL Audio News! The frequency is 146.58 MHz simplex and the backup frequency is 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 Refl.	John Wishart KCØJFH kc0jfh@arrrl.net 481-2439
Field Day	Dan Scott KB0PPM
Swapfest	Open
Historian	Ron Deutsch NKØP
Interference	Bill Petty NØNJX
Membership	Les Borst KCØNC
Programs	Christopher Taylor NC6T nc6t@arrrl.net 260-8081
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AMSAT Coord.	Tom McDaniel NØNTX
ARRL Awards Mgr.	Rick Brown KØSU
ARES Emerg Coord	Dean Haskins KAØPII
ARES Liaison	Mike Stansberry KØTER
ARRL Section Mgr.	Jeff Ryan KØRM
CCARC Liaison	Kate Muniz WB9BAH
HamCon Chairman	Jerry VerDuft ADØA
RACES Officer	Les Borst KCØNC

PPRAA Web Site and E-Mail Reflector

PPRAA web site is at <http://www.qsl.net/ppraa/>, which is maintained by Doug Nielsen, N7LEM. Thanks, Doug! Stay on top of new or short-fused developments by subscribing to our e-mail reflector: <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/ppraanet>. Thanks to John Wishart, KCØJFH for maintaining the reflector!

Upcoming Club Programs

March: CSPD Air Support Unit

April: TBA

Deadline for Next Ø-Beat Articles

The deadline for the April 2005 Ø-Beat is March 27. Send all submissions to the editor via e-mail, US Mail, telephone or in person.

Please feel free to submit an article – we're always looking for fresh content!

EDITOR'S NOTE: With the inclusion of the roster this month, there was not sufficient room for adding the intended piece on packet radio. We'll try next month, but it will require ~ 18 months to complete. Let me know if you like it, too!

Swapfest Meeting – Feb. 26th

The swapfest committee met on Saturday, at the Falcon Police Substation of CSPD. We discussed several important topics, such as still needing more help! We are in need of someone to take table reservations, acknowledge them, and plan new layout and make assignments. The raffle license application was returned with a small glitch, but that has been rectified and we should be able to print and sell tickets soon.

Everything else is moving right along, but we still need HELP. Remember the term “MAYDAY”? That comes from the French “m’aidez” meaning “help me”. Well, in this case, it would be “nous aidez” or “help US”.

Club Meeting Minutes

PPRAA Club Meeting Minutes 9 February 2005

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Christopher Taylor NC6T at 7:00 pm at the El Paso County Office of Emergency Management followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys: None noted.

The January meeting minutes were approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report - Kate WB9BAH
Covers 10-1-04 thru 1-31-05.
Income: \$1262.19
Expenses: \$1847.69
Total balances: \$8335.43

Committee Reports

Swapfest - Kate WB9BAH (temporary chairperson) – will be held June 11 at LPHS in Monument. Prizes have been purchased. Flyers are now available. This is our only fundraiser to raise money for education and emergency communication activities. The next swapfest

meeting is Sat., Feb 26, 10 AM, at Falcon Police Station. A permanent chairperson is still needed.

Membership – Les Borst KCØNC - 115 members are current. 47 members from last year have not renewed yet. Kate has sent out 143 reminder/invitation letters to past members and those have not renewed.

RACES – Les Borst KCØNC - An exercise was conducted recently in the Monument area involving a school incident. Eighteen agencies took part. Sixteen RACES members participated. 150-175 people involved.

Reflector – John Wishart KC0JFH – approx. 145 people on the reflector e-mail list.

Publicity & Programs – Christopher Taylor NC6T - Talk on the CSPD helicopter operations next month. PPRAA business cards are available for distribution. PPRAA Fact Sheet is now available.

Tech Education – Mike Anderson WV7T - Publications library is being organized and catalogued. Electronics trainers are being assembled. Mike can provide an operating station if you need a place to operate from.

VE Activities - Dennis NOABC - Test sessions are coming up. Contact Dennis NOABC for details. New test site is at Colorado Tech, Room 101. A free PPRAA membership is available to individuals in Frank's course passing the Tech exam.

CCARC – Kate - no activity this month.

Hamcon 2006 – Steve K0SRW - will be held June 9-11, 2006, in Estes Park

Simplex Net – Jim AB0UK - Thursdays, 7 PM, 146.58 MHz. Tech talk will be presented on the net. Please participate.

Zero Beat – Dennis NOABC - Input is still needed every month. Please submit articles for our club publication.

Old Business - None

New Business:

Next board meeting is Tuesday, Feb 15 at Mike Anderson's, 510 W. Polk St., CS, CO

Coming Events:

Swapfest - Feb 20 in Brighton

Foxhunt - Feb 20

Another ham class taught by Dick Stuart
KD8EQ will be starting up in the Falcon area.
No other details are currently available.

After break and door prize drawings, an
excellent program on Amateur Radio in Space
was presented by Tom McDaniel N0NTX, our
AMSAT Coordinator.

Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Next meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7
PM, El Paso County OEM, 305 S. Union Blvd.,
CS, CO.

Submitted by John Wishart KCØJFH, Secretary.
Date: 16 February 2005

Board Meeting Minutes

PPRAA

Board Meeting Minutes 15 February 2005

President Rick Brown called the meeting to
order at 7 PM at Mike Anderson's home.

Attendees: Mike Anderson, Rick Brown, Jeff
Hagain, Dennis Major, Doug Nielsen,
Christopher Taylor, John Wishart

Dennis moved/Mike seconded to approve the
January board meeting minutes as printed..
Passed.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Old Business

Swapfest: Rick: We have not received the raffle
license yet (it has been applied for). We have
not received the CMRG prize yet. We're still
waiting for our raffle license # to print tickets.
No firm quote received from LPHS for
auditorium rental & tables. We still need
someone to do the table reservation and layout.
We still need a swapfest chairperson. The
following people have volunteered for other
duties:

Jim ABØUK—soliciting door prizes

Kate – door prizes/raffle

Rick – programs

Jeff Ryan – our ARRL section mgr will
do a program

New Business

Hamcon 2006 is tentatively the 2nd weekend in
June, so it would be best to move our 2006
swapfest into May or July. We don't need to
decide this tonight, but we need to consider it.
We have been requested to provide \$150 in
seed money. Mike moved and Dennis seconded
that we provide \$150 seed money to Hamcon
2006. Passed. Kate will be mailing a check to
Rick for this Saturday's Hamcon meeting.

Chris

Field Day – Do we want to coordinate our event
w/ MARC? We would like to do so, as Dan
Scott is going to get the Agilent site north of
Woodland Park.

Weekly Net – We would encourage
participation from the board members also. A
suggestion was made to add a packet radio net
after the Simplex net.

Call signs – we have two call signs: WAØVTU
and AFØS.

Business cards - we now have one thousand
club business cards for <\$50. We also have a
new Amateur Radio Fact sheet available.

Jeff

Club logos – we have at least four varieties of
logos (colors and B&W). Can we narrow this
down to a B&W and a color one? Rick will
bring this up for discussion at the next club
meeting.

Doug is our new webmaster. He has a new
website preview page available at 'new.html.'
He has reduced the file sizes considerably.
We'd like to have some pictures, a club
calendar, fact sheet, tech talks, foxhunt, roster
(no phone nos. on the net), etc. sections. All Ø-
Beats are available on the website now. Doug
will be filling in the remainder of the links and

pages to be able to bring up the new stuff soon. Cutover date is up to Doug.

Dennis

Two VE test sessions were held: one for Frank's class & a regular VE session. 18 tech, 1 general, 2 extras passed the exams. Discussion followed regarding free memberships for people that attended Frank's class and passed the exam.

This is a go.

Zero Beat – will publish a series of articles on packet radio. Deadline for next issue is next Sunday, Feb 20. Will need minutes and articles by then. Articles are still needed for all issues.

Suggestions:

Hammy recipient

Foxhunt and other event pictures

Equipment reviews

The board meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next meeting: Monday, March 14, 7 PM, at Christopher Taylor's home.

Submitted by:

John Wishart

KCØJFH

Secretary.

Date: 16 February 2005

February PPRAA Foxhunt

We had a great day weather wise for the hunt. Four teams showed up at the starting location in Palmer Park, at the lookout. Everyone got a good signal to begin, but than had problems picking it up when going to lower elevations. Needless to say, we picked great start and end points that provided a challenging hunt. The hunt ended at Black Forest Regional Park, near the tennis courts. Everyone agreed it was a good one.

Afterwards we adjourned to enjoy each other's company over dinner at the Cowboy Cafe on Shoup Rd, just west of Black Forest Rd, a great restaurant for down-home cooking at a reasonable price. Thanks for the recommendation, Jody! Scoring was based on a

combination of miles and minutes, with the top two teams separated by only 7 points total. The results were as follows:

1st Place: Pat Kelly, KC0MIR, with 191 points

2nd Place: Les & Jody Borst, KC0NC & KA0ROZ, with 198 points

3rd Place: Dave Kurth, N0UVR, with 241 points

4th Place: Jim Harris, AB0UK, with 242 points

Great job to everyone for finding the fox! Pat Kelly will be letting you all know about March's hunt. Hope to see more of you come join the fun as the weather warms up.

Mike Allison, K0MLA

El Paso County RACES Activities



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

The year 2005 has started out with an exercise at Lewis Palmer High School, in Monument on the morning of Saturday 02/05/05. Our involvement was as "Shadows" for all the major officials. We were on site by 6:00 am and there till 12:30 pm. We had 16 RACES members participating in the exercise. There were 18 agencies and approximately 125 personal participating.

The scenario was a father and his son entering the school to take revenge for the disciplinary actions taken by the school on the son. They enter the school just prior to the first morning period. They carry explosive devices and the father carries a gun. Their intentions are to detonate the bombs in the school and shoot anyone who tries to stop them.

The son explodes one bomb in the commons area while the father takes students and teachers hostage in a second floor classroom. There are many casualties from the explosion and several from shots fired by the father.

Police, Fire and emergency services arrive and take appropriate action.

Our next meeting will be March 18, 2005 at the County OEM at 7:00 PM.

Pikes Peak ARES



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

No report provided.

Membership Committee Report

Please welcome these New Members

DANIEL	BEALS	AC0CC
JONATHAN	BOREL	KC0TVL
DAVID	FRYMAN	KC0TVK
TERRY	HALLMARK	KC0TVQ
DAREN	LEONARD	KC0TVI
CARRIE	LEONARD	KC0TVJ
DOUGLAS	LOCKELL	KC0TVP
BARBARA	LOURICAS	KC0TVS
TALIE	MARSHALL	KC0TVH

DAVID	MARSHALL	NU0N
BRENDEN	METCALFE	KC0TVF
STEPHEN	METCALFE	KC0TVG
SKIP	MOREAL	KC0TVO
JASON	OCHS	KC0TVN
GEORGE	SCHNEEGRASS	KC0TVU
LYNDA	SHOUGH	KC0TVM
LOIS	VAVRA	KC0TVR

Total Number of Members

136

Upcoming Amateur Radio Events

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



Current Membership Roster

Call Letters	FirstName	LastName	EmailAddress
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WB2EVR	WILLIAM	BELLAMY	

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2005 PPRAA MEGA-FEST – June 11 @ Lewis-Palmer High School 8:00AM – 1:00PM

Due to the inclusion of the club roster in this month's edition of the Ø-Beat, there was not enough room to place a copy of the flyer within the issue. In lieu of the flyer here, your attention is called to the PPRAA web site. Or, please feel free to pick up one or more flyers at the meeting. In fact, it would be a good thing to have extra copies of the flyer to place in conspicuous and pertinent locations. Or, you could let your ham or non-ham friends and associates also know about the fest, too. I'm sure a lot of us were interested in electronics and radio and communications before becoming hams – and this just might be the **ticket** to pique other's interest in amateur radio. The editor found out about the

PPRAA swapfest three days beforehand, and quickly studied to get his Technician license, 10 years ago in May. (I can't believe it's been that long!)

KFØWF School of Amateur Radio - 2005

HAM Class for 2005

by Linda Hedges – KBØRKW

Once again it is time to congratulate all the students that attended the HAM Radio Classes given by Frank McNally (KFØWF). This is the last year that Frank is teaching the classes, so a special **“THANK YOU”** goes out to Frank and to his wife Barb (NØBAM) for their tireless efforts and the many years they have given to the Colorado Springs HAM community by providing the most excellent teaching of these classes. Their efforts to instruct newcomers in the proper ways and procedures of HAM Radio are surely appreciated. A heartfelt **“THANK YOU, FRANK AND BARB !!”**

“You will not be forgotten by the many people and HAMs that you introduced HAM Radio to !”

Next year the classes will be taken over by KA4JQZ, Frank Skinner, a long-time HAM operator, who will continue in Frank's footsteps to teach people about HAM Radio and becoming a HAM in the Colorado Springs area.

There were 19 new HAMs that came out of this year's class. If you hear any of these new HAMs on the air, take the time to introduce yourself to them and say hello and “Welcome to HAM Radio”.

Here are the new HAMs from this year's class:

ACØCC - Daniel Beals

KCØTVF - Brenden Metcalfe

KCØTVH - Talie Marshall

KCØTVJ - Carrie Leonard

KCØTVL - Jon Borel

KCØTVN - Jason Ochs

KCØTVP - Douglas Lockett

KCØTVR - Lois Vavra

KCØTVT - Roy Robbins

KCØTVZ - Aaron Glock - 9 years old!

KCØTVG - Stephen Metcalfe

KCØTVI - Daren Leonard

KCØTVK - David Fryman

KCØTVM - Lynda Shough

KCØTVO - Skip Moreau

KCØTVQ - Terry Hallmark

KCØTVS - Barbara Louricas

KCØTVU - George Schneegass

The Elmer's Guide to the Ham Universe

Weekend mini-experiences in Ham Radio!

- 1) **Components?** What the heck *IS* all that stuff in my junk box?
- 2) **Why can't I use electrical tape for an antenna?** (The secrets of conductors and insulators)

- 3) **Antennas.** I don't need no stinkin' antennas! Do I?
- 4) **Radio Mastery.** What all the dials, displays, lights, button, and jacks do. A **MUST** for all our new hams!
- 5) **The Master Plan of the Amateur Bands.** (Who does what where)
- 6) **It looks like a nice day.** Operating conditions must be great! But I don't hear nothin'.
- 7) **Computer Guts.** What is in that terrifying box on my desk I cannot live without? Actually build a working computer in 10 minutes. **FOR REAL!**
- 8) **Power? I don't need no stinkin' power** – The magic of QRP (very low power)
- 9) **For the Ham with Delusions of Grandeur** – Contesting. How to, why, and additional medical costs.
- 10) **Meters and Scopes and Generators...** OH MY! Test Instruments, life made easier!

I am ready to share these jewels of **Ham Radio Enlightenment**. If you are interested please drop me a miniature electronic document (e-mail) and I can consult with my groundhog for days when he cannot see his shadow which are best for presentations!

Mike Anderson, WV7T

WV7T@ARRL.NET

229-8610

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!!

Congratulations

To the graduating Ham class, and

a BIG Thank You

**To Frank McNally, KFØWF,
For teaching all of these years!**

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

First Class Mail

To: