

PAARAgraphs



The Official Newsletter of the
Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Celebrating 77 years as an *active* amateur radio club—Since 1937



Upcoming Events

Oct 3 PAARA General Meeting, 7:00 PM
Cubberly Community Center, Room H-6
400 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto

Oct 15 Board Meeting, 7:00 PM
Everyone welcome!



(Events — Continued on page 6)

Internet Outages: Not Just for Disasters

Michael Fox, N6MEF

Michael Fox, N6MEF, began his career in networking in the early 1980s, about 10 years before the commercial Internet as we know it existed. He participated in constructing the initial NSFnet links between universities that would later form the backbone of the big-I Internet. He designed, built and managed a state-wide network providing multi-protocol service (including SNA, DECnet, IPX, AppleTalk and, of course, TCP/IP Internet access) to all State agencies, universities, colleges, libraries and later, K-12. From there Mike moved on to the vendor side of the world, helping to design and build some of the largest enterprise and service provider networks in the world. He has held executive positions in worldwide systems engineering, technical support and operations at several networking vendors, large and small. Today he has his own consulting practice.

Michael is also a member of the Santa Clara County ARES/RACES packet committee which operates a county-wide data network utilizing amateur and other frequencies. The network has gateways to other packet networks and the Internet. The network is not dependent on the Internet and can operate without Internet or other external network connections and without commercial power for weeks or longer.

President's Corner

October 2014



Autumn is here at last, so it's time for some contesting, and for Pacificon! We also have been doing some work behind the scenes at PAARA, as we often do for our membership. And don't forget that the PAARA leadership elections are coming up soon, as well as the PAAARA Dream to Reality Raffle in December! Come and get our next K3.

As we come to the beginning of October, one of the first things we encounter is the California QSO Party, operated by the Northern California Contest Club. This is the 49th running of the CQP, as it's known, and this is an event where you get to be the DX that everyone is trying to work. Usually there are so many 6 stations, that nobody cares, but this time the pileups will come to you. This works even better if you are in a rare California county. There are several counties that don't get a lot of action, so if you are up for a drive, get on out there and light one of them up for some serious fun on the air. This is a 30 hour contest with a serial number and county exchange. It's not that complicated. Logs should be submitted to the NCCC, and there are several different operating classes, so different chances to make your mark. I've had tremendous fun in this event

(President — Continued on page 8)

Moving Day

As many of you know, the building where my shop and offices have been located for the last 21 years



The Field Day Antennas & Equipment Moving Crew



Building Rack and Moving Metal

has been sold, and is slated for demolition to make way for a new development. As you may also know, that has been the storage locations for our Field Day antennas, and equipment for many years.

On the Saturday following our last General Meeting, a group of the Field Day Faithful met at my shop for the last time, to move the club's gear to it's new storage location, my place in San Martin.

Thanks to the hard work of the team, we were able to get everything (about 20 different beam antennas, 3 AB-621 mast systems, tables chairs, canopies, and everything else) loaded into trucks and onto trailers for the trip South.

After a quick lunch, we got to work unloading and stashing everything, and were done by about 4:00.

My thanks to the team, Marty W6NEV, Jim K6SV (ex-KI6KVW) and his son Eric KJ6LAY, Don KE6CFX,

(Moving — Continued on page 6)

My Two Mobile Installs

Steve Wilson, KG6HJU

Ham Radio has so many facets to get involved in. One facet is mobile operation. That facet alone has many components that may pique your interest. Many people in the hobby start with a mobile rig to help the commute time pass more quickly...or at least more pleasantly. Sometimes, the DIY (do it yourself) aspect of the hobby appeals to the ham. I thought I would share my experience with installing two mobile rigs.

In July of 2001, I received my Technician Class license. In 2003, after having a Miata for a little over a year, I finally felt comfortable installing a vhf/uhf mobile rig. I have always enjoyed installing car stereos, over the years, so I felt comfortable tackling the job on my own. The Miata presented some benefits and some small challenges. First off...it was

critical for me to not detract from the lines of the car with the antenna. I decided on a small trunk lip mount and started with a short whip antenna (Comet SBB2 18" 2M 2.15 dBi 1/4 wave), which seemed to work well enough with the local repeaters. I would keep a longer antenna (Comet SBB5 38" 2M 3.0 dBi 1/2 wave), with more gain, in the trunk. But I finally realized that it just wasn't worth the hassle of changing the antennas, so I decided to just leave the longer antenna on all the time (Figure 1).



Fig 1: Miata & Comet

In an effort to evenly distribute the weight in the Miata, Mazda chose to locate the battery in the right, rear of the trunk (Figure 2). This location made it really easy to hookup the radio, as I wouldn't need to worry about running power wires through the firewall from the engine compartment. This



Fig 2: Miata Battery in Trunk

also was a convenient location, as I chose to use the separation kit, for the Yaesu FT-8800R dual band radio, and install the radio in an area just forward of the trunk (Figure 3).



Fig 3: Main radio unit in trunk cavity

All I had to do was run two wires from the trunk to the cockpit...one for the speaker and one for the head unit. I chose to mount the speaker



Fig 4: Extension Speaker

between the seats (Figure 4), closer to my ears, to help being able to hear it in noisy conditions. I mounted the head unit underneath the dash, to the right of the steering wheel (Figure 5). You can just read the face through the spokes of the steering wheel. I removed the



Fig 5: Head Unit mounted under dash

cover over the transmission tunnel and ran the data cable from the trunk up to the head. Rather than screw the mic holder into the tunnel, I chose to use heavy duty Velcro so I could remove it if I ever chose to sell the car. The setup isn't perfect, but it has served me well.

Just recently, I decided that it would be fun to install an HF rig into my 2003 Montero SUV. I work from home most of the time, so I wasn't looking for something to use for commuting. But I thought it would be fun for long trips or camping. I chose the Yaesu FT-857D for the rig. This install did require running cables from the battery, through the firewall, into the interior. One thing that some of us learn, as we age, is which pro-

(Mobile Installs — Continued from page 3)

jects we should tackle and which projects we should leave to the experts. I chose to have someone else run the power cables for me, while the SUV was at a body shop for repairs. Once again, I chose to leverage the separation kit. I mounted the main radio unit under the passenger seat and grounded it to one of the seat screws. I used the hook side of some stick-on Velcro to secure the radio bracket to the carpet. This keeps it from moving around, yet allows for easy removal. I terminated the power cable, under the center console, with Anderson Powerpole connectors. I also wired in a secondary power cable to be used for a second radio or the Doppler unit for t-hunting. The speaker is mounted with Velcro (Figure 6), so I can move it



Fig 6: Yaesu FT-875D and speaker



Fig 7: Yaesu FT-857D Head Unit

under the seat when not in use. There was a convenient cavity, in the front console, to mount the head unit. I cut a piece of 2x4 with slightly angled ends that would wedge into the console. I mounted the plastic painted the 2x4 black and mounting bracket to it. I then used a piece of black foam rubber to create a pressure fit for the 2x4 to keep it in place. I then ran the cable from the radio, through the center console, and up to the head unit (Figure 7).

As to antennas, I chose a small hatch back mount for the VHF/UHF (Comet SBB2 18" 2M 2.15 dBi 1/4



Fig 8: Comet SBB2

wave) antenna (Figure 8) and mounted it on the top right. I chose a hatchback mount and the Little Tarheel II screwdriver antenna (Figure 9) for HF. Fortunately, the plastic panels in the SUV were easy to remove to run the antenna cables to the rig. I used double faced foam tape to mount the toggle switch to control the

screwdriver antenna. Although I put an antenna analyzer on the antenna and labeled the various bands on the barrel of the antenna, I have learned to tune the antenna by listening for the noise floor to increase on the band I am tuning. This actually works quite well. My furthest contacts include Tokyo, Japan and Argentina. It's been fun to have on long trips, as I had hoped.



Fig 9: Little Tarheel II

PAARA web site member area

If you're a PAARA member, you should have received an email from PAAR-Apay@gmail.com on or around August 28th telling you how to gain access to the member area. If you didn't receive an email, you either don't have an email address in the roster, the email is in your spam folder, or the email address in the roster isn't correct. If you wish to gain access to the member area of www.PAARA.org, send an email to PAAR-Apay@gmail.com with your correct email address. You will then receive instructions on how to gain access to the member roster which is posted in the member area. You will also have access to a form for correcting information in the member roster. Should you move, the roster update form is an easy method of making sure your PAARAgaphs continue arriving on time.

Jim K6SV
 Secretary/membership

September 17 Minutes

The September Board Meeting was held at the Menlo Park 'Round Table Pizza Parlor', commencing at 7:44 on September 17th, 2014. In attendance were Kristen McIntyre, K6WX (President), Jim Thielemann K6SV (formerly KI6KVV) (Sec, Membership), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treasurer), Darryl Presley KI6LDM (Dir), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir), Byron Beck N6UOB (Dir), and non-Board Members, Rick Melrose (Chaplain), Gerry Tucker W6AZ (Property Manager), and PAARA member Walter McVeigh KK6GTU. A quorum was present.

President's Report: Kristen, K6WX, commented on how wonderful Art Lieberman's, W6REQ, talk was on "The life of a Broadcast Engineer, what a long strange trip it's been". The talk was very entertaining with lots of interesting stories and lessons to be learned. Even though the meeting ran rather long, everyone was engrossed and we're sure Art only scratched the surface of things he could have talked about.

It's time to start talking about the December Dream to Reality raffle. Once again PAARA will be raffling off a K3. According to Elecraft, "PAARA has given away more K3's than any other club". It's not too late to start saving your pennies so you can better your odds at the December 5th meeting.

She also mentioned that during the October meeting she'll be contesting in a different location in California than in the past. We'll have to wait until November to hear the story of this year's trip.

Kristen indicated her reserve of stories is better than in the past but new stories are always needed. The board wishes to encourage the general membership to submit articles to be published in upcoming issues of PAARAgaphs. Do you have any projects, technical articles, hints n kinks, DX, on the air experiences that might be of interest? We can even help you write them up, "even if it's only 4 sentences", says Kristen.

Vice President's Report: Marty, W6NEV, though not able to attend, reported that the next speaker will be Michael Fox, N6MEF, presenting at talk entitled "Internet outages: not just for disasters". The board had a conversation regarding the remaining club T-shirt sizes. Seems we may be out of the larger sizes. This item will wait until next month when more information is available.

Secretary's report: Jim, K6SV, reported that the membership stands at 151 for 2014, with 9 members paid through 2015, for a total of 160 members. One new member and 1 returning member joined at the last meeting. So far there have been 44 renewals via PayPal through the Club website. The "activation" of the member area on the web site has been successful. Members are using the "Roster Update" area to correct roster errors, add information to the roster and notify us of address changes.

Treasurer's Report: Ron, W6AZ, reported that the club finances are in fine order. Gerry has managed a good month or two of flea market sales.

Under Old Business, the Board once again discussed the October Electronics Flea Market. Kristen advised the board that ASVARO wasn't successful in mustering enough resources to make the arrangements in time for PAARA to host the October Flea Market. Next year, discussions will be conducted before the start of the Flea Market "season" to get October included in the schedule.

Jim, K6SV, reported the roll out of the member area went smoothly. Thanks John, K6MM, for your fine work to make this happen. There were a number of roster errors that have been corrected. There are still a number of members that aren't aware of the activation of this area. See the related story elsewhere in this issue for more information.

A quick discussion regarding the PAARApLink (formerly PAARASHOOT) is still in the plan for early next year. Stay tuned for a date.....

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(Minutes — Continued from page 5)

Under New Business, Doug, KG6LWE, as you may remember, has to be out of his office building by the end of September. In his absence, Jim K6SV, reported that ALL of the PAARA property was successfully relocated on September 6th to Doug's QTH. An energetic group of helpers showed up at his shop at 9AM to assist with the large effort. There were enough vehicles to transport all the property in one trip! Even with stopping for hamburgers once we arrived at his QTH, we were complete in time to ragchew for a short period before going our various ways by 3 PM.

Gerry requested approval to sell the IC-761 which was used for the GOTA station. After some discussion, the board agreed to sell the radio. As Pacificon is right around the corner, that's the venue Gerry will use 1st to sell it.

Kristen reported she received agreement from Daniel Rahamim, KJ6SEE, to once again conduct the PAARA December elections. Please contact him if you wish to assist or wish to run for office. He can be reached at KJ6SEE@gmail.com. Keep in mind that the entire Board and 2 Director's Positions are up for election/re-election.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Jim Thielemann, K6SV

Re-join Member:

Robert O'Neil N5VD

New Member:

Rachel Kinoshita KK6DAC

(Events — Continued from page 1)

	Round Table Pizza Parlor in Menlo Park
Oct 10-12	Pacificon 2014 — W100AW/6 Host
Oct 25	PAARAFEST@KD6W QTH - noon till you pop! Burgers, Brats, Beer, Barter, Banter and Bargains galore \$5

Ron, W6AZ, found an interesting article at the smithsonianmag.com site:

The Debate Over Net Neutrality Has Its Roots in the Fight Over Radio Freedom

Today's epic battle has been fought before, when radio took to the air a century ago.

Here is the long link:

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/innovation/debate-over-net-neutrality-has-its-roots-fight-over-radio-freedom-180952774/?no-ist>

And here is the short link (by google):

<http://goo.gl/Dq4e1n>

(Moving — Continued from page 2)



New Home for FD Antennas & Equipment

Gary KI6HIG, Rick K6RDM, Walt K6GYR, Joe W6SNV, Pierot N6MSY, Harry who has a new call I can't remember, Doyle KG6YUN and his son

Truly, many hands made light work.

Doug KG6LWE



PAARA 9/5/14 Raffle Prize Winners (left to right)

3rd Prize / Jim Thielemann / K6SV / Cup Holder HT Mount

4th Prize / Walt Gyger / K6WGY / ARRL Hints & Kinks Book

6th Prize / Walt Gyger / K6WGY / Two Rolls of Rescue Tape

2nd Prize / Gerry Tucker / N6NV / Two West Mountain COM Speakers

5th Prize / Doug Teter / KG6LWE / ARRL Repeater Directory

7th Prize / Doug Teter / KG6LWE / Bongo Ties

1st Prize / Merritt Yee / KG6TNO / Wouxon Dual Band HT (in front)

(President — Continued from page 1)

over the last few years, so I can highly recommend it. For more information please go to the CQP website at <http://cqp.org>. You can even see the operating plan there to get an idea of which counties need some help. If you look around, you might even see where I'm operating this year.

Pacificon is the premier West Coast Amateur Radio conference sponsored by the ARRL, and it's just 2 weeks away as of this writing. I'm really looking forward to it. It's a time when we all get together to exchange information, see what's new in ham radio gear, and meet up with all of our fellow hams. I'd like to take a moment to focus on this last part for a moment, because to me, it's a part of Amateur Radio which has made it a force in my life more than any other avocation that I have embarked upon. At each of these conventions or hamfests I get a chance to see friends, some of whom I only see once a year, and it is like a homecoming - as if I'd never left. We enjoy such wonderful conversations; we share our stories of our latest experimentation and our latest learning, and we talk about what makes a difference in our lives. There are antennas, and radios, DX lost and won, software tried, new Arduino projects, news of other hams, great talks we've heard, new radios, and our unique approaches to this multi-faceted hobby. When I go to these things, I'm often so wrapped up in these conversations that I miss everything else that's there! But it's that people centered connection that makes this hobby more than just a sterile exploration of radio technology. To me, it would not be very interesting without that human side. So, if you have the time, perhaps you'll join me, and many of your fellow PAARA members at Pacificon this year. I hope to see you there.

PAARA has also been working on a few other things for you. One was that PAARA Field Day Coordinator Doug, KG6LWE, has had to move out of his shop in Redwood City. As some of you know Doug generously has been storing all of the Field Day aluminum trees inside his shop. This has been convenient for a number

of reasons, but all good things come to an end eventually. A couple of weekends ago a crew of PAARA members got together and moved it all down to Doug's property in San Martin to be stored there for FD next year. A big thanks to the moving crew, and to Doug for his generous donation of space to store those antennas both before and after the move.

Keep your ear to the ground for future notifications about a PAARApLink that is in the works at the old 10th Street Range in San Jose. You might recall that we did that some time in 2013. Well, it's time to do it again, so we'll announce a date soon. Come on down for some hot lead therapy with your friends. I won't be at the October meeting because of CQP, but PAARA VP Marty, W6NEV, will do a fantastic job standing in. And don't forget that PAARA elections are coming up fast. CU IN CQP DE K6WX.

October Raffle Prizes

**1st Wouxun KGU3D-2/
UHF 2M/440 DUAL
BAND HT**



**2nd Daiwa Coax
Switch**



3rd Battery Tender Junior

4th Two FRS Radios

5th ARRL book

6th ARRL Repeater Directory

7th Two Rolls of Rescue Tape

8th Bongo Ties

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911 Menlo Park, CA 94026

Officers

President Kristen McIntyre, K6WX 510-703-4942
 kristen@alum.mit.edu
 Vice President..... Marty Wayne, W6NEV 408-246-7531
 w6nev@arrl.net
 Secretary Jim Thielemann, K6SV 408-839-6815
 thielem@pacbell.net
 Treasurer Ron Chester, W6AZ 408-243 2221
 ron@taxhelp.com

Directors

Director (*13)..... Byron Beck N6UOB 408-369-1913
 N6uob@arrl.net
 Director (*14)..... Rob Riley, KI6INR 650 799-1607
 (cell)
 ki6inr@arrl.net
 Director (*14)..... Larry Rebarchik N6DB 650 465-8210
 (cell)
 n6db@arrl.net
 Director (*14)..... Darryl Presley, KI6LDM 650 255-2454
 ki6ldm@arrl.net

Appointed Positions

Membership Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636
 ab6so@smrn.com
 Database Jim Thielemann, K6SV 408-839-6815
 thielem@pacbell.net
 Chaplain..... Rick Melrose K6RDM 408-341-9070
 k6rdm@arrl.net
 Public Affairs *Position 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..... Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650-367-6200
 dteter@wawi.com
 Historian Position..... *Position Vacant*
 Raffle Coordinator..... Jim Rice, K6AK 650-851-2274
 Ticket Master Marty Wayne, W6NEV 408-246-7531
 Field Day Coordinator Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650-367-6200
 ASVARO Rep Rolf Klibo, N6NFI 650-856-2748
 n6nfi@arrl.net
 Webmaster John Miller K6MM
 webaron@gmail.com
 Technical Coordinator..... Joel Wilhite. Kd6w 408-839-5948
 kd6w@arrl.net
 QSL Manager Rob Riley, KI6INR 650 799-1607
 (cell)
 ki6inr@arrl.net
 Speaker Coordinator..... Marty Wayne, W6NEV 408-246-7531

PAARAgaphs Staff

Editorial Board
 Bob Van Tuyl K6RWY Kristen McIntyre K6WX
 Ron Chester W6AZ Vic Black AB6SO
 Joel Wilhite, KD6W

Editor Bob Van Tuyl, K6RWY 408 799-6463
 rrvt@swde.com
 Back Up Editor..... Jim Thielemann, K6SV 408-839-6815
 thielem@pacbell.net
 Advertising Ron Chester, W6AZ 408-243-2221
 ron@taxhelp.com
 Member Profiles..... *Position Vacant*
 Technical Tips..... Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636
 ab6so@smrn.com
 Photographer Bill Young, K6VVO
 jdsinger@sbcglobal.net

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/>

PAARA — Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

Meets 1st Friday 7:00pm each month at Room H-6, Cubberley Community 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.k6va.org>

NCDXC — Northern California DX Club

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30pm each month,
 Repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM
 Contact: <http://ncdxc.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

50 MHz & Up Group

Meets 1st Thursday each month at 7pm in the Texas Instruments Building E conference room in Santa Clara.
 Contact: <http://50MhzandUp.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, Belmont EOC, Belmont City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont CA 94002. 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 & W6UU/R, 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.gsl.net/sccara> 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

WVVARA — 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 ctcss UHF:
 147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctcss 441.35 (+5.0) 88.5 ctcss
 223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss
 Meetings are 3rd Wednesday of every month.
 Contact: <http://wvvara.org>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or N6FFC@ARRL.NET

**American Red Cross,
 Santa Clara Valley Chapter**

Contact: <http://santacalaravalley.redcross.org> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924
fshensley@Novell.com



James Farrey
 Sales Manager

James Electronics Ltd
 1355 Shoreway Road, Belmont, CA 94002
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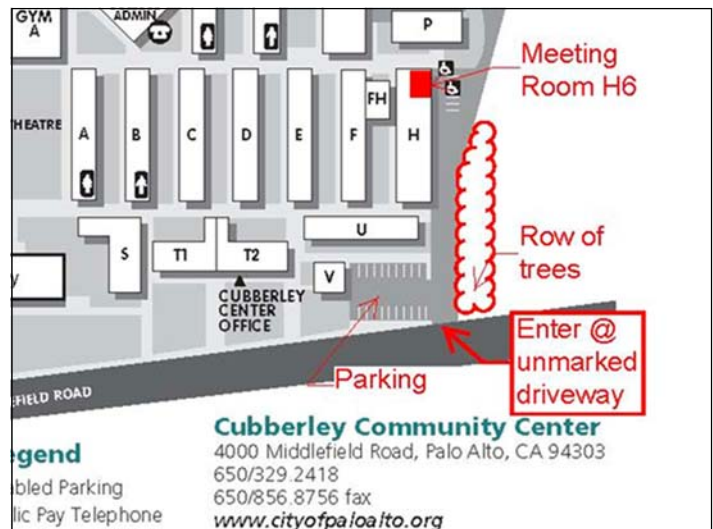
If you would like to
 order a badge, see
Doug Teter, KG6LWE.

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	Joel KD6W
2 nd	Doug - KG6LWE
3 rd	Jack - N1VSL
4 th	Marty - W6NEV
5 th	Rob KC6TYD

If you're interested in trying out at Net Control,
 Contact Doug, KG6LWE. It's good practice,
 and lots o' fun! Give it a try.



**Meeting Location — Middlefield Road
 between San Antonio and Charleston in Palo
 Alto. 4000 Middlefield Road**

<http://www.foto.mail.ru/list/shkurkin>

Vladimir Vladimirovich

SHKURKIN

Editing and Translation Services
 English-Russian-English

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**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 Room H-6, Cubberley Community Center.



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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<p>RADIO IN THE PARK</p> <p>9:30am - 12:30pm Check Back In the Spring</p> <p>QTH: Agnews Historic Park 4030 Lafayette St. Santa Clara, CA 95050</p> <p>N 37° 23.549 W 121° 57.297</p>	<p>Ilse Beck, E. A. , KI6IBM</p> <p>BeckBusiness Services</p> <p>441 N. Central Avenue, #9 Campbell, CA 95008</p> <p>Enrolled Agent Income Tax Bookkeeping/Payroll Elder Care Consultations Billing and A/R</p> <p>Phone/FAX: 408-267-8234 Email: ilsebeck@jps.net</p>
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Ron Chester
 Santa Clara
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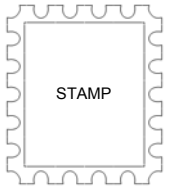
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PAARAgaphs — October 2014

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



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PAARAgaphs Newsletter
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