
HAMateur Gazette

The Newsletter of The
Paso Robles Amateur Radio Club

W6LKF

Meeting Date: First Monday Each Month

Email: prarc@mindspring.com

August 4, 2002

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**Next Meeting: August 5, 2002 Centennial Park, Paso
Robles 7:30 PM**

President: Bill Mcfarlen, WA5VGI

Vice President: Tim Haueter, W6NS

Secretary: Mike Kelley, K6AJ

Treasurer: Bill Palmertson, K6BWJ

- The Newsletter is also available online at:
 - <http://force12inc.com/F12-CLUB-PRARC.htm>
 - Tom Schiller has graciously spared some space on his Force 12 site. He has also listed several club newsletters from other clubs at this link : <http://force12inc.com/F12-NEWS-CLUBS.htm>
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PRARC Meeting - Monday, August 05, 2002:

The highlight of the next PRARC meeting will be a video entitled "Getting Started in Contesting". This video from CQ Magazine tells what contesting is all about, the basics of contest jargon, operating tips for beginners and how to contest from a small station. The video covers both HF/VHF/UHF contesting and has "live on-the-air QSOs" from some of the biggest contest stations in the world. It is an interesting and entertaining video to watch.

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 5th.

73,

Bill McFarlen - WA5VGI
President, PRARC

- **PRESIDENT'S CORNER:**

Greetings. Sorry I was unable to attend the July meeting but Linda and I were on a 19 day vacation back east. We visited with Linda's relatives in PA, drove to CT to visit the ARRL headquarters, and then to MI to visit my sons and grandsons. Our trip ended with a 5 day stay with my cousin

in northern Michigan on Crystal Lake at her home. We had a great time but as always were very glad to return to our lovely central coast of California.

If you haven't visited the ARRL headquarters in Newington, CT it is well worth the trip. I made the trip with the sole purpose of turning in my remaining QSL cards to make Honor Roll - mixed. My excuse was that I couldn't trust these last very rare cards to the US mails but I think underneath I really wanted an excuse to visit the ARRL and take a look around. I was able to operate the ARRL station W1AW as a guest and it only took a few calls on 20 meter SSB to get a good pileup going. The best part of it is that they take your log and do the final QSLing. Not a bad deal!! My trip was successful and I the left the ARRL with a letter from Bill Moore, NC1L who heads up the DXCC desk saying that I had qualified for Honor Roll-mixed. What this means is that I presented acceptable information (QSL cards) confirming contact with 328 out of the 335 total DXCC entities. Needless to say I was thrilled. Honor Roll had been a goal of mine when I started DXing at the age of 13 back in Michigan.

I should add here while your club president was making Honor Roll - mixed two other PRARC members have now qualified for "Top of the Honor Roll". These members are Larry, W7CB and John, W6KFV. Top of the honor roll means they have worked, confirmed and provided acceptable information to the DXCC desk that they have

worked all 335 DXCC entities. Congratulations to Larry and John.

We still have a large number of club members who have NOT paid their club dues this year. PLEASE - we need your dues.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the August meeting.

73,

**Bill - WA5VGI
President, PRARC**

- **DX News:**

Not too much to report DXwise from yours truly. We were gone during the month of July for almost 3 weeks on a vacation back east thus had only limited time to operate in July. On top of being out of town current band conditions of high "k" and "A" indices make DXing very challenging.

Some of the more common DX stations made it into the log such as VP9(Bermuda), V63(Micronesia), FK8(New Caledonia), 5K0(Providencia), and CU3(Azores). Also a few of the harder to work such as 7X2DG(Algeria), 5C2MI(Morocco), TY7Z(Benin), 3B8/W8MV(Mauritius) and R1MVI(Malyj Vysotaskij Island). All in all it was a very short DX month for me. Now I am looking forward to August and hoping that solar conditions will improve. The message here is that even with terrible band conditions there is always some DX on to be worked. If you're are not there the DX won't make it into your log. See you on the bands.

73, Bill - WA5VGI
