



Volume 55, Number 7

July 2005

The Pres Says!

Rick Brown
KØSU

Wow, June has been a busy month!

First, let me talk about Megafest 2005. It was fantastic! It looks like we had 515 folks in attendance. The numbers are down a little from last year but we had a large number of folks taking part in an ARES exercise that day. All in all, I think it was a great success. This would not have happened without the extraordinary effort of Kate, WB9BAH. Despite the fact that she did not want to be chairperson this year she stepped in when no one else did.

Thanks Kate! Of course there were others. Jim, ABØUK had a fantastic array of prizes for us, and Dennis, NØABC made sure there were lots of raffle tickets available. Thanks guys! Christopher, NC6T did a great job getting the word about Megafest out to hams all over.

Field Day has also come and gone. What a time we had. I wish we could do it more often. Thanks to Dan, KBØPPM for heading up our effort and thanks to MARC for hosting Field Day this year. A wonderful combined effort. Of course a special thanks goes to Bob, KØNR for being our sponsor at the HP/Agilent recreation area. We also need to thank the various station captains, N1SZ, HF SSB, KØTER, HF CW, KØHBZ, GOTA, NØNTX, Satellite, and VO1NO, VHF/UHF. There was also plenty of food to keep us going! Thanks Mona.

At first I was a bit disappointed in the turnout at Field Day, but when I thought about the

number of hams from the PPRAA and MARC supporting the Pikes Peak Hill Climb on the same day, I think we did a fantastic job. Being able to do these both of these events really shows the strengths of our clubs.

So what is coming next? The PPRAA picnic is scheduled for August 7th. This is a time to bring your family out and enjoy the camaraderie of our organization. I always enjoy the picnic because it gives me a chance to really talk to fellow club members and catch up on what they are doing. I hope that we can really have a huge turnout this year. Su, KCØPRN has volunteered to lead this. If you want to help her and the club, please get in contact and see what you can do.

Thanks for every ones support in club activities. Lets keep it up and make the PPRAA the best club around.

You know you're a new Springs ham when:

Marshall Tuttle, KCØUSF

- You find out that Centennial is more than a street with a good restaurant
- HRO means something besides Home Rocks Office
- SWR is not software and it can be measured
- Buying a raffle ticket is a significant event
- You visit a swap fest and no longer feel alone keeping very old equipment as keepsakes
- You understand the difference between a repeater and reflector
- The confusion between cue and queue just added a new dimension
- Not all rubber duckies float
- You start your Christmas list in June

Board of Directors

| | | | |
|--------|-------------------------|--|----------|
| Pres. | Rick Brown KØSU | k0su@adelphia.net | 531-9423 |
| VP | Christopher Taylor NC6T | nc6t@arrl.net | 260-8081 |
| Sec. | John Wishart KCØJFH | kc0jfh@arrl.net | 481-2439 |
| Treas. | Kate Muniz WB9BAH* | wb9bah@elpasotel.net | |
| ZB Ed. | Dennis Major NØABC | n0abc@arrl.net | 531-6774 |
| Dir. | Al Penney VO1NO* | | |
| Dir. | Pat Kelly KCØMIR* | pwkellysr@juno.com | 591-0948 |
| Dir. | Dennis Major NØABC * | n0abc@arrl.net | 531-6774 |
| Dir. | Mike Anderson WV7T | wv7t@arrl.net | 229-8610 |

* 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 Health Department Auditorium, 305 S. Union Blvd, downstairs at the apex of the two buildings. 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@arrl.net 481-2439 |
| Field Day | Dan Scott KB0PPM |
| Swapfest | Kate Muniz WB9BAH wb9bah@elpasotel.net |
| Historian | Ron Deutsch NKØP |
| Interference | Bill Petty NØNJX |
| Membership | Les Borst KCØNC |
| Programs | Christopher Taylor NC6T nc6t@arrl.net 260-8081 |
| Publicity | Christopher Taylor NC6T nc6t@arrl.net 260-8081 |
| Public Service | Mike Stansberry KØTER |
| Tech. Ed. | Mike Anderson WV7T wv7t@arrl.net 229-8610 |
| VEC Liaison | Dennis Major NØABC n0abc@arrl.net 531-6774 |
| VE Contact | Erik Mugele KGØXE ve@teuton.org 278-4363 |
| Webmaster | Doug Nielsen N7LEM n7lem@n7lem.net |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 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 | Doc Cornell WØMCT |

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

July: TBA

Deadline for Next Ø-Beat Articles

The deadline for the August 2005 Ø-Beat is July 31. 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!

Club Meeting Minutes**PPRAA****Club Meeting Minutes
8 June 2005**

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Brown KØSU at 7:00 pm at the El Paso County Health Department Auditorium followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys – none reported.

Pat KCØMIR moved and Bill KDØJU seconded that the May meeting minutes be approved as printed.

Treasurer's Report - Kate WB9BAH - no official report.

Committee Reports

Auditing – Kate WB9BAH - audit is completed. Written report should be available for board meeting.

Club Assets – Mike KØTER - no changes.

Reflector – John KCØJFH – 143 on list.

Public Service - Mike KØTER – the public service needs of some organizations are changing. ARES communications activities have declined due to other methods being available. We would like to encourage participation in PS events as a PPRAA club activity, rather than thru other EC groups.

Tech Ed – Mike June 18 training day for Field Day. Field day station at his house also You can email Mike at wv7t@arrl.net. Participated in Diabetes event.

Webmaster - Doug – added counter to home page. Tech references page added. Needs inputs for event dates for calendar.

Satellites/AMSAT – Tom NØNTX – New weather satellite is in orbit. Tom will present a forum at the swapfest on satellites.

ARRL Awards – Rick KØSU – will be checking awards QSL cards at the swapfest.

ARRL Section Mgr – Jeff KØRM – Dayton was excellent

CCARC – Kate - our club will be hosting the

October meeting. We will need a volunteer to help in hosting this.

ARRL Awards – Rick Brown KØSU will be reviewing QSL cards (officially) for awards.

Announcements

Dave KCØSPX – new repeater is now on the air courtesy of the Fillmore Hill Repeater Group 448.725 MHz with a 123.0 Hz tone. Requests contributions to cover costs (\$305) of retuning the repeater for this use. Contributed Yaesu ball cap for a Swapfest prize.

Pat KCØMIR – need volunteers for PP Hill Climb communications. Contact Pat.

Al Penney – will be moving July 9 or 10 back to Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Mike WV7T– Sue KCØPRN is now on the air from Monument.

MARS – Dick – will make a presentation at swapfest.

Jim ABØUK – Simplex net on Thursday evenings at 7 PM on FM 146.58 MHz simplex participation is encouraged. A Tech Talk is held every session.

Christopher NC6T – Take Your HT to Work Day is June 21.

Al - Dave NØUVR is having the next fox hunt is this Sunday. Details on the reflector

Rick - Picnic will be held in August. Picnic chairman is needed.

Swapfest – Kate WB9BAH – we need your participation. Setup Fri 5-7PM to unfold and place tables. Table rental 61 sold so far. Tables are available. Raffle tickets are still available. Need many volunteers for the raffle ticket sales and admission ticket sales at the swapfest.

Forums: 9AM Satellite, 10AM ARRL, 10AM VE, 11AM MARS. Jim Harris has obtained 47 good door prizes in addition to the raffle prizes – 3 radios.

Jim ABØUK – many merchants have helped with \$750 in door prizes. HRO AES, Mail Center, OEM Parts, Best Buy, Blockbuster, Centennial Electronics, Yaesu donated door prizes. Please support these merchants.

Hammie - awarded by Christopher NC6T to Jim Harris ABØUK for getting \$750 in door prizes and running the weekly net.

Dan KBØPPM Field Day preparations... .

Need to seed the event with some advance money for buying food, gas, etc. Jeff/Pat moved/seconded to allot \$200 for field day seed money. Passed.
 Please RSVP for the meals to Susan.
 Need to sign in at the log at the park gate – everyone in attendance.
 Jeff KØRM will post the signs for getting there.
 Family events – geocaching and compass course – bring your GPS.
 Showers and drinking water will be available on site.
 Genlog will be the logging program used.
 Need station captain for the GOTA station.
 Need Site Coordinator Mike volunteered for this.
 Jeff KØRM is the Safety Coordinator.
 Dan is the frequency coordinator.
 Food complete but need to get RSVP for meals you will attend
 GENLOG demo.
 Programs and Publicity - Christopher NC6T - no new items
 Zero Beat – Dennis NØABC.
 Old Business After break and door prize drawings, the program on Field Day was presented by Dan Scott.
 Meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

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

Board meeting next Monday at Kate's house 7 PM.

Submitted by John Wishart KCØJFH, Secretary.
 Date: 10 June 2005

Board Meeting Minutes

PPRAA

Board Meeting Minutes

13 June 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Brown KØSU at 7 PM at Kate Muniz' home.

Attendees: Steve K0SRW (Hamcon representative) , Mike WV7T, Kate, Rick K0SU, Doug N7LEM, Dennis N0ABC, Al VO1NO, Christopher NC6T, John KCØJFH, and Bryan (no call, Mike's father)

Dennis moved to accept the May meeting minutes as printed, John seconded. Passed.

Treasurer's Report - see Old Business item below.

Old Business

Swapfest 2005

Kate said it went very well. See written report for the numbers. We had plenty of volunteers.

Field Day 2005

Dan still needs a GOTA chairman. Rick tentatively volunteered to cover this. John will assist. The club will need to pick up tower sections at Rick's house.

Picnic

Sue has volunteered to chair this. Date has not been set at this time, but it will likely be y one of the first two weekends in August. Fox Run Park is one of the possible locations. Motion Kate moved and Dennis seconded to provide an advance of \$150 for food. Passed. Site reservation: Kate moved and Dennis seconded to also provide an advance of \$100 for park rental. Passed.

New Business

Hamcon – Steve Williams spoke about Hamcon 2006. Hamcon 2006 is not a non-profit organization. They need some advance money to fund Riley Hollingsworth's (FCC enforcement person) trip as a convention speaker. The event will be June 9-11, 2006. The FCC can't accept money except from a 501c3 organization. Hamcon requests that we provide the seed money to reimburse Riley directly, with Hamcon reimbursing our club for the outlay. Estimated cost would be about \$1K. (car meals, airfare, lodging). PPRAA requests that

we have a written guarantee agreement for this, a document from the FCC okaying it, and that we have a PPRAA representative to greet, host, and introduce Riley while he's here. The club will present this at our next club meeting, since the expenditure is over \$500, and vote on it at the following meeting. The board members recommend this action.

Swapfest 2006

Hamcon 2006 is on our normal date. At LPHS no dates in late July are available due to gym refinishing activities. We will try for a weekend after or before the 4th of July (July 8 or July 1), May 6 is the third choice. Craig Ketels is the school contact. Rick will contact the school to set a date.

Kate has a copy of Quicken for the club. She will email the Swapfest and Quicken files to Rick for transfer to the new treasurer. The audit is complete. We received \$100 from the VE team for the Swapfest room rental for the VE exams.

Dennis: Needs a letter or email to acknowledge receipt of \$100 for room rental at the swapfest to Dennis for the VE exams on June 11, 2005. Please use a PPRAA letterhead for this manner.

Sid brought some items in the club inventory that Rick received. Rick sold one of these, a Heathkit SB301 receiver, at the swapfest for \$60. The money was given to Kate.

: Public service participation by the club members – Rick - we want to maximize the communications aspects of these events and minimize other duties. We would like to start up with some smaller scale events.

Al moved and Mike seconded that we reimburse Christopher Taylor NC6T \$40.70 for his miscellaneous swapfest expenses. Passed.

Dennis: 20 candidates for VE exams at the swapfest About 16 passed. A special session was held the following Monday. He passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next meeting: Second (ed. added) Monday following club meeting: Location is still TBD.

Submitted by John Wishart KCØJFH, Secretary.
Date: 10 July 2005

June Foxhunt

The June fox hunt started at 1 PM at the intersection of Palmer Park Blvd and Peterson Rd. Jim AB0UK was the first to arrive at the starting point with his 4-element yagi antenna made from #8 aluminum ground wire and a PVC pipe for the boom. John KC0JFH arrived next in his Mazda Miata with a 3-element beam with copper wire and a small wood stick for the boom. There is not a lot of room for a yagi in a two-seat sports car! Les KC0NC and Jody KA0ROZ arrived next. Les was using a 3-element yagi. Mike K0MLA and Susan KC0SYA and their family arrived next. Mike is still using his trusty tape-measure 3-element yagi antenna.

The fox started transmitting right a 1:00 PM on 146.58 like it was supposed to. The fox was set to transmit for 90 seconds every 5 minutes. Mike and Susan got a bearing on the first transmission and took off. Jim waited for the next transmission to verify his initial bearing and then he left. Les and John were having trouble hearing the fox. Eventually both took off looking for higher ground and a stronger signal. I left the parking lot about 1:20PM and started heading for the fox's location. As I left the parking lot and turned on to Palmer Park Blvd heading west, Les passed me going east! (I didn't notice him though).

The fox was located in Sandstone Park that is near the intersection of Barnes and Peterson Rd off of Pring Ranch Rd. So all the hunters had to do is drive about 4 miles straight north and they would be within about a block of the fox!

Apparently, that is what Mike and Susan did. As I pulled up to the park about 1:30PM, I saw Mike and Susan's car already parked and they were wondering around the park looking for the fox's hiding place. Mike had an initial bearing south and Susan had a bearing east. Susan turned out to be right but Mike started walking south and Susan followed. The fox was actually hid in a small pine tree about three feet above the ground. The Icom IC-2ia handheld was putting out a 5-watt signal into a small 6-inch HT antenna. It took Mike almost 20 minutes walking around the perimeter of the park looking in the bushes and trees before he finally found the actual transmitter. He had a total hunt time of only 48 minutes, which is an excellent time!

Jim AB0UK arrived a few minutes after Mike had found the fox and used his Handi-finder to sniff out the fox's location. We then ran into weather problems with a small thunderstorm moving over us with light rain and some very small soft hail. Les was near Barnes and Peterson Rd and already had more mileage than Mike and Jim. John was south of us near Peterson Rd and Carefree. Since the rain and thunder makes standing outside waving an antenna around a little risky, the hunt was terminated at 2:45PM.

The final points were determined by multiplying the mileage (in miles and not km!) by 5 and adding in the time in minutes. The lowest score wins. The final results were:

| TEAM | Points | Place |
|----------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Mike K0MLA Susan KC0SYA | 73 | 1 |
| Jim AB0UK | 137 | 2 |
| Les KC0NC Jody KA0ROZ | | Did not finish |
| John KC0JFH | | Did not finish |

We all gathered at the new Wendy's at Powers and Stetson Hills (which was not officially open yet but they were doing a benefit for TESSA)

for some refreshments and the "Foxy" presentation. Congratulations to Mike and Susan for winning the June foxhunt. Mike was already talking about ideas for the next foxhunt!



Dave presenting Foxy to Mike and Susan

Dave Kurth N0UVR

El Paso County RACES Activities



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

June meeting {6/16/05} we had a training session conducted by Wes K0HBZ and Jeff K0RM, subjects, net control procedures and conducting a net in emergency situations and regular scheduled nets. We also discussed dispatch training at the county dispatch center, we are waiting to get more RACES personnel scheduled. July meeting {7/21/05} will follow-up with more operating procedure training and meeting early, before 7 PM, to get more equipment on line, Packet, and antenna checkout on the roof.

Tnx Doc W0MCT

Pikes Peak ARES



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

Already many members of District 14 have been active in Public Service Events, , and Skywarn callouts. Thanks to all who have been able to participate.

By the time this hits the press two more events will have gone by and it only took a little twisting of the arms to get folks to step up and participate. That is the hard part of a volunteer organization, some things just don't sound good, don't feel right, I have to mow the lawn etc. comes in to play and people don't participate. It gets very disappointing trying to get a crew assembled for some of these events.

What I would like to see, and so would the 30 or so very active members, is some participation by the other 264 members on the roster. That's right, our roster is 294 strong. So plan on participating or getting placed on a very long list of formerly active members of D-14. No one will get fired and I won't ask for operators to turn in their ID cards. It is just a fact of reality that this is ridiculous. Agree or not, there has to be some strong decisions made, some will not be pleasant, but over 200 on the roster don't even show up for the Tuesday Night Net. I have heard the reasons, I go to school, I work at night, I work weekends, and these reasons come from folks that don't get on the air at all.

There will be a revised Minimum Essential ARES Training, MEAT, coming up in the fall, with a date not yet firmed up. Such things will be brought out as brevity, net procedure and a requirement for ALL D-14 members to have taken and passed the ICS-700 course. I am working on getting ID cards made up as well for those that are new and have not had the opportunity to obtain a D-14 ID card. Wouldn't hurt to check your ARES ID card and see if

your license is still valid. Your ARES ID runs concurrently with your license.

One of the greatest pleasures as EC is granting the Official Emergency Station status to D-14 members. This shows that you have made a higher commitment to support the citizens and guests of El Paso and Teller Counties. Add the ICS-700 training (takes thirty minutes with a coffee break), and we will have a well trained group of individuals that can go anywhere at anytime and serve their community with pride. And, they will have the trust of their fellow operators that the operator on the other end is a very will qualified person. This is going to be a requirement of some of the government agencies we support. It isn't just me.

Mike Allen, N0MIK, as the Executive Emergency Coordinator, will be taking my place from the latter part of July until the end of August. Please give him your wholehearted support during my absence. It is my belief that D-14 is a premier organization within the ARES family. Lets keep it at the head of the herd by participation, training and camaraderie.

Many more events coming up, some ARES, some not, but let's all pull together and make our voices, and our callsigns, heard on the air.

73,

Dean Haskins
KAØPII EC
PPARES D-14

Upcoming Amateur Radio Events

Rocky Mountain Division Convention Ruby's Inn - Bryce, Utah, July 29 - 31, 2005
More info at: www.utahhamfest.org

PPRAA Picnic – Sunday, Aug 7th, 11 – 3.

PPRAA PICNIC

The picnic will be held at **Dirty Woman Park in Monument on Sun Aug 7**. The "pavillion" is reserved for us from **11 am to 3 pm**. We are planning a **tailgate swapfest starting at 10 am** even though our official reservation is not until 11.

We have reserved the shelter, portable latrine, grill, access to the following amenities: extra grills, portable latrines, the volleyball & basketball courts, horseshoe pits, baseball & soccer fields, and tot lot. There is an extra cost to "reserve" these areas but if no one else is using them we can. Parking is available and there are some parking spaces right up next to the shelter for **handicapped access**.

To date no special events are planned for the picnic, however, I did hear mention of mud wrestling (in relation to the name of the park) and thought, perhaps, that you might volunteer.....

Directions to DWP are straightforward: From I25 Northbound take exit 161 and turn left onto Hwy 105W at the exit light. **Continue driving straight West on overpass into Second St** (Hwy 105 bends to the North at the next stoplight) and follow Second St West through stop signs until T- intersection (after RR crossing). Turn left at the T onto Mitchell Rd driving South and you will soon see DWP in a shady hollow on the left as you head downhill (East side of Mitchell). Shelter, parking, etc. can be clearly seen from the road. I estimate a mile and a half from the interstate to the park but have not verified this. From I25 Southbound take exit 161 and turn left (West) at the exit light onto Second St and continue as above. **The talk in frequency is 146.58 MHz.**

As usual, we are asking members with last names beginning **A - G to bring salads/side dishes and H - Z to bring desserts**. The club will supply hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, drinks and paper goods.

I strongly recommend **sun screen and bug spray** for all attendees as well as **rain gear** in case the weather takes a turn for the worse.

Please RSVP: contact Su Goguen kc0prn at cobweb@divide.net or call at 481-8684

73's
Su
kc0prn

(Editor's Note – Come to the picnic if you want to find out more about the rather strange name of the park! Also, there WILL be door prizes, such as an Alinco DJ-S11, but you MUST be present to win!))

HAMCON 2006

It is hard to imagine that Hamcon 2006, the ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention, is less than one year away! Your Hamcon 2006 committee, made up of representatives from many amateur radio organizations across the state, is fully engaged in detailed planning and preparation. We're excited! We're planning for Hamcon 2006 to be even better than Hamcon 2003! That's a lofty goal and heavy responsibility, but the dedicated hams who attend deserve nothing less!!!

Hamcon 2006 will be held on June 9-11, 2006, at the Holiday Inn in beautiful Estes Park, Colorado. This venue is attractive for lots of reasons, not the least of which include the incredibly beautiful surroundings, great room rates, a wonderful facility and an extremely supportive hotel staff. As well, holding this convention outside Colorado Springs or Denver affords us a unique opportunity to get away from all our daily responsibilities for a few days, to focus as a group on important aspects of our service and our hobby in Amateur Radio. Plus, we can be together in the evenings and the early mornings, rather than commuting to and from our homes, building friendships and

operational relationships that benefit Ham Radio and all that it serves!

The Holiday Inn has a limited number of rooms available for us, but the good news is that you can book your rooms beginning now until May 19, 2006! Why not book your room right now to avoid any disappointment in being able to stay there! Our rate is only \$82 + tax per night, single or double occupancy. And, for those who'd like to include a vacation around the convention, this great rate is good for up to 3 days before, and 3 days after the convention!!! To receive the special rate, you must call the Estes Park Holiday Inn directly at 1-800-803-7837, and ask for the "ARRL" Room Rate. Do not make your reservations using the national Holiday Inn reservation phone system or the Holiday Inn web site, as these likely won't have any knowledge of the special ARRL room rate. Don't delay, book your room today!



FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, will be our featured banquet speaker. Hollingsworth is no stranger to Amateur Radio Operators the world over.

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH

Since 1998, Hollingsworth has restored pride to Amateur Radio through strong enforcement actions, major 9/11 response and countless operating hours during hurricane season. Hollingsworth publicly states that Amateur Radio is the *"only truly fail-safe communication service on the planet Earth."* He is a strong ally of Ham Radio at the FCC!

Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound is expected as well, and will conduct his awesome technical sessions on the science of audio.

The dynamite program for Hamcon 2006 will also include great technical talks and forums, a ladies luncheon, a fox hunt, outstanding prizes (and lots of them!), opportunities to operate W1AW/0, a sumptuous banquet, a broad cross-section of big-name manufacturers and distributors, and more. Of course, no convention would be complete without the time-honored Wouff Hong ceremony at midnight on Saturday! You just won't want to miss this Hamcon!

PPRAA has a unique opportunity to assist in bringing Mr. Hollingsworth to Colorado! At our July PPRAA meeting, we will discuss a proposed agreement between PPRAA and Hamcon Colorado, Inc. for funding Mr. Hollingsworth's visit – all at no cost to PPRAA whatsoever. Then, at our August PPRAA meeting, we'll vote on acceptance of the agreement. The key points of the proposal are as follows, and have been deemed acceptable by the PPRAA board, Hamcon Colorado, Inc., and Mr. Hollingsworth:

- A. Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA) agrees to reimburse Mr. Hollingsworth in a timely fashion for his submitted expenses related to his attendance at Hamcon 2006. Mr. Hollingsworth's reimbursement request is anticipated to arrive in the June/July 2006 timeframe.
- B. As soon as possible after PPRAA reimburses Mr. Hollingsworth, but not longer than 30 days, Hamcon Colorado, Inc. (HAMCON) agrees to make a donation to PPRAA in the same amount as PPRAA reimbursed to Mr. Hollingsworth.

- C. In recognition of PPRAA's assistance in this matter, Mr. Hollingsworth's appearance will be noted as Sponsored by Hamcon Colorado, Inc. and Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association in appropriate printed, electronic and verbal communications.
- D. Steve Williams, KØSRW, PPRAA's representative to HAMCON, will coordinate the logistics of Mr. Hollingsworth's visit to Hamcon 2006.

Please drop me an email about any thoughts, desires or questions about the convention. We're always looking for people to help out at the convention, and to help in many pre-convention efforts. Please let me know if you'd like to help out! We can definitely put you to work! My email address is k0srw@arrl.net and I'd love to hear from you!

Make plans to attend the convention now!

73,

Steve Williams, KØSRW
PPRAA Representative on the Hamcon 2006 Committee
Hamcon 2006 Prizes and Exhibits Chair

Membership Report

Les, KC0NC

Please welcome these New Members

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------|
| ROB | ANDZIK | KC0RQX |
| ALBERT | ANDZIK | WB0TGE |
| BURL | GRUPE | KA9UCE |
| ROBERT A. | NUTTELMAN | K0FYI |
| PAUL L. | SCHOEN | |
| RICHARD | SIMMION | KD7DHC |
| Total Number of Members | | 175 |

Swapfest Raffle Prizewinners

Hi all,

I just received a letter from Marshall Tuttle, KC0USF. Marshall was the winner of the Icom 2720 that CMRG provided as a raffle prize for the PPRAA Swapfest this year. Marshall is a new ham (he hadn't received his call sign as of the Megafest) and writes, "as a new amateur radio operator, winning it (the radio) definitely fast tracked my start into this hobby." Let's be sure to welcome Marshall on the repeater.

73's

Dave

Dave Novotny, WA6IFI
Chairman
Cheyenne Mountain Repeater Group, Inc

Rare Pedestrian-Pedestrian Contact

W0RW made a rare Pedestrian Mobile contact with England using a 45 foot corner reflector from the Swapfest. The site was the annual PPRAA Swapfest. The usual gathering of HF Pack Pedestrian Mobile stations was in progress in the parking lot. Jake, N0LX/Bike Mobile, said he just heard Tom, G0SBW/Pedestrian Mobile on 18MHz. I thought it was a joke, the bands seemed dead at 1700z. Then Gary (N5ANF/pm) heard him and he was really there. I tried to contact him with my Backpack radio but he could not hear me. The high school has 2 baseball fields near by, so I headed for the field. I heard Tom calling and walked to the focus of the baseball backstop fence. It was about 45 feet high and 'pointed' northeast. Tom heard my call and responded. It was weak but readable. I saw another 30 foot backstop that was 'pointed' in a slightly different direction and walked over to it. It worked much better. Tom was able to understand that i was in a Cricket Field. The backstop was a truncated corner reflector and the focus gave me +6 to 10 dB gain by ear. (It

was kind of like standing in front of the FPS-50, in Clear, Alaska). Mark, KI0PF, took some great pictures of the operation. (Tom was running a 50W backpack in Essex, UK. He usually operates from a salt marsh/bog). Gary, N5ANF, tried to make contact with his QRP pedestrian mobile with a half wave antenna but Tom could just barely hear him in the noise. This baseball backstop is the ultimate HF Pack antenna accessory. The grounds keeper did want to know what was going on.
Paul W0RW



CW Beginner's Guide

By Frank Skinner KA4JQZ

Editor's Note: Due to its length, the third and final (?) section will be delayed until next month.

| 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 |
| Name: _____ | In which activities would you like to participate? |
| Address: _____ | Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> |
| City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ | Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ | Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____ | Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Additional Family Members to Join/Renew: | Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| | Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> |
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| | 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 / <input type="checkbox"/> V/UHF / <input type="checkbox"/> FM / <input type="checkbox"/> SSB / <input type="checkbox"/> Digital / <input type="checkbox"/> DX / <input type="checkbox"/> Contests / <input type="checkbox"/> Technical / <input type="checkbox"/> 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!!

Central States VHF Convention

The 39th annual Central States VHF Convention will be held in Colorado Springs July 28-30 at the Sheraton Hotel. A complete family program is planned in conjunction with great technical presentations. The technical program will feature subjects like the first 48 Ghz EME contact presented by Al Ward W5LUA.

Colorado is a great place to be in July. The hotel, in full view of Pikes Peak, is offering a special convention rate for attendees. A free shuttle bus is provided to the hotel from the Colorado Springs airport. The convention starts with an evening at the Flying W Ranch on the 28th of July with an old west chuck wagon dinner and cowboy music program under the stars.

Complete registration information is available on the Central States VHF Society web site at (CSVHFS.org). Come have a great time with us in Colorado Springs. For more information, phone 719-331-7051.

Lauren Libby W0LD
Conference Chairman

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

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