




PAARAgraphs


Celebrating 60 years as a *real* ham radio club—*Since 1937*

Newsletter for the **Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**



CALENDAR

Dec	5,	PAARA Meeting, 7:30 Menlo Park Recreation Center 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park 7:30-9:30 PM
Dec	10,	PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30 Red Cross Blvd. 400 Mitchell Ln., Palo Alto
Jan	2,	PAARA Meeting, 7:30
Jan	7,	PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30
Jan	?	PAARA Winter Party
Feb	6,	PAARA Meeting, 7:30
Feb	11,	PAARA Board Meeting, 7:30



Program

December 5, 1997
7:30 P.M.

Speaker:
Mike Leland, KD6PIW
"Amateur Radio and Rail Fanning"

PAARA Radio NET every Monday evening at 8:00 P.M., local time
on the 145.230 -600 MHz repeater, PL tone off



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

de VIC BLACK, AB6SO

The El Nino effect is back with us. This one is expected to disrupt weather patterns all over the world. By the beginning of October there were published reports that the temperature of the eastern part of the Pacific Ocean had risen by several degrees F and its level had risen more than one foot. The most likely result of this particular El Nino will be warm, torrential rains out of the west followed by floods and mudslides. High winds are also possible. These are prime conditions for full scale disasters in Northern California. Southern California could be hit even harder. Or maybe not.

Disaster response is something that hams are noted for. However, you can't respond if you aren't prepared. Hopefully, by now you will have cleaned out your roof gutters and repaired leaks. You should also have survival supplies stored at home where you can get to them during an emergency.

Include stored water in your kit (1 gallon per day per person for a reasonable time period). Food that is easy to prepare and can be rotated by including into your normal diet is also important in case food deliveries are disrupted during major storms. Also store favorite foods for pets since they will need emotional and physical support following major upheavals. A response kit should be prepared so you can leave home on short notice, if necessary. Check to make sure you have all needed medications to last a few days. Have clothing ready for cold, wet weather and gas up the car whenever you get down to the half tank mark. Gasoline station fuel pumps don't work when there is a large area power outage. Those that are working will be swamped with customers and may run short of fuel.

Especially check your batteries for a charge. You can't plug the charger in after the power goes down unless you have a generator or solar panels (if the sun is shining). Some handy radio accessories include mag-mount antennas, sealed lead

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Miscellaneous Dates

Flea Market at Foothill

(schedule will be listed in the Spring)

PAARA Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association

meets 1st Friday 7:30 each month, Net 145.230 each Monday 8:30,
 contact: Vic Black, Jr. AB6SO, (650)366-0636.

EMARC Electronics Museum Amateur Radio Club

Meets 4th Friday 7:30 each month,
 contact Sheldon Edelman 650-858-2176, Edelman@richochet.net

NCDXC Northern California DX Club

meets 2nd Friday 7:30 each month, repeater for member info 147.360, each
 Thursday 8:00PM, contact Bob Mammarella KB6FEC 408 729 1544.

NorCalQRP Northern California QRP Club

Meets 1st Sunday each month, contact Jim Cates 3241 Eastwood Rd., Sacramento, CA 95821.

Perham Foundation, contact Jerry Tucker WA6LNV 650-961-3266

SPECS Southern Peninsula Emergency Communication System

Meets each Monday 8:00PM on Net 145.27, 224.36, 440.80 MHz
 contact Mike Hastings KB6LCJ, 408-243-6745 or 408-249-6909.

SCARES South County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Meets 3rd Thursday 7:30 each month, San Carlos City Hall.
 Net is on 144.45 & 444.50 (PL-100) 7:30 Monday evenings.
 contact Dick Collins K6ANN 650-593-8952

SCCARA Santa Clara County Amateur Radio Association

Operates W6UU repeater 146.385+ Nets: 2m, W6UU, 7:30 Mon; 10m,
 28.385, 8:00 Thur. Meets 2nd Mon each month. Contact: Jack Ruckman AC6FU

SVECS Silicon Valley Emergency Communications

Operates WB6ADZ repeater (146.115 MHz+)
 contact Lou Stierer WA6QYS 408 241 7999

WVARA West Valley Amateur Radio Association

operates W6PIY repeater 147.39+, 223.96, 441.875, 1286.2
 Meets 3rd Wed every month. Contact Glen Lokke Jr. KE6NBO
 at 408 971 8626, or gllokke@pacbell.net

Disaster Services, PALO ALTO CHAPTER, American Red Cross

Meets 3rd Wed. each month 7:30PM, HF, packet, BBS, ATV, OSCAR
 Gateway, NASA satellite, Contact Alan Ball 650-688-0423.

SAN JOSE CHAPTER, American Red Cross

contact Scott Hensley KB6UOO, 408 249 7093, fsh@richochet.net

VE Exams, 3rd Saturday each month, 11AM, 145.23- PL=100Hz

American Legion Hall, 651 El Camino Real, R.C.
 contact Joe KB6OWG.

Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

PO Box 911

Menlo Park, CA 94026

President.....Vic Black, Jr., AB6SO.....(650) 366 0636
 Vice President.....Dave Meacham, W6EMD.....(650) 369 2633
 Secretary.....Dave Bailey, WS6W.....(408) 730 5215
 Treasurer.....Doug Schliebus, W6HXL.....(650) 851 0727
 Trustee/Property/Badges..Fred Canham, K6YT(650) 948 9238
 ARES Officer.....Lily Anne Hillis, N6PGM(650) 325 5484
 Club Historian.....Steve Stuntz, K6FS.....(650) 322 4952
 Advertising.....Bob Korte, KD6KYT.....(650) 595 1842
 Webmaster Andreas Junge KF6NEB (650) 233 0843

Board of Directors

John Buonocore, KD6ZL (650) 366 1658 '97
 Fred Canham, K6YT (650) 948 9238 '97
 Charles Grandjean, WD6FAF '98
 Steve Stuntz, K6FS (650) 322 4952 '97
 (see "Calendar" for Board meeting times, visitors welcome)

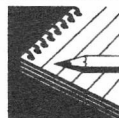
PAARAgaphs Staff

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Submit material for PAARAgaphs by the 15th

PAARA Website <http://www.qsl.net/paara/index.html/>



The Board Minutes

Dave Bailey (WS6W), Secretary

PAARA Board Meeting November 12, 1997

PRESENT:

Vic Black (AB6SO)- Pres. **Dave Bailey(WS6W)**- Sec.
Doug Schliebus (W6HXL) Treas **Fred Canham (K6YT)**
Wally Porter (K6URO)

ABSENT:

Dave Meacham, (W6EMD) V.Pres. **John Buonocore (KD6ZL)**
Bill Rausch (AA6PA) **Steve Stuntz (K6FS)**
Charlie Grandjean (WD6FAF)

The meeting was called to order by **Vic (AB6SO)**. The October 8 PAARA Board meeting minutes were read by **Dave (WS6W)** and approved by the Board. **Doug (K1DIT)** gave the treasurer's report. Three members paid 1998 dues, and all current bills are paid including all auction expenses and 1998 insurance. **Wally (K6URO)** gave the PAARAgaphs Editor's report, and the Board decided to stop mailing PAARAgaphs to those who have not paid their 1997 dues.

Old Business:

1. The Autumn Auction was held Saturday, Nov. 1. **Doug (K1DIT)** said that the net profit was \$3526.00.
2. **Dave (WS6W)** said that **Bill (KE6CHQ)** and **Gerry (WA6LNV)** won net operating awards this month.
3. The License Class was held October 25 and 26. Two people now have their Tech Plus licenses, and two new members joined the club from the class.
4. The Special Event station for the club's 60th anniversary operated on November 8. **Ron (KQ6RS)** and **Vic (AB6SO)** set up stations at Canada College (900 feet elevation). **Vic** made 52

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CELEBRATE PAARA'S SIXTIETH

"60 for 60"

GET ON THE AIR

Have at least 60 QSO's between July 1 and Dec 31, 1997

Any band-Any mode-Simplex only -no repeater contacts
 Submit log showing date, time and other station's call

Specially designed certificates

will be awarded in early 1998

No confirming QSL's required!!

SECOND WINNER

DAN CURRY, WB6STW

PAARA Auction November 1, 1997



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contacts, more than half of which were DX, including one Iota Island contact and one Australia contact. They worked other special event stations and received one request for a certificate. They operated on 10, 15, 20, 40, and 2 meters as well as 440 MHz and 1.2 GHz. Several local stations came up to visit. Vic said that it might be worthwhile to have another special event station in the spring.

5. Dave (WS6W) gave the Officers' Nominating Committee Report. Terry (N6RY) and Sy (WA6ROM) expressed interest in being Board members next year, but two more officers are still needed.

New Business:

1. The club now has an internet web page. Andreas Junge (KF6NEB) volunteered to be webmaster. The address is <http://www.qsl.net/paara/index.html>. This is a good place to put the newsletter, meeting notices, and photos. The club gets it for free, but donations to the webmaster are requested to cover his costs.

2. The meeting raffles will be reinstated in January, 1998. The treasurer is the best person to be in charge.

3. The winter party will be held in January, 1998. Fred (K6YT) checked with Michael's at Shoreline Harbor. The cost there will be \$20 per person with tax and tip.

4. Vic (AB6SO) said that we need a membership committee for 1998 in order to attract younger members and follow up on visitors to meetings and events.

Other Business:

1. Vic (AB6SO) won the VHF Contest for 220 and 440 MHz from Santa Clara Valley.

2. Next year's QRP Club Contest will involve border operation; that is, operation from the border of two states. Contacting a station at the border of two states counts as two states toward the WAS award.

The meeting was adjourned by Vic (AB6SO).

Submitted by Dave Bailey (WS6W)





PAARA Meeting Minutes

November 7, 1997

submitted by: **Dave Bailey (WS6W)**, Secretary

President **Vic Black (AB6SO)** called the meeting to order, and the introductions were done. We had several first time attendees this evening: **John (KF60BP)**, who got his license at Pacificon, **Stan (WA6ST(?))**, and **Dennis (KF60HO)**. **Koert (KC6WCI)** was back after recovering from surgery. **John (N6WBP)** received the call **ZD8CA** while on Ascension Island.

Announcements :

1. The PAARA 60th Anniversary Special Event Station will operate on Saturday, November 8.
2. The PAARA Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pale Alto Red Cross.
3. The Northern California DX Club will meet next Friday, November 14, at 7:30 p.m.
4. VEC license exams will be held Saturday, November 15, at 1:00 a.m.
5. The SCARES club meeting will be on Thursday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m.
6. The Red Cross Disaster Services Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m.
7. The EMARC Club Meeting will be on Friday, November 28, at 7:30 p.m., subject to change.
8. For club badges, see **Fred (K6YT)**.

Continuing Business:

1. **Dave (WS6W)** gave the Nominating Committee report. We need two more officer candidates. Anyone interested in running for office or serving on the Board should contact **Dave (WSBW)**.
2. **Bill (AA6PA)** gave the PAARA New Ham Class Report. **Dennis Freeman (KF60HO)** and **Shinji Sato (KF60HP)** received their licenses there. **Dan (WB6STW)** and **Ron (KQ6RS)** helped.
3. **Gerry (WA6LNV)** gave the Autumn Auction Report. The auction brought in about \$1020, and the leftovers from the flea market are in Gerry's truck free for the taking.
4. The PAARA 60th Anniversary Special Event Station will operate on Saturday, November 8, on the General Class segment of 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters (SSB). Novice, Tech, and Tech Plus operators are especially invited. **Steve (K6FS)** will operate from his home. **Ron (KQ6RS)** and **Vic (AB6SO)** will operate at Canada College around 10 a.m. Certificates are available for those who work the club station.

New Business:

1. The PAARA Winter Party will be held in January, 1998. If you want to help, come to the Board Meeting on Wednesday.
2. The meeting raffles will begin again in January.
3. Awards: **Dave (W6EMD)** won the Monday Night Net Award. **Dennis (KF60HO)**, **John (N6WBP)**, and **John**

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WEB WANDERINGS

de **Vic Black, AB6SO**

Sunspot activity is finally increasing and along with it we have improving conditions on the HF bands. There are nearly daily openings on the 17, 15, 12 and 10 meter bands. Just in time, **Brian**

Short K7ON of Tempe, AZ has announced 13 new reflectors specializing in various amateur bands. If you have an active interest in a particular band, just subscribe to that band's list and the messages will begin to arrive. Each mail list follows the same format with information concerning DX and weak signals, current propagation, activities on the band and anything related to that particular band.

To join a mailing list, send email:

TO: *majordomo@qth.*
 SUBJECT: <leave blank>
 BODY: subscribe <band>

To be removed from a mailing list:

TO: *majordomo@qth.net*
 SUBJECT: <leave blank>
 BODY: unsubscribe <band>

To post information/questions to a list:

TO: <band>@qth.net

In all of the examples above, substitute from the following list for <band>:

160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m, 10m, WARC, 2m, 222MHz,
 70cm, 33cm, 23cm, MICROWAVE.

An example is:

TO: *majordomo@qth.net*
 SUBJECT:
 BODY: subscribe 80m

These mailing lists are sponsored by **Al Waller (K3TKJ)**. Address any questions to: *k7on@qth.net/* Brian is also available at *k7on@qsl.net* and his web page is *http://www.qsl.net/k7on*. Send US Mail to 1994 E. Laguna DR, Tempe, AZ 85282 (602) 839-3484. For the 80m list only, address any questions to: *wa4pgm@moonstar.com/*. If you have a major interest in DXpeditions, be sure to check the new reflector which features news about activations of rare DX locations. The list includes QSL routes, operating schedules and expedition discussions. Send e-mail as follows:

TO: *majordomo@qth.net*
 SUBJECT:
 BODY: subscribe dxpeditions

If you'd like to try your hand at contesting, be sure to take a look at The Northern California Contesting Club's web page at *http://contesting.com/*. The joint ARRL/ Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) Digital Communications Conference was

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held in Baltimore, Maryland October 10, 11, 12. Information concerning the conference is available at <http://www.tapr.org/>. The web site is also a good place to check on progress of high speed packet and spread spectrum projects. TAPR is the group that defined packet radio TNC's and amateur packet protocol.

A lot of us have built Heathkits in the past and almost every ham shack in the world owns a piece of MFJ equipment. But do you remember the exact day that Heath went into business or the announcement for the first MFJ filter twenty five years ago? We may have seen something similar this year at Pacificon when **Wayne Burdick N6KR** (N6 Kit Radios?) and **Eric Swartz WA6HHQ** announced the formation of their new company to make high performance kits to compete head on with commercially made Japanese radios. Go to their web site at <http://www.elecraft.com> to see the specs for their new microprocessor controlled, multiband, modular and expandable CW/SSB rig, plus their first piece of ham test gear.

Thanks, ARRL Letter Oct. 10, 1997 via **Brad Wyatt K6WR** for the following: "The League inaugurated ARRL Audio News, a weekly, Web-based audio news service, on October 17. Compiled from the ARRL Letter, ARRL Audio News will include the week's top news from the world of Amateur Radio and the League. ARRL Audio News will be available in RealAudio format via the ARRL Web, <http://www.arrl.org/>. Tucson Amateur Packet Radio (TAPR) has generously agreed to provide space on its Web server to permit the League to offer this service. Each edition of ARRL Audio News will contain up to 10 minutes of timely Amateur Radio news. It will be available via the ARRL Web every Friday by 9 PM Eastern Time. Dial-up telephone access will be announced later. For more information, contact **Rick Lindquist N1RL**, e-mail n1rl@arrl.org; telephone 860-594-0222."

OH2BUA has a SUPER web site devoted to DX-spots and propagation reports from Packet Clusters. I noticed when I checked in during a work break that the site had been accessed more than 5-1/2 million times in the past two years! There are 50 links to different bands, modes, etc. I checked 28 MHz and found out who in the Bay Area was working DX. Had to get out a chart to find out where some of those strange callsign prefixes were located. The last entry was just a few minutes before I checked in. Holy Smokes! What am I doing at work with all this DX available? Check it out at <http://www.clinet.fi/~jukka/webcluster.html>

The IPS Radio & Space Services representing the Government of Australia sent a message predicting a Peak Smoothed Sunspot Number of 165 centered on March, 2000. This is based on a 12-month moving average. The current moving average is below 40. Bookmark <http://ips.gov.au/papers/richard/ssnpred.htm> to see a graph of the sunspot predictions.

Earlier this year **Jim Moss WB9AJZ** presented a program to PAARA about laser communications. For more information about lasers and a listing of VHF DX records go to

<http://www.qsl.net/wb9ajz/laser/laser.htm/>

Andreas Junge KF6NEB passes along information about working the MIR space station **R0MIR**. Go to <http://members.aol.com/k5wx/index.html/>. The site has frequencies, Keplerian data and photos of MIR as well as an address for receiving a QSL if you heard Sputnik 2.

I have appointed **Andreas** as the new PAARA Webmaster. Check PAARA's web page at

<http://www.qsl.net/paara/index.html/>

A short note for CW mobile operators was received from **Denny Voorhees AD3O** reminding us that there's "nothing like working a VK at 65 miles an hour on icy roads to make the heart beat faster"! ☺☺☺

(Continued from page 97) Ponderings

acid batteries and cigarette lighter adapters for your HT. Make sure you understand the operation of your equipment. Don't be shy about asking for help if you're unsure how to operate your radios. You may need them to report hazardous conditions, to report medical incidents or to obtain help for you, your family and neighbors if other means of communication are disrupted.

This is an excellent time to get more involved with ARES and RACES public service communications nets. Become familiar with directed net operating protocol before a disaster strikes. If you don't understand net operation, you can become a liability rather than an asset during an emergency. Another way to become familiar with net operating protocol is to volunteer for communications duties during bike-a-thons, running races and other public service activities. You can find out about these by checking into the various nets. Becoming involved in the nets also gives you a sense of community you have someone to call on in case of need.

During declared emergencies THINK before you push-to-talk in order to keep on-air traffic to a minimum. When sending messages that need to be written down by a receiving station, speak slowly preferably at the same rate that you could write it down yourself. Directed calls should be requested through Net Control. Make your call only after receiving the go ahead from Net Control. Allow time for emergency breakers between transmissions. Anything else develops into chaos. This request applies equally to the Monday night PAARA net as well.

Here are some weekly nets to consider: The SCARES Net meets on Monday at 7:30 p.m. on 144.45 (Simplex) or 444.500 (+) 100 PL. Also on Monday at 8:00 p.m. the SPECS Net meets on 145.27 (-) 88.5 PL. The main net control will direct you to a check in on a different frequency for your local area. The call up for Palo Alto and north is just before the PAARA net on the **W6APZ** repeater 145.230 (-) 100 PL. On Tuesday at 8:00 p.m. the San Mateo Co. Sheriff's Department OES Net meets on 146.865 (-) 114.8 PL or 146.925 (-) 114.8 PL. **George Berry KC6ULT**, who talked to PAARA about the Oklahoma City bombing, has prepared excellent training tapes which are played right after check in. The Monday 8:30 p.m. PAARA Net

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(Continued from page 101) *Ponderings*

on the **W6APZ** repeater 145.230 (-) is not public service oriented, but it is a good place to find out about general call ups in case they occur. The normal 100 Hz PL is turned off for this net.

Brad Wyatt K6WR, the Pacific Division ARRL Director reports that "The Northern California ARES HF Net meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 8:30 PM on 3987 kHz. Net control is the Siskiyou EC, **Dave KC6HOY**, who established the net. All EC's and ARES members in Northern CA are encouraged to check in. Southern Oregon stations also participate at times."

The time for action is before a disaster strikes. Don't wait for it to happen. Remember the Boy Scout Motto: "Be Prepared".

The HF bands are getting really hot to all parts of the world with the increase in sunspot activity. There are reports of QRM on 10 meters and many operators are spreading out to avoid interference. Approximately half of all US hams have never operated at a sunspot high. During the last sunspot high one of my co-workers tuned up on 10 meters in Daly City and a station in Florida called him. Only later did he realize he was still on his dummy load and not on an antenna!

If you're still a Novice, Tech Plus or especially a no-code Tech, I want to encourage you to study NOW for an upgrade. Elmers are available to help you make the transition. Just to encourage you a little here's a note I received from **Brad Wyatt K6WR**: "**Joseph Simon III, KF6ACO**, of Alamo, CA, originally licensed about one year ago, passed his Extra Class exam at Pacificon and was awarded his Extra Class license by the FCC the day before his 11th birthday. Congratulations, **Joseph!**"

In October I mentioned the radio telescope "Big Ear" at Ohio State University. The antenna is located on land leased from Ohio Wesleyan University and will soon be destroyed when the release expires on December 31 in order to make room for expansion of the Delaware Country Club. The antenna was built in the 1950's by **Dr. John Kraus W8JK** and 11 students over a period of 7 years in order to search for extraterrestrial intelligence. If you've ever yearned for a big antenna farm then check out the stats on this baby: It's made up of two reflectors 70 feet long and 100 feet high facing each other with a 3-1/2 acre aluminum ground plane in between. Sounds like a nice truncated corner reflector. When it was new, it produced the most detailed view of the skies up to that time, allowed a look at events that occurred 15 billion years ago and charted more than 20,000 objects. **Vic AB6SO** ☺☺☺

1998 PAARA DUES are DUE

\$12 payable to PAARA, Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

(Continued from page 100) *Meeting*

(**KF6OBP**) won new call awards. **Zack (KF6NCS)** won an award for being the youngest member.

Operating News:

1. **Andy (VE3FZK)** listened to Sputnik on 145.82 MHz and passes around a sheet with orbit times.

2. **Rich (W6APZ)** talked to **Steve (KD6CNU)**, who said hello to everybody.

3. **John (N6WBP)** was in Ascension Island and received a ham license there. He built an 88-foot dish antenna.

4. **Steve (K6FS)** received the first 60-60 Award. He made his contacts on 20m sideband using 5 watts or less. He received 50, 51, 52 signal reports on his MJF 20-meter transceiver. The speech limiting in IF gives 6 dB more average talk power, meaning high readability and low strength. The RF signal processing ill which speech is limited improves readability.

5. **Vic (AB6SO)** said that Alinco handle-talkies are available by mail-order for \$88.00. Alinco is a subsidiary of Tandy.

6. **Gerry (WA6LNV)** said that QST has our Field Day score. We are first in the group in which we compete. **Jim Muiter** is putting our name on the Field Day plaque for this year.

Show and Tell:

1. **Art (NM6K)** has 12-foot long aluminum rods for an antenna.

2. **Andy (VE3FZK)** has a Terahertz transmitter from Pacificon. For \$89.00 he got a GPS without an antenna. A harmonic from this GPS put a tone on the Varian repeater (147.315 MHz), so when Andy lost it, he was able to find it using his transmitter finding equipment.



After the social break, we were shown a video sent to us by **Jim Maxwell (W6CF)**. The video, entitled "The Last Voice From Kuwait," was about ham radio operation in Kuwait during the Gulf War. submitted by **Dave Bailey (WS6W)**

Join us for pre-meeting eyeball

QSO Dec 5th

gab & gobble

6 pm— at Su Hong Restaurant
1039 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

PAARA MONDAY NIGHT NET

8:30 PM 145.230-600 MHz repeater

PL tone off

Latest news between monthly issues of PAARAgaph

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

Club meetings are on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm at the Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA. • Radio NET every Monday evening, at 8:30pm, on the 145.230-600 MHz repeater, PL tone off. • Membership in PAARA is \$12.00 per calendar year which includes a subscription to PAARAgaphs. • Make payment to the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT

DOUG SCHLIEBUS, K1DIT (ex-w6HXL) Treasurer

October 1997

Income.....	\$ 54	YTD.....	\$8,116
Expenses.....	\$347	YTD.....	\$6,715
Net Return....(\$293)		YTD.....	\$1,401



Activity:

3 Members paid dues already.

All bills are paid including all auction expenses and 1998 insurance. Net Profit from Auction/Flea Market is \$3,526 and will be shown in November report.

Balance Checking as of 11/10/97

...\$3,452 (Auction net of \$3,526 not included)

Doug K1DIT, Treas. 11/12/97

1998 PAARA DUES

are DUE

\$12 payable to PAARA, Box 911, Menlo Park, CA 94026

(be sure to include your name and call)

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PAARA PRIDE

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meetings, picnics, field days, winter parties, ham fests,
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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 only.

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).
2. For Profit organizations and/or individuals: \$5-business card size, \$25-half page, \$50 full page or back cover.

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 are for "scanner-ready" copy or text-only ads.

PAARA NEEDS A LOGO

For 60 years we've been anonymous; it's high time we showed off our unique identity. So get busy — CREATE! Come up with a design that reflects our eclectic interests and can be easily reproduced. The winner will be immortalized by publication in PAARAgaphs forevermore.

HAVE AT IT, GALS & GUYS PAARA Historian -Steve K6FS

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(Excerpt from an article sent to Steve Stuntz, K6FS, PAARA Club Historian.
 We would like to receive other ham history stories..ed.)

MFJ 25th

FAMILY GROCERY STORE INSPIRED MFJ HAM RADIO EMPIRE

by **Richard Stubbs, Jr., KC5NSZ**

MFJ celebrated its 25th year anniversary in October of 1997. This is a remarkable achievement for most businesses who struggle through a massive amount of daily business problems. MFJ's business was founded on a hobby, so that makes MFJ's 25 years all the more impressive. He tells us those stories all of the time, teaching us those same lessons. Once a teacher, always a teacher.

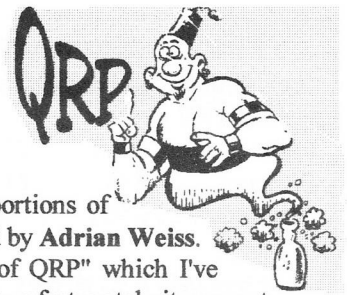
Jue was born in Vicksburg and was raised in Rolling Fork and Hollandale, Mississippi. His family came to American from Canton, China as part of the settlement of 3,000 Mississippi Chinese who arrived to help build the Transcontinental Railroad. He says that rural area Chinese were able to become fully integrated into their communities. Jue felt totally accepted as a Mississippian. Little did everyone know that Jue would also become a pretty famous member of his small community. Jue doesn't speak his native language, instead the sweetest Mississippi Delta accent known to southerners is heard. Jue has been blessed with a southern accent that many a southern gentleman would envy. The Jue Family Grocery was established in 1948, aptly named "Jue's Grocery." Martin Jue began working in the store, as early as he can remember, around age six.. His favorite pasttime was amateur radio. Jue learned about ham radio the old fashioned way -- through the radio. He always had a fascination with radio. He remembers early on in the Cub Scouts when he learned how to make a radio out of an oatmeal box, wrapped wire, headphones, a razor blade, and a pencil lead. "It didn't work, but I had fun putting it together," he said. A book called "FOXHOLE RADIO" got him interested in building and repairing electronic equipment. He used to listen to his crystal AM radio all the time. One night when he was in Junior High School, he heard a local ham, the late Chuck Sudduth, W5VMC, on his crystal radio. Chuck was talking on 75 Meters AM. Jue was extra curious as to how he could talk on the radio. Chuck was the local TV repairman. Jue began working for him for FREE and they quickly became friends. Jue built as many radios as he possibly could and began repairing other people's radios, phonographs, and anything else he could get his hands on. He once built a radio transmitter out of old television parts and other leftovers. Sudduth, W5VMC, helped Jue get a Novice Class license with the call, KN5FLU, 37 years ago. "In those days, General Class licese exams were taken at the FCC offices, unless you were more than 150 miles away," said Jue. "A General Class license could be obtained as the Conditional Class if a licensed ham was willing to give the exam with Sudduth gave to me," said Jue. That was the VEC program of its day.

(Continued on page 105) MFJ

SAM SAYS

CQ QRP de KF6ML

(continued from last month)



Last month, we reviewed portions of the history of QRP as recorded by **Adrian Weiss**. In 1984, he wrote "The Joy of QRP" which I've always wanted very much, but unfortunately it was out of print. At PacifiCon in October 1997, reprints were available and I was fortunate to be able to purchase an autographed copy. I will re-read this copy many times as I add this superb writing to my library. There are so many fine QRP publications for us to enjoy, and this will be one of my favorites.

The Table of Contents include:

1. The Exciting World of QRP
2. Sharing the Joys of QRP
3. Planning for QRP Operation
4. Putting the QRP Signal on the Air
5. Homebrewing the First QRP Rig
6. General Operating Techniques
7. Planning and Operating, Specific Types of QRP Activity
8. R.F. Power Measurements

This 162 page book is just full of exciting material and although dated (1983-1984) by today's standards, it contains many basic information that is still very useful today. I recommend this book to all QRP'ers - those just beginning to enjoy this form of communication, to those who are "old timers" in this specialty, but especially to those, like me, who built QRP rigs in the "tube" days and recently renewed this pleasurable segment of ham radio in the "solid state" era of transistors and IC's. Happy reading, happy building and happy operating.

72, Sam KF6ML

note: In August 1983, Adrian Weiss received #58 DXCC QRPp Trophy Award (under 5 watts output). 72's Sam KF6ML

(continued next month)



NEW TO PAARA
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VE Saturday, November 15, 1997 was a rainy day for VE exams. However, a large turnout of would be hams showed up at our

American Legion Facility in Redwood City. Out of 24 applicants, all passed but two. One passed his extra, the other extra applicant failed the written exam. The usual faithful VE members were on hand, **Bill, Joe, Gene, Dan, & Ron**. It is a pleasure to work with these hams, so dedicated in helping increase the Qrm, but it is a good feeling to announce to the applicant that he/she has passed. Next meeting of our Redwood City VE session will be December 20th.

Ron, W6VG

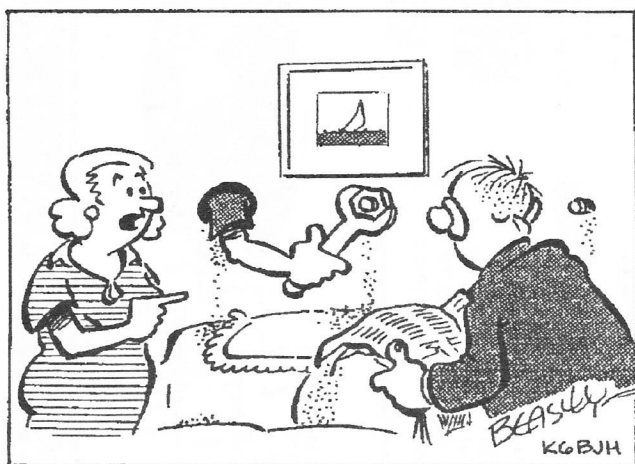
(Continued from page 104) MFJ

Today, Jue holds the call K5FLU, Extra Class. Jue's original ham station was up in the dusty old attic of him home. It was made out of planks of wood for a table, and old radios and anything else that he could find for free. There wasn't a whole lot of money in the family to be spent on Jue's favorite hobby. He earned fame for his scientific and ham radio kit building efforts in 1960. He won first place in the Hollandale Science Fair, won first place at the Regional Science Fair in Cleveland, Mississippi and then first place at the State Science Fair.

MFJ's first ad ran in ham radio magazine's November 1972 issue. This small advertisement helped build MFJ to its present status. Of course, today MFJ leads all manufacturers in the amount of advertising run and the style of it. MFJ runs several full pages in QST, CQ, 73, World Radio, Amateur Radio Trader, and CQ VHF Magazines.

MFJ also owns Ameritron, Mirage, and Vecronics, well known to hams.

(for detailed MFJ history try: <http://www.mfjenterprises.com>)



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 ★ to Steve Stuntz K6FS ★
 ★ —at or before January PAARA Meeting— ★
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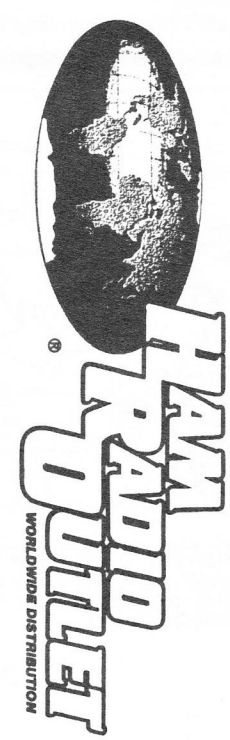
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