W6ARA

## PAARA NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 60, NUMBER 8, August 2010

**K6OTA** 

K6YQT

# 

The Official Newsletter of the

## Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

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

## **CALENDAR**



August 6, PAARA Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Menlo Park Rec Ctr

700 Alma Street, Menlo Park

August 18, Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Palo Alto Red Cross
400 Mitchell Lane, Palo Alto

August 18, DEADLINE for PAARAgraphs submissions.

Send items for September PAARAgraphs to
Joel Wilhite, KD6W@ARRL.net



## You won't want to miss our next meeting! AUGUST 6, 2010

Our program will be...

...Mark Laubach, K6FJC

Mark Laubach, K6FJC, Deputy Chief Radio Officer for the Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Services and Chief Engineer at Foothill college Radio station KFJC, will bring us up to date on the Santa Clara Mutual Aid Communicator (MAC) program, which has been in place for almost a year now.

## **President's Corner**

Field Day 2010 is in the can, and we have had another tremendously successful effort by all of those involved. Band conditions were not the best, but what mattered most was that we all put in a coordinated effort to have a smooth operation, and all of our operators continuously kept all of our stations on the air during the entire event.

It is nearly impossible to list



all of the people who contributed to our Field Day effort without missing someone important, so I won't event try. To everyone who spent time making this event what it was, I want to give you both the club's thanks and my own personal heartfelt thanks. This extends particularly to the setup and teardown crews, the public information people, those of you who brought gear, those who attended the antenna work parties, those who procured and donated parts (and whole antennas) for our antenna systems, those who made the food and kept us refreshed, those who ran our network and telephones, those who contacted people to visit, and lastly our operators and

(Continued on page 89)Pres Corner

## Welcome New PAARA Members!

KI6LDM, Darryl Presley, Cupertino KJ6GVQ, Rodna Presley, Cupertino N7JAK, John Kilpatrick, Mountain View

650 266 0626

650-851-2274

650-856-2748

#### Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

#### 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.electronicsfleamarket.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 <a href="http://www.paara.org/">http://www.paara.org/</a> 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.k6ya.org/

#### NCDXC Northern California DX Club

meets 2nd Friday 7:30pm each month.

repeater for member info 147.360, Thursday 8:00PM

contact: http://ncdxc.org/ or Mike Gavin W6WZ, (650) 851 8699

#### **OCWA** 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.norcalgrp.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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)

E-mail: pres@k6mpn.org Web: http://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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 ORZ dot com/ky6r 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

52.58 (-500) 151.4 ctcss 147.39 (+600) 151.4 ctcss UHF:

223.96 (+1.6) 156.7 ctcss

441.35 (+5.0 88.5) ctcss 1286.20 (-12m) 100.0 ctcss

Meetings are 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month. contact: <a href="http://wvara.org/">http://wvara.org/</a>, Bill Ashby N6FFC, 408-267-3118, N6FFC@Juno.com, or

N6FFC@ARRL.NET

#### American Red Cross. SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER

contact: <a href="http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/">http://santaclaravalley.redcross.org/</a> or Scott Hensley KB6UOO, (408) 967 7924 fshensley@Novell.com

(please send changes to PAARAgraphs editor: KI6YTA@arrl.net)

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

#### 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	Doug Teter, KG6LWE	650-367-620
	dteter@wcwi.com	
Secretary	Rick Melrose K6RDM	408-341-9070
	k6rdm@arrl.net	
Treasurer	Ron Chester, W6AZ	408-243 2221
	ron@taxhelp.com	

	Directors	
Past President ('10)	Joel Wilhite, KD6W	650 325 8239
	kd6w@arrl.net	
Director ('10)	. Rob Riley, KI6INR	650 799-1607 (cell)
	kg6hvw@arrl.net	
Director ('11)	Byron Beck KG6UOB	408-735-8604
	kg6uob@arrl.net	
Director ('10)	Mark Cohen K6EF	
	markc@binaryfaith.com	
Director ('10)	Larry Rebarchik N6CCH	650-218-0091 (cell)
	N6CCH@arrl.net	

#### **Appointed Positions** Jie Black AD650

Membership	VIC DIACK, ABOSO	030-300 0030
	ab6so@smrn.com	
Database	Rick Melrose K6RDM	408-341-9070
	k6rdm@arrl.net	
Chaplain	Rev. Rick Line, KG6TMD	650 323 8544
•	kg6tmd@arrl.net	
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, KG6	SVI
TO 001 01 11		

Raffle Coordinator......Jim Rice, K6AK Ticket Master .....Kyle Rice, KG6MSK

Field Day Coordinator.....Doug Teter, KG6LWE ASVARO Rep.....Rolf Klibo, N6NFI

n6nfi@arrl.net ..Mark Cohen K6EF Webmaster.....

.....markc@binaryfaith.com Technical Coordinator.....Joel Wilhite. KD6W.......650-325-8239

kd6w@arrl.net OSL Manager..... ...Rob Riley, KI6INR (cell) 650 799-1607

ki6inr@arrl.net

Speaker Coordinator Doug Teter, KG6LWE 650 325 8239 dteter@wcwi.com

#### PAARAgraphs Staff

#### Editorial Board

Mamharchin

PAUL PETACH KI6OXV ROBIN YEE KI6YTA Kristen McIntyre K6WX Vic Black AB6SO Joel Wilhite, KD6W Ron Chester W6AZ

Robin Yee, KI6YTA KI6YTA@arrl.net paaraeditor@gmail.com 408-243-2221 Advertising.....Ron Chester, W6AZ .....ron@taxhelp.com Member Profiles Terry Finn, AA6T 650-366-9111 Vic Black, AB6SO 650-366 0636 Technical Tips ab6so@smrn.com Photographer Bill Young, K6VWO jdsinger@sbcglobal.net

PAARA 2010 General Meeting dates——1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7, 6/4, 7/9, 8/6, 9/3, 10/1, 11/5, 12/3—

#### PAARAgraphs—August 2010

Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

(Continued from page 87)

coaches. Behind those who performed these functions are myriad others, family members included, who supported our effort. Our thanks go to you as well for putting up with this 'crazy' obsession we have with radio in general, and Field Day in particular. I heard our Field Day coordinator, Doug, KG6LWE, say several times that this was the smoothest FD experience he has ever had. This is because we all pitched in and made it happen. Thank you.

As I mentioned earlier, band conditions were not outstanding, but they were well within the acceptable range. We had some good runs on 15 meters (personally I had a nice one Sunday morning at about 9AM) as well as 10 meters. Watching the log scroll by, I saw some good contacts on 6 meters as well. We were in a situation where the sun had almost no active regions. A sunspot cluster had disappeared and another was just beginning to rotate in. In addition, there was a coronal hole causing some geomagnetic noise. Still, things were not all that bad. Next year will likely be more interesting on the upper bands, particularly 10 meters, and we will have to revisit the band plans to see what might be most effective. Increasingly the VHF station will be a source of more points as we move towards the solar maximum.

One aspect of this year's Field Day that worked particularly well was the Get On The Air, or GOTA, station. John, K6YP, and Rob, KI6INR, helped us to make hundreds of contacts at that station. We even had to turn away a few folks who wanted to operate because the operator schedule was full. This was a fantastic change from prior years when the station was often idle. It also helped that the GOTA antenna was good enough that making contacts there was not as painful as it has been in the past. The formula really worked this year, and I'm sure we'll refine it going forward.

Lastly, we had some inter-station interference issues, particularly with the phone stations being pounded by the CW stations when both were on the same band. We will be considering what might work better in that domain for next year. I do not believe that the CW stations had significant receiving issues. I think that with tighter receive filtering we can minimize the problems, but we will have to do some experimentation.

I have spent most of our conversation this month recounting our Field Day experience. I'm sure next month I'll return to more mundane topics. I suppose FD just stands out as a really exceptional event for me. Don't forget that the PAARA sponsored ASVARO Flea Market is coming up in September. We will need volunteers and I will probably be contacting many of you to help out. If you'd like to help, please contact me using the information in the PAARAgraphs masthead. I hope to see you all at the next PAARA general meeting, and until then,

GUD DX TO U DE K6WX.

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

The Board Meeting was held at the Palo Alto Red Cross building, commencing at 7:30 PM on the 21st of July, 2010. Attending were Kristen McIntyre K6WX (Pres), Doug Teter KG6LWE (VP), Rick Melrose K6RDM (Sec. Database), Ron Chester W6AZ (Treas), Larry Rebarchik N6CCH (Dir), Byron Beck KG6UOB (Dir), Rob Riley KI6INR (Dir), Gerry Tucker N6NV (Property Mar) and John Miller K6MM. A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: Rick K6RDM reports that the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> of June, Board meeting had been previously submitted and approved. Three new members joined the club at the July 9th meeting.

President's Report: Kristen K6WX reported that Field Day was a positive experience and people had a very good time. She and Doug thanked all who contributed both individually and in teams. Operationally, it appeared to be a great success as installations went up very smoothly on the whole and we seemed to do well logging in QSOs and scoring bonus points. The board commended Rob KI6INR for the best performance to date for the GOTA station and Doug KG6LWE for a fine job of coordination overall. The regular meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June was well attended and members found the Campbell Island Dxpedition very interesting.

Kristen reminded the board that PAARA will be handling the September DeAnza Ham Flea Market and began the process of organizing functions and delegating assignments. The board also took up the subject of the California QSO Party (CQP) coming up in October and laving the groundwork for ensuring that all counties are covered, particularly San Francisco, Mendocino, Napa and so on.

Vice President's Report: Doug KG6LWE Indicated that most of the technical glitches of last year's Field Day had been overcome this year and our antenna system performed beautifully. We also had a functioning phone system! The upcoming August general meeting will feature Mark Laubach K6FJC speaking about his role in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Doug reported on a meeting held to discuss the future of our

(Continued on page 90)

(Board Meeting Minutes—Continued from page 89)

D-Star repeater equipment and our project to get repeater operations going on the 440 MHz and 900 MHz bands, saying that the prospects are improving.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ron W6AZ reported on receipts from the flea market, auction and dues. Following up on discussions in the last board meeting, Ron gave a presentation of the performance of the raffle over the last couple of years. He gave a preliminary report on our statistics from Field Day and it seems there is a strong possibility that we are higher than the previous year for the third year in a row. It appears we did well even on bonus points – for example, this is the first time we have gotten an elected official to our site. ... We shall see.

The board welcomed visitor John Miller K6MM. In response to comments in earlier board minutes reports and conversations with board members, John, who has considerable experience maintaining other ham websites, has offered to take a hand in upgrading ours. What followed was a quite lengthy discussion of his recommendations and other changes needed on the site. Kristen mentioned that we would like to put archive material and issues of PAARAgraphs on the site. She reminded us that soft copy of some issues are only on the hard disk that crashed. We are hoping someone in the membership may have an idea of a possibility of retrieving the data and would like to hear from anyone who has any idea that may help along this line. John's offer to pitch in on our website is very much appreciated.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

### **Tri-City VE Group Test Sessions**

Where: Hurricane Electric

48233 Warm Springs Blvd

Fremont, CA

When: Thursday, August 19, 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Rita, **KI6SSQ@arrl.net**, (510) 703-7090 or Bernhard, **AE6YN@arrl.net**, (510) 364-0611

or visit

www.sbara.org.

## Congratulations to the winners of the July 2010 Raffle!

1st Prize: John Kilpatrick / N7JAK / Yaesu FT-

1900R / 2m / 55W / Mobile

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Lodema Epperson / KI6UGV / Icom IC

V-80 / 2m / 5.5W /HT

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: John Conrady / KI6QQW / Samlex

13.2 V DC / 5.5 Amp / Power Supply /

**Output Socket-Terminals** 

4th Prize: John Kilpatrick / N7JAK / wiREVO

S300 Stereo Bluetooth Wireless

**Headset with Charger** 

5<sup>th</sup> Prize: Donald Rodoni / KE6CFX / ARRL Re-

peater Directory / 2009-2010

6<sup>th</sup> Prize John Eisenberg / K6YP / Sterling De-

**luxe Wire Striper** 

7<sup>th</sup> Prize John Eisenberg / K6YP / HRO Coffee

Mug

8<sup>th</sup> Prize Ivan Beck / AE6XA / Icom Band Plan

and Yaesu World DX Map

Silent Auction Winner: Bill Young / K6VWO / Heathkit Impedance Bridge

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

#### **PAARA Exemplary Service Award**

Gerry Tucker, N6NV 2005 Rice Family 2006 Jim K6AK, Lisa KG6KQS, Kyle KG6MSK Wally Porter, K6URO 2007 Vic Black, AB6SO 2008 ??? - 2009



## PAARAgraphs—August 2010 Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

## PAARA "The Friendliest Club Around"

## August 6th Raffle Prizes

## FIRST PRIZE: LDG Z-100 Plus Antenna Tuner



- Continuous coverage 1.8 to 54 MHz
- Power rating HF (1.8 to 30 MHz) 0.1 to 125 watts
- Tuning Time: 0.1 to 6 Seconds / 3 Seconds Average
- Latching Relays / Holds Tune Position Forever
- Enclosure: 5.5 x 5.5 x 1.5 inches / 16 oz.

## SECOND PRIZE: Super Antennas MP1 Portable HF 7-450 MHz Antenna

- 3.5 4MHz with Optional Coil
- QRP to 200W Operation
- Adjust Slider to Frequency and Snug Down Band Lock Screw
- Portable / Easy to Set Up Operation
- Antenna Mount Included



**THIRD PRIZE:** Two Uniden FRS / GMRS Radios with Batteries and Belt Clip

**FOURTH PRIZE:** Kill A Watt AC Electricity Usage Monitor

**FIFTH PRIZE:** MFJ 24/12 Hour LCD Clock with Local and UTC Time

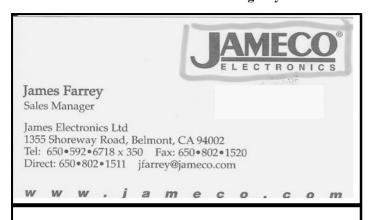
**SIXTH PRIZE:** ARRL Repeater 2009/2010 Directory

**SEVENTH PRIZE:** Icom / HRO Coffee Mug

**EIGHTH PRIZE:** Icom Band Plan and Yaesu World DX Map

Since February 2003, **183 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!



# YOUR AD HERE See the next page for details

# The following badges are ready for pickup:

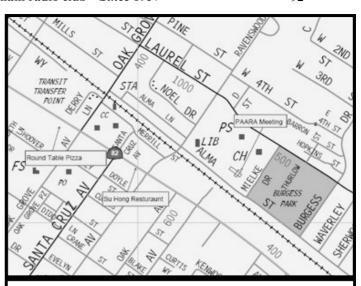
K4AZY, KJ6EOP, K6FEW, K6FTF, KJ6GBC, KI6GYY, N6JCY, KF6SRD, AF6TH, K6TSR, KG6QKN, KG6QKO, KI6VNI, and K6VVK

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.

Week	Control Operator
1 <sup>st</sup>	Doug Teter - KG6LWE
$2^{\text{nd}}$	Robin Yee—KI6YTA
$3^{\rm rd}$	Jack Pines - W1VSL
$4^{th}$	Marty Wayne - W6NEV
5 <sup>th</sup>	Mike Bray - N6MEB



## **Directions to PAARA meeting:**

http://paara.org/meetings/

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 PAARAgraphs \$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

Permission is granted to reprint from this publication with appropriate source credit.

П

П

#### PAARAgraphs—August 2010

Celebrating 73 years as an active ham radio club—Since 1937

## **DON'T FORGET!**

**Amateur** Radio **Technology** Day

August 28th, 2010

> 8AM to 9PM

at the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory

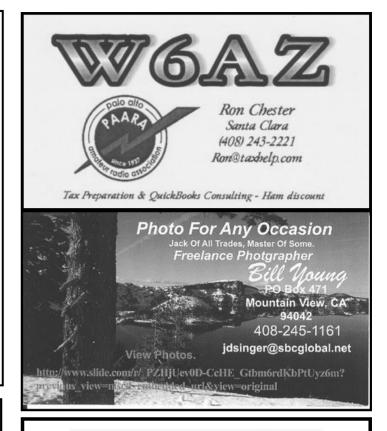
Ilse Beck, E. A., KI6IBM



441 N. Central Avenue, #9 Campbell, CA 95008

> Enrolled Agent Income Tax Bookkeeping/Payroll Elder Care Consultations Billing and A/R

Phone/FAX: 408-267-8234 Email: ilsebeck@ips.net





REDWOOD CITY -- 415-495 SAN FRANCISCO -- 408-266-2 SAN JOSE -

TERRY FINN CA Insurance License # 1A38965, AA67 234 Marshall Street, UPSTAIRS #3 Redwood City, CA 94063-1550

## http://www.foto.mail.ru/list/shkurkin

Vladimir Vladimirovich

SHKURKIN

**Editing and Translation Services** English-Russian-English

shkurkin@ix.netcom.com

# **PowerFlare**®

PowerFlare® safety lights: Ultra-rugged 360 degree LED beacon for your emergency kit, car, home ... **Order on eBay** or call 650-322-2476 (search for "PowerFlare")

PAARAgraphs E-mail address:

ki6yta@arrl.net

Submissions for PAARAgraphs by the 3rd Wednesday

Missing PAARAgraphs, too many copies, wrong name or

call on label? Contact Database Manager:

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

MSWORD, RTF, or TEXT

JPEG or TIFF raster images

PAARAgraphs Ad Rates

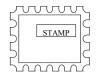
Text:

Photos:

- PAARAgraphs accepts paid advertisements from non-members. (short personal ads remain free for members in good standing). All ad rates listed are per issue.
- 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 PAARAgraphs 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 — August 2010

Accept no substitutes. Produced and printed in California USA



Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc. PAARAgraphs Newsletter P.O. Box 911 Menlo Park, California 94026

## **FIRST CLASS MAIL**

