

# PAARA

# Graphs

FEBRUARY 1990



The first  
1990  
ELECTRONIC

# flea market



at Foothill College!!!



**Saturday**

MARCH 10

**more inside**

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER  
OF THE PALO ALTO AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION

AND

THE MENLO PARK C.D. AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# PAARA

# PALO ALTO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION



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President	Gerald Tucker	WA6LNV	415-326-4908
Vice-President	Andy Korsak	VE3FZK	415-366-5228
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ARES Officers:			
	Rob Walker	KA6JLT	415-321-9981

Club Historian

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

Ted Moran	KB6UDA	1989-90	415-325-9861
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Bill Lane	KJ6TF	1990-91	415-856-0154
Chuck Johnson	N6VFH	1990-91	408-251-8536

## PAARAgraphs Staff

Editor	Chuck Johnson	N6VFH	408-251-8536
Mailing	Bill McElhinney	KA6LZI	415-325-9808

## PAARA POLICIES

Membership in PAARA is \$6.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgraphs. Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, P.O. Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

Club Net 147.45 MHz Mondays 8:30 PM

Meet at 7:30 PM on the first friday of each month at the Menlo Park Recreation Center.

Send PAARAgraphs correspondence to:

Chuck Johnson N6VFH, EDITOR  
3309 Mt. Logan Drive  
San Jose, CA 95127

# FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK BULLETIN

ANDY VE3FZK INFORMED ME THAT THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD HAS DECIDED TO ABANDON THE FOOTHILL ELECTRONICS MUSEUM. WHAT A SHAME! YOUR EDITOR WAS DRAWN BACK INTO THE HAM RADIO ORBIT BY JERRY WA6LIJ, DURING A VISIT MY FATHER AND I MADE TO THE MUSEUM BACK IN 1987, SO MEMORIES OF THAT PLACE ARE VERY FOND ONES! NOW IT IS TO BE CLOSED. THIS IS A BAD SIGN, BUT LET'S HOPE FOR THE BEST, IF THAT IS POSSIBLE HERE. MORE INFO AT THE FEB. 2 MEETING!!! HAVE A PLEASANT FEBRUARY & SEE YOU NEXT MONTH. 73 DE YOUR EDITOR.

## N6VFH SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

"THE SHIP THAT SHOULDN'T HAVE--  
VKØJS HEARD ISLAND DXPEDITION"

A 90 MINUTE DX VIDEO SPECIAL  
BY THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DX  
FOUNDATION.



HOPEFULLY SOME KNOWLEDGEABLE DX EXPERTS WILL BE THERE TO FILL US IN ON THIS ONE!!! \*\*\*PRE-MEETING DINNER: SU HONG'S, EL CAMINO OFF RAVENSWOOD MENLO PARK, 5:45 PM MEETING FRIDAY FEB. 2ND...

IN MARCH: KEN MANDERS WB6CNI ON SPREAD SPECTRUM, COMPLETE WITH A HARDWARE DEMO!!! YOUR CHANCE TO ASK AN EXPERT ALL ABOUT IT!!!

===DE ANDY VE3FZK PAARA PROGRAM CHAIR-  
MAN===



THANKS TO VE3FZK FOR LINING UP CHUCK SMALLHOUSE WA6MGZ FOR THE TALK ON MOONBOUNCE. IT'S AMAZING THAT NATURE HAS GIVEN US A JUST-REACHABLE GOAL. IF THE REFLECTIVITY OF THE MOON WERE 10DB LESS, MOONBOUNCE WOULD PROBABLY BE AT LEAST IMPRACTICAL. DOES ANYONE KNOW THE HIGHEST FREQUENCY ON WHICH MOONBOUNCE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED? THE YOUNGER GENERATION PROBABLY DOESN'T REMEMBER ITCHI SCRATCHI, BUT CHUCK'S TALK REMINDED ME OF THE TIME WHEN ITCHI HEARD HIS OWN RECORDED VOICE COMING TAPE-DELAYED FROM SOMEWHERE IN HIS SHACK AND THOUGHT IT WAS MOONBOUNCE.

SUPER CONGRATULATIONS TO K6FS AND TEAM FOR CULMINATING 2 YEARS WORK AT THE VA BLIND CENTER WITH THE DEDICATION OF A KENWOOD HF AND VHF STATION. KENWOOD DONATED ALL THE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WITH THE HELP OF HRO IN BURLINGAME. THE AMERICAN LEGION DONATED THE BUTTERNUT WHICH PAARA MEMBERS INSTALLED. I ATTENDED THE DEDICATION AND CAN ASSURE YOU THAT KAY KNOTT WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF EVERYONE'S EFFORT.

PAARA WAS WELL REPRESENTED AT THE MONTEREY HAMFEST/FLEA MARKET, WHERE MOST OF US WON A SCREWDRIVER OR LOG BOOK FOR DEMONSTRATING OUR DX SKILLS.

CLOSING ON A SAD NOTE, K6CMT GEORGE ICE BECAME A SILENT KEY THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS. GEORGE WAS A LONGTIME MEMBER OF PAARA, BUT MADE FEW MEETINGS DUE TO HEART TROUBLE. OUR SYMPATHIES GO OUT TO HIS FAMILY AND LOVED ONES.

DE WA6LNV

Friday, January 5, 1990

## George Ice

George Emery Ice, a retired electrical engineer employed by GTE Lenkurt, died Dec. 24 at his home in San Carlos. He was 68.

Mr. Ice, a native of Oregon and an avid amateur radio operator, developed U.S. patents on filters used in telephone communications.

A veteran of World War II, he served on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Hancock.

Mr. Ice was a graduate of Oklahoma State University and was a member of Sons in Retirement Branch No. 61 and the Civil Round Table Group.

Mr. Ice is survived by his wife, Ruby Ice of San Carlos; and two sons, George Gary Ice of Oregon and Gene Emery Ice of New York.

Memorial services were held.

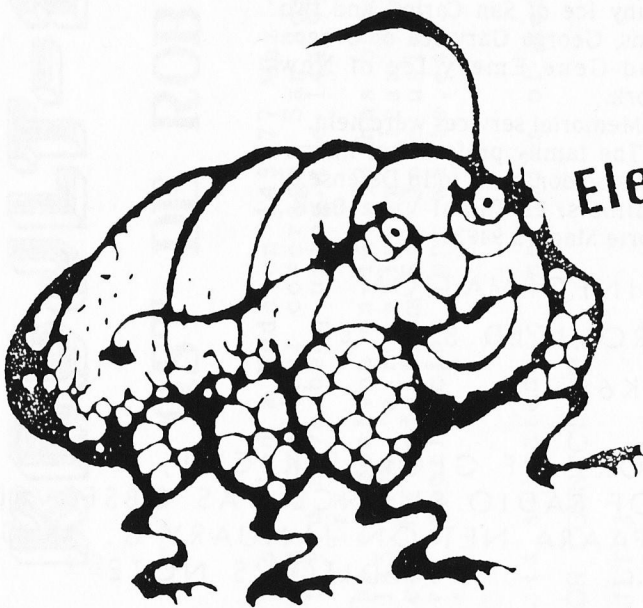
The family prefers that memorials be donations to In Defense of Animals, 21 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera 94925.

(INFORMATION  
PROVIDED BY FRED  
K6YT.)

--IN MEMORY OF GEORGE K6CMT, A  
MINUTE OF RADIO SILENCE WAS OBSERVED  
ON THE PAARA NET ON JANUARY 8, 1990.  
--EDITOR'S NOTE--

(GEORGE'S TS-930 & SUPPORT EQUIPMENT WILL  
BE SOLD THROUGH PAARA. PRICE NOT YET DETERMINED.  
DETAILS TO FOLLOW. -VIA WA6LNV/ED. NOTE==)

# QST



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1990 ELECTRONIC FLEA MARKET SCHEDULE

MARCH 10 SPECS REPEATER ASSOCIATION

APRIL 14 EMARC ELECTRONICS MUSEUM A.R.C.

MAY 12 PAARA (RESERVE THIS WEEKEND!!!)\*\*\*

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JUNE 9 FARS FOOTHILL AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

JULY 14 PERHAM FOUNDATION




AUGUST 11 SPECS USERS' GROUP

SEPTEMBER 8 AMATEURS' DONATION TO PALO  
ALTO RED CROSS

ALL AMATEUR RADIO FLEA MARKETS AT FOOTHILL  
COLLEGE ARE THROUGH THE COURTESY OF THE  
OPERATORS OF THE FOOTHILL ELECTRONICS  
MUSEUM OF THE PERHAM FOUNDATION.

HE SY STEIN WA6ROM

VECS "REPEATER" JANUARY 1990)

**P**ALO **A**LT**A** **A**MATEUR **R**ADIO  
  **A**SSOCIATION 

# KA6JLT-2 BBS

## QST DE ROB KA6JLT

We have installed a Node on 145.77 Mhz - Callsign KA6JLT-3  
The node has excellent coverage. San Jose, East Bay and most of the  
North. If you have been using the 144.93 node, I suggest you give  
this one a try.

The congestion on 144.93 has become overwhelming as of late;  
whereas 145.77 is a relatively clear frequency. A typical "solid"  
connect can be made from San Jose using abt. 3 watts and a J-Pole.  
If you are experiencing long waits, etc. on 4.93, give the  
node a try

The node is situated in the hills of Redwood city.

### SYNTAX FOR CONNECTION:

- 1) C KA6JLT-3
- Once you have connected to the node type: XC KA6JLT-2 or XC MPBBS

I think you will find this much "quicker and cleaner" than  
coming in direct on 144.93

Questions, Comments, Etc. Leave me a note or give me a call 415-321-9981

73 Rob KA6JLT



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# ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO

## WHAT IS AMATEUR RADIO?

Amateur Radio is primarily a noncommercial communications service of hobbyists worldwide. Amateur Radio operators, or "hams" experiment with equipment and new technologies. They build, test and operate new devices. Amateurs use special frequencies and are licensed to use their own stations to communicate by radio, TV and computer-based systems.

Amateur Radio operators perform critical public service during natural disasters or civil emergencies. These trained operators often provide the only reliable communications available into, within and out of disaster areas. Amateurs played important roles in the Mexico City, and Armenia earthquakes, Hurricane Gilbert and other recent, major disasters.

## IS AMATEUR RADIO AN EXPENSIVE HOBBY?

As in home computing, one can buy a top-dollar, all feature system, or can get on the air with simple equipment for less than the price of a typical home stereo. Used equipment is also popular since hams are allowed to fix and maintain it themselves. It's also cost effective to build it yourself.

## DO I NEED A LICENSE?

The government's concern about responsible use of the airwaves is why Amateur Radio operators must show they know operating rules and demonstrate a technical knowledge of their equipment. A Morse code requirement brings a skill to communicate using the most simple of radio circuits. Passing these tests allows the government to grant permission to transmit signals using up to 1500 watts of power if needed.

## HOW TOUGH IS IT TO GET AN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE?

It depends on how interested and motivated a person is to earn all the operating privileges now available. Most people find it's *not* vital to have some previous technical knowledge—though it does help. Several levels of licensing let the newcomer pick how many

privileges to work toward. The TECHNICIAN class license permits the use of voice, code and data transmissions as well as Amateur television and satellite. Higher licenses require more study but bring more frequencies — especially on shortwave bands where foreign operators in exotic lands are likely to be found! A NOVICE license — the entry level — grants basic voice, computer and Morse code privileges.

## HOW DO I GET MY LICENSE?

Local clubs are often the best ways to learn about Amateur Radio. They hold licensing classes for the community. Interested persons should contact a local ham, or the local newspaper for information. ARRL Headquarters can provide lists of local clubs to prospective hams.

A study guide, such as the ARRL's *Tune In The World With Ham Radio* package covers privileges, requirements, technical theory and Morse code instruction. Code cassette tapes offer code practice.

## WHY IS MORSE CODE A LICENSE REQUIREMENT?

The code is an international language promoting contact with other countries and encouraging cultural exchange. Commonplace abbreviations permit Morse Code exchanges across language barriers. International radio rules have kept it a license requirement from the time wireless regulations were first established. Code also cuts through poor radio conditions better than other means, making it important in emergency situations. In practice, the use of Morse Code is but one of the many forms of communication Amateurs are allowed to use.

Prepared by:

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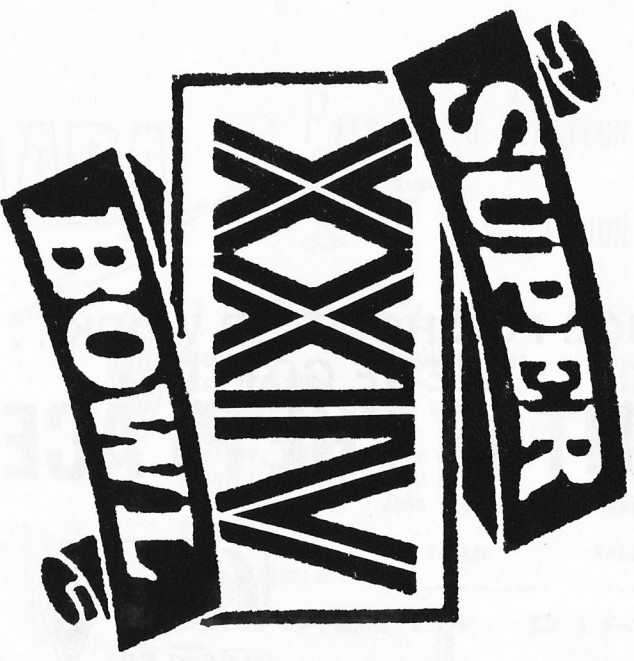
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