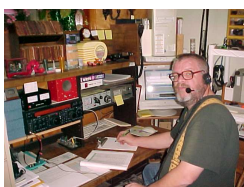




VOLUME 58 ISSUE 10

October 2008



WV7T at the helm of Ø-Beat.

At the August meeting of the PPRAA board of directors I volunteered to assume the duties as Ø-Beat editor. I am no Journalist or English major so if you see mistakes, consider them intentional. October 15th be my deadline for input for the November newsletter
73's Mike, WV7T.

October Meeting: Elections!

At the October 8th meeting of the PPRAA elections will be held for a new slate of officers to lead the club for 2008-2009. A club is only as good as the leaders who serve. Please consider volunteering to fill one of the open positions on the board. Contact Dan, ACØCC, to volunteer for a position.

ARRL Presents New Membership Benefit

ARRL members can now see all QST articles from December 1915 through December 2004. You can view and print articles and projects. Access to the new QST

online archive is free for ARRL members. 'Archive and Search' lists every article for QST from 1915 to the present, QEX from 1981 to the present, Ham Radio from 1968 to 1990 and NCJ from 1973 to the present (please note that beginning in 1998, each issue of QEX covers two months). Only ARRL members will be able to download and print copies of the QST articles.



What can you do with 5 watts and a beam antenna only 11 feet above ground? **How about 100+ countries!**. Here Mike, WV7T, displays his DXCC-QRP certificate under his A3S Cushcraft beam.

Ham Breakfast October 4th 2008

Country Buffet
751 North Academy
(Citadel Crossing)
8:00 am - 9:30 am

DITS & BITS

For Sale:

Astron RM-70S 12V, 70 amp Power Supply (Not a switching P/S) \$195

Kenwood TM-G707 2m/70cm Dual Band Xcvr \$150

Receive coverage is 118-174 and 410-524 MHz (FM). Transmit range is 144-148 and 430-450 MHz F3E (FM). Requires 13.8 VDC at 11 amps.

ICOM IC-W32A 2m/70cm Dual Band HT (Needs knobs!) \$275

Comes with: Antenna, BP-173 9.6V, 650 mAh NiCd Battery, BC-119N Charger & BC-145A Wall Wart, One HM-46 Speaker/Mic

ICOM IC-W32A Dual Band HT 2m/70cm. (Needs knobs!) \$195

Comes with:
2 Antennas: 1 original 6 inch duck, 1 RH77CA Diamond 19" whip antenna, 1 BP-

170L 6 cell Alkaline/Lithium AA Battery case; with 6 batteries, One adjustable belt carrier

Kenwood SP230 Speaker \$50
(No manual)

Samsung SyncMaster 760, Ivory 17 inch LCD Monitor \$100

ViewSonic VG510b 15 inch LCD Display \$100.00

SONY CD RADIO CASSETTE-CORDER Model CFD-S39

AC: 120 VOLT AC/DC 6 D Cell Flashlight battery & 4 AA for Computer/Clock
NEEDS CORD

SANYO Portable Walkman Stereo Cassette Player M4430 \$25
(Requires two AA batteries)

Micronta Range Double Volt Ohm Meter Model: 22-204A \$15
(Includes probe cables)

Heathkit VTVM Model IM-28 Serial # 07411 \$15
(May have manual)

Bill Pierce, KDØJU
Pierce.WC@Gmail.com

Kenwood TS830S HF XCVR for sale, in excellent condition, \$500

Jerry VerDuft, ADØA
verduft8066@msn.com
or 719-634-8066

ALS-500M amplifier and model 40 Tarheel antenna.

Amp is less than a year old. It can be used as a base station amp if you get a power supply for it.

Model 40 Tarheel antenna (slightly used less than a year old).

Both items are like new.

I will take reasonable offers only.
Ken Sheehan, KDØADV
KDØAGV@Comcast.net

Icom IC-740
\$250.00

The radio was heard on the air by Dick Thompson, WØRAA and Steve Sawyer, KTØDX and both reported that the radio sounds good. It has the stock mic and it has a matching speaker but because I don't have a patch cord I don't know if the speaker works. The only thing missing on the radio is the push button for the RIT. The RIT will function by using a pen and just push the button in. There are some scratches, nothing major. The front face looks good except for the missing RIT button. It would be a good starter rig for a new ham. Please e-mail me and if your interested we can make arrangements for you to see the radio in my shack.

Mike Dassero, NØMUD

N0mud@arrrl.net.

Yaesu ATAS-120 Active Tuning Antenna System provides HF/VHF/UHF antenna. 6 weeks old. Asking \$230.00

75-80 meter Ham Stick, 6 weeks old. Asking \$25.00

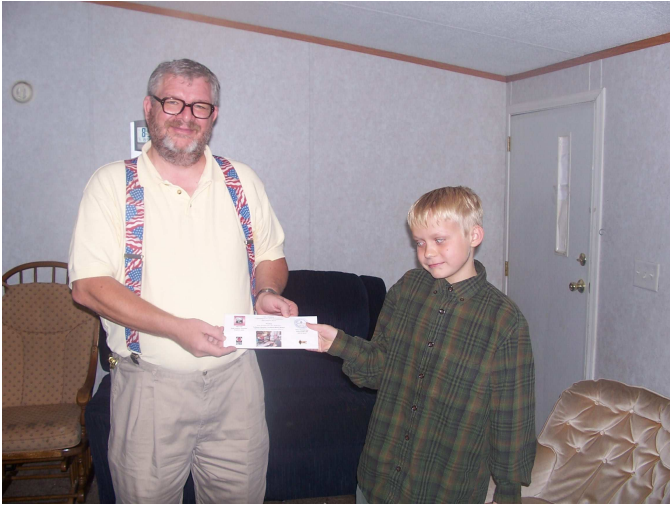
Chris Stark - K7YMI
K7YMI@mho.com
Cell: 1-719-649-3835

Thursday Night Nets

Please join us Thursday evenings at 7:00PM local for the PPRAA 10-meter AM (and other modes from there) get together. We meet on 28.400 Mhz AM, then we may switch to other modes (like FM). We have found that mode experimentation is a great way to become more proficient with our rigs.

Hamcon Colorado

The 2009 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention, May 29-31, 2009 in Estes Park, CO.
<http://www.hamconcolorado.org> for



This is Seth Stark, K5YRU, (son of Chris Stark, K7YMI) receiving a 1-year World Radio magazine subscription from the PPRAA in recognition of his success in passing the Technician Class examination. It is quite an accomplishment as Seth is 10 years old.



ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY 4XØC - 10/25/2008

Operators Hal-W8HC, Jerry-K8OQL, and Ruben-4Z5FI will be active from the

historic Masada at the Dead Sea as special event station for Israel's 2008 60-year Anniversary using the special call sign 4XØC, as a Multi-Single entry in the CQWW DX SSB Contest (October 25-26th). They have been granted permission to operate as 4XØC as a special event/contest station from atop Israel's historical Masada National Park. Masada was built during 37 BC to 31 BC by Herod the Great and served as a "nearly" impenetrable stone fortress and palace. QSL via W8HC, bureau preferred. Logs will also be uploaded to LoTW. Further information can be found at: www.w8hc.com/

Shalom Mike, Thank you for the email and your inquiry. I would be honored to have any of the photos from my website included in your club newsletter. Happy to help you out any way I can. I am copying two of the other 4XØC operators on this message so they will also be on the lookout for your callsign during the contest. Jerry K8OQL also lives in WV and our host Ruben 4Z5FI is the master electrician at Masada. We are looking forward to operating from up on top of the plateau. Your "West Virginia 7 Tango" call should be easy for me and Jerry to remember. I just hope we have some propagation out your way. Thanks again and Very 73, Hal W8HC

GM Mike, W8HC sent me your email about using a photo of Masada in the PPRAA October Newsletter. I'm looking

forward to doing the CQWW SSB Contest from there. We will be listening for WV7T. Looks like 20 meters will be the best bet for your area around and after 1600Z. Lately, 20 meters has been open to the Middle East starting around 1500Z here in West Virginia. Hope you can work us from 4X0C! 73 es Good DX! Jerry Fish, K8OQL, Romney, WV



The Yaesu VX-8R HT

(VX8R is expected late September 2008)

Provides a full 5 watts FM on 50/144/430 MHz plus 1.5 watts on 222 MHz.

It supports Blue Tooth hands-free operation with the optional BU-1 and BH-1 or BH-2 accessories. There is also an optional GPS unit and antenna with loads of features. This radio supports APRS 1200/9600 bps data communication (B band only). Like the VX7R, the VX8R is submersible and meets

IPX57 specifications (3 feet for minimum of 30 minutes). A powerful 7.4 V 1100 mAh Lithium Ion battery is included. An optional 3 x AA battery cell case will be offered soon. This HT is small, intuitive to operate only 2.36 x 3.74 x 0.92 inches (thinner than VX-7R). It supports simultaneous independent 2-signal dual receive function with both V + V or U + U. It has weather band receive with Weather Alert. A barometric sensor is included. You can even operate Amateur radio while receiving FM broadcasts! The receive coverage is wider than VX-7R, with an independent AM/FM broadcast receiver circuit. The dot matrix LCD display provides Memory up to a maximum of 16 characters. You even get a high-resolution Spectrum Analyzer with ± 60 channels indication with wave monitoring of received/modulated signal! And DCS and CTCSS encode and decode is standard.

Comes with the SMA antenna, FNB-101LI Lithium Ion battery pack, belt clip, and NC-86B battery charger. (The NC-86B should only be used for receive, because it is not capable of supplying sufficient current to support transmit).

Options:

Bluetooth, GPS, APRS 1200/9600 bps (B band only), CTCSS/DCS Encode & Decode, Weather Receiving with Weather Alert, Wideband Receive, Dual Receive, Submersible IPX57, Dot Matrix LCD, Hi-Rez Spectrum Analyzer.

New D-Star Repeater In Our Area!

The Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Radio Association WØTLM in conjunction with the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District is pleased to announce that they have installed a new D-STAR repeater located in eastern Monument. The 448.8875 Mhz (-) WØTLM (an open repeater) is now available. They are currently working out some coverage issues and working to setup the gateway server. There may be some intermittent periods of down time still as fine-tuning the system dictates. The goal is to cover northern and central El Paso county and southern Douglas county. Coverage reports from the eastern and southern areas to include Elbert, Colorado Springs, Ellicott, Falcon, Calhan, Peyton, Fountain, Black Forest Larkspur and Monument would be greatly appreciated. The purpose of this repeater is to enhance and support emergency communications for ARES and RACES within the southern Colorado Community, serve as a test bed for cultivating experience in D-Star operation and maintenance as well as providing a low-level local fill in repeater. The tri-Lakes Fire district auxiliary team is looking forward to sharing their installation, maintenance, and other operational experiences with the higher altitude, wide area repeater expected to be placed on Cheyenne Mountain. If you can provide coverage reports, or have other comments about the operation of this repeater, please contact Elliot Linke (KBØRFC) [ehlinke at comcast net], Mike Skinner (KCØLNM) [kc0lno at comcast

net], or any member of the Tri-Lakes Fire Communications Auxiliary. This is a great addition to the repeater system in our area.

AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMINATIONS

The PPRAA/VE team holds testing sessions 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: \$14.00 for Elements 2, 3, and/or 4, payable to ARRL/VEC.
No same-day retakes of same element. Walk-ins allowed; pre-registration not necessary.

BRING: Photo ID, original and copy of valid ham license and/or valid CSCE, and FRN for licensed hams.

Contact:

Jackie Cornwell ACØCA at 719-632-8254 or [email](mailto:ACØCA@arrl.net) at ACØCA@arrl.net

Online: ppraa.org or arrl.org.

Mark your calendars:

Oct. 11, Dec. 13

PPRAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 11th 2008

Attendees: - Doug N7LEM, George KCØTVU, John KCØJFH, Mike KØMLA, Mike WV7T, Dan ACØCC, and Dennis NØABC.

President Doug Nielsen N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

Minutes: - Dan ACØCC/Mike KØMLA moved/seconded to approve Board minutes as printed. Passed.

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Dennis NØABC reported that we have \$11,076.53 total in our accounts as of 18 August 2008, after paying out \$2000 for our D-STAR system donation to CMRG.

COQP 2008 – Dave Sloan sent out 25 mails to other clubs requesting award sponsor donations for COQP. He also requested additional Colorado county coverage. COQP date is September 20, 2008.

Nominating Committee: - All officer positions and four board positions are open. Dan AC0CC is soliciting volunteer nominees for this fall's election. Step up and volunteer.

Unfinished Business

Picnic – The Aug 16 picnic was cancelled due to rain. It has been rescheduled for Saturday, August 30, still at Dirty Woman Park in Monument.

New Business

Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party will be Wed, December 10, 2008. at the Golden Corral (in the banquet room) at Woodmen and Powers. Be sure to put this date on your calendars!

Awards Plaques

We want to give the TLMFPD a plaque for their hosting of our Field Day activities. We also need four plaques for awards at the Christmas party and about 30 plaques for the COQP contest. Mike WV7T will contact engravers to determine costs and styles.

Upcoming Programs

- Oct - Elections
- TBD - Antenna Build Workshop – tentative

New Business

Around the Table

Dennis – next VE session 9AM 2nd Sat. in October at Colo. Tech. October 11.

Adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Next PPRAA Board meeting: 7PM, Monday, 13 October 2008, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

PPRAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 15th 2008

Attendees: Mike WV7T, Dan AC0CC, Bill Pierce KD0JU, John KC0JFH, Dennis N0ABC.

Vice President Dan AC0CC called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

Minutes: Mike/Bill moved/seconded to approve Board minutes as printed. Passed.

Reports

Treasurer's Report – Dennis N0ABC reported that we have \$11,076.53 total in our accounts as of 15 September 2008.

COQP 2008 –Doug requested additional Colorado county coverage. COQP date is September 20, 2008. See <http://www.ppraa.org/coqp/index.php> for more information. We have received more donations for awards.

Nominating Committee

All officer positions and four board positions are open. Dan AC0CC is soliciting volunteer nominees for this fall's election.

Unfinished Business

Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party will be Wednesday, 10 December 2008. Dan has reserved the Golden Corral at Woodmen and Powers conference room for the evening (6:30 PM start).

2009 Megafest

Dennis N0ABC stated that Rob N7LV requested that we put up for approval a vote for the date (probably July 11, 2009) and money for raffle prizes (\$1200). This will be done at the next club meeting.

Around the Table

Mike WV7T requested to be reimbursed \$77.63 for inkjet cartridges for printing

material for instructional classes. Bill/Dan moved/seconded to reimburse Mike as requested. Passed.

Upcoming Programs

Oct – Elections

Nov – TBD

Dec – Christmas Party

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next PPRAA Board meeting: 7PM, Monday, 13 October 2008, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation.

PPRAA CLUB MEETING MINUTES
August 13th 2008

President Doug N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys: Moe Pierce WBØRTF and Joe Marciano KQØS.

Minutes: Dan ACØCC/Mike WV7T moved/seconded that the July meeting minutes be approved as printed in the Zero Beat. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dennis NØABC reported that we had a \$13,076.53 total balance in our three accounts as of 13 August 2008. Net income from the Megafest was \$2176.78.

Committee Reports

Megafest

Rob N7LV – 2009 Megafest planning meeting will follow the picnic. Rob will be putting out a volunteer sign-up list for jobs available to do.

Summer Picnic – Aug 16, 2008 at Dirty Woman Park in Monument. Meat and drinks will be provided by PPRAA. Please plan on bringing a salad, dessert, or side dish to share. A 2009 Megafest planning meeting will follow the picnic. (Secretary's note: the picnic was rescheduled to August 30 due to rain.)

Colorado QSO Party 2008

Date is September 20, 2008. More volunteers are still needed, particularly in scoring the event. If interested, please contact a Board member. Sponsors are doing well in supporting the award plaques. Additional county coverage is also requested.

Hamcon 2009

Doug reported for Dan WØRO that we have responsibility for the talk-in. Last weekend in May 2009.

Old Business

Club Vacancies

Ø-Beat Editor – still needed. If you are interested in either the Zero Beat or Hamcon positions, please contact a Board member.

Technical Education

Mike requests a replacement for his position on the board as he is returning to school.

VE Testing

Dennis VE reported that the last VE session was successful.

D-STAR System

We presented Dave Novotny WA6IFI of CMRG with a check for \$2K to be used for a D-STAR system. They have applied for the Gigaparts D-STAR system grant. Their grant application has been accepted, but no decision yet.

New Business

Elections

Dan ACØCC noted that we need nominees for all officers and four board positions.

Program

Members presented photos of their ham shacks and discussed favorite equipment and software.

Next Club Meeting: 7 PM, second Wednesday, 10 September 2008. The remainder of the year's regular club meetings (except Nov. and Dec.) will be at the Panera Bread Restaurant at Powers and S. Carefree (NE corner).

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 15 September, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

PPRAA CLUB MEETING MINUTES
September 10th 2008

Vice President Dan AC0CC called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys: None.

Minutes: Dan WØRO/Mike WV7T moved/seconded that the August meeting minutes be approved as printed in the Zero Beat. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dennis NØABC reported that we had a \$11,076.53 total balance in our three accounts as of 10 Sept 2008.

Committee Reports**COQP**

Coming up Sept 20. We have had more award donations. We also need more operators to activate more counties in the contest.

Technical Education

Mike WV7T is assuming the newsletter editor position. He needs articles by the first of the month.

Announcements

Dave NØEOP noted the following illnesses and injuries on club members:

Tom WØTOM was injured while putting an antenna up.

Dick WØRAA has a staph infection.

CMRG had applied for the Gigaparts D-STAR system, but unfortunately did not win the award (they were second).

Dan WØRO - Tri-Lakes Monument FPD has put up a D-STAR repeater.

ARISS contact with Challenger Learning Center will be Oct 17.

Elections are next month. We need nominations for all officer and board positions. Contact Dan AC0CC with nominations.

Program

Identity Theft by Colorado Springs Police Department, Officer Jeff Maxson. See <http://www.springsgov.com/Page.asp?NavID=1624> for more information on identity theft in Colorado Springs.

Next Club Meeting: 7 PM, second Wednesday, 8 October 2008, at the Panera Bread Restaurant at Powers and S. Carefree (NE corner).

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 13 October, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

NONPROFIT STATUS

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

The ARRL announces the Year Of the State QSO Party Award for 2009!



The ARRL is recognizing organizations that sponsor State QSO Parties and to encourage all hams to participate in these exciting on-the-air activities, this award is available to any amateur that makes a contact with stations participating in their own State or Regional QSO Party during 2009. Similar to collecting US state quarters, the downloadable, 8-1/2" x 11" certificate has blanks for state flag stickers from all fifty states. The stickers are available as a page of graphic images that can be printed on a sheet of standard labels, Avery label type 5160. As you make QSOs in each state, the appropriate flag is attached to the certificate, until all of the states have been worked.

Top Left State QSO Party flags arranged for Avery 5160 label sheet



Note: If you are having alignment problems, please look in the print dialog box and check that the "page scaling" is set to NONE. Other PDF files are made to "Print to Fit". But, when printing to label sheets, no scale should be applied.

For downloads and more information go to the ARRL web site to WWW.ARRL.ORG/YSQSO.

Jess Miley KØTAA

719 W. 7th, Florence, CO 81226
Amateur & Hobby Radio Products.
We Trade.

Excellent Tech @ \$35 per hour
Commercial rates higher / 719-784-3040
Please call before you drive.

Recognition well deserved!



Julian D. "Doc" Cornell, WØMCT

"Thanks for your 11 years of service to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office and the Office of Emergency Management 1997-2008."

Colorado QSO Party

What a blast!

Thanks for all the hard work everyone has done for this event. I missed it last year, but was able to participate this year and had a lot of fun even Though the bands were sometimes a challenge! In fact, I meant to get on for an hour or two and spent most of the day on the air. Already mailed my meager paper log to Colorado Springs. (Okay, so I am a graphic artist and thus more of a Mac person. <grin>) Can't wait for the next one. I just wish that I could have heard more Colorado FROM Colorado! Most of the counties I jumped over or vice versa. Again, great job by everyone involved with the revisions, awards, mobile stations and just plain making it happen. Thanks!

73 Cheryl Muhr, NØWBV
Jefferson County, Colorado

From the desk of the editor

I hope you enjoy reading this issue of the Ø-Beat. I had fun putting it together and as time progresses and I learn more it will get even better. If you have articles, thoughts, pictures, interesting adventures, misadventures, goodies to sell, or if Murphy should visit you, send them in to me and I will get them into the Ø-Beat. This is **YOUR** club newsletter and should be about you and your club. I can dream up all sorts of things to go in (but who wants to hear what I am doing). We have an abundance of fascinating things going on right here in the local area. Let's share it with the group.

73's until the November issue.

Mike WV7T

(Fmr editor for the Daily Planet in Metropolis)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

All memberships are up for renewal at the end of the year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please use the form at the bottom of this page, and fill out all of the appropriate information so that the Membership Committee can update the records. Include your family so they can share the value and the fun. If you know someone interested in joining, make a copy for them or have them visit PPRAA on the web and download a copy of the PDF file at www.qsl.net/ppraa/membership.html.

| 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"/> |
| Address: _____ | Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> |
| City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ | Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ | Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No E-mail: _____ | Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Additional Family Members to Join/Renew: | Full Member \$15: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Family Membership \$18: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Over 65 \$10: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ | Over 65 Family \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Associate \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Ø-Beat Only \$12: <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Donation to Club: \$ _____ |
| | Total Enclosed: _____ |
| | <u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u> |
| 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 ⇨ 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! | |

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

To: