



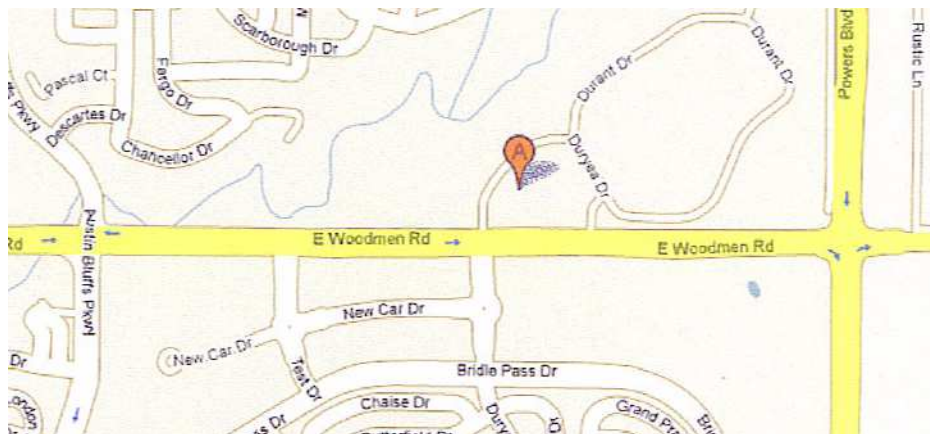
VOLUME 59 ISSUE 12

December 2009

PPRAA Christmas Party At Golden Corral



This years PPRAA Christmas party will be on December 9th 2009 starting at 6:00pm.



5410 E Woodmen Rd
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

December Ham Breakfast

December 5th
Country Buffet
(Citadel Crossing)
8:00 am - 9:30 am

December Club Meeting

The club meeting will not be held in December as the club will be hosting its annual Christmas Party.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

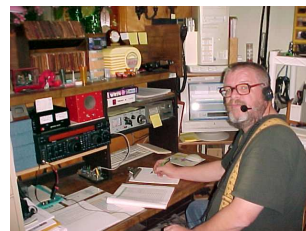
Wednesday December 9th starting at 6 pm
at the Golden Corral Woodmen near
Powers

PPRAA Club Officers

President	Doug Nielsen	N7LEM
Vice President	Mike Debort	KCØELG
Secretary	Dan Scott	WØRO
Treasurer	Pam Scott	
Board	Gordon Dixon	KDØFKF
Board	Dave Moore	KØDAM
Board	Tom Brereton	WØTOM
Board	Galen Steele	AGØA
Ø-Beat Editor	Mike Anderson	WV7T

All officers can be contacted at:
boardmembers@ppraa.org

Technical Education



Mike Anderson, WV7T
wv7t@arrl.net
719-229-8610

License and code tutoring. Electronic theory.

Technical instruction upon request.

Need help getting your ticket or upgrading, give Mike a call.

The FCC continues to drive out any ambiguity on how it interprets Part 97.113. (See previous post [EmComm Trouble From the FCC](#).) On October 20th, the FCC released [Public Notice DA-09-2259](#), which reiterates the principle of *no amateur radio communication on behalf of an employer*, even if the employer is a government agency such as a fire or police department. OK, I think they got that point across.

The FCC also described a process for requesting a waiver of this rule for a specific emergency preparedness drill. A *governmental entity*, not the amateur radio operators involved, must apply to the FCC for a waiver in advance of the drill. According to [N5FDL](#), the FCC intends these waivers to be for very specific events and not a regularly scheduled activity such as a weekly net. This can help facilitate a major event but is still fairly limited. I wonder how many waiver requests the FCC be receiving? I suspect there will be many.

A group of radio amateurs, *The Amateur Radio Policy Committee*, consisting of [N5GAR](#), [WB6NOA](#) and [N5FDL](#) have filed a [Petition for Rule Making](#) with the FCC to address this situation. Basically, they propose that an additional item be

added to the section of rules (Part 97.111) that calls out *Authorized Transmissions*:

(6) Transmissions necessary for disaster relief or emergency response, including training exercises, planning, drills or tests, without regard to whether the amateur operator has related employment, where the transmissions are for the exclusive use of amateur radio operators for noncommercial purposes.

This seems like a reasonable and measured approach to changing the rules to support emergency communications training activities, without opening the door too wide. I am not sure why they proposed to modify Part 97.111 instead of 97.113 where other employment exceptions are handled (e.g., control operator of a club station that sends telegraphy practice, teacher in a classroom setting). The [RAIN Report](#) has an [interview with NSFDL](#) concerning this petition.

I still believe the FCC could have avoided this ruckus with a slightly more liberal interpretation of the rules. They didn't do that, so now we will have to go through the rule making process to deal with the situation. I suppose that the FCC could decline to address the issue but this seems unlikely to me given the legitimate public interest in supporting emergency communications. (Anyone remember 9/11 ?) We'll likely get to a reasonable outcome that protects the amateur radio service from undesirable encroachment while still enabling emergency communications training.

What do you think?

73, Bob K0NR

DECEMBER CONTESTS

ARCI Topband Sprint	0000Z-0600Z, Dec 3
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 4
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 4 to

ARRL EME Contest	1600Z, Dec 6
TARA RTTY Melee	0000Z, Dec 5 to 2359Z, Dec 6
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 5 0400Z-0429Z, Dec 5 and 0430Z-0459Z, Dec 5 and 0500Z-0529Z, Dec 5 and 0530Z-0600Z, Dec 5
TOPS Activity Contest	1600Z, Dec 5 to 1759Z, Dec 6
ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 8
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Dec 9
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 11
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 12
MDXA PSK DeathMatch	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
NA High Speed Meteor Scatter Winter Rally	0000Z, Dec 12 to 0200Z, Dec 16
International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 12 to 1559Z, Dec 13
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 13
CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	2100Z-2259Z, Dec 13
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Dec 18
AGB-Party Contest	2100Z-2400Z, Dec 18
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2100Z-2300Z, Dec 18
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 19
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 19
Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	0001Z, Dec 19 to 2359Z, Jan 3
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 19 to 1400Z, Dec 20
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 23
South Dakota QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 26

DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Dec 26 to 1500Z, Dec 27
PODXS 070 Club QRP DX Scramble	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 27
RAEM Contest	0200Z-0959Z, Dec 27

DECEMBER SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS

December 2009

Dec 1-Dec 16, 1800Z-0400Z, Sevierville, TN. Sevier County Emergency Radio Service, W4W. Sevier County Emergency Radio Christmas QSO Party. 28.350 14.260 7.250 3.840. QSL. QSL direct to amateur operating, the W4W special event station. n4jtg@live.com or www.freewebs.com/aresradio/index.htm

Dec 4-Dec 7, 1400Z-1100Z, Fredericksburg, TX. Hill Country Amateur Radio Club, N5P. Opening of the George H. W. Bush Gallery at the National Museum of the Pacific War, and commemorating the hams that served in WWII. 14.255 21.275 7.275 3.940. QSL. Nimitz Foundation, 328 E Austin St, Fredericksburg, TX 78624. *Also sponsored by the amateurs of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County, TX.* info@NimitzFoundation.org or www.kerrhams.org

Dec 5, 1400Z-2300Z, Granite City, IL. The Egyptian Radio Club, Inc, W9AIU. 80th Anniversary of the Egyptian Radio Club. 14.275 14.035. QSL. Egyptian Radio Club, PO Box 562, Granite City, IL 62040-0562. *Operating from our mobile van.* www.w9aiu.org

Dec 5, 1700Z-2359Z, San Deigo, CA. USS Midway (CV 41) Museum Radio Operations Room, NI6IW. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. SSB 14.320 7.050 PSK-31 7.070 CW 14.060 7.055 D-STAR 2m/70cm SOCAL rep. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Station, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. kk6fz@arrl.net

Dec 5-Dec 6, 1400Z-2200Z, Baltimore, MD. ARC of the National Electronics Museum, W2W. Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. 14.241 14.041 7.187 7.041. Certificate. ARCNEM, Box 1693 MS 4015, Baltimore, MD 21230. *QSL and certificate available.* k3nem.org

Dec 5-Dec 6, 1600Z-2000Z, Gates Mills, OH. Gilmour Academy Amateur Radio, ND8GA. Opening of new \$18 million Gilmour Athletic Center. 14.265 7.265. Certificate. Gilmour Amateur Radio, ND8GA, 34001 Cedar Rd, Gates Mills, OH 44040.

ganet.gilmour.org/faculty/kanek/AmateurRadio.aspx

Dec 7, 0000Z-2359Z, Wilmington, NC. Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club, NI4BK. Pearl Harbor Day from Battleship *North Carolina*. 14.255 14.030 7.255 7.030. QSL. Azalea Coast ARC, PO Box 4044, Wilmington, NC 28406. *Will be usin restored original WWII CW equipment.* www.ac4rc.org

Dec 7, 1500Z-2245Z, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge and USS Kidd Amateur Radio Clubs, W5KID. Pearl Harbor Day. SSB: 15 20 40 m Gen & above RTTY subband CW: QRP sub bands. QSL. W5KID, 305 S River Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. *Primary frequency is 20 meters.*

www.lsu.edu/brarc/uss_kidd.htm

Dec 12-Dec 13, 1400Z-0200Z, Nazareth-Bethlehem, PA. Christmas City and Delaware-Lehigh ARCs, WX3MAS. Annual Christmas greetings from the Twin Christmas Cities. 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.270 3.970. Certificate. CCARC/DLARC WX3MAS, Greystone Building Gracedale Complex, RR 8, Nazareth, PA 18064. *Times are daily.* www.dlarc.org

Dec 12-Dec 13, 1700Z-0300Z, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Broward Amateur Radio Club, W4AB. Fort lauderdale Winterfest Boat Parade. 14.250 7.200. QSL. Steve Adams, 1017 SW 4th Ter, Pompano Beach, FL 33060. n4jrw@comcast.net

Dec 16-Dec 26, 1300Z-0500Z, Granite Peak, MT. Beartooth Climbers, W7G. Radio and Science at the Summit of Montana. 146.52 14.280 3.920 20 m and 80 m weather permitting. QSL. Coordinator, 20 Tai Ln Apt 5, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Dec 18-Dec 20, 1700Z-2200Z, Wheeling, WV. Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, W8ZQ. Festival of Lights Oglebay Park. 75 40 20m Gen bands. Certificate. Joe McCready, WB8CTC, PO Box 192, Blaine, OH 43909.

Dec 19, 1400Z-2100Z, Belen, NM. Valencia County Amateur Radio Association, KC5OUR. Christmas from Bethlehem (Belen, New Mexico). 28.373 21.37 14.273 7.273. QSL. VCARA, PO Box 268, Peralta, NM 87042. www.qsl.net/kc5our
Dec 19-Jan 3, 1500Z-0300Z, Cookeville, TN. The Upper Cumberland DX and Contest Group, W4T. Tennessee Christmas. SSB CW all bands. QSL. Bob Raymer, N2BR, 772 E Jere Whitson Rd, Cookeville, TN 38501.

Thursday Evening Net

Please join us for the Thursday Night 10-meter net. We meet at 7:00 PM (Local) on or near 28.400 USB.

The goal of the net is for Technicians through Extra class operators to enjoy a weekly on-the-air chat, and experiment with various transmission modes. The outcome of the net has been a surprise to new old old-timers alike, we has all come away with a better understanding of our radios, filter usage, mic gain, transmission line, ...etc.

This is a perfect net for an introduction to HF and/or SSB too. The net is informal, just jump in with your call and net control will get you on the list. One thing that is (almost) always is giving a description of you rig, antenna system and approximate location.

Technicians remain operating SSB as do other class operators with SSB only radios. If you are restricted to SSB do not let that bother you as we take that into account even as we jump between modes (AM, FM, DSB, LSB).

Hope to hear you Thursdays on the net!

73, WØRO

PPRAA Club Meeting

11 November 2009

President Doug Nielsen N7LEM called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at Panera Bread, followed by introductions around the room.

Silent Keys: None.

Minutes: Dennis, NØABC moved and Mike, WV7T seconded that the October meeting minutes be approved as published in the Zero Beat with a few corrections on call signs. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Pam Scott reported that we had a \$12,534 total balance in our three accounts as of 31 October 2009. Lewis Palmer bill has been finally been paid.

COQP contest report – complete results will be on the website soon. 5 members of the club participated and submitted logs. 104 participants last year, 130+ participants this year, 2 DX Portugal and Moscow

Committee Reports

MegaFest 2010 – Tentatively set for July 17, 2010 – still need approval from Lewis Palmer.

Dan Scott, WØRO had a planning meeting 11/7/09 - discussed prize options, forums, nicer door prizes.

Tech Ed

Mike WV7T has training materials for Tech license exam and can also provide some limited individual tutoring.

VE Testing – next test is December 12 see the website for more details

December 9th Christmas Party in place of regular meeting – start at 6:00 pm at Golden Corral, Woodmen & Powers. Eat, door prizes, have fun.

Thursday Night Net - Every Thursday night, 7PM, Doc's Glow Net on 28.390 MHz USB. See www.ppraa.org for details. Modes are changed during the evening for experimentation purposes. AM, FM, and sideband modes are used. Doc may not be available tomorrow night

Dave NØEOP noted that the 1010 club W6OI will be operating from all call area November 28/29.

Any ideas for programs for next year send an email to V.P. Mike KCØELG

Dan, WØRO, suggested antenna building in January. If anyone is interested contact him WØRO at ARRL.org.

Dave, NØEOP mentioned that amateur radio operators - serving meals with Salvation Army - contact Rob Roller N7LV for more details

Program – no show for paragliders

Doug Nielsen discussed UCCS and AMSAT placement

Next Club Meeting: The next regular club meeting will be the second Monday, 7 PM, 13 January 2010, at Panera Bread on the NE corner of Powers and S. Carefree.

Next Board Meeting: 7 PM, Monday following club meeting, 16 November 2009, at the Stetson Hills Police Substation, 4110 Tutt Blvd.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Submitted by:

Dan Scott WØRO

PPRAA Secretary

11 November 2009

PPRAA Board Meeting

16 November 2009

Approval of October board meeting minutes – Gordon (KDØFKF) moved – Galen (AGØA) seconded.

Reports:

Treasurer's report - approved

COQP – results are up on the website, Doug will get the plaques

CCARC – defunct repeaters over the last 2 years have been identified and as of the last CCARC meeting are now uncoordinated. There is a grace period until the spring before the frequencies will be reassigned. See the CCARC web site for the list of recently uncoordinated ex-repeaters.

FCC new ruling: Need a waiver if you get paid by the same organization participating in an Emergency Service exercise as an Amateur Radio operator. See the www.arrl.org for more information.

Christmas Party –

Motion to do annual awards up to \$200 Dan (WØRO) moved, Mike (KC0ELG) seconded – approved.

Door prizes:

- 3 WALMART gift cards still left over
- Plus 3 memberships, 2 CQ calendars, 2 repeater books - not to exceed \$50 – Gordon (KDØFKF) moved, Galen (AGØA) seconded – approved

Mega Fest 2010 – we have a date approved July 17th Setting up many forums was discussed and agreed that it was a good idea.

Raffle License – Dan to contact Dennis

Prizes – CMRG to donate one D-Star, plus 3 other prizes. Other prizes: Elecraft K3-100, Flex-Radio SDR-3000, and ICOM IC-92AD

Yaesu HT XR3 as a really nice door prize to keep them around longer.

Galen suggested we do a Stepper antenna with a radio for 2011.

Dan to get raffle prizes ordered

Unfinished business - CO Worked all counties award - no action has happened

New Business – our meeting is the same time as ARES – should we change our meeting date to Monday before the membership meeting — discuss via email - voting in January for final

No board meeting in December – next one is January 18th.

CO QSO next year still first weekend in September 2010, Doug will clean up the definitions. There is concern between Mobile and Portable. A Rover class was discussed but no action taken at this time.

Adjourn – 7:52 pm



PPRAA DECEMBER VE SESSION

The Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association (PPRAA) VE Team will be conducting a VE session at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 12th, 2009 in the room 101 at Colorado Technical University (CTU). The PPRAA VE Team is affiliated with the ARRL/VEC and examinations for all classes of license will be offered.

Full information, including driving directions to the CTU is available at the PPRAA web site at <http://www.ppraa.org> or you may contact Jackie Cornwell AC0CA at ac0ca@arrl.net or by calling 719-632-8254.

If attending, please BE SURE to bring the following items to the session:

- 1) A valid PHOTO ID, driver's license preferred (if you do not have a valid photo ID, please call for alternative identification requirements).
- 2) Your SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (now required -- this includes children).
- 3) Your ORIGINAL amateur radio license (if any) AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.
- 4) The ORIGINAL of any relevant CSCEs you may have AND a PHOTOCOPY for the VE Team to keep.

PLEASE NOTE: The standard ARRL/VEC exam fee for 2009 has increased to \$15 effective January 1st. Cash, Check or Money Order for \$15 (standard ARRL VE Fee). Checks and money orders should be made out to ARRL/VEC and will cover all the exams you wish to take at the VE session.

PPRAA VE Team policy, as with many VE Teams, is to not allow same day retests on failed exams.

73 as always...

Jackie Cornwell AC0CA
PPRAA VE Contact
719-632-8254

Dits and Bits

For Sale or Wanted

For sale:

- 1) Yaseu FT-980, matching speaker SP-980, desk mic MD-1 Asking \$850.00

- 2) Motorola BC-120 commercial 2m capable HT. \$100.00

- 3) Siltronix 500 watt 10m rig, no mic. \$125.00

- 4) Unknown make 2m HT, box, mic, software \$120.00

Harland WØYP

WANTED:

Jim, AB5SI, is looking for a serial (DB9) AB switch. If you have one you can part with contact wv7t@arrl.net.

Have something to sell or trying to find something or just want to see something get to a good home? Send it in to wv7t@arrl.net and see it in Dits and Bits.

John NØQJS in Missouri



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 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.ppraa.org.

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: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Call: _____ Class: N T + G A E Phone: _____ Mbr of ARRL? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Email: _____	In which activities would you like to participate? Field Day <input type="checkbox"/> Demonstrations <input type="checkbox"/> Nets or round tables <input type="checkbox"/> Organize activities <input type="checkbox"/> Teach ham classes <input type="checkbox"/>										
Additional Family Members to Join/Renew Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____ Name: _____ Call: _____ Class: _____ ARRL? _____	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Full Member</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$15 <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Family Membership</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$18 <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 65</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$10 <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 65 Family</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$12 <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Associate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$12 <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> Donation to Club: \$ _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____	Full Member	\$15 <input type="checkbox"/>	Family Membership	\$18 <input type="checkbox"/>	Over 65	\$10 <input type="checkbox"/>	Over 65 Family	\$12 <input type="checkbox"/>	Associate	\$12 <input type="checkbox"/>
Full Member	\$15 <input type="checkbox"/>										
Family Membership	\$18 <input type="checkbox"/>										
Over 65	\$10 <input type="checkbox"/>										
Over 65 Family	\$12 <input type="checkbox"/>										
Associate	\$12 <input type="checkbox"/>										
<u>MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PPRAA"</u>											
<i>The O-Beat</i> monthly club newsletter is available at WWW.PPRAA.ORG .											
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 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____											
New and renewing members must submit a completed application form along with your check to the Treasurer. <b style="text-align: center;">Please Type or Print Clearly!											

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

To: