

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Celebrating 73 years as an *active* amateur radio club—*Since 1937*

CALENDAR



September 3, PAARA Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Menlo Park Rec Ctr
700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

September 18, Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Palo Alto Red Cross
400 Mitchell Lane, Palo Alto

September 24, DEADLINE for PAARAgraphs submissions.

September 25, PAARAFest see page 98 for details

President's Corner

Unbelievably autumn is nearly here already and I can already feel the year heading toward its close. At the time of this writing we are just one month from the equinox and that should yield some nice HF conditions as we approach the fall contest season. With Field Day behind us, we still have several great PAARA events to look forward to as well.



Solar cycle 24 really seems to be more and more active. While there have been quiet periods, we have had several spectacular Coronal Mass Ejections, or CMEs, over the last few weeks and a few flares too. Some have resulted in spectacular Auroral displays as well as some HF blackout conditions. The good news is that we often have enhanced propagation following the high speed particle flux that comes from these CMEs. As I write this, the solar flux index is 75, but the sunspot number is zero. It was, however, as high as 39 last week, and there have not been long strings of zeroes, as there were last year at this time. Evidence of increased activity can also be seen in the background X-ray flux which has been at the B1 level recently. Propagation has been variable, but generally much better. There have been reports of 6 and

(Continued on page 97) Pres Corner



You won't want to miss our next meeting!

SEPTEMBER 3, 2010

Our program will be...

...Paul Ewing, N6PSE
YI9PSE—DXpedition to Northern Iraq

A noted DXer and DXpeditioner, we are very fortunate to be able to welcome Paul back from his most recent trip and his latest DXpedition. You will not want to miss this presentation.



Welcome
New PAARA Members!

K6EWS	Jacob Whiting	Palo Alto
KJ6AJN	Linda Leong	San Mateo

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 10:30AM, 145.23— PL=100Hz
 Redwood City Main Library, Community Conference Room
 1044 Middlefield Road, Redwood City, CA
 contact: <http://amateur-radio.org/> or Al, WB6IMX@att.net

ELECTRONICS FLEA MARKET

Sponsorship by **A.S.V.A.R.O.**
 (Association of Silicon Valley Amateur Radio Organizations)
 Second Saturday of month, March-October, 6am-2pm
 Howard M. Krawetz, N6HM 650-856-9761
 Contact: <http://www.electronicfleamarket.com/>

LIVERMORE SWAP MEET. Now in Robertson Park, Livermore, every first Sunday of the month. 7 am to 11:30 am. Free admission for buyers. For further info, see: www.larkswap.com or contact Ian Parker, W6TCP at swapmeet@livermoreark.org

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Menlo Park Rec. Center; Net 145.230 - PL 100Hz Mondays at 8:30. See our website at <http://www.paara.org/> for more information.
 Or contact: Joel Wilhite KD6W, KD6W@ARRL.NET, 650-325-8239

FARS Foothills Amateur Radio Society

Meets 4th Friday each month at 7:30pm
 contact: <http://www.fars.kfya.org/>

NCDXC Northern California DX Club

meets 2nd Friday 7:30pm each month,
 repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM
 contact: <http://nedxc.org/> or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699

QCWA Chapter 11

Northern California Quarter Century Wireless Association
 Meets third Wednesday monthly at Harry's Hofbrau in Redwood City @ 11:30 AM.
 Guests are welcome. Saturday morning net on 146.850 MHz, PL 114.8

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

meets 1st Sunday each month
 contact: <http://www.norcalqrp.org/>

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

meets each Monday 8:00pm on Net 145.27, 440.80 MHz
 contact: <http://specsnet.org/> or Tom Cascone, KF6LWZ, 650-688-0441

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 146.445 [PL 114.8] & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact: President Gary D. Aden, K6GDA 650-743-1265(D), 650- 595-5590 (N)
 Web: <http://k6mpn.org> E-mail: pres@k6mpn.org

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU & W6UUR, repeater 146.985-pl
 Nets: 2m, 7:30pm Mon; 70cm, 442.425+ (pl 107.2) Thur.
 meets 2nd Mon each month @ 7:30 PM.
 contact: <http://www.qsl.net/secara/> or Clark Murphy KE6KXO 408-262-9334
 ARRL/VEC license testing contact 408-507-4698

SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates AA6BT repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact: <http://www.svecs.net/> or Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

TEARS The Elmer Amateur Radio Society

Dedicated to operational training, knowledge building &
 FCC exam testing. KV6R repeater under construction.
 Contact AA6T@ARRL.NET. Most members are Extra
 class or VE's. See QRZ dot com/kv6r for class info

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

W6PIY six-meter repeater on 52.58MHz. Normally, six-meters is linked with 147 and 223, while 441 and 1286 repeaters are linked.
 VHF: 52.58 (-500) 151.4 ctess UHF: 147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctess 441.35 (+5.0 88.5) ctess
 223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctess 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctess
 Meetings are 3rd Wednesday of every month.
 contact: <http://wvara.org/>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or N6FFC@ARRL.NET

American Red Cross, SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER
 contact: <http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924
shensley@Novell.com

(please send changes to PAARAgaphs editor: K16YTA@arrl.net)

Please contact Rick Melrose to
 settle your 2010 membership dues so
 you can keep receiving your
 PAARAgaphs.

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President	Kristen McIntyre, K6WX	510-703-4942
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	ron@taxhelp.com	

Directors

Past President (‘10).....	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	650 325 8239
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Appointed Positions

Membership	Vic Black, AB6SO	650-366 0636
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Public Affairs	Vacant	
Station Trustee W6OTX, K6YQT, W6ARA....		Gerry Tucker, N6NV
Station Trustee K6OTA....		Ron Chester, W6AZ
Property Manager.....	Gerry Tucker, N6NV	
Fund Raising Coordinator	Bob Korte, KD6KYT	408 396 4745
	bob@rgktechsales.com	
Badge Coordinator.....	Lynn Gentry, KG6JPV	
Historian.....	Christopher McIntyre, KG6SVI	
Raffle Coordinator.....	Jim Rice, K6AK	650-851-2274
Ticket Master	Kyle Rice, KG6MSK	
Field Day Coordinator.....	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	
ASVARO Rep.....	Rolf Klibo, N6NFI	650-856-2748
	n6nfi@arrl.net	
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	markc@binaryfaith.com	
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QSL Manager.....	Rob Riley, K16INR (cell)	650 799-1607
	ki6inr@arrl.net	
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10 meter openings as well as conditions on 20 meters that are fairly good at times. With all of this new activity the fall contests may be quite fun.

The next big contests are the RTTY CQ Worldwide DX Contest, and the California QSO Party, or CQP. I'm hoping to participate in CQP with Rick, N6DQ in early October. I'm not sure of our exact location yet (it's a bit in flux), but we plant to be on the air. In the past, it always seemed that my son had a huge amount of homework on CQP weekend, keeping me from participating. Now that he is in college, I'll be able to participate, and have some contesting adrenaline fun at the same time. Don't forget that there is often some good DX on prior to a contest, and often they are on modes that are different from the contest mode. If you like hunting DX, try scanning the bands during the latter part of the week preceding the RTTY contest on September 25th. You might be surprised by what you find.

On a personal note, I dropped my son, Christopher, KG6SVI, off at UC Berkeley this weekend, and it was one of the hardest things I've had to do to say goodbye to him. While he will still be close by, this represents a big step into the world of being a college student, and life will be very different for me. Among other things, he will not be able to help out with the raffle anymore, so if you'd like to give us a hand, we'd sure appreciate it.

Well, it's time for me to sign clear for this month. Don't forget that October is the month for the PAARA sponsored ASVARO Electronics Flea Market. I may have mis-reported it as September previously. In any case, if you've participated in the past, you'll probably be hearing from me as we get closer to the date. Along with the Flea Market, we will also have PAARAFest coming up. Make sure your calendar is clear.

Take care everyone

ES 73 DE K6WX AR

Board Meeting Minutes

8/2110

AMENDED Minutes of the 18 August 2010 PAARA board

The Board Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross building, commencing at 7:30 PM on the 18th of August, 2010. Attending were Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres), Doug Teter KG6LWE (VP), Rick Melrose K6RDM (Sec, Database), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), Joel Wilhite KD6W (former Pres), Byron Beck KG6UOB (Dir), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir) and Gerry Tucker N6NV (Property Mgr). A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: Rick K6RDM reports that the minutes of the 21st of July, Board meeting had been previously submitted and approved. Two new members joined the club at the August 6th meeting.

President's Report: Kristen K6WX reported that the August 6th general meeting had a great turnout and that the membership enjoyed the film clips and would like to see more of them. The discussion turned to improvements in the Club website in process of development in the capable hands of John Miller K6MM. He is looking for more material and would like to have club members take on the hat of collecting and passing on content for specific areas of our activities and interest groups. As was mentioned at the general meeting, we are still hoping to retrieve the archived PAARAgaphs issues and data

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The old guard and the new guard.

John K6MM shows Christopher KG6SVI some of the controls on the GOTA station HF rig while operating during the PAARA 2010 Field Day.

Photo by K6WX

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from our crashed hard drive if anyone can help with this project.

The Club's sponsorship of the DeAnza Ham Flea Market has been confirmed for October 9th (the date does not conflict with the California QSO Party [CQP] on the previous weekend of the 2nd and 3rd). Kristen asked that the board and regular members to step up and take on the various posts – there are still some openings for anyone who wants to help out.

Vice President's Report: Doug KG6LWE reported that the topic for the September general meeting will be the YA9PSE Dxpedition to Iraq presented by Paul Ewing N6PSE. The board took up the subject of our Club repeater projects – nothing definite yet but things are taking shape as the process continues.

Treasurer's Report: Ron W6AZ reported that proceeds from the raffle and Flea Market have been very good. Continuing our discussion regarding the Club's Field Day performance in the last board meeting, Ron and Gerry N6NV gave a summary of the our statistics from Field Days in the late 70s and early 80s as reported in QST. It appears we came in at 1ST place in at least 3, and possibly 5 years in a row. Ron was commended for his excellent submission of our recent Field Day results and it was decided to tape a debriefing of Gerry who participated in those earlier successes for an article in PAARAgaphs.

Joel KD6W announced the date of our annual PAARAFest will be held again this year at his house on September 25th with the traditional food & drink and numerous tables of goodies he and Jerry have collected over the past year. And lucky us, PAARA members get first pick at the trinkets of joy before they go to the PAARA sponsored flea market. As before, food and drink is a flat \$5 with all proceeds going to benefit the club's treasury.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Congratulations to the winners of the August 2010 Raffle!

- 1st Prize:** Bill Young / K6VWO /
LDG Z-100 Plus Antenna Tuner
2nd Prize: Don Rodoni / KE6CFX /
MP1 Portable HF 7-450 MHz Antenna
3rd Prize: Greg Miller / WY6P /
Two Uniden FRS / GMRS Radios
4th Prize: Gerry / N6NV /
Kill A Watt / AC Monitor
5th Prize: Pat Sullivan / W6ABA /
MFJ 24/12 Hour LCD Clock
6th Prize Seth Morabito / KJ6HZC /
ARRL Repeater Directory / 2009-2010
7th Prize Bob Shelton / K6TGR /
HRO Coffee Mug
8th Prize Don Rodoni / KE6CFX /
Icom Band Plan and
Yaesu World DX Map

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT of PAARA's exciting monthly raffles!

PAARA had a remarkable year in 2009! If you aren't a member, please join PAARA now and experience fun 2010 events with the "friendliest club around."

K6AK Jim

Tri-City VE Group Test Sessions

- Where:** Hurricane Electric
48233 Warm Springs Blvd
Fremont, CA
- When:** Thursday, **September 11**, 9:00 a.m.

For more information, contact
Rita, K16SSQ@arrl.net, (510) 703-7090
or
Bernhard, AE6YN@arrl.net, (510) 364-0611
or visit
www.sbara.org.



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PAARA “The Friendliest Club Around”

September 3rd Raffle Prizes

FIRST PRIZE: YAESU FT1900r 2m Mobile Rig!



- Extended Receiver Coverage 136-174 MHz
- Illuminated Microphone with Keyboard Frequency Entry and Recall
- 200 Memory Channels with Alpha-numeric Labeling
- Dedicated 10-Channel NOAA Weather Broadcast Channels
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SECOND PRIZE: SolarLink FR500 AM/FM/ Shorwave Receiver

- Solar Cells are built into handle
- Hand Crank Charges Internal Ni-MH Battery & Cell Phone Batteries
- NOAA Weather / All 7 Channels plus “Alert”
- Built-in 4 White LEDs / One Red LED Light with Magnifying Lens
- Digital Clock Function / 12 Hour Clock with Alarm / Snooze / Sleep Timer
- Connectors / Headphones / DC-in /USB Phone Charger / USB iPod Charger
- USB Cell Phone Charging Cord Included



THIRD PRIZE: West Mountain COMspkr

- RF Proof Amplified Stereo Computer Speaker System
- Stereo High Fidelity Response for Use with Voice or Music
- Optimized for Operation in Close Range of any Radio Transmitter



FOURTH PRIZE: Deltran Battery Tender Junior

FIFTH PRIZE: TWO FRS / GMRS Radios

SIXTH PRIZE: ARRL Repeater Directory / 2009-2010

SEVENTH PRIZE: Icom / HRO Coffee Mug

EIGHT PRIZE: Icom Band Plan & Grid Square Map

Since February 2003, **185 Radios**, including THREE Elecraft K3's, a Yaesu FT-847, an Icom 706 MK IIG, a Yaesu FT-897D, and TWO Elecraft KX1's have gone to Fellow Hams.

Special Thanks to Bob, Howard, Jon, Mark, and everyone at HRO for their continued support!

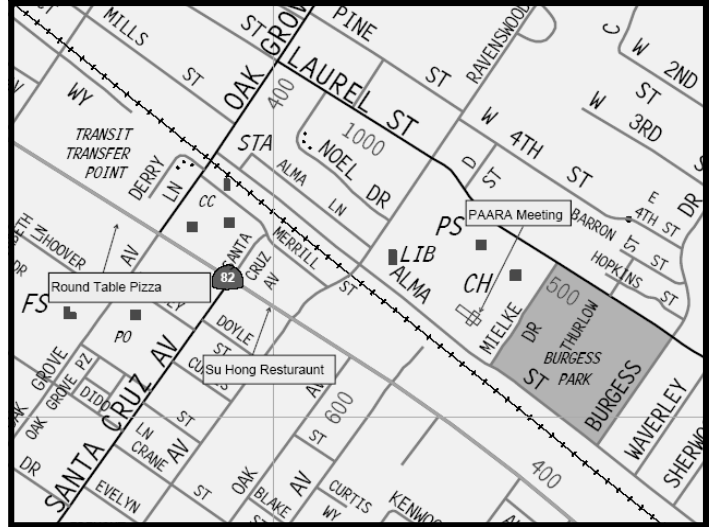
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Directions to PAARA meeting:
<http://paara.org/meetings/>

YOUR AD HERE
 See the next
 page for details

**The following badges are
 ready for pickup:**

K4AZY, KJ6EOP, K6FEW, K6FTF,
 KJ6GBC, KI6GY, N6JCY, KF6SRD,
 AF6TH, K6TSR, KG6QKN, KG6QKO,
 KI6VNI, and K6VVK

If you would like to
 order a badge, see
Lynn Gentry, KG6JPV.

PAARA Weekly Radio Net

Info and Swap Session every Monday evening at
 8:30pm on the N6NFI 145.230 MHz repeater.

<u>Week</u>	<u>Control Operator</u>
1 st	Doug Teter - KG6LWE
2 nd	Robin Yee—KI6YTA
3 rd	Jack Pines - W1VSL
4 th	Marty Wayne - W6NEV
5 th	Mike Bray - N6MEB



Join us for pre-meeting eyeball

Eye Ball QSO gab & gobble

Food will be served at 6:00 sharp, so guests will be on time for the PAARA meeting. Those arriving late will be responsible for their own food order.

5:30 pm—at Su Hong Restaurant
 1039 El Camino Real
 Menlo Park

*across from Kepler's Book Store
 on El Camino Real
 Walking distance from Caltrain!*

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association
 P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, California 94026-0911

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:00pm at the Menlo Park Rec Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA.

Radio NET & Swap Session every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230 –600 MHz repeater, PL 100Hz.

Membership in PAARA is \$20.00 per calendar year, which includes one subscription to PAARAgaphs \$6 for each additional family member (no newsletter).

Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026-0911

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**DON'T
FORGET!**

**Amateur
Radio
Technology
Day**

September
18th, 2010

8AM to
9PM

at the SLAC
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Vladimir Vladimirovich

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ki6yta@arrl.net

Submissions for PAARAgaphs by the 3rd Wednesday

Text: MSWORD, RTF, or TEXT

Photos: JPEG or TIFF raster images

Missing PAARAgaphs, too many copies, wrong name or
call on label? Contact Database Manager:

Rick Melrose K6RDM, 1-888-725-1895, k6rdm@arrl.net

PAARAgaphs Ad Rates

PAARAgaphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members. (short personal ads remain free for members in good standing). All ad rates listed are per issue.

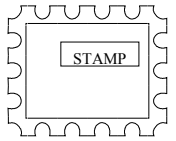
1. Not-for-profit ads by association members for ham-related items and wants. No cost for business card-size ads (additional space at \$2.50 per business card size per issue).

2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover per issue. These fees may be reduced or waived in exchange for a valuable consideration that is given to the Association or its general membership. Such consideration must be in addition to any existing arrangements with the association. The PAARAgaphs editors reserve the right to reject any ad deemed to be not in the best interest of the Association.

All fees payable in advance by the year with "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads. Give payment and copy to Ron Chester, W6AZ

PAARagraphs — September 2010

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
 PAARagraphs Newsletter
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